



**Inside:**  
**Tests finding lead in Ely water...** See /3  
**Upgrades at the Bear Center...** See /11  
**Nett Lake hosts triathlon...** See /1B  
**Bog flowers in bloom...**See /4B

# the TIMBERJAY



Serving the communities of northern St. Louis County since 1989      VOL. 34, ISSUE 22      June 9, 2023      \$1<sup>50</sup>

## MINING

# Army Corps revokes NorthMet mine permit

Decision an enormous setback for copper-nickel proposal

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

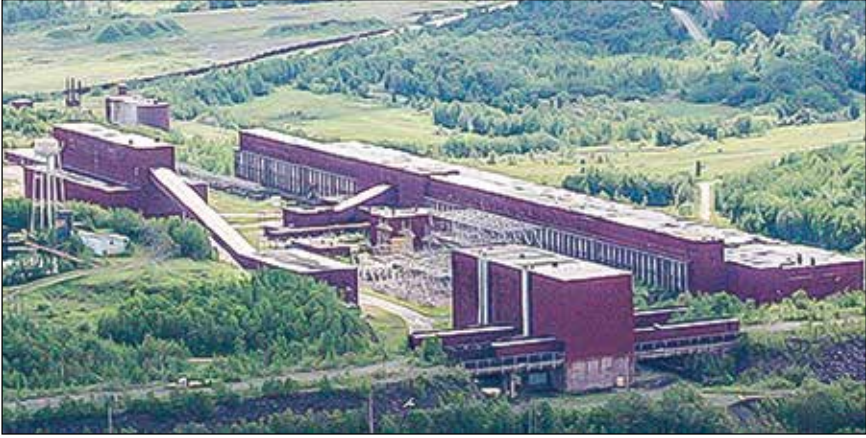
REGIONAL— The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has dealt a major blow to the prospects for the NorthMet copper-nickel venture proposed by NewRange Copper, formerly known as PolyMet Mining. On Tuesday, June 6, the federal agency announced that it has revoked the com-

pany's Section 404 wetlands permit under the Clean Water Act because it does not ensure compliance with water quality requirements of the Fond du Lac Band. The reservation's boundaries are located downstream of the proposed copper-nickel mine. The decision is just the latest in a series of setbacks that have resulted in the sus-

**Right: The former LTV processing plant now owned by NewRange Copper. Plans for a new mine at the site are now in limbo.** file photo

pension or reversal of several major permits for the project, including the state-issued permit to mine. While the company has the option to

*See...MINE pg. 9*



## GRADUATION 2023

# READY FOR ANYTHING



**Above: Ely High School graduates take part in the rite of graduation, tossing mortarboards to the sky.**

**Left: Graduate Abbi Zapata with her mother (r) Adrienne Whiteman and Vermilion Country School staffer Michelle Maki.**



**Right: North Woods grad Eli Smith gives a thumbs-up with his diploma.**

photos by imberjay staff

## FESTIVAL HONORS

# Brinker is pick for Timber Days grand marshal

by DAVID COLBURN  
Cook/Orr Editor

COOK – There are certain constants about Danny Brinker, this year's Grand Marshal for the Cook Timber Days parade. One is his volunteerism in the community, the primary reason he's being honored this year by the Timber Days committee. Another is his wife, Roxanne, his partner since the early years of his work at Hill Wood Products, where they met. And a third is a flat toothpick, Brinker's signature trademark since the day he quit smoking over four decades ago. It's become such a part of his identity that he wouldn't be photographed without it.



Danny Brinker

"People wouldn't recognize me without it," he laughed. Brinker learned the value of volunteering while growing up in a small town near Rockford, Ill. "My dad was big in the Moose Club," Brinker said. "We kids were always at the Moose Club." But of the four Brinker siblings, it was Danny who seemed to take to volunteering the most. "I enjoy it," he said. After graduating from high school, Brinker answered the call to military service by enlisting in the Navy in 1966, at the

*See...BRINKER pg. 9*

## LAKE VERMILION

# Major changes at one of the area's oldest businesses

by JODI SUMMIT  
Tower-Soudan Editor

LAKE VERMILION- As one of the oldest, continuously operating businesses on Lake Vermilion, Aronson Boat Works is getting a major facelift in an effort to better serve its growing customer base.

The business, first established in 1914 by Walter Aronson Sr. and his brother Hillard, initially operated from a marina on the East Two River in Tower but moved in the 1940s to its current location on Lake Vermilion's Pike Bay. Since then, the marina's two-story, over-the-water boathouse has been a

landmark on Pike Bay. That is, until this week when the boathouse came down to make room for a new and expanded docking system that will offer mooring for additional boats. It's part of an upgrade that is also replacing all of the marina's existing docking, all of which dates back decades. "We already have a waiting

**Right: The two-story boathouse at Aronson Boat Works is no more. The 80-year-old building came down this week to make room for new docking.** photo by J. Summit

list of existing customers for the new slips," said marina

*See..ARONSON pg. 10*



## Contact The Timberjay

218-753-2950  
editor@timberjay.com



8 04879 35140 5



**Retail Store Open Daily 6 am to 9 pm**  
**New Gear, Shoes, Paddles, Axes, Knives, Clothing,**  
**Books, Gifts, Fishing Gear, Camping Food, Tents**  
**40% OFF in our Outlet Store -- Now Open for the Season**  
**You'll find it all at Piragis Northwoods Company 105 N Central Ave.**  
**piragis.com    218 - 365 - 6745    boundarywaterscatalog.com**



Community notices



Loon lessons with Dr. James Paruk  
June 11 at the Lake Vermilion State Park

SUDAN - Even those who know the loon's call might not recognize it as a tremolo, yodel, or wail, and may not understand what each call means, how it's made, and why. And those who marvel at the loons diving prowess might wonder why this bird has such skill, or where loons go when they must leave northern lakes in winter.

Join us at Lake Vermilion-Soudan Underground Mine State Park Sunday, June 11 from 5-6:30 p.m. for a presentation by Dr. James Paruk, renowned loon researcher and author of Loon Lessons: Uncommon Encounters with the Great Northern Diver, to learn more about the Minnesota State Bird.

The talk will be held at the Vermilion Ridge Campground, Mooz Group Camp site. This site offers parking and an accessible path to the screened-in shelter building.

This program is free of charge, but a state park permit on your vehicle is required.

Free creative writing workshop on  
Saturday, June 17 in Ely

ELY- Northern Lakes Arts Association is sponsoring a free creative writing workshop on Saturday, June 17 at noon in Whiteside Park.

This introduction to fiction and creative nonfiction will build confidence as writers by exploring key craft concepts and building a space to create new work.

Participants don't have to bring a novel in-progress—just show up ready to write. Pens and notebooks will be provided.

Alec Osthoff grew up in Ely and received his Master of Fine Arts degree in creative writing from the University of Wyoming. His work has appeared in numerous publications, including Midwestern Gothic, as winner of the Blue Mesa Review Fiction Prize, and as runner-up for the Up North Lit Poetry Prize. He is currently submitting his first novel.

This activity is made possible in part by a grant from Ely's Donald G. Gardner Humanities Trust and made possible in part by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.

Outdoor Story Stroll at Arrowhead  
Library System Wednesday, June 14

MT. IRON – Families are invited to an Outdoor Story Stroll at Arrowhead Library System (ALS) on Wednesday, June 14, 1-3 p.m. The featured title will be *Hands Can* by Cheryl Willis Hudson and photographs by John-Francis Bourke.

The Story Stroll will contain laminated big book pages attached to metal stakes placed at eight-foot intervals in a safe outdoor environment for visitors. This activity combines the joy of reading with the benefits of being active outdoors. Following the stroll, attendees may select free books from the ALS Little Free Bookmobile and pick up a take-and-make craft. This self-guided event is suitable for all ages. Event will take place rain or shine. ALS is located at 5528 Emerald Avenue in Mt. Iron.

GONE FISHING

Some spots still available for  
Take-A-Kid Fishing event July 19

TOWER – The Lake Vermilion Guides League is holding their 13th annual Take-a-Kid-Fishing event on July 19 at Fortune Bay Resort Casino marina. Sign in starts at 8:30 a.m. and fishing runs from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. The event is open to kids between the ages of 10 and 15.

Anyone interested in signing their child up for the event can do so by visiting [www.lakevermilionguidesleague.com](http://www.lakevermilionguidesleague.com). The sign up form along with more information on the event is located on the website's home page. To register, fill out all areas of the form and hit "submit."

The Take-a-Kid-Fishing event is limited to 100 participants, so be sure to register soon as this event usually fills quickly.



PADDLE



Join SNA naturalist for B.Y.O.K. (Bring Your Own Kayak) bog paddle

TOWER - Bring your own kayak (or canoe) to Lost Lake Peatland Scientific and Natural Area and join SNA naturalist Arika McGraw on an interpretive paddle around Lost Lake Saturday, July 8 from 3-5 p.m.

The paddle will run along the edge of the bog, with a peek into the SNA to try to catch a glimpse of some of the plants and animals that call the peatland home.

Advanced registration is required, and the event will be capped at 20 attendees. To register, please email [arika.mcgraw@state.mn.us](mailto:arika.mcgraw@state.mn.us).

Life jackets are required. Dress for the weather. Footwear appropriate for outdoor paddling is recommended. There are no maintained trails or recreational facilities on this site.

To reach the Lost Lake SNA

from Tower go five miles west on MN Hwy 169, then 1.25 miles west on MN Hwy 1, then one mile north on Co Rd 476 (Holter Rd), then one mile northwest on Co Rd 458 (Roberts Rd). Park in water access at dead end.

For more information contact Arika McGraw, Regional Naturalist at 218-735-3971 or by email at [arika.mcgraw@state.mn.us](mailto:arika.mcgraw@state.mn.us).

THEATER

CLIMB Theater's The Ant & the  
Grasshopper to play at area libraries

REGIONAL- The Arrowhead Library System (ALS) is pleased to host the CLIMB Theatre's "The Ant and The Grasshopper" mini-play performance. This free family-friendly program is being offered at the following times and locations:

- Wednesday, June 14, 10 a.m. at the Mt. Iron Public Library
- Tuesday, June 20, 3:30 p.m. at the International Falls Public Library
- Thursday, June 22, 10:30 a.m. at the Virginia Public Library

- Thursday, June 22, 3:30 p.m. at the Aurora Public Library
  - Monday, June 26, 10:30 a.m. at the Cook Public Library
  - Wednesday, June 28, 1 p.m. at the Ely Public Library
  - Thursday, June 29, 2 p.m. at the Babbitt Public Library
- In this continuation of Aesop's Fable, *The Ant and the Grasshopper*, two friends compete together to find their voices, however hard-working Ant and playful Grasshopper are having trouble finding their harmony. With the help of Queen Bee and the audience, Ant and Grasshopper will learn to BEE kind, BEE a

friend, and BEE together as they work toward creating a sound where everyone's voice is a part of the chorus. The program is 35-minutes long and is geared toward kids up to 10-years old and their families.

This program is sponsored by the Arrowhead Library System and was funded in part or in whole with money from Minnesota's Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund (ACFH). To learn more about Arrowhead Legacy Events, please see our calendar at [www.alslib.info](http://www.alslib.info) or like us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/alslibinfo](http://www.facebook.com/alslibinfo).

READ  
the Timberjay!

Providing *Quality and Compassionate Care*  
FOR  
Every Patient at Every Visit

**COOK MEDICAL**  
20 5th St SE, Cook MN  
Open Monday - Saturday  
(218) 666-5941

**COOK DENTAL**  
12 S River Street, Cook MN  
Open Monday - Friday  
(218) 666-5958

**TOWER CLINICS**  
415 N 2nd St, Suite 2, Tower MN  
*Former High School Building*  
Open Monday through Friday

**MEDICAL** (218) 753-2405  
**DENTAL** (218) 753-6061

**Your Local Providers**

Matthew Holmes, MD Nicholas Vidor, MD Eric Elleby, MD Rachel Beldo, APRN Amy Banks, MD Celin Williams, LICSW	Charles Tietz, MD-GYN Services Cynthia Sandberg, NP Erin Thielbar, NP Kristen Dombrov, DNP Amanda Perkovich, NP Benjamin DeVries, PA-C	Timothy Sprouls, DDS James Marzella, DDS Krista Kukarans, DDS Michael Talberg, DDS Teresa Bushnell, ADT
---	---	---

Covid-19 testing and vaccinations available.  
1-877-541-2817  
www.ScenicRiversHealth.org

24 Hour Emergency Care Available Through Cook Hospital

**IT'S ABOUT TIME**

Don't travel to get the expert orthopaedic care you need.

When it comes to your health, you're in charge of where you receive care. Even if you've been referred to a specialist farther away, tell your provider that you choose Ely-Bloomenson Community Hospital, where expert care is close, comfortable and convenient, for you—and your family.

Get the orthopaedic care you need—right here at EBCH. Call **218-365-8793** for an appointment or learn more by visiting [www.ebch.org](http://www.ebch.org).

**ORTHOPAEDIC SERVICES**

- Hip, knee, shoulder and joint replacement surgery
- Sports medicine
- Fracture care: splinting and casting
- Arthritis or carpal tunnel treatments
- Foot, ankle and hand injuries

**Dr. Sam Harms** is a board-certified orthopaedic surgeon with a sub-specialty in sports medicine. Dr. Harms will see patients at EBCH:

- Wednesday, June 14, 2023



ELY

First license for on-site cannabinoid sales go to theater

by CATIE CLARK  
Ely Editor

ELY- The Ely City Council approved its first license application for the retailing of “on sale” cannabinoids, to Ely’s Historic State Theater. An “on sale” license permits a business to sell edible cannabinoid products for consumption on the business premises. All other cannabinoid license applications in Ely have been for “off sale” retail, where a customer purchases cannabinoid edibles for consumption elsewhere.

To date, Ely approved its first three “off sale” cannabinoid license applications at its May 16 meeting. The council approved three more “off sale” applications at this most recent meeting. The businesses with approved “off sale” applications include Chapman Street Books and Prairie Fire Tobacco, Lucky Seven General Store, Tamarack Enterprises, Jesse Brooks Massage, Voyageur Short Stop, and Mitska’s Market.

Fire danger

Superior National Forest Kawishiwi District Ranger Aaron Kania gave an update to the Ely City Council on the regional fire conditions. Though recent rain has momentarily mitigated the extreme fire hazard, Kania cautioned that conditions will not improve without significant changes in forest moisture and a reduction of fuels.

“Despite shots of rain,” Kania remarked, “the dryness is getting drier. The (potential)

fires out there are just waiting for the right conditions.” He urged the public to consult fire conditions through publicly available sources (e.g. the daily fire conditions and restrictions maps at [https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/forestry/fire/firerating\\_restrictions.html](https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/forestry/fire/firerating_restrictions.html)). The regional fire danger was the subject of the recent articles in the June 2 edition of the *Timberjay*.

Upcoming meetings

The city council voted to move the July 4 meeting date to July 11. The council also voted to make the Ely Area Ambulance Joint Powers Board (EAAJPB) meeting on June 12 a special meeting of the city council. The EAAJPB meeting will be at the Winton Community Center at 4 p.m. The special meeting status is a legal requirement to comply with the Minnesota Open Meeting Law if the city council members choose to attend. The EAAJPB meeting will discuss the just-received assessment from TDKA on the projected costs for renovating the building purchased for the Ely Area Ambulance Service last year. The amount exceeds the amount of federal funding allocated for the project, according to Harold Langowski, Ely’s City Clerk and Treasurer.

Other business

In other business, the council:

- Heard a presentation by Bradley Roy of the Ely Police Department on the Northland



Aaron Kania of the National Forest Service spoke to the Ely City Council on June 6 about regional fire danger. photo by C. Clark

Alert emergency alert system for Ely. This will be the subject of a separate article in the June 16 edition of the *Timberjay*.

- Heard a presentation by Todd Burlet, president of Starry Skies North, on the potential of aurora and dark sky tourism to augment the tourism and hospitality businesses in the Ely area. The Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness is currently the largest international dark sky sanctuary in the world.
- Modified and then approved a recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission to investigate the need for more handicap parking spaces at Whiteside Park.
- Approved a recommendation from the Ely Utility Commission (EUC) to proceed

with work on the grant application for the Burntside Waterline Project.

- Approved a recommendation from the EUC to send the commissioners and staff to attend the Minnesota Municipal Utilities Association summer conference in Duluth on August 21-23.
- Approved a recommendation from the EUC to approve payment of its April bills for \$756,335.
- Approved a recommendation from the EUC to approve payment to AMPTEK for \$1,659 for the Waste Water Treatment Facility.
- Heard a report from Langowski on the situation with lead testing at the delivery end of Ely’s domestic water supply.

The delivery-end testing happens every three years. This subject is covered in more detail in the April 21 edition and today’s edition of the *Timberjay*.

- Heard a report by Ely Police Chief Chad Houde about vandalism over the weekend in Ely, which is the subject of separate coverage in this issue of the *Timberjay*.
- Approved a quit claim deed for James Marzella for the Lot 2 Block 3 East Spaulding property.
- Approved a purchase agreement for Lot 7 Block 1 in East Spaulding First Addition, between Kevin Richards and the City of Ely.
- Approved City of Ely and EUC claims for June 6 for \$420,126, Burntside Ridge Trail Association 2023 Road Dues of \$200, and pay estimate No. 14 for the Waste Water Treatment Facility Improvements Project to Rice Lake Construction for \$101,090.
- Approved the second reading of Ordinance 370, amending Chapter 2, Section 2.57, which makes the Assistant Police Chief a member of the Police Civil Service Commission.
- Approved the residential waste disposal contract for four years with G-Men.
- Approved a listing contract agreement exclusive right to sell for Keller Williams Classic Realty NW and Brokerage Disclosures for 2211 Sibley

See ELY...pg. 5

PUBLIC HEALTH

Elevated lead levels found in some Ely water samples

ELY- The City of Ely tested twenty homes in August of 2022 for lead and found elevated levels of lead in drinking water in some homes and buildings. The City of Ely has been working closely with the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) on additional testing. Recently forty additional samples were taken within the system and none of the samples exceeded the action level for lead. The City of Ely will be completing a system-wide inventory of possible lead service lines for prioritization of replacement. A system-wide project proposal has been submitted to the MDH

for state funding. The City of Ely will also be collecting additional sampling this summer to continue to monitor for lead in services. All residences with positive lead results from last summer have already been notified directly. The second round of sampling this spring and its timing were due to a number of factors already made public at Ely City Council meetings (see Ely City Council article in the April 21 edition of the *Timberjay*). The Minnesota Department of Health did not receive the required number of test results from the laboratory selected by

the State of Minnesota for the lead and copper testing completed in August of 2022. In addition, the City of Ely was not notified of all sampling results from that round of testing. These events have made it necessary to communicate further details to the public concerning possible lead in drinking water in private service lines in Ely.

**Health Effects of Lead**

The main way to come in contact with lead in Minnesota is through lead-based paint in homes built before 1978; however, you can also come

in contact with lead through drinking water. Lead can get in your drinking water as it passes through your household plumbing system. Testing has verified that the City of Ely’s water delivery system is not the source of lead in the water samples. The source is private service lines that tie homes and other buildings to the City’s water lines. The lead can come from old lead pipe or from lead-based solder in aging water lines. The City of Ely is concerned about the health of their residents because lead can cause serious health problems if too much enters your body from

drinking water or other sources. It can cause damage to the brain and kidneys, and can interfere with the production of red blood cells that carry oxygen to all parts of your body. The greatest risk of lead exposure is to infants, young children, and pregnant women. Scientists have linked the effects of lead on the brain with lowered IQ in children. Adults with kidney problems and high blood pressure can be affected by low levels of lead more than healthy adults. Lead is stored in the bones and

See WATER...pg. 5

REAL ESTATE

**RE/MAX**  
Lake Country  
218-757-3233  
www.TheLakeCountry.com

**Orr-\$69,900** Ash River lots in Bear Ridge on Ash River CIC. Each lot comes with shared community septic, shared water from central pumphouse and electric. These utilities are already at each site. Ownership also gives you access to private docks on 155 ft of shared shoreline, a personal slip, gazebo near lake with grill and 1/10 share of all common areas.

**Britt-\$30,000** 3+ acre building site just 10 miles north of Virginia. Wooded and private. MLS#143945

**Britt-\$40,000** 4+ acre building site. Wooded with a pond and privacy. **MLS#143948**

**Price reduced!! Orr-\$19,900** Buildable 1 acre lot in the city of Orr with city water and sewer. Level cleared lot along road with wooded back lot. **MLS#144838**

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

\*As measured by residential transaction sides.\*

**VERMILION**  
LAND OFFICE  
Real Estate • Appraisals

Looking To Buy Or Sell? Give Us A Call!

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

**WE NEED LISTINGS!**  
Contact us for a free property valuation

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

**ORR** 120 acres "one of a kind" property that is ideal for recreation. Has 2,700 ft Little Fork River frontage and consists of mostly high rolling land. State forfeited land on 3 sides. **MLS#145129 \$300,000**

**VIRGINIA** 3 BR, 1 BA, 2-stall detached garage. Kitchen features stainless steel appliances, hickory cabinets, and dining nook. House in desirable midway neighborhood. **MLS#145109 \$149,900**

**WE SELL THE NORTH!**

**JANISCH**  
REALTY

218-780-6644

Let's Make Sold Happen For You Too!



# OPINION

e-mail: editor@timberjay.com

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

The First Amendment of the United States Constitution

## Editorial

### Spreading intolerance

Americans can't let bigotry  
rule a nation founded in liberty

This is a disturbing moment in American society as emerging forces seem intent on taking us down a dangerous path toward intolerance. It's a destination we must avoid.

We know that feelings of anger, bias, and intolerance lie to some extent within all of us. Yet a healthy society, through influences like education and peer pressure, honest opinion writers, clergy, elected officials, and other role models, helps all of us keep the thought lines open to our better angels— and to keep the darkness of intolerance and bigotry tamped down, stuffed in a box, hopefully never to emerge.

It's a continual process. Building tolerance is like growing a garden. The flowers and the vegetables need constant nurturing while the weeds need to be nipped in the bud before their hateful seeds can spread.

America's garden has grown more diverse over the years and it is easy to recognize that despite occasional steps backward, we have made progress over the years. We're a more tolerant society than in the past. That's undeniable.

Yet the weeds have been making a comeback. We have seen a rising tide of intolerance in recent years, targeting vulnerable groups, based on things like religion, sexual or gender orientation, or political beliefs. Even ideas and history are coming under assault by a kind of American Taliban whose vision is antithetical to the kind of tolerance that is so critical to a large and diverse nation as our own.

While there has always been a backlash, of sorts, to America's social progress, for the most part the forces of tolerance were able to keep the zealots away from the mainstream. That ended the day that Donald Trump descended his golden escalator and opened the floodgates to bigotry. For most Americans his words were at first shocking and seemingly disqualifying in an era when few politicians were willing to wake that ugly beast. But Trump, who cares little of the harm he leaves in his wake, was speaking to a portion of white America that was looking for scapegoats for the things that had gone wrong in their lives and their communities and who were happy to hear Trump confirm that someone else was to blame. Here was a demagogue who wasn't willing to play by the rules of a healthy society. He wore his intolerance and his

prejudice on his sleeve, like a bloody shirt, and his followers cheered him all the louder for it. He was the voice for what they secretly believed, but rarely spoke outside the privacy of their own homes. Society had told them such views were harmful. Trump told them they would give them power, but only if they truly gave into them.

Trump's election in 2016 was soon, and probably inevitably, followed by Charlottesville. Trump had opened the box in which modern American society had stuffed its uglier elements and they soon emerged, like zombies, with their Nazi imagery and white supremacist views to carry their torches, chant their lunatic slogans, and commit mayhem.

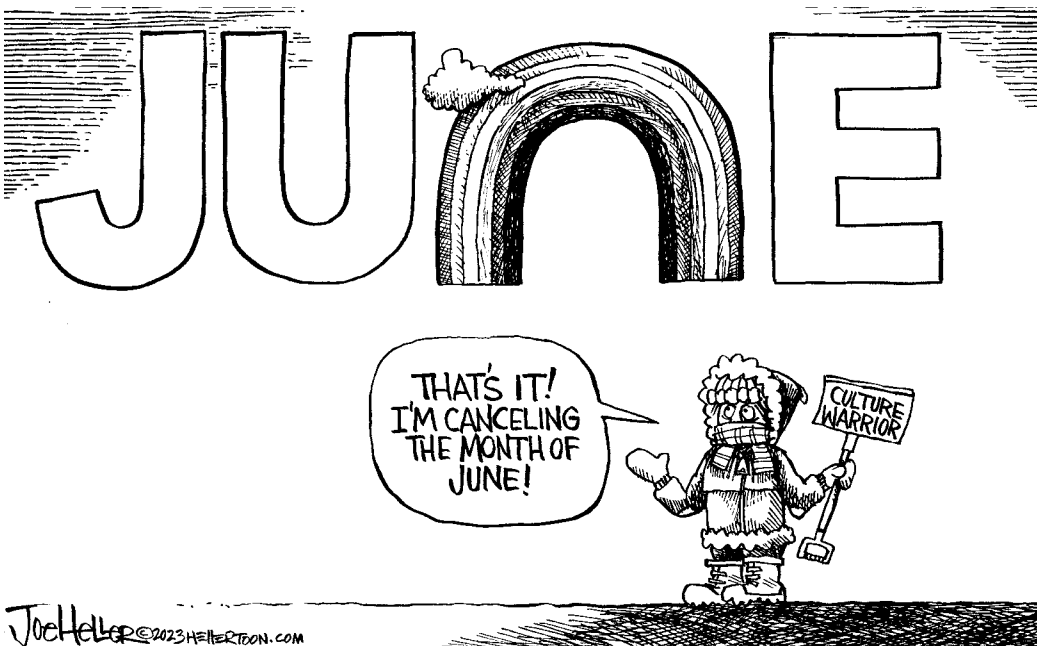
While poor, brown-skinned immigrants were first in line for Trump's abuses, the line has grown longer since, and today includes Jews, Muslims, Chinese, gays and lesbians, and the transgender.

The weeds, meanwhile, have continued to grow and spread, until finally the flowers and the vegetables are accused of being the problem. Tolerance itself, dubbed "wokeness" by the many mini-Trump's now sprouting across the Republican landscape, has become the disease, not the cure, in the minds of a shocking number of Americans.

And the line of those under attack is constantly expanding, as is always the case with intolerance. In state after state in the past year, particularly in the South and middle West, librarians and teachers, writers, and books have become targets. Even private businesses that wish to provide a supportive and inclusive work environment for their employees are now under attack.

We've seen where this mentality leads, and it's a very, very dark place, a place that most Americans don't wish to go. Most of us still understand that freedom for all, the very foundation of the American ideal, can only be achieved in a society of mutual respect and tolerance.

Which means it's time for the vast majority of us to begin to take a stand, to begin the push back against those who would target the vulnerable for political gain. It's time we remember the flowers and begin to recognize the noxious weeds for who and what they are.



### Letters from Readers

#### Thank you to our volunteers

Volunteers in Education (VinE) thanks the community volunteers who tutored students during the 2022-2023 school year. VinE's mission is to support public schools by engaging the community in educating students, supporting student growth, and preparing students for productive citizenship. The tutors are the heart of the program and their work with students contributes to the success of public schools. VinE thanks the following community members for their work as tutors and the positive difference they have made for students.

Gary Culbert, Tower-Soudan Elementary School; Gary Hertog, Tower-Soudan Elementary School; Laura Rosendahl, Tower-Soudan Elementary School; Karen Saarela, Tower-Soudan Elementary School; Lynn Hilde, Cherry School; Becky Jaeger, Cherry School; Joseph Smith, Cherry School; Bailey Conger, North Woods School; Cathy Farley, North Woods School; Jared Bangs, North Woods School; Dr. David Farley, North Woods School; Denise Parsons, North Woods School; Kathleen Graber, Northeast Range School; Jaden Scherer, Northeast Range School; Elaina Swanson, Northeast Range School; and Jeff Lindmark, Mt. Iron-Buhl Schools.

VinE looks forward to continuing this important work in the 2023-2024 school year. Please consider becoming a VinE Board Member, volunteering as a tutor, and/or providing financial support. Feel free to contact Teresa de Venecia, or visit the VinE website if you are interested in supporting VinE in any of these ways.

**Teresa de Venecia**  
teresad@vine-mn.org  
vine-mn.org

#### U.S. currency is being debased

The recent *Timberjay* op-ed on Republican hypocrisy/terrorism surrounding the national debt ceiling was excellent as far as it went. But it did not go far enough.

The federal debt is a delusion maintained by both parties for fear of what would happen IF they were honest and admitted the growing debt will never be repaid only rolled over... as it is diluted via the Federal Reserve banking system that continually buys and holds the debt with paper/ fiat currency which reduces the purchasing power of the wages and savings of every honest laborer or retiree [domestic and foreign]. Through this continuing dilution the national debt is effectively subjected to incremental daily default which is a "tax" on everyone who holds a single U.S. dollar. The Federal Reserve is already bankrupt by honest accounting standards ... but the charade must go on.

Federal fiat currency/ credit is an economic addiction from which the addicts are unwilling [and now unable] to escape. Like all advanced addictions, it will probably run its course to collapse which will bring destruction in myriad forms to all that it touches. One young English economist who had not yet been corrupted by the siren song of fiat currency and credit explained it this way:

"Lenin was certainly right. There is no subtler, no surer means of overturning the existing basis of society than to debauch the currency. The process engages all the hidden forces of economic law on the side of destruction, and does it in a manner which not one man in a million is able to diagnose." John Maynard Keynes, 1920.

Until WE [regardless of political party] join together

and forbid the continuing debauchment of our common currency and restore the purchasing power of labor's wages and savings, we are cursed to blame and fight against one another and/or to seek the wrong treatments for our growing afflictions because we have misdiagnosed the REAL disease afflicting us ... a fatal addiction to fiat currency and credit.

Zimbabwe and Texas have now approved and are issuing gold-backed common currencies in open defiance of the global central bankers who are exploiting us with their financial drugs. Minnesota and Kansas should do the same ... but this would mean ceasing to take all the fake federal "goodies" to which we have become so deeply addicted.

I hope this helps US to see that all which stands between US and an honest economy is OUR addiction to federal fiat currency and credit. And although few of us would accuse addicts [even if they are Republican] of hypocrisy, most of us would agree that they [even if they are Democrats] are delusional. Maybe it's a distinction without a difference ... and it doesn't acquit the Republicans of the valid charge against them of fiscal hypocrisy/terrorism ... but it shows us the BIGGER PICTURE ... which, as Pogo once said, is that "WE have met the enemy and it is US".

Please keep up the good local editorial dialogue with REAL citizens. The big newspapers are hopelessly mired in mindless propaganda. We must learn from one another then act together. It is the way of the North Woods.

**Bob Love**  
Wichita, Kan.

### COLUMNIST

## Thoughts on the growing wedge of wokeness

To listen to Florida governor and Republican presidential candidate Ron DeSantis and others of his ilk, the greatest enemy facing America today is, oddly enough, wokeness. DeSantis has declared war on wokeness in Florida, and promises to carry that war to the nation if elected.

"I will be able to destroy leftism in this country and leave woke ideology on the dustbin of history," DeSantis said recently.

Declaring that Florida is a place where "woke goes to die,"

DeSantis triumphantly signed the Stop WOKE Act passed along party lines in the Florida legislature, a bill that just as easily could be called the "stop making me feel guilty or responsible for inequity" act. The Stop WOKE Act prohibits instruction or training in schools and businesses that suggests that individuals share responsibility for others' past actions by virtue of their race, sex, or national origin. Please, don't make me feel guilty or responsible for decades of slavery that created systems

of oppression that resonate into the present day. It wasn't me that did that, it was those other people a long time ago. Don't make me feel guilty or responsible for excluding women from rightful representation and compensation just because I'm a man. Don't make me feel guilty or responsible for slaughtering and herding Native Americans like cattle, taking their lands and trying to destroy their cultures.

Opponents of wokeness like DeSantis decry it as something that infringes on their freedom of speech, yet the answer DeSantis seeks is to remove that same freedom from those who speak messages he doesn't care for. DeSantis and the anti-woke crowd don't want people pushing

their views on them, so they fight by pushing their views on anyone they consider woke.

So what is this woke that conservatives find so reprehensible and liberals embrace with fervor? At it's most basic, woke is defined by the Merriam-Webster Dictionary as "aware of and actively attentive to important facts and issues (especially issues of racial and social justice)." At its very core, wokeness is concerned with equality, wanting to ensure equal access to all of the rights, opportunities, and privileges associated with being an American. What could be more true to the promise of America than basic wokeness?

The controversy comes from the need to acknowledge

that inequities still exist in order to fix them. That apparently is something that doesn't come easily to conservatives. America is the land of opportunity where anyone, anyone can achieve limitless success with the right work ethic and beliefs, they say, all evidence to the contrary.

At its best, wokeness encourages individuals to examine the ways in which societal structures perpetuate inequality and fosters a collective responsibility to rectify these imbalances. It challenges social norms and raises awareness. And it encourages open dialogue and constructive discussion, giving voice to diverse elements of our

See **WOKE**, pg. 5



**DAVID  
COLBURN**



COMMENTARY

Delivering on my promise to ‘Just Deliver’ for the Northland

When I decided to run for the Minnesota State Senate, my primary goal was to deliver for the Northland. With the close of the 2023 legislative session, I can say without a doubt that we have delivered at historic levels for families, communities, and seniors across north-eastern Minnesota.

Let’s start with tax relief. I had the opportunity to serve on the Senate Tax Committee and Tax Conference Committee, which gave me a unique opportunity to fight for targeted relief for our youngest, wisest, and families in-between. The Child Tax Credit I advocated for will provide families with up to \$12,000 per year in tax credits to help afford the rising costs of raising a child. It is estimated by experts to reduce child poverty in Minnesota by 33 percent! We know that reducing childhood poverty has enormous societal benefits beyond the moral imperative of protecting our most vulnerable including reducing crime, improving our workforce



SEN. GRANT HAUSCHILD

long term, and more. Many politicians have promised Social Security tax relief over the last decade or more, but this is the first time we are truly providing substantial relief to a vast majority of Minnesota retirees. Over 85 percent of Minnesota seniors will see Social Security tax relief this year, protecting seniors who need it. While I strongly support the full elimination of the tax on Social Security, and voted to do so, I am proud we are finally taking a huge step in the right direction getting relief for a vast majority

of retirees. Throughout my time traveling the Northland, I have heard time and again the concerns about rising property valuations and unsustainable property tax increases. That is why I fought to include much-needed direct property tax relief for Minnesotans in the tax bill. In addition, the Local Government Aid, County Program Aid, and payments for county-owned public land we secured will relieve our local governments from needing to raise their levies to cover their costs. Instead, unprecedented state funding will provide those needed resources and provide property tax relief to local Northland residents. Keeping our communities strong and safe is a value we all hold and the best way we can do that is by supporting local schools, public safety, and critical infrastructure in our communities. This session we provided historic funding for our K-12 schools with a \$2.2 billion increase in

the per-student funding formula, special education gap, and transportation sparsity aid for our rural schools across the Northland. I also secured critical funding for local school construction projects for Northland schools from the Lake Superior School District and Northland Learning Center to the Ely and St. Louis County Schools #2142 North Woods Campus. This funding will not only ensure we continue to provide the high-quality education we have always cherished in the Northland, but it will also guarantee critical school construction projects can move forward. In addition to school funding, I prioritized the largest single investment in public safety, police, and first responders we’ve ever had in our state. In the tax bill, we approved \$300 million in public safety money to every single community across the state of Minnesota, which equates to hundreds of thousands of dollars for individual communities

and counties in northeast Minnesota. This funding can be used to purchase things like a new ambulance, police equipment, public safety training, and hiring much-needed personnel. The only way we keep our communities safe is by investing in public safety and we put our money where our mouths are this legislative session. It has been three years since the state of Minnesota passed an infrastructure bill due to partisan gamesmanship at the Capitol. Luckily, this session we finally secured a last-minute grand deal to invest in the largest infrastructure package in state history at \$2.3 billion. Projects from wastewater in Rice Lake and Babbitt; community recreation facilities in Big Fork, International Falls, Hoyt Lakes, and Hermantown; trails along the Northshore and on the Iron Range; boat landings in Ranier and Crane Lake; and funding for campus renovations at Minnesota North College – Vermilion in Ely. In our District

alone, I secured over \$40 million in investments that will help improve the quality of life for our citizens without increasing their local property taxes. As part of this grand deal, we also secured over \$300 million for our struggling nursing homes, which will go a long way in supporting our rural long-term care facilities here in the Northland. I’m proud of the record investments we’ve secured for the Northland this session. When I announced my run, I pledged to stay out of the nonsense and just deliver for our communities. That is exactly what you can continue to expect from me as your state Senator. It is the honor of a lifetime serving the Northland. If you would like to contact my office, please reach out to me at Sen.Grant.Hauschild@Senate.mn.

Senator Grant Hauschild District 3

ELY...Continued from page 3

Drive. This is a property being sold by the city that was not previously listed with Keller Williams, which is Ely’s current realtor contractor. ➤ Approved a Memorandum of Understanding for the AFSCME Local

1490 to add Juneteenth as a paid holiday starting in 2023. ➤ Approved a request for in-kind services from Young Life for the 4th of July activities in White-side Park. ➤ Approved tempo-

rary liquor licenses for the Ely Fire Department Relief Association for July 1, 28, 29, and 30, at White-side Park, pending proper paperwork, insurance and fees. ➤ Approved a temporary liquor license for

Boundary Waters Connect for July 2 at Chapman Street Commons/Pocket Park at 115 E. Chapman St. pending proper paperwork, insurance and fees. ➤ Approved a temporary liquor license for the Ely-Winton Rod and Gun

Club for July 8 and 15, at Miners Dry House, 105 Miners Landing Road, pending proper paperwork, insurance and fees. ➤ Approved a temporary liquor license for the Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness for

July 2, at Semer’s Beach, pending proper paperwork, insurance and fees. ➤ After the approval of the four temporary liquor license applications, Mayor Heidi Omerza quipped, “July is a business party month.”

WATER...Continued from page 3

it can be released later in life. During pregnancy, the child receives lead from the mother’s bones, which may affect brain development. The City of Ely protects private water services from corrosion utilizing pH control measures. The City will continue to monitor the potable water closely to ensure optimal corrosion protection is provided. ➤ Use cold water for drinking, cooking, and preparing baby formula. Hot water absorbs more

**Reduce exposure to lead in water** ➤ Let the water run before using it for drinking or cooking. If you have a lead service line, let the water run for 3-5 minutes. If you do not have a lead service line, let the water run for 30-60 seconds. The more time water has been sitting in your home’s pipes, the more lead it may contain. ➤ Use cold water for drinking, cooking, and preparing baby formula. Hot water absorbs more

lead from pipes than cold water. ➤ Boiling water does not reduce lead levels and may actually increase them. ➤ Test your water. The only way to know if lead has been reduced by letting it run is to check with a test. If letting the water run does not reduce lead, consider other options to reduce your exposure. Many laboratories can test your water to see if it contains lead. If you would like to have your water tested you can

contact the following area labs: Pace Analytical, Virginia MN 218-735-6700, or RMB Environmental, Hibbing MN 218-440-2043. ➤ Contact a Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) accredited laboratory to purchase a sample container and get instructions on how to submit a sample (<https://eldo.web.health.state.mn.us/public/accreditedlabs/labsearch.seam>). MDH can help you understand your test results. ➤ Treat your water or

find an alternative source if a test shows your water has high levels of lead after you let the water run. See: <https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/factsheet/poulead.html>. ➤ Get your child tested. Contact your local health department or doctor to find out how you can get your child tested for lead if you are concerned about exposure. Find out more information about

child lead poisoning prevention at: <https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/lead/faqs.html>. ➤ Call the City of Ely at 218-504-5140 or visit [www.ely.mn.us](http://www.ely.mn.us). For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home/building and the health effects of lead, visit <http://www.epa.gov/lead>, or contact your doctor.

WOKE...Continued from page 4

society. However, wokeness is not always practiced at its best, providing ready fuel for those who oppose it. Many on the left have been as quick to condemn and silence opposing viewpoints as some on the right, precluding the opportunity for constructive dialogue altogether. And when wokeness attributes all of success or failure to group identity and its associated systemic inequities, it diminishes the importance of individual effort and responsibility. Those who believe in the fundamental principles of wokeness are at fault for letting others drive the conversation with their willful distortions of the issues. No clearer example exists than the furor on the right over critical race theory, a specific academic theory that has become the catch-all phrase for anything and everything associated with racism toward Blacks. When a theory generates healthy dissent among well-informed academicians, one can be sure the uniformed general public will be gullible to fall for the slightest bit of misinformation. That’s

been borne out of countless school board meetings across the country where angry parents have demanded schools stop teaching something that they’ve never been teaching. Teaching about America’s slave-holding past is history, not critical race theory. Slavery is elemental to critical race theory, but the fact that white Americans owned Black slaves is indisputable historical fact. Conservatives have driven a narrative that the historical facts and the theory are one and the same, and that issues of race should not be considered or discussed. Their successes in this endeavor lie largely at the feet of those who have inadequately defended against it. To Ron DeSantis and others, as a defender of equal opportunity for all Americans I am NOT your enemy, a foe to be defeated. As believers in the promise of America, you should want that as much as I do. And Mr. DeSantis, please don’t tell us you don’t believe in some level of wokeness, not after signing a bill mandat-

ing that Asian American and Pacific Islander history be taught in Florida’s schools. Why did you do that? Could it be because you believe that these communities weren’t being treated equally in your history classes? That’s woke, Ron, whether you like it or not. And it does little more than accentuate the inconsistency and unreasonableness of your approach to other affected communities, as Gregg Orton, national director of the National Council of Asian Pacific Americans clearly pointed out. “When you advance a bill that uplifts AAPI communities, but don’t want to acknowledge the fact that in the same state, there are real intentional efforts to invisiblize or erase Black history, you are on the wrong side of history,” Orton said. “With Florida, it’s hard to draw any other conclusion than they are actively trying to use the Asian American Pacific

Islander community as a wedge here. Racial justice can’t be a zero sum game for communities of color.” DeSantis clearly wants to wage a new kind of civil war in this country, against people who believe in equality for all. Polls show that a majority of Americans see woke as a positive thing. Wake up, Ron, and stop the damage you’re doing to my country. America wasn’t established as a tyranny of the minority, and I’m not your enemy. I just happen to be a fellow American.

Ritchie Automatic Livestock Waterers and Parts HIBBING FEED and SEED 262-3049

PESHEL ACCOUNTING 218-365-2424 1704 E Camp St. | PO Box 89 | Ely, MN 55731 | askjean.net CHECK OUT askjean.net for current TAX TIPS!

the TIMBERJAY Copyright © 2023 by The Timberjay. The Timberjay (PN 16025) is published weekly on Fridays, 51 weeks per year, by The Timberjay Inc., PO Box 636, Tower, MN 55790. Business/Editorial Office at 414 Main St., PO Box 636, Tower, MN 55790. Call (218) 753-2950 to subscribe. E-mail address is editor@timberjay.com. Periodicals postage paid at Tower, Minnesota. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Timberjay, PO Box 636, Tower, MN 55790. This award-winning community newspaper published each week serves the communities of Tower/Soudan, Cook/Orr, and Ely. Publisher General Manager Cook/Orr Editor Ely Editor Office Manager Staff Writer Graphics/Ad Sales Ad Sales/Sports Marshall Helmberger Jodi Summit David Colburn Catie Clark Michelle Toutloff Rachel Brophy Scarlet Lynn Stone Jay Greeney Official Newspaper: Townships of Bearville, Eagles Nest, Embarrass, Kugler, Vermilion Lake, Field, Morcom, Leiding, Crane Lake, Kabetogama, Greenwood, ISD 707, City of Orr. Member: Minnesota Newspaper Association, Lake Vermilion Resort Association, Lake Vermilion Area Chamber of Commerce, Ely Chamber of Commerce. Subscriptions Available: St. Louis County: \$45 year Elsewhere: \$59 year. We accept VISA/Mastercard/Discover/AmEx. NOTE: Changes of address must be sent or called in to the Tower office. Out-of-state delivery may take 2-3 weeks. For prompt out-of-state delivery try the First Class Subscription: \$109 year or \$10 per month. Read the entire paper on-line every week. On-line subscriptions cost \$29.95/year; details and payment at www.timberjay.com. Moving? Questions about your subscription? Call the Tower office at (218) 753-2950.

Read us online at www.timberjay.com



Week of June 12

**Monday**  
Embarrass Al-Anon Family Group- Hope Lutheran Church, 5088 Hwy. 21, 6 p.m.  
Tower City Council- 5:30 p.m. on June 12

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

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

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

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

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

**Farmers market to open June 16**

TOWER- The Tower Farmers Market will open for the season on Friday, June 16 at The Depot. The hours designated for selling are 4-6 p.m., as agreed upon with the city of Tower. The market board is asking vendors and customers to respect those hours for doing business. No early birds, please.  
The cost for a space is \$35 for the season or \$5 per day. Just show up with your table; no preregistration required. Returning and new vendors with any questions can contact Janna at 218-749-2186 or Mickey at 218-404-9486.

**Eva Larson book-signing on June 17 in Tower**

TOWER- Thirteen-year-old illustrator Eva Larson, of Tower, will be signing copies of her book, “Brave, Courageous and Bold,” at Sulu’s Espresso Café on Tower’s Main Street on Saturday, June 17 from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
The book tells the story of a young boy who was diagnosed with cancer when he was only 18 months old.  
Books are \$33 for hardcover and \$20 for softcover. If someone has already purchased a book, they are welcome to stop by and have it signed also.

VERMILION COUNTRY SCHOOL



VCS  
Class of  
2023



Above: The Class of 2023 at Vermilion Country School was honored at a graduation ceremony on June 2. Pictured (from left) Kaelean Fulton-Shaffer, Haedyn Miller, Annakeiah Chavez, Emilie Wojcik, Ashton Cook, Abbi Zapata, and Alyssa Costello. Above right: Annakeiah shows off her diploma with help from a younger relative. See story on page 12.

Center right: Kaelean Fulton-Shaffer and Haedyn Miller are all smiles after the ceremony.



Far right: Breitung Police Chief Dan Reing was the guest speaker.

photos by J. Summit



TOWER-SOUDAN SIXTH GRADE GRADUATION



Heading to  
high school

Fifteen Tower-Soudan sixth-graders were recognized in a ceremony on May 31 at the elementary school. An empty seat, filled with roses brought in one by one by the students, recognized their classmate Lucy Pecchia, who died in a car accident earlier this spring. Kindergarten students were also recognized (watch for pictures in next week’s paper.) photo by J. Summit

EMBARRASS

Rep. Lislegard met with  
ERFA board to discuss  
renovation project

EMBARRASS- Rep. David Lislegard (at center left) met with the Embarrass Region Fair Association board on June 1 at Timber Hall. Lislegard was instrumental in getting \$1.5 million in bonding for Timber Hall renovations. He talked with the group about how the funding will be distributed and what it can be used for. Lislegard told the board he is from Embarrass, and the community and traditions are meaningful to him.



COMMUNITY NOTICES

**Lunch Bunch to meet June 22 at The Landing**

COOK- The Lunch Bunch will meet at The Landing in Cook, on Thursday, June 22 at 12:30 p.m. Please RSVP by June 19 to Kathy 218-753-2530. Anyone who would like to join us are welcome to attend.

**St. James to discuss closing the church**

TOWER- St. James Presbyterian Church in Tower will hold a congregational meeting on Sunday, July 2, following the worship service. All members are urged to attend. The purpose of the meeting is to take a vote to close St. James.

**Tower-Soudan Class of ‘73 to hold 50th reunion**

TOWER- The Tower-Soudan High School Class of 1973 will hold their 50th reunion on Sunday, July 2 from 4 – 7 p.m. at Benchwarmer’s in Tower. Attendees will purchase their own drinks and food.

**Brooklynn Berg graduates from Iowa State with honors**

AMES- Brooklynn Berg, of Tower, was among the nearly 4,600 graduates who received degrees from Iowa State University this spring. Graduate and undergraduate commencement cer-

emonies were held May 11-13 at Hilton Coliseum. Berg received a Bachelor of Science, Kinesiology and Health, and graduated with Cum Laude honors. She also was named to the spring semester Dean’s List. Students named to the Dean’s List must have earned a grade point average of at least 3.50 on a 4.00 scale while carrying a minimum of 12 credit hours of graded course work.

Alumna Trudy Huskamp Peterson, the first woman archivist of the United States; and Temple Grandin, Distinguished Professor of animal sciences at Colorado State University, animal welfare pioneer and activist for people with autism, received honorary degrees

during the undergraduate ceremonies.

**Bria Chiabotti graduates from the College of St. Scholastica**

DULUTH- Bria Chiabotti, of Soudan, graduated from the College of St. Scholastica this spring with a BS in Nursing. Congratulations to each and every one of these Saints on their transformational growth, hard work and perseverance and most of all, accomplishments both personal and academic in nature.

Bria was also named to the spring Dean’s List. Dean’s List members have achieved a 3.75 grade point average or above on a 4.0 scale.

**Danna Weets named to St. Scholastica Dean’s List**

DULUTH- Danna Weets, of Tower, was named to the spring Dean’s List at the College of St. Scholastica. Dean’s List members have achieved a 3.75 grade point average or above on a 4.0 scale.

**Tower-Soudan Fourth of July donations**

TOWER-SOUDAN- The Tower-Soudan Lake Vermilion Events Board would like to thank the following individuals and families for their donations this year.

Donations are still needed and can be

mailed to: PO Box 461, Tower, MN 55790.  
Trevor and Patty Banks  
Starkovich Distributing  
Richard & Kay Hanson  
Tim & Nancy Kotzian  
Lee Branwall  
Frandsen Bank & Trust  
Peter & Elaine  
McGillivray  
Aronson Boat Works  
Squeegee Squad  
Tower Firemen’s Relief  
Association  
D’Erick’s Tower Liquor  
Pike Bay Lodge  
Corinne “Cookie”  
Bonicatto

Subscribe to the  
TIMBERJAY!  
Call  
218-753-2950





LAST WEEK OF SCHOOL

# Ely Memorial High School Class of 2023



ELY- The 44 members of the Ely Memorial High School Class of 2023 graduated on June 2. The speaker was former high school principal Megan Anderson, who reviewed memories of the Class of 2023 since she first met them as sixth graders. The honors and scholarships for the graduating seniors were published in the May 19, May 26, and June 2 editions of the *Timberjay*.

## Elyites on deans' lists

DULUTH- Julia Schwinghamer of Ely was named to the Spring 2023 dean's list at The College of St. Scholastica in Duluth, MN. Dean's list members have achieved a 3.75 grade point average or above on a 4.0 scale. The College of St. Scholastica would like to commend Julia for honorable academic achievements.

AMES, Iowa- Iowa State University announced that Jenna Judith Merhar of Ely was named to the spring semester 2023 dean's list. Students named to the dean's list must earn a grade point average of at least 3.50 on a 4.00 scale while carrying a least 12 credit hours of graded course work.

SUPERIOR, Wis.- Erika Mattson and Jen Shuster-Dahlin of Ely have been named to the University of Wisconsin-Superior dean's list for academic achievement during the Spring 2023 semester. To be named to the dean's list, students must complete 12 degree-seeking semester credits and achieve at least a 3.50 grade point average on a 4.0 scale.

STEVENS POINT, Wis.- The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point honored sophomore Jon Hakala with honors for the 2023 spring. Honors recognition is accorded to those with grade point averages from 3.50 to 3.74 on a 4.0 scale.

## Vandalism in Ely

by CATIE CLARK  
Ely Editor

ELY- At the Ely City Council meeting on June 6, Police Chief Chad Houde reported on two vandalism incidents that occurred over the weekend of June 3. The first occurred at the public restrooms in Whiteside Park.

"The towel dispenser was ripped off the wall in the men's bathroom," Houde told the *Timberjay* after the meeting. "These things often occur right after school lets out ... After these incidents, the police officers on duty lock the restrooms until they can be cleaned and fixed (by the city's maintenance crews)."

The other vandalism was to some of the pub-

lic information displays on the story walk along the Trezona Trail around Miners Lake. "The plexiglass was smashed," Houde said.

In a matter unrelated to the vandalism, the public bathrooms at Semer's Beach also became locked over a portion of the weekend, which Houde said was due to a miscommunication between police department officers going on and off duty.

"We didn't realize what had happened over the weekend until we saw all the postings about the locked bathrooms on Facebook on Monday morning ... Unfortunately, sometimes these things happen, especially if an officer is busy responding to more urgent calls."

**Upper right:**  
**Center:** Kenzie Kale (left) shows off her bubble making expertise at the Washington Elementary School carnival on June 1 as fifth grade teacher Heidi Omerza (right) looks on.  
**Center right:** Jennifer Kerntz, Ely's special education teacher for grades K-5 gets dropped in the dunk tank by Washington Elementary School students at the school's carnival on June 1.  
**Lower right:** The Ely Farmers Market and Northern Lakes Arts Association Arts in the Park got off to a great start on June 6 in Whiteside Park.

**Upper Left: The Class of 2023 at graduation. High school principal Jeff Carey is at the far left. Lower right: from left-to-right, commencement speaker Megan Anderson, chair of the ISD 696 Board of Education Ray Marsnik, who gave out the diplomas, and district superintendent Anne Oelke.**  
photos by C. Clark



## AROUND TOWN



## Upcoming Events

### Ely Public Library

ELY- The Library Scientists program will meet on Monday, June 12 at 11 a.m. to explore the science of microbes through a series of experiments and scientific observations. The activities are appropriate for grades 5-7. Pre-register for this program so the library can order enough supplies for each participant.

The Friends of the Library (FOL) Book club will meet on Monday, June 12, from 3-4 p.m. The book this month is "The Plot" by Jean Hanff. The FOL annual

meeting will be on Tuesday, June 13, starting at 1 p.m. The regular monthly meeting of the FOL will begin immediately after the annual meeting concludes.

The library will host a presentation on raising chickens on Thursday, June 15, from 1-2 p.m. The presentation is by Troy Salzer from the University of Minn. Extension office.

On Tuesday, June 20, from 11 a.m. until noon, the Get Crafty program will craft kindness rocks for the library's kindness garden. This activity is open to all ages. Register in advance so the library can order enough supplies. Preschool Storytime is held every Friday from 10:30-11 a.m.

All library events are at the Ely Public Library at 224 E. Chapman St.

### Library Book Sale

ELY- The annual book sale and membership drive to benefit the Ely Friends of the Library (FOL) will be on Thursday, June 22, and Friday, June 23, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on both days, at the Ely Senior Center, 27 S. 1st Ave. E. The FOL will not be taking donations of items to sell this year.

### Northwoods Partners

Northwoods Partners will hold a Tai Ji Quan classes every Tuesday and Thursday, 10-11 a.m., from now through Aug. 24, at Semer's Park Pavil-

ion in Ely. Donations are appreciated.

The "Rock Around the Clock" fundraiser for Northwoods Partners will be on Thursday, June 22, from 5 to 9 p.m., at the Miners Dry House. The event will include raffles, a silent auction, dinner, dancing and music. Tickets are \$45, available at the Northwoods Partners office, 218-365-8019.

### July 4 Race

Registration is now open for the Ely Marathon's "4 on the 4th" race, which is a fundraiser for the Ely Memorial High School track and field team. Register to either run or walk around the four-mile course around Miners Lake at elymara-

thon.com.

### Dorothy Molter Museum

Sunday, June 25, is Dorothy Day, the museum's annual open house featuring free admission, light refreshments, tours, and the new root beer exhibit. The museum is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

As of June 7, 203 vendors have signed up to sell at the Blueberry/Art Festival

## In Brief

### Tuesday Group schedule

ELY – The Tuesday Group community educational lunch gathering meets every Tuesday at noon 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.

Upcoming Tuesday Group speakers:

►June 13: The Common Loon with Dr. James Paruk

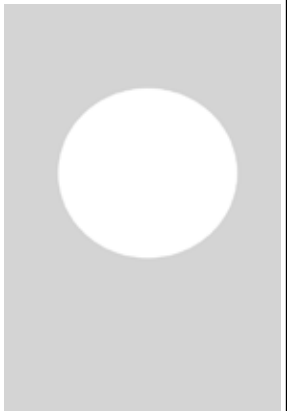
►June 20: The White Pine Tree with James Pastor

►June 27: I Can't Hear a Thing! with UCLA Professor Emeritus Robert Winter

►There will be no Tuesday Group meeting on July 4

## Breathing Out

by Cecilia Rolando © 2023



too hot, early june  
solar orb, burning sunshine

no break for humans

## Libraries

### Ely library

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

### Babbitt library

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

Phone: 218-827-3345

## Support groups

AA - Alcoholics

Anonymous

**OPEN AA - 7:30**

p.m. Wednesdays and Saturdays, in-person, First Lutheran Church, 915 E. Camp St., Ely.

**ELY WOMEN'S OPEN**

**AA - Every Monday** at noon at Ledgerock Church, 1515 E. Camp St., Ely.

**BABBITT AA - 7 p.m.**

Tuesdays, Woodland Presbyterian Church.

**AL-ANON - Sundays** 8-9 p.m. at St. Anthony's Catholic Church in Ely.

For persons who encounter alcoholism in a relative or friend.

**BABBITT AL-ANON -** Thursdays, 7 p.m., at Woodland Presbyterian.

**CO-DEPENDENTS'** 12-step support group, 5:30 p.m. Thursdays, Wellbeing Development, 41 E Camp St. Ely.

**ADULT BASIC EDUCATION GED**

Study materials and pre-test available. Call 218-365-3359, or 1-800-662-5711.

**CAREGIVER**

**SUPPORT GROUPS:** Babbitt: 3rd Monday of Month: 6-7:30 p.m. at Carefree Living.

Ely: 4th Monday of Month: 10-11:30 a.m. at Ely-Bloomenson Hospital. Conference Room B.



NORTH WOODS CLASS OF 2023 GRADUATION

I'm as free as a bird now ...



North Woods High School held commencement ceremonies for the Class of 2023 on Friday, June 2 in a gym nearly toasty enough to be a sauna. Pictured clockwise from top left, 1) Classmates wait in the hallway for the procession to begin; 2) Alex Whiteman reacts to a shout out from the bleachers; 3) Kiana LaRoque is all smiles as she exits the gym with her diploma; 4) Skyler Yernatich gets a high five as she exits the gym; 5) Brenden Chiabotti delivers flowers to his mom; 7) Grace Koch is ready to get the ceremony started.    photos by D. Colburn

... and this bird you cannot change."

"Free Bird" by Lynyrd Skynyrd

COMMUNITY NEWS

Music in the Park gets going on Wednesday

COOK- The summer Music in the Park series kicks off in Cook City Park this coming Wednesday, June 14 at 6 p.m. with a concert by the well-known and acclaimed Beefeater Brothers performing classic country and rock and roll hits.

St. Paul's (Alango) Lutheran Church will be back with brats and burgers for sale, so bring along a blanket or some lawn chairs and make a picnic of the event.

Music in the Park is sponsored by the Cook Lions Club, Northwoods Friends of the Arts, and VFW 1757 Post and Auxiliary, as well as free will donations.

NWFA lists June events and classes

COOK- Experienced and novice artists alike will find something to inspire their creativity in one of the June classes and events coming up at the Northwoods Friends of the Arts Gallery in Cook.

A two-day workshop on Thursday, June 15 and Friday, June 16 will kick off the schedule.

Watercolor: Messing With Masa will be taught by Mary Beth Downs from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day. Registration is \$65

for NWFA members, \$80 for non-members.

The NWFA annual meeting on Tuesday, June 20 from 5-7 p.m. will feature a special presentation by noted photographer Keith Meisel sharing his travel experiences through "Street Photography."

Creative writing will be the focus for Haiku: Create a Journal and Write Haiku with Cecilia Rolando on Friday, June 23 from 1-3 p.m. Registrtion is \$15 for members and \$20 for non-members. There is also a \$15 materials fee.

On Saturday, June 24 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Lyn Reed will offer Beginning Acrylic (Aboriginal style animals) This is a "Curious & Creative" free class for ages 8 and up.

Call 218-666-2153 or email [nwfamn.org@gmail.com](mailto:nwfamn.org@gmail.com) to register. An up-to-date class schedule is available online at [www.nwfamn.org](http://www.nwfamn.org).

Cook students earn St. Scholastica degrees and honors

COOK- The College of St. Scholastica has conferred degrees on four students from Cook for Spring 2023.

Elizabeth Burton earned a masters of social work degree. Receiving bachelor of arts degrees were Bethany Cotten in psychology and Olivia Niska in organizational

leadership. Jakob Hyppa was awarded a bachelor of science degree in nursing.

Cotton, Hyppa, Niska, and Allison Rice were also named to the 2023 spring semester dean's list. To be honored, students must have maintained a GPA of 3.75 or higher.

St. Scholastica is a private, independent college in Duluth, established in 1912.

**Spring Art Expo is in full swing at NWFA Gallery**

COOK- The annual Spring Art Expo at Northwoods Friends of the Arts Gallery opened on Wednesday, and the public is invited to celebrate the event at a scrumptious reception on Friday, June 9 from 5- 7 p.m.

Spring Art Expo expands the offerings of the gallery every June when artists are invited to display and sell their works for a small registration fee. There is only one fee to participate, and no sales commission is taken during the expo.

The 50/50 raffle will again take place and this year two winners will win either 50 percent of the ticket sales or a beautiful ceramic fish platter (value \$195) created and donated by artist Mark Reed. Tickets are \$5 and are on sale now by NWFA members, at the gallery and at Tim-

ber Days. The drawing will be held at the NWFA annual concert on Aug. 11.

The second event of Spring Art Expo is the crafts at NWFA's Cook's Timber Days table. See NWFA Crafts on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Also visit the gallery at 210 S River St. to see the expo displays on Thursdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. through June 23.

**Book club to meet on Tuesday**

COOK- The Cook Area Book Club will meet on Tuesday, June 13 at 1 p.m. in the Cook Public Library. The book for discussion this month is "Lessons in Chemistry" By Bonnie Garmus.

Elizabeth Zott is a wife, mother, TV host, and above all, a chemist who dares women to change the status quo. This book is for all women who refuse to dumb themselves down, as we were supposed to be doing in the 50s and 60s.

The book club will not meet in July. The book for discussion in August will be "Fresh Water for Flowers" by Valerie Perrin.

Debut for farmers market is June 17

Cook Area Farmers Market Opens June 17 with SNAP and PoP!

COOK- The Cook Area Farmers Market will open Saturday, June 17 from 8-Noon in the Cook City Park.

This season participating vendors will be accepting Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits and participating in the Power of Produce (PoP) program. The Market's ability to offer these programs was made possible by the Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency. There will a booth operated by the AEOA at the Market each week.

SNAP recipients will be able to use EBT cards to obtain "tokens" that can be used to purchase eligible products. The tokens will be in one dollar denominations. No change will be given. Market Bucks will be distributed to SNAP recipients who spend up to \$20 on eligible items which will help stretch the family grocery budget and have access to fresh, nutritious local food. To apply for SNAP, contact your local county human service agency. In St. Louis County, contact St. Louis County Public

Health & Human Services or call the Food Support hotline at 800-657-3698. For TTY service, call the Minnesota Relay at 711 or 800-627-3529.

The PoP Club is an incentive program for children offered at farmers markets throughout the nation. Each week, children ages 4 to 12 receive a \$2 token to spend on fresh fruits and vegetables, as long as funding lasts. The tokens are good for only the current Market season and can be saved from week to week, but must be used by the end of the season. Like SNAP, no change is given for token purchases.

In addition to fresh produce, the Market always has a wide variety of vendors offering fresh baked bread, honey, home roasted coffee, home canned goods, jewelry, hand sewn items, and unique locally produced art and crafts of all kinds.

Come and join the fun at the Market each Saturday through September.

Read It  
HERE



ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

# State mining rules mostly protective, says DNR

Determination comes in the wake of 2020 lawsuit by Northeastern Minnesotans for Wilderness

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

REGIONAL — The Department of Natural Resources has determined that the state’s non-ferrous mine siting rule is largely protective of the environment, but needs updating to better address the potential for mining-related noise and light impacts on the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.

The decision, issued late Wednesday, May 31, came in response to a court order issued in a case brought by Ely-based Northeastern Minnesotans for Wilderness back in 2020. In a 74-page decision, the DNR determined that the non-ferrous mining rule, known as Minn. R 6132.2000, should be reopened for updating to better address concerns about noise and light impacts to the wilderness.

NMW, in its original lawsuit, brought under the Minnesota Environmental Rights Act, had argued that the rule in question could not protect the BWCAW from impacts from acid rock drainage resulting from the removal of sulfide-based ores

within those portions of the Rainy River watershed located upstream of the 1.1-million-acre wilderness area. The group, citing scientific studies that suggested downstream water pollution would be inevitable and difficult to mitigate, appeared to have hoped that the DNR would reach a similar conclusion and ultimately agree to prohibit non-ferrous, sulfide-based mining from taking place with the Rainy River headwaters.

But the DNR determined otherwise, concluding that the existing rule, “in conjunction with other existing state and federal environmental protection laws, is adequate to protect the BWCAW from potential water, air, and other impacts from nonferrous mining.”

The DNR noted that the state already applies the most protective water quality standard, known as Prohibited Outstanding Resource Value Water, to the Boundary Waters. According to the DNR, that designation “essentially prohibits issuance of a water quality permit that would have a measurable impact on waters of the BWCAW.”

The agency notes, in addition, that the wilderness is also afforded the highest level of air quality protection in federal law.

NMW officials expressed some satisfaction with the DNR’s decision. “It’s encouraging that the DNR recognizes that the existing rules, promulgated 30 years ago, are no longer adequate to protect the Boundary Waters,” said Ingrid Lyons, Executive Director of the Campaign to Save the Boundary Waters, of which NMW is a part. “We will work through the process to ensure that subsequent proceedings properly address all of the priceless natural resources at risk from pollution, impairment, and destruction if sulfide-ore copper mining were allowed in the Boundary Waters watershed.”

In reaching its conclusions, the DNR reports it reviewed more than 4,000 comments on the issue, many of which questioned the state’s overall policy regarding non-ferrous mining and the level of risk the should be allowed under that policy. But the DNR, in a public statement, said its response was intended to address the legal issues raised

in the NMW lawsuit rather than render a policy decision.

“Any decision to modify a fundamental state policy of this nature belongs in front of the Legislature, rather than an executive agency,” noted the agency in a press statement. “We recognize that the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness is an extraordinary natural treasure and deeply important to our identity as a state,” said DNR Commissioner Sarah Strommen. “We received many comments that raised questions about the State’s policy and risk tolerance around nonferrous mining. We believe these broader policy questions are more appropriately addressed by Minnesota’s Legislature.”

The DNR is now recommending that the Legislature consider whether the following nonferrous mining practices in the watershed are compatible with protection of the BWCAW:

- Above ground storage or disposal of waste tailings.
- Permanent above ground storage of reactive waste rock.
- Heap leaching.
- Smelting.

Becky Rom, national chair

of the Campaign to Save the Boundary Waters, said she was encouraged by the DNR’s call on the Legislature to examine the risks associated with these various mining methods and technologies. “We think that is an indication to the Legislature to take a good hard look and really engage on that,” she said. “Hopefully, we’ll have more legislators touring the area. Ideally, it could translate into expanded rulemaking or new legislation.”

Meanwhile, Rom said the Campaign’s attorneys are reviewing the decision in depth to better understand how the DNR interpreted the data the plaintiffs provided related to water and air impacts. Under a stipulated agreement as part of the overall case, NMW has the right to a contested case hearing if they wish to challenge any part of the DNR’s determination.

Twin Metals Minnesota, which intervened in the case, has a similar right. Rom said a contested case is one of the options under consideration but that no decision has been made.

## MINE...Continued from page 1

resubmit an application to the Army Corps, doing so would be a time-consuming process and could require significant changes in the proposal to meet the more stringent water quality standards set by the Band.

An oversight by the Environmental Protection Agency, under the Trump administration, led to the latest challenge for the mining proposal. Under federal law, downstream “states” are supposed to be notified if a federally permitted project has the potential to impact water quality within their jurisdiction. Indian reservations are considered states under the law and the Fond du Lac Reservation, near Cloquet, encompasses a portion of the St. Louis River, which would receive discharge from the proposed NorthMet mine. However, the EPA never provided the required notice, either to the state of Wisconsin nor the Fond du Lac Band. The Band filed suit over that failure in 2019 and two years later a federal judge agreed that the EPA had erred and sent the matter back to the agency for further proceedings. The EPA subsequently held public hearings on the matter and later recommended that the Army Corps suspend the permit, which it did.

This week’s decision

makes that suspension permanent.

In a statement, Corps officials say they made the decision “after thoroughly considering all information provided to the district at a public hearing hosted in May of 2022.” That includes analysis and recommendations provided by the EPA, the Fond du Lac Band, NewRange Copper-Nickel and the public. In a 27-page decision memo, the Corps stated that it received over 22,500 public comments on the issue.

When the Corps initially issued its Section 404 permit in 2019, it had determined that the proposed mine would comply with all relevant water quality standards. But the Fond du Lac, who have established their own water quality standards under the authority of the Clean Water Act, disagreed and provided evidence that the discharges would likely exacerbate existing violations of its standards for both mercury and specific conductance within the St. Louis River.

The Band’s mercury limit, of 0.77 nanograms per liter is stricter than the 1.3 ng/l standard set by the state of Minnesota. In its review, the EPA noted that the St. Louis River is already impaired due to mercury levels and that it lacked “the assimilative

capacity that would ameliorate any adverse impacts of additional mercury loading from the NorthMet project.”

The Band’s own water quality experts had cited concerns that the proposed mine would alter the hydrology of up to 6,000 acres of wetlands, potentially increasing the transport and methylation of mercury already present in the wetlands.

EPA officials acknowledged there were gaps in the available data making it difficult to predict what impact the mine project would have on mercury levels.

Given those uncertainties, the EPA concluded that the conditions set in the existing permit could not ensure compliance with the Band’s water quality standards. The decision is certainly the first time that a permit for a major project in Minnesota, possibly in the country, was revoked for failing to meet the water quality standards set by an Indian nation.

“This is pretty precedent-setting,” acknowledged Nancy Schuldt, water projects coordinator with Fond du Lac. Schuldt suggests that the current situation could have been avoided, but that state and federal regulators involved in the mine permitting apparently didn’t recognize the authority that the Band

had all along. “We tried for years to get our perspective considered,” said Schuldt, “but it was such a bureaucratic juggernaut that pushed this [permitting] through.”

Yet the Band played a long game, said Schuldt, recognizing that, in the end, they had authority to act. “The Clean Water Act is pretty straightforward. We kept pointing it out to the state and federal agencies but eventually it became apparent we were going to have to press the issue.”

**Reaction robust**

Reaction to the ruling was immediate. “This is a very consequential decision,” said Paula Maccabee, legal counsel with Duluth-based Water Legacy, a group that has joined forces with Fond du Lac more than once in efforts to halt the current mine proposal. So consequential, in fact, that she worries that tribal governments could face a backlash. “At least for today, the people with the authority made the right and honest decision,” she said. “It’s a huge victory for law and science and the sovereignty of the Fond du Lac Band to set their own standards.”

A spokesperson for NewRange Copper Nickel said water quality data has already been thoroughly reviewed for the project

for more than a decade. “The planned NorthMet project development is protective of water, air, and other resources and can produce copper, nickel, and platinum group metals in a responsible and sustainable manner,” said Bruce Richardson, director of communications.

Where the project goes from here is uncertain. “The Corps’ decision is one that requires careful review, determined action, and further engagement with regulators and all key stakeholders,” said Richardson. “NewRange is reviewing all of our options as we chart a course forward.”

Eighth District Congressman Pete Stauber issued a blistering statement in the wake of the decision, calling it a “gift to the Chinese Communist Party.”

Stauber said the decision highlights the need for “serious mining reform to limit frivolous lawsuits and modernize the Clean Water Act permitting process” and he blamed the decision on activists in Washington. “Because of this, America will be more reliant on China, which has no environmental or labor standards and uses minerals sourced by child labor,” he stated.

Schuldt characterized Stauber’s language as inflammatory and said the

Band has no connection with Communist China. “The Band never undertook this legal challenge to undermine the economy. We undertook this challenge because it was a project that was not going to comply with environmental protection.”

Other critics of the mine proposal reacted with plaudits to the work done by the Fond du Lac Band. “We are incredibly fortunate to have the Fond du Lac Band fighting to protect our clean water,” said Chris Knopf, executive director at Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness.

“The legal strategy, scientific expertise, and passion they brought to this cause made today’s momentous victory possible. We feel an incredible amount of gratitude for all the work the Band has done to protect our state’s clean water.”

Maccabee agreed and noted that Fond du Lac has shown itself to be a formidable ally in their efforts to halt the current mine plan. “Not too many tribes would have the expertise, the resources, and the sheer toughness, to follow through with this,” she said.

## BRINKER...Continued from page 1

height of the Vietnam War. He served overseas as a corpsman with the Marines in 1968-69 and ended his military career in 1970.

Immediately after the war, Brinker’s life was a bit nomadic for a few years. “I just bummed around. I was in Maine for a while,” he said. “My sister lived up on Pelican Lake, she’d moved there with her husband, so I came up this way in 1976.”

Brinker got a job at Hill Wood Products and was there for 37 years. It was a good steady job and it introduced him to his wife-to-be in 1978. But while his life before coming to Cook was somewhat impulsive, his courtship of Roxanne was more deliberate.

“It was eight years,” Brinker said. “We’ve been married, what, 37 years?”

After coming to Cook, Brinker got involved with the local VFW post and the Masons in Virginia,

### 2023 Timber Days

Friday, June 9 through Sunday, June 11

Activities for all ages • Complete schedule online at <https://www.facebook.com/CooksAnnualTimberDays>

until the Masons moved to Eveleth.

“That was just too far,” he said.

But the Cook Lions Club has been a suitable replacement for the Masons that, along with the VFW, has allowed Brinker to be a vibrant and enthusiastic contributor to the community. Brinker said that if there’s a need, he’s willing to tackle it. “I do everything, really,” he said. “I don’t pick one certain thing. When the Lions are going to do hamburgers (for Timber Days) I’ll be down there one night cooking. We do the Halloween party, and we do the pancake breakfast. And we do anything else

they need. I don’t do the brat shack because I work at Zup’s on Fridays. But yeah, I’m there whenever they need me.”

Brinker also used to have a regular volunteer gig cooking brats and burgers at the Cook Care Center on Fridays but had to discontinue that when the COVID pandemic restrictions were imposed.

Brinker said he’s been impressed and gratified to see the spirit of volunteerism in the community.

“I’m surprised at how many people show up to help out,” he said. “At the VFW we have folks come in and help us run our burger nights. The majority of them in the kitchen

are all volunteers and they don’t belong to our post. They’re just local people coming in and volunteering so that we can have it open.”

Like most communities, Brinker said the volunteer base in Cook seems to skew toward the older generation that grew up with a strong sense of community and who have the time to devote to volunteer activities. He’d like to see some younger people get involved and noted that the Lions have added a number of younger members in recent years.

Brinker commended another local project driven by volunteers, the creation of Veterans Riverfront Park, an effort spearheaded by Cook Friends of the Park that was supported by the VFW.

“We donated quite a

bit to help get it started,” he said. “They did a beautiful job down there.”

Brinker, who serves as quartermaster for the VFW, is also a member of the post honor guard, and noted the collaborative efforts they have with the Orr American Legion members.

“When you do a funeral, it’s nice to have a big group, so three or four of them have come down, and when they don’t have enough people we go up there and help them,” he said.

When he’s not volunteering or toting out customers’ groceries at Zup’s, Brinker said he and Roxanne enjoy fishing. Crappie have their attention right now, and they’ll focus on walleye some as the summer progresses.

Also competing for his attention are five grandchildren, all under the age of three and including the recent addition of twins.

The Brinkers’ daughters Jill and Heidi live in Buhl and Gonvick, not too far away for Danny and Roxanne to enjoy some family time.

Brinker will be out volunteering again after taking his turn leading the Timber Days parade, as the Lions Club is planning to be out cleaning up the town after the three-day festival. That and other volunteer activities are good ways for people to get involved in the community and get to know their neighbors, Brinker said. Being around other volunteers is what Brinker enjoys the most. “You get to meet different people,” he said. “The people you meet are the ones that make you have fun. It doesn’t seem like it’s a job when you’ve got a bunch of people around to join in. The Lions are a good group – they like to kid around and have a good time. It’s not work, it’s fun.”



BOIS FORTE

# Band dedicates community room to Goodsky

by DAVID COLBURN  
Cook/Orr Editor

NETT LAKE- Of all the voices heard at a dedication ceremony at the Bois Forte Government Center at Nett Lake last week, the late Bois Forte elder and spiritual adviser Gene Goodsky surely would have rejoiced at the sound of an infant crying, the surest sign that the whole community was welcome and present at the event held in his honor.

Goodsky passed away in February 2022, and the Band chose to honor his contributions to the Bois Forte community by dedicating the Eagle Room, a focal point for powwows, meetings, and community gatherings, in his honor, and the community turned out in full force to recognize him.

Fittingly, the room itself will remain the Eagle Room, with Goodsky ever-present through a commemorative plaque and portrait that will hang on the wall there.

“One thing that Gene instilled upon us all was a sense of community,” Bois Forte tribal chair-



woman Cathy Chavers said “He always talked to us about how we used to be as a community, how we got together, how we did things as a community. So, when Gene passed, we called Diana and I said, you know, we really feel the only thing that we can do to honor Gene is to dedicate this room to him because it’s from his community. This is where community events happen. This is what Gene wanted, to get our community back.

The portrait and plaque were

unveiled by Gene’s children Dianna Goodsky-Hertig, Lela Goodsky Correa and Tom Spears. The striking photo, taken by Mel Goodsky, is from the same photo shoot that provided the cover art for Gene Goodsky’s biography, Warrior Spirit Rising. The inscription on the plaque reads, “In dedication of his many years of devotion, commitment, service, and generosity to the community and band members of the Bois Forte Band of Ojibwe.”

Elder Gilbert Smith led the

**Dianna Goodsky-Hertig, left, Tom Spears and Lela Goodsky Correa unveil the portrait and plaque honoring their father, the late Bois Forte elder and spiritual advisor Gene Goodsky.**

photo by D. Colburn

traditional ceremony portion of the event, sharing stories, personal experiences, tribal teachings and wisdom that all tied together to amplify theme of shared community.

Goodsky-Hertig shared her reflections with the audience, saying that underneath all of her father’s actions and teachings was unconditional love.

“I felt like I finally got all the teachings he was trying to give,” she said. “Whether it’s courage or forgiveness or whatever, it’s deeper than that. Because when you share that love inside, that other stuff kind of comes naturally.”

After the ceremony, Goodsky-Hertig said that Gene’s sense of community and family inspired her to talk about love.

“I think that’s part of his legacy,” she said. “It really is his bottom line. He wasn’t the preacher type to just be saying to everybody, ‘Hey, gotta love somebody.’ He taught it through his actions and his giving and the way he lived. I think his legacy is that love that presents itself in so many ways, especially in this community.”

She also said that for Gene, community was synonymous with family, and said she felt it was very appropriate for herself and other family members to serve as the honor guard for the ceremony.

Goodsky-Hertig recalled after the ceremony the first time she participated as a member of the honor guard. “The first time I did it I saw my dad’s face and he was super proud,” she said. “He would be extremely proud of all of us.”

At the conclusion of the ceremonies, T. Pattenn Café, Gene’s favorite place to eat, served attendees a meal of creamy chicken wild rice soup and fry bread.

## ARONSON...Continued from page 1

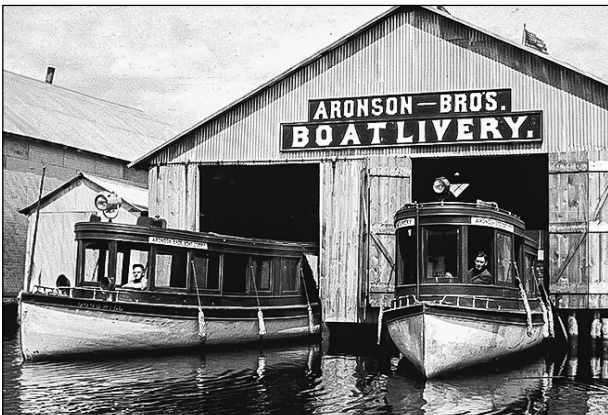
owner Gretchen (Aronson) Niemiste. Gretchen and her husband John are the third generation of Aronson’s to operate the business.

Planning for the project has taken over a year, with permits required from multiple state and federal agencies.

“It’s going to be beautiful when it is done,” said Niemiste. “But it is a stressful project to do during our busy summer season.” With the late ice-out and quick summer warmup, marina staff had to scramble to get the area ready for the contractors, at the same time summer customers were needing boats taken out of storage and put into the water.

Contractors are recycling as much of the materials as possible, Niemiste said. The tin siding is being recycled, and the metal roof from the covered slip will be used as roofing on a new storage building.

The wood, for the most part, is not suitable for reuse. Niemiste said the building was extremely well built, and in 1941, that meant using so many nails that it would be almost impossible to get them all out again. The footings of



**Above: The Aronson Boat Livery in the 1920s, then located on Tower’s harbor, next to the train depot. The business moved to its current location on Pike Bay in the early 1940s.**

**Above right: Assembling sections of one of several new docks being installed at Aronson Boat Works.**

the building are railroad ties pounded down 26 feet and will all be pulled out.

The building was used to store older wooden boats. Getting them all out at once was a challenge because most didn’t have trailers, and needed to be soaked in the water, a few at a time, to swell up the boards and make them watertight, before being moved.

The second story of the structure had been used for storage for the last 80 years. Niemiste said they had been clearing out the assortment

of old wooden boat parts and other business rick-a-rack for the last couple of years. One item of note was an old stencil, with the initials A.B.L. (for Aronson Boat Livery), which most likely dated back to the earliest days of the business, when it was located on the East Two River, at Tower’s old harbor.

As heavy equipment worked to knock down the building, some debris floated out on the lake. John Niemiste was putting around the docks,



picking out floating pieces of lumber. Some lakeshore residents on the other side of Pike Bay said they were finding old paper receipts washing up on shore, which perhaps had worked their way between walls and boards and dated back to the 1950s.

As the large boathouse was being torn down, new marina-style dockage was being installed to the east. These first new docks will have enough slips to store all the boats that are currently stored in the water, and then the remaining docks will be removed and new docking installed. Once the rest of the docks are installed, it will free up space on land for additional parking because boats currently stored on trailers can

be stored in the water.

Over the past few years, Aronson has added a stand-alone mechanic/repair building, additional indoor boat storage, and an off-site boat storage facility.

### Aronson Boat Works history

The business is in its third generation of the Aronson family, although four Aronson families have had their time behind the rudder.

Hillard was killed fighting in World War I in 1918, so the marina’s ownership was carried down through Walter’s family, first to Gretchen’s aunt and uncle Walt Jr. and Ruth Aronson and later to her parents, John and

Joyce Aronson. Gretchen and John took over the operation in the mid-1990s.

Originally, there were no roads going around Lake Vermilion, and so the marina was used as a delivery service to lake settlers. The Aronson brothers used two large, hand-built wooden boats named the Maryland and Mayflower to ferry people, mail, groceries and building supplies across the wide lake.

In the ‘40s, the marina moved from its location on the East Two River to Pike Bay to get out of the way for the construction of the Hwy. 169 bridge and later, converted to more modern, faster wooden boats to keep up with the growing demand of delivery on the lake.

The marina also operates a mail boat during the summer months, contracting with the local Post Office since the 1920s, delivering mail to about 70 stops on the lake’s islands and water-access properties. The mail boat also offers visitors a chance to see remote island cabins and summer homes all across the lake through regular tours offered on the daily mail run.

ROCK

Around The

CLOCK

RAFFLES

SILENT AUCTION

DINNER • DANCING

MUSIC WITH ED ELY

THURSDAY, JUNE 22

5 TO 9 PM

MINERS DRY HOUSE

\$45 PER TICKET

(\$5 OF YOUR TICKET PRICE IS A DONATION)

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT AREA SENIOR CITIZENS

NORTHWOODS PARTNERS

- caring connections -

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM

NP BOARD MEMBERS AND

AT THE NP OFFICE

(218) 365-8019

NORTHERN LAKES ARTS ASSOCIATION PRESENTS

GODSPELL

Conceived and Originally Directed by John Michael Tebelak

Music and New Lyrics by Stephen Schwartz

Originally Produced on the New York

Edgar Lansbury/Stuart Duncan/Joseph Beron

June 22, 23, 24, 30 & July 1 @ 7 PM

June 25 & July 2 @ 2pm

June 29 Pay-What-You-Can Performance @ 7PM

at the Vermilion Fine Arts Theater

Tickets:

\$25 General Admission

\$20 NLAA Member

\$15 Youth (16 and under)

Available at the door and online by scanning the QR code below

or call us at 218-235-9937 to purchase your seats!



Attractions

New digs for residents at North American Bear Center

ELY- At the North American Bear Center, the old bear enclosures with their wooden shelters have lasted many years; however, with wear and bear, it was obvious they wouldn't last fur-ever. Director Scott Edgett was happy to be the bear-er of good news last week when he showed off one of the center's new enclosures to the *Timberjay* last week.

The bear center is installing five new enclosures to replace the old ones made of chain link fence. "All the new enclosures will be finished in the next three weeks, weather permitting," Edgett explained. "Everything but the fencing and all the labor is locally-sourced."

Each new enclosure will feature a natural rock-roofed den,



webcams installed by Custom Theaters of Ely, and new fencing installed by local contractors. The fencing goes down four feet into the ground. The natural dens are designed to give the ursine

residents of the center a place to shelter during bad weather and to hibernate during the winter. When complete, the entire project will cost the nonprofit bear center over \$150,000.

**Left: One of the new bear enclosures at the North American Bear Center, featuring special bear-friendly and visitor-friendly zoo fencing and new natural dens.**

photo by C. Clark

The fencing, all 650 feet of it, is a specialty product made specifically for zoos. "It's visitor, bear, and camera-friendly," said Edgett. It wasn't possible for the center to find zoo fencing locally — or even in the United States, since it is produced in only two countries, both on the other side of the globe.

The bear center ordered its zoo fencing from the United Kingdom. Edgett outlined the convoluted travels of the new

fencing this spring from the UK to Minnesota, given the continuing snarls and harbor jams at North American ports.

"The fencing arrived in Quebec where it was shipping by rail," said Edgett, "first by Canadian Northern and then by BNSF. Then it was reloaded and trucked to Minnesota from (upstate) New York."

The North American Bear Center has been an Ely fixture since 2007. It is currently the home of three black bears, Lucky Holly, and Tasha. Depending on the year, the center, which is open to the public from May until late October, hosts between 26,000 and 30,000 visitors annually.

Philanthropy

Gundersen Trust changes finally approved by court

by JODI SUMMIT  
Tower-Soudan Editor

TOWER- After years of effort, the city of Tower's Gundersen Trust Fund has received court approval for the transfer of its assets to the Duluth-Superior Area Community Foundation (DSACF).

"It's done," said Gundersen Trust treasurer Steve Wilson, who helped lead the effort. The change will generate a steady and predictable source of revenue to continue the mission of the original trust. While the trusts attorney has a little more work to complete, Wilson said the process should be fully complete within a couple months.



**In an undated photograph, Martin Gundersen fillets fish on an area dock while one of his grandchildren watches with interest. Gundersen, along with his wife Elizabeth, were major property owners in the area in the early 1900s. They later donated much of that land to the city of Tower, some of which formed the basis for the Gundersen Trust.** photo courtesy of Martin Gundersen's grandson Martin.

The Gundersen Trust was formed back in 1992, with proceeds of the sale of forest lands donated

to the city by Martin and Elizabeth Gundersen. Annual proceeds from the trust were to support the city, with 75-percent going to the city's general fund, and the rest donated

for community education and recreation in the city's forest lands.

In recent years, the money earned by the trust's almost million-dollar nest egg barely covered the

annual expenses for legal and accounting services because it was required to invest in specific types of government-backed funds which were paying well below one-percent in interest.

Once the fund is invested with the DSACF, the city will receive an annual payment, which will vary year-to-year but is expected to be around 3.5 - 5 percent of the value of the fund. Mark Danielson, from the DSACF, told the board last fall that this year's distribution of assets that the DSACF oversees is expected to be between 3.5 - 4.5-percent. The fund also includes a \$258,000 tax bond that was issued by the city back in 2015, to pay some of the expenses of the harbor project. The city will

continue to pay back that bond to the DSACF.

The city's Gundersen Trust Board will need to be dissolved, said Wilson, since they are no longer in charge of the trust's investments. In its place, the city will be appointing a committee that will set up the guidelines, criteria, and process for awarding funding from the new fund's proceeds. It is expected that 75-percent will still go to the city's general fund, but the remaining 25-percent will be used for community grants. While the Gundersen Trust limited donations for community education and recreation in the city's forest lands, the new committee will have the option of widening the qualifications so the fund can benefit other Tower-area nonprofits as well.

"The committee gets to do the fun stuff," said Wilson.

The Gundersen Trust Board considered three different proposals from community trusts, as well as one from a local bank, that were interested in managing the trust's money. DSACF was chosen because it had the lowest management fees, as well as a proven track record for managing similar funds.

Grants will be awarded at least once a year, but the city may have the option of awarding grants more often.

FREE

ESTATE PLANNING CLASS  
In Tower, MN

Attorney Kelly Klun will walk you through the estate planning process.

Ensure your assets, property and loved ones are taken care of.

• Deeds

• Cabin Succession Planning

• Wills

• Trusts

• Power of Attorney

• Health Care Directive

Thursday, June 15 • 5-6 PM  
Tower's Gathering Gallery • 515 Main St., Suite 104 • Tower  
Register by calling 218-235-1811 or visit: [ely.k12.mn.us/communityed](http://ely.k12.mn.us/communityed)

KLUN LAW FIRM  
Direction. Guidance. Results.  
1 E. Chapman St • P.O. Box 240  
Ely, MN 55731

218-365-3221  
[www.klunlaw.com](http://www.klunlaw.com)

40m

Vermilion Walk & Run

Tuesday, July 4 • Tower  
Main Street/LV Cultural Center  
• 10K Run - 8 a.m. • 5K Run/Walk - 8:05 a.m.  
• 1-Mile Kids Fun Run - 8:15 a.m.

Preregister: Email [jsummit@vermilioncountry.org](mailto:jsummit@vermilioncountry.org) for registration form or stop by the Timberjay office

Registrations accepted race day 6:30-7:45 a.m. sharp!  
10K or 5K- \$15 per person in advance- \$20 on race day  
Kids 12 & under free with paid adult. Kids fun run is free.  
Shirts available for purchase on race day!  
Race course is the same as 2022, start/end a block off Main St. by old football field.  
For more information, contact  
Jodi Summit at 218-753-2950 (leave message)

Sponsored by the Friends of Vermilion Country School and the Tower-Soudan Lake Vermilion Area Events Board

Subscribe to the  
TIMBERJAY!  
Call  
218-753-2950

PRE-DRIVEN DEALS!

2021 Chrysler Pacifica.....Just In!.....	\$29,990
2020 Chevrolet Equinox LT AWD.....29K Miles!.....	\$28,990
2020 Jeep Renegade Latitude 4x4.....Only 25K Miles!.....	\$26,990
2020 Jeep Compass Limited 4x4.....Only 23K Miles!.....	\$27,990
2020 Chevrolet Trax AWD.....21K Miles!.....	\$22,990
2019 Chevrolet Blazer Premier AWD.....Fresh Trade In!.....	\$35,990
2019 Buick Envision Essence AWD.....Only 35K Miles!.....	\$27,990
2019 Buick Envision Essence.....New Low Price!.....	\$21,990
2019 Ford Edge SEL AWD.....31K Miles!.....	\$27,990
2018 Ford Ecosport AWD.....45K Miles!.....	\$19,990
2015 Chevrolet Traverse LTZ AWD.....7 Passenger!.....	\$19,990

View Our Full Inventory at [www.waschke.com](http://www.waschke.com)

WASCHKE FAMILY  
CHEVROLET • COOK

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

Ely Community Pharmacy will close at  
5:00pm for staff training on  
Wednesday  
June 14th.

Please plan accordingly and pick up your prescriptions early.

We are very sorry for any inconvenience.

EBCH

Ely Community Pharmacy

It's that time of year for the  
ELY NORDIC SKI TEAM  
(6th-12th grade)  
ANNUAL PEACH SALE FUNDRAISER

TAKING ORDERS NOW  
FRESH  
GEORGIA PEACHES

Call or email us today & reserve your box of fresh delicious peaches.  
[elynordicpeaches@gmail.com](mailto:elynordicpeaches@gmail.com)  
call/text 218-353-1790

\$37/box  
for 12 lbs. of peaches

ORDER NOW until JUNE 22  
Mandatory pick-up will be in late July.  
You will be notified ahead of time when and where local pick-up can occur. No holds!  
Thank you for your support!

Ely Nordic Peaches

ARTS ARTISTICALLY:  
ARTS IN ACTION

UNLOCK THE POWER OF  
CREATIVE WRITING WITH  
ALEC OSTHOFF

JUNE 17TH - 12PM • WHITESIDE PARK  
THIS EVENT IS FREE BUT YOU REGISTER ONLINE TO PARTICIPATE

\*This activity is made possible by the generosity of donors through a grant from the Minnesota Trust Arts Fund, awarded to a registered organization from the arts and cultural heritage fund.



NETT LAKE SAH-GII-BAH-GAH POWWOW



photos by D. Colburn

VERMILION COUNTRY SCHOOL

VCS graduates ready for their next steps towards adulthood

by JODI SUMMIT  
Tower-Soudan Editor

TOWER- “I know I haven’t been at this school very long,” said senior Ashton Cook, “but I feel like every one of you is family. Before I came to this school, I didn’t really feel like I had any sort of impact on anyone. I felt like another minnow in my old school. When I came here, I was greeted by everyone and treated like part of a family. By the end of my first year, I felt like I really belonged here.”

The unofficial theme at this year’s graduation ceremony at Vermilion Country School was family, and how a non-traditional learning environment can help students reach their potential, and be ready to move on to college, the workplace, or other pursuits.

The mission of Vermilion Country School, a grades 7-12 public charter school, is “Developing successful adults with skills to enrich their communities and the environment.”

The graduation ceremony started out with a presentation of eagle feathers to the four graduates with ties to the Bois



Senior Ashton Cook

Forte Band: Annakeiah Chavez, Alyssa Costello, Emilie Wojcik, and Abbi Zapata. Bois Forte Spiritual Advisor Vern Adams explained the significance of the feathers, which are only gifted for a significant achievement.

“These four students are very deserving,” Adams said. “The eagle feathers will help them to be strong.” The students then tied their feathers to their graduation mortarboards, letting them hang alongside the traditional tassel. These graduates were then presented with a gift of a blanket, and in turn, they presented gifts to Adams.

Senior Abbi Zapata spoke about the confidence she had

gained since she started in the school as an eight-grader.

“If you asked eighth- grade me to speak at graduation,” she said. “I would have run out of the door. But now I know that is an opportunity I had to take, and I don’t want to regret anything.”

“I’d like to thank the teachers and paras for being themselves, for teaching us, and also making us feel like a family.”

Zapata said while she knows that high school graduation is a big milestone, that “it doesn’t just end here. This is the first major step in the journey of our lives, and I’m so proud of all you, my fellow classmates.”

“Biimadiziwn means the good life [in Ojibwe],” she said. “I hope you all strive for the good life, whatever it may mean to you.”

Abbi’s mother, Adrienne Whiteman, also spoke to the students, school staff, and assembled families that filled the empty school building. Earlier in the week, students and staff had cleared out all the furniture, books, and other equipment, which is being stored in the gym while the school building undergoes a major renovation this summer.

“I have so much gratitude for the VCS faculty,” Whiteman said, noting that Abbi’s older sister, who graduated last year, is now in the Navy, and that Abbi is headed to Fond du Lac Community College later this summer.

“They have supportive, positive relationships with their students. I truly appreciate all you have contributed.”

Whiteman presented beaded medallions she had made to the teachers and other school staff.

Breitung Police Chief Dan Reing was the guest speaker, chosen by the senior class. Reing, who previously was a classroom teacher, often visited with students during lunch, and helped plan the Arrive Alive demonstration held in early May, which involved spending a lot of time with the three seniors, Ashton Cook, Alyssa Costello, and Haedyn Miller, on that planning team.

“I saw maturity and growth with these students,” Reing said.

“This class has so much potential and so much ability.”

Reing reminded the students that their future hasn’t been written for them.

“You are no longer a student,” he said. “You now need to make adult decisions. Put your talents to good use. I can’t wait to see what you all become in the next 10, 20, and 30 years.”

Senior Ashton Cook echoed these same sentiments during the closing of his remarks.

“Find something you are good at, and do it forever,” he said.

The graduating class included seven students this year, six current VCS students and one PSEO student, plus one student, Ivy Reichensperger, who graduated mid-year. PSEO student Emilie Wojcik will be completing her four-year degree at the University of Minnesota-Moorhead. Costello and Zapata will be attending Fond du Lac Community College, along with a 2022 VCS graduate who took a year off to work. Chavez is attending Minnesota North- Itasca. Kaelean Fulton-Shaffer will be enrolling in a CNA program, and then will work on continuing her education in nursing. Miller is not yet sure of her plans, but college is one of the options she is considering. Ashton Cook has enlisted in the U.S. Army.

# Fall Classes start August 21

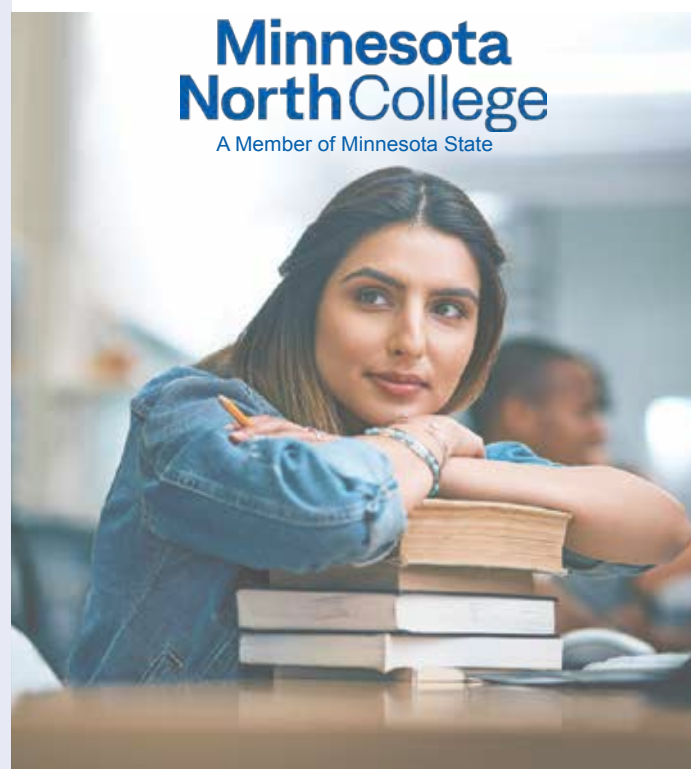
- Affordable Education
- On Campus Housing



- Veterinary Science
- Liberal Arts
- Natural Resources & Water Management
- Business
- Law Enforcement
- Emergency Services
- Outdoor Recreation & Wilderness



**Minnesota North College**  
A Member of Minnesota State



# APPLY TODAY

MinnesotaNorth.edu • 218-235-2191





# SPORTS

Serving northern  
St. Louis County  
since 1989

## BOIS FORTE COMPETITION

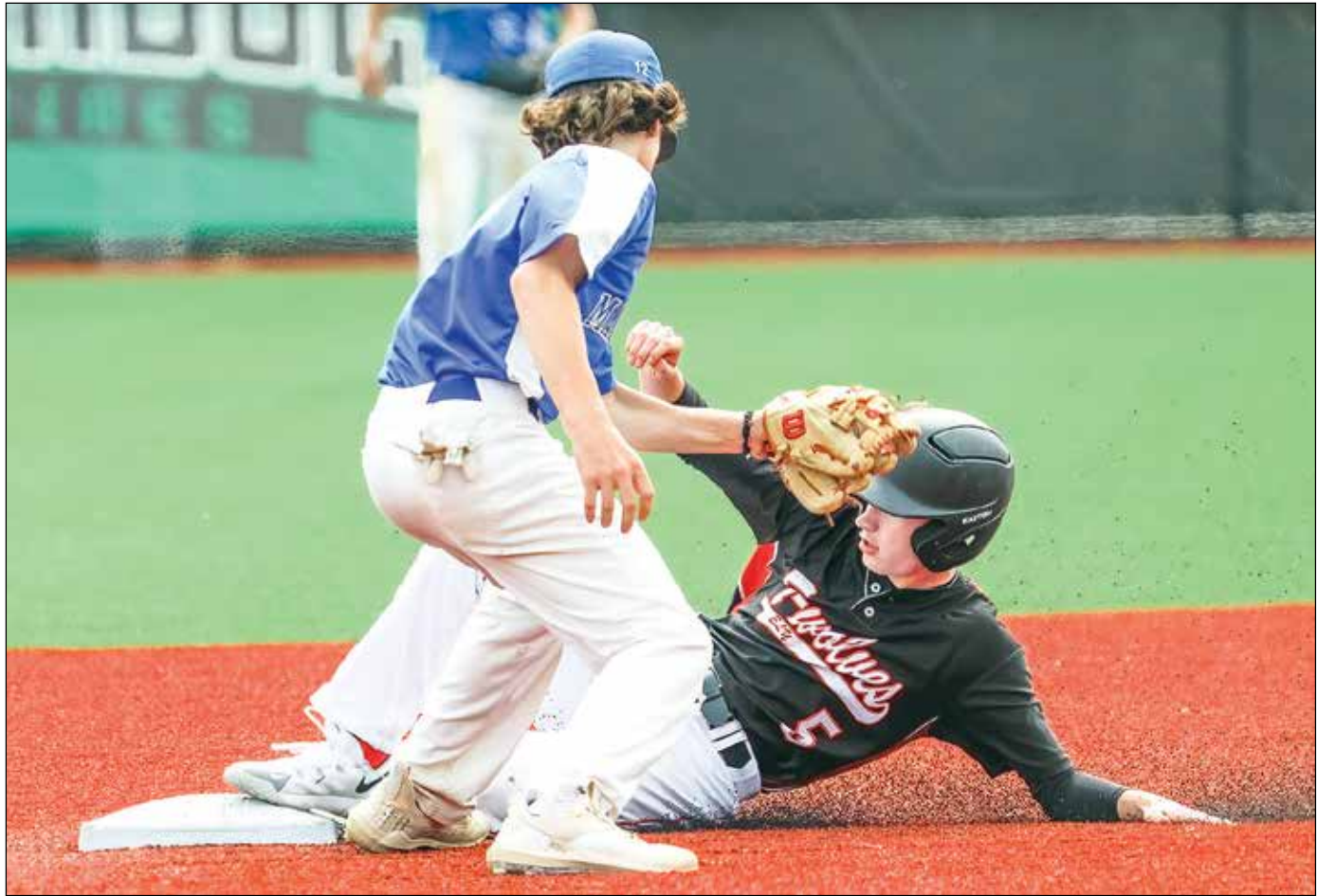
# Triathletes few but mighty at Nett Lake

by DAVID COLBURN  
Cook-Orr Editor

NETT LAKE- The Hawaii Ironman Triathlon is considered to be one of the world’s utmost tests of physical fitness and endurance with its 1.2 mile ocean swim, 56-mile bike route, and 13.1-mile run, and has spawned dozens of similar Ironman competitions worldwide. By comparison, the Bois Forte Asabiikone-Zaaga’igan Anishinaabe style triathlon is a rather humble affair, requiring

two-person teams to paddle in a canoe to Nett Lake’s Spirit Island and back, make three circuits of the Nett Lake community by bicycle, and finishing off with a mere 20-yard dash that’s more daunting that it seems for legs having just been taxed from navigating the bike course. But besides the biking and running events, what the Nett Lake Triathlon shares in common with the Ironman is the thrill of competition. The Ironman typically draws

**Right: David Boswell (front) and Romney Olson kick up spray as they paddle during one stage of the Nett Lake Triathlon.**  
photo by D. Colburn  
2,500 competitors. This year’s Nett Lake Triathlon attracted only six determined athletes, each with their eyes set on winning. Krystin Correa and Tyla Adams were the team that most looked  
*See TRIATHLON...pg. 2B*



## SECTION 7A BASEBALL PLAYOFFS

# WOLVES, SO CLOSE

Ely reaches elimination bracket final but falls 5-3 to South Ridge



by DAVID COLBURN  
Cook-Orr Editor  
EVELETH—Ely’s baseball season ended on a heartbreaker Tuesday. Down 5-3 against top-seeded South Ridge, the Wolves were unable to score after loading the bases with nobody out in the top of the seventh inning in the sectional elimination bracket final. The Panthers took command early, putting up four runs in the first inning on Ely starter Drew Marolt. But the Ely hurler settled down and kept the Wolves within striking distance as they came to bat in the top of the fourth. Elliot Levens got things rolling for Ely in the fourth, reaching base on a fielder’s choice and stealing second. He advanced to third on a single by Preston Hines, then scored Ely’s first run on a passed ball. The Wolves picked up another baserunner with Drew Johnson drawing a walk. Deegan Richards stepped to the plate and ripped a scorching single to left that got away from the left fielder, scoring both Hines and Richards to bring Ely to within one, 4-3. Richards ended up at second on the play, but South Ridge got out of the inning without further damage by retiring Joey Bianco on a strike out and Logan Loe on a grounder. Marolt walked the leadoff hitter for South Ridge in the bottom of the fourth, and the free pass cost  
*See WOLVES...pg. 2B*  
photos by D. Colburn

**Above: Ely freshman standout Jack Davies slides safely into second with a stolen base.**  
**Left: Ely junior Deegan Richards lays down a perfect sacrifice bunt.**



**Ely’s Kaylin Visser winds for her state-qualifying discus throw at the Section 7A track meet held June. 1**  
photo by C. Ellerbroek

# Ely’s Visser makes state in the discus

by RACHEL BROPHY  
Staff Writer  
DULUTH - Eighth-grader Kaylin Visser continued to dominate the discus with yet another personal record throw to take first at the Section 7A track sectional meet on June 1. Her throw, of 105’ 5” topped her personal best set two weeks earlier and it qualified her for the state tournament, set to be held at St. Michaels-Albertville on Thursday, June 8, after the *Timberjay’s* Wednesday press time. Visser was the only member of the Ely track team to qualify for the state competition. Other top Ely finishers at the section meet included, on the boy’s side, junior Leo Stalmer with a seventh place finish in the 300m hurdles, Oliver Hohenstein, Brooks Brenny, Tory Hughley, and Silas Solum who took sixth in the mens 4x800m relay, senior Clay Forsman captured ninth in discus, sophomore Eli Olson claimed eighth in the triple jump. For the girls, junior Grace LaTourell finished ninth in the 400m. Ely eighth-grader Molly Brophy’s personal record time was good for third place in the 1600m. Tatum Barto, who competes with the St. Louis County schools team, known as the Panthers, also set a PR, grabbing tenth. Ely had three top ten finishers in the 3,200m, with Brophy taking third, junior Claire Blauch in eighth and sophomore Anna Dunn grabbing 10th. Fifth place in the 4x200m relay went to Ely runners Lydia Shultz, Audrey Thomas, Audrey Kallberg, and Violet Udovich. Seventh place finishers in the 4x400m relay were Ely’s Lillian Tedrick, Audrey Thomas, Madeline Perry and Grace LaTourell. The Panther’s came in next with Isabelle Baasi, Madison Ellefson,  
*See TRACK...pg. 2B*

## SOFTBALL HONORS

# Ely’s Coughlin sisters named all-conference

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor  
ELY— Sisters Rachel and Kate Coughlin both won all-conference honors for the just-completed Section 7A softball season. The sisters, both seniors, led the Timberwolves in a whole host of offensive statistics. Kate finished her career

with 66 hits and 74 RBIs as well as a .420 batting average and a .521 on-base percentage. “Kate was also a tremendous outfielder for us the past three seasons,” said Ely Head Coach Cory Lassi. “Every ball that was hit out there was almost a sure out.” Rachel racked up 56 hits and 35 RBIs in her high school career, finishing with a .376

career batting average and a .472 on-base percentage. “Rachel anchored our infield at third base for her career,” said Lassi. “She kept us in many games with her defense alone.” Rachel had one of her best seasons this year, leading the team with a .400 batting average, followed by Kate with a .386 average. Kate led the team with 17 hits on the

shortened season and 21 RBIs. Rachel led the team with ten extra base hits. “While we will miss their production on the field next year, their leadership at practice is something that will be hard to replace,” said Lassi. “They are both the types of players that make coming to practice fun each and every day.”



## TRIATHLON..Continued from page 1B

the part of triathletes in their workout attire, a look that gave them a bit of an intimidation factor when viewed by their competitors. Sisters-in-law, the pair said they entered for the competition and for the fun of being with the community.

For Elena Steel and Kent Villebrun, the Rez Triathlon was in essence an out-of-the ordinary date.

“I’ve always wanted to do something like couple bonding like a race,” Elena said. “And this is a really fun way to connect with the community.”

The triathlon wasn’t originally in the weekend plans for David Boswell and Romney Olson, Fond du Lac Band members who came to Nett Lake with a food vendor for the Sah Gii Bah Gah pow wow. When they learned about the triathlon, their competitive juices started flowing and they jumped in.

“It was kind of scary at first,” David admitted. “I didn’t know whether to participate in this program or not. But I just figured it was for a better purpose. This is me and my cousin’s first time participating in a wonderful experience like



**Above: Elena Steel and Kent Villebrun during the paddling portion of the competition.**

**Above right: Krystin Correa competes during the sprint portion.**

photos by D. Colburn this.”

Teams completed the timed race one at a time, and through the luck of the draw Romney and David were up first. From the moment they launched from the starting dock, it became clear that navigating a canoe in a straight line wasn’t a skill they brought with them to the competition. “We haven’t been in canoes much all our life,” David said.

A few trumpeter swans watched curiously from just west of Spirit Island as Romney and David zigged and zagged a crooked course to the marker buoy and back, covering much more water than they intended. Once back onshore, they made a quick transition to the bicycles, the event that most worried Romney before the race.

“I haven’t been on a bike in years,” he said.

Romney’s challenge wasn’t so much the course or his long layoff as it was his height. At 6’3” tall, the bike wasn’t fitted to accommodate his long legs, making pedaling much more of a chore. David took off at a fast clip, Romney a deliberate awkward one,



and by the third time around spectators wondered if David might come around to lap Romney. That didn’t happen, however.

After David parked his bike, he finished the run in a brisk jog. Romney, exhausted from the ride, first declared he was going to walk the distance before taking one for the team and picking up the pace to finish out.

As the timekeeper concealed the times until the very end, Trent and Elena didn’t know the mark to beat when they set off in the canoe, but their prowess with the paddles quickly established them as contenders for the title. They made a beeline straight for the island, and after

a slightly awkward turn around the buoy headed straight back to shore. On the bike course, the couple continued to show just how in sync they were by circuiting the course with only a bike length or two separating them.

The bike had clearly pushed Elena to her limit, as her legs buckled as she started the run. But she righted herself quickly and headed across the line into the waiting arms of her sweetheart.

Krystin and Tyla’s canoe lap was a hybrid of the two that came before – not so crooked as David and Romney, but less straight and efficient than Trent and Elena. Still, the sense as they reached shore was that they acquitted themselves well enough to have a good shot at winning, and they jumped on the bikes and took off with enthusiasm. Krystin proved to be the faster cyclist, and while she lost a few seconds going back to pick up her bike when it fell over after being parked, she covered the 20-yard dash in a dead sprint.

She said she wasn’t fazed by the bike ride at all. “I think by the third

lap I was getting used to it,” she said. “I could have kept going.”

Tyla zoomed into the bike parking area looking like an Indy 500 racer hitting the pit area under green, and she still had some of that momentum as she dismounted. Quick moves to catch her balance kept her from nearly toppling down onto the pavement. Bike successfully parked, she finished the run without further incident.

When the results were announced, it turned out that style points didn’t count for much in this Rez Triathlon. Despite their ungainly erratic performance in the canoe and Romney’s trials on the bike, the boys from Fond du Lac walked away with first place and two \$100 Visa gift cards. Kent and Elena collected \$50 gift cards for second, and Krystin and Tyla were awarded \$25 gift cards for third.

“It was teamwork,” David said about the key to their success. “It’s about teamwork, and it’s about just helping out the brothers who set this up. It’s a blessing overall. I love it.”

“It was a good experience,” Romney added.

## WOLVES..Continued from page 1B

Ely when that runner scored from third on a Wolves double play.

Trailing 5-3 going into the bottom of the sixth, Marolt handed the ball over to reliever Hunter Halbakken after surrendering walks to two consecutive batters with one out. Halbakken got the next batter to pop out to shallow center, and after hitting a batter to load the bases forced another grounder to end the Panthers’ scoring threat.

South Ridge rotated in their fourth pitcher of the contest for the decisive seventh inning, and Richards immediately

threw that decision into question by ripping a single to center. Bianco followed with another single through the right side of the infield. Loe came up and laid down a bunt to advance the runners, and the catcher’s throw to third for the force was too late, loading the bases for the Wolves with no one out.

Things were looking promising with the heart of the order coming up for Ely, but Caid Chittum was retired on a questionable third strike call that appeared to be well out of the zone, and cleanup hitter Erron Anderson went

down on strikes as well. Marolt was the Wolves’ last hope for a comeback, but hit a weak popper to the shortstop that snuffed out the rally and Ely’s shot at playing for the sectional title.

### Ely tops Silver Bay

The Wolves got the performance from Logan Loe that they needed to reach the elimination final, as he turned in a complete game from the mound in Ely’s 4-2 win over Silver Bay in Ely’s first game of the day.

Loe put the Mariners on notice early, striking

out the first two batters he faced and getting the third to ground out.

In the bottom of the first it was Loe who got the Ely offense rolling with a single. Pinch runner Jack Davies stole second and then came home on a Chittum single to right. Anderson reached on a walk, and both runners advanced on a passed ball. Marolt’s single to left brought Chittum in to score, while Anderson held up at third. Levens hit a hot shot to the shortstop, who threw wildly to first, allowing Anderson to score for a 3-0 lead after one inning.

Loe remained sharp on the mound, holding the Mariners at bay until the top of the sixth when Silver Bay loaded the bases. Ely may have caught a break when a deep shot to right bounced over the fence for a ground rule double, scoring two but by rule halting the third on-base runner at third. With two runners in scoring position, Loe came back with a big strikeout to end the inning and preserve the 3-2 lead.

Ely padded its lead in the bottom of the inning when Bianco scored from third on a passed ball.

Silver Bay tried to

mount a comeback in their final at-bat, with two runners reaching base on a bunt and an infield single, but Loe recorded two outs by fielding a short pop fly in front of the mound and tossing a strikeout, and Ely got a force out at second to win the game.

Loe held the Mariners to only two hits on the game, while Ely knocked out eight. Silver Bay committed three errors to two for Ely.

## TRACK..Continued from page 1B

Tatum Barto and Scarlett Vanderschuren grabbing eighth place.

The 4x800m relay saw the Panther’s senior Izzy Baasi, Tatum Barto,

Madison Ellefson and Scarlett Vanderschuren claim fifth while Ely’s

senior Phoebe Helms, Claire Blauch, Mattie Lindsay, and senior Madeline Perry

followed with sixth.

In the discus, Ely senior Natasha Fulkrod

joined Visser in the top 10 with a seventh place throw.



## Memories of the Early Days

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

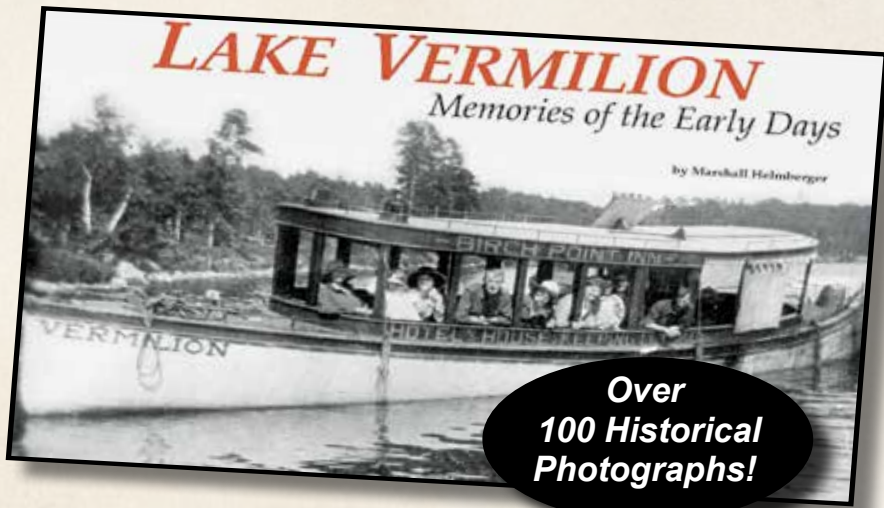
**Written by Marshall Helmberger • Published by the Timberjay**

*A Regional Favorite*

**STOP IN TODAY OR CALL...**

**Just \$29.95** + Tax

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



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



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

### BOOK ORDER FORM

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP Code \_\_\_\_\_ Tel. # \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Information VISA MC DISCOVER

\_\_\_\_\_|\_\_\_\_\_|\_\_\_\_\_|\_\_\_\_\_|\_\_\_\_\_|\_\_\_\_\_|\_\_\_\_\_|\_\_\_\_\_|\_\_\_\_\_|\_\_\_\_\_| Exp. Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ CVV \_\_\_\_\_

Billing address if different from above \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Book Total - Mail \$39.95**

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

☐ Pick Up ☐ Mail



Obituaries and Death Notices



**Marius S. Petersen**  
Marius Stenfeldt “Hank” Petersen, 95, of Hilliard, Ohio, passed away on Tuesday, May 23, 2023, due to complications from surgery. Hank did not want a funeral service but requested that his ashes be scattered in Lake Vermilion, in the same spots as those of his beloved wife Connie.

Hank was born in Tower to Marius and Emma (Fredrickson) Petersen on April 30, 1928. He graduated from Tower-Soudan High School, where he was a member of the football and basketball teams, as well as the band and orchestra. He was also awarded the class’s American Legion Award in recognition of his academic and athletic achievements and community service.

Hank served two tours of duty, both in Korea. Lacking funds for college admission, he had initially volunteered to enlist right out of high school but was rejected due to poor eyesight. Not to be deterred, with the G.I Bill and college on his mind, he then volunteered to be drafted and memorized enough of the eye chart to pass his second physical. The first tour was during peace time with the Headquarters Battery of the 7th Division Artillery in Seoul. Upon being discharged he returned home and began his college education. In June of 1950 the Korean conflict began to heat up and Hank was re-drafted and assigned to the 936th Field Artillery Battalion. The battalion engaged in extensive combat supporting infantry units, and he was awarded the Korean Service Medal with two Bronze Stars plus battle streamers for six campaigns conducted during the war. In November 1951 Hank was discharged and resumed his education, graduating from the University of Minnesota with a degree in Mining Engineering in 1952.

After graduation, he married Connie West on August 29, 1953, in Tower. Hank and his bride moved to Columbus, Ohio, where he started a new job as a trainee for the Jeffrey Manufacturing Company. He worked for Jeffrey in various sales and product management positions dealing with solid waste disposal and environmental control systems for his entire professional career. He retired on his birthday in 1992.

Hank and Connie raised their family in Columbus, and he was an active and enthusiastic

supporter of all his four children’s numerous activities. Although they left the Iron Range of northern Minnesota, the couple routinely made trips back to Lake Vermilion, where they loved to vacation with kids and grandkids, often attending the Fourth of July celebration in Tower, and always fishing for walleye at their favorite spots.

In 1979, Hank was transferred to Greenville, S.C., by his employer, the Jeffrey Division of Dresser Industries, where the weather better enabled them to pursue their favorite past time of fishing, especially the fall “blue” run at Murrells Inlet. In retirement, Hank and Connie traveled throughout the United States and Canada, visiting family and focusing on the national parks out west. His other hobbies included vegetable gardening, golfing, and cooking, especially on the grill. They were together for 63 years until Connie’s passing in 2017. After Connie’s death, Hank moved back to the Columbus area, where he lived his remaining years near family.

Hank is survived by his daughter, Cathy (David) Schilling; sons, Scott (Becky) Petersen and Mark Petersen; grandchildren, Morgan Petersen, Erik (Linda) Schilling, Alex Schilling, Kevin Stapanian and Allison Mashburn; great-grandson, Graham Schilling; a niece; and several nephews.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Connie; parents; sisters, Maren Petersen and Enid Nelson; and daughter, Adrienne Stapanian.



**Irene Brown**  
Irene Brown, 85, a beloved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, May 30, 2023, in Cottage Grove. A memorial service will be held to celebrate Irene’s life at 4 p.m. on Sunday, June 11 at Mlaker Funeral Home in Cook. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service.

Irene was born in Cook on Sept. 17, 1937. She graduated from Alango High School in 1955 and Duluth Business University. She worked as a dedicated bookkeeper. Irene found immense joy in her artistic pursuits, particularly drawing. She also had a playful spirit, enjoying games, bingo, and socializing with her friends.

She is survived by three children, Sue

Mukunza, Wade Gilpin and Russ Brown, all in the Twin Cities; six grandchildren; ten great-grandchildren; and five siblings, Steve, Barb, Ed, Ron and Marlene.

**Frank L. Fabish**  
Frank L. Fabish, 77, of Buhl, died on Monday, May 29, 2023, surrounded by his family at St. Luke’s Hospital in Duluth. A Memorial Mass will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, June 9 at St. Joseph’s Catholic Church in Chisholm. Reverend Father Paul Strommer will be the celebrant. A gathering time for family and friends will begin one hour prior to the service at the church. Inurnment will take place at Calvary Cemetery in Virginia. Family services are provided by Bauman-Cron, a Bauman Family Funeral Home in Virginia.

He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Peggy Hadersbeck Fabish; children, Mark (Angela Lindgren) Fabish of Orr and Lesley (Todd) Greiner of Victoria; grandchildren, Serena, Jared, Ty and Beau; sisters- and brothers-in-law, Gary (Linda) Hadersbeck, Pat (John) Gunderson and Deborah (Colleen Bakken) Johnson; several nieces and nephews; extended family; and friends.

**James E. Eisner**  
James E. “Jamie” Eisner, 51, of Cook/Angora, passed away on Thursday, June 1, 2023. A private gathering and interment will be held at a later date. Cards or memorials may be sent to Mlaker Funeral Home: PO Box 15, Cook, MN 55723.

He is survived by his mother, Karen Neumann; father, James A. Eisner; sister, Delsie Eisner; brother, Tadd (Jana) Eisner; and niece, Katrina Eisner.



Lake Vermilion • Tower, MN

MAILBOAT EXCURSIONS

See 80 miles of Lake Vermilion

9 AM-12 Noon • Call for Reservations

Marina Hours: Mon-Sat 8:30-5:30 • Sun 9-4

6143 Pike Bay Drive • 218-753-4190

www.aronsonboatworks.com





Phone and Internet Discounts  
Available to CenturyLink Customers

The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission designated CenturyLink as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier within its service area for universal service purposes. CenturyLink’s basic local service rates for residential voice lines are \$18.59-\$26.00 per month and business services are \$27.00-\$45.00 per month. Specific rates will be provided upon request.

CenturyLink participates in the Lifeline program, which makes residential telephone or qualifying broadband service more affordable to eligible low-income individuals and families. Eligible customers may qualify for Lifeline discounts of \$5.25/month for voice or bundled voice service or \$9.25/month for qualifying broadband or broadband bundles. Residents who live on federally recognized Tribal Lands may qualify for additional Tribal benefits if they participate in certain additional federal eligibility programs. The Lifeline discount is available for only one telephone or qualifying broadband service per household, which can be either a wireline or wireless service. Broadband speeds must be at least 25 Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload to qualify.

CenturyLink also participates in the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), which provides eligible households with a discount on broadband service. The ACP provides a discount of up to \$30 per month toward broadband service for eligible households and up to \$75 per month for households on qualifying Tribal lands.

For both programs, a household is defined as any individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address and share income and expenses. Services are not transferable, and only eligible consumers may enroll in these programs. Consumers who willfully make false statements to obtain these discounts can be punished by fine or imprisonment and can be barred from these programs.

If you live in a CenturyLink service area, visit <https://www.centurylink.com/aboutus/community/community-development/lifeline.html> for additional information about applying for these programs or call 1-800-201-4099 with questions.





DON'T MISS • A Southern Slavic Midsummer

Registration is still OPEN for this event on Sat., June 17th

Dinner, Entertainment, Slavic Food, Auctions-\$75 person,

Call and LEAVE A MESSAGE 218-753-4100.

At the Civic Center & Lake Vermilion Cultural Center in Tower

81st Annual Meeting of  
Embarrass Vermillion Federal Credit Union

This is our 81st annual meeting at the Timber Hall in Embarrass

Tuesday June 20th  
starting at 6pm!!

Food at 6, business meeting 6:30, drawings after, and lots of fun!

EVERY YOUTH  
ATTENDING THE ANNUAL MEETING  
GETS A DOOR PRIZE!

SCHOLARSHIP  
OPPORTUNITY!!




- **Who:** Open to current members aged 13-17
- **What:** \$500 scholarship
- **Where:** Must attend the annual meeting and be present to win
- **How:** Put your name in a drawing for a certificate\* to be redeemed at the credit union.
- \*Certificate funds will be held in account until needed and a check will be written out to the school at the beginning of the first term or semester.

\*\*EVFCU has the right not to award this scholarship to any and all applicants.

The team at EVFCU are looking forward to seeing you!

Branches in:

Tower, Embarrass,  
Aurora,  
Vermilion (Fortune Bay) & Nett Lake





Opening...  
Friday, June 16  
4-6 PM  
at the Train Depot in Tower



Standing for Agriculture,  
Working for Farmers

A CONVERSATION ABOUT  
CLIMATE & AGRICULTURE

Free and open to the public!

Businesses, policymakers, and the public are looking to agriculture for climate solutions. We want to hear from you about recent climate policies, programs, and investments!

June 20, 2023  
6:30 - 8:00 PM

Cook Community Center  
510 Gopher Dr, Cook, MN

Learn More, Become A Member  
WWW.MFU.ORG



@mnfarmersunion

NOTICE

Range Cooperatives, Inc.


Annual Shareholders Meeting

Notice is hereby given of the Annual Shareholders Membership Meeting of Range Cooperatives, Inc. The meeting will be called to order at:  
**6 p.m. on Monday, June 12, 2023**  
Regular business will be transacted at this meeting, which will include presentation of reports and election of directors. Discussion and action on a change to the bylaws involving stockholder meeting quorums will be considered and any further business that may arise.  
The quest speaker will be  
**Marshall Blukat CPA,**  
**Audit Manager of CarlsonSV.**  
• Registration and Lunch will be from 4:30 p.m. to 5:45 p.m.  
in the Range Funeral Home Fellowship Hall at 911 16th St. North, Virginia, MN 55792.  
**GRAND PRIZE: LP Grill Valued at \$550**  
Each attendee receives a \$10 gift certificate, free meal, free giveaways and a chance to win additional prizes. MUST be present to win\*

David Stanaway, President  
Michael Boyd, Secretary

Get  
Informed!

Get the  
Timberjay!







# Outdoors

Our lives in the  
Northwoods

## INSECT EXPLOSION

### Bats are down, mosquitoes are up

And yes, there may be a connection

A 2009 study by a pair of graduate students in Michigan may help to explain why everyone in the North Country seems to be complaining about the clouds of mosquitoes right now. Anyone who lives here, especially those of us who live in the woods, knows that early June is generally the peak of the mosquito season. They're a fact of life, but I know I'm not the only one who has been surprised

the past few years by what seems to be a particularly robust, occasionally shock and awe-inspiring, mosquito population. While recently searching this topic online, I came across a study by what were then two graduate students one pursuing entomology, the other evolutionary biology. They were interested in determining whether bats, in this case, northern long-eared bats, could noticeably impact mosqui-



MARSHALL  
HELMBERGER

to populations. They tested this hypothesis in an enclosure in a Michigan forest, in which they housed some bats and some mosquitoes, along with some suitable mosquito breeding habitat. They also set up a variety of controls and at the end of the study, they compared the number of mosquito egg clutches laid by mosquitoes within enclosures that included bats,

See MOSQUITOES...pg. 5B



Northern long-eared bats were common in our region until a few years ago. Their disappearance is likely fueling growth in our mosquito population.

## Wildflower Watch

This week's featured flower  
STARFLOWER



Few of our spring wildflowers are as aptly named as the **Starflower**, otherwise known as *Lysimachia borealis*. It's star-like flowers grow either singly or in a pair atop a thin stem that rises above a whorl of five-to-nine lance-shaped leaves. It's found most readily growing on richer sites here in the North Country, often under a deciduous or mixed pine canopy. The white pointed petals, ranging in number from six-to-eight but most commonly seven per flower, are sharply pointed just like a star.

## Fishing reports

### Ely area

The skinny water walleye bite continues to be very hot! Walleyes continue to be found in water as shallow as two feet (not a typo). Anglers are having great success fishing leeches under a bobber, shallow running minnow baits and trolling slow death rigs. Shallow, wind blown flats remain the best place to find these hungry walleye. With water temps as high as 83 degrees on some area lakes, the smallmouth bass have largely wrapped up spawning. Topwater baits have quickly become the go-to lures for bass anglers. Whopper ploppers, torpedoes, pop-r's and hula poppers are all catching tons of smallies right now. Ned rigs and wacky worms are also accounting for their fair share of bass. Shallow boulder flats, in ten feet of water or less is where you will find active bass. Thanks to the rapid warmup in water temps, panfish are being found in shallow bays looking to spawn or wrapping up spawning. Either way, worms, crappie minnows, waxies are all catching lots of panfish in the shallows. Rainbows and brown trout are being caught on area stream trout lakes by trolling small crankbaits, spinner rigs and cowbells. Warm water temps have pushed trout down to 15-20 feet of water. This has resulted in many of the trout being found out over deeper water, cruising around, looking for a easy meal. Courtesy of Arrowhead Outdoors. See more at ArrowheadOutdoorsEly MN.com

## OUT IN THE SWAMP

# BOG BLOOMERS

It's the right time for a hike in the heaths

As in an old Thomas Hardy novel, the blooming of the heaths is an occasion for superlatives. The heaths, members of the family Ericaceae, are found in wet and cool environments across the Northern Hemisphere, from the moors of Scotland to the peatlands of northern Minnesota.

The Ericaceae, also commonly referred to as the "blueberry" family, consists mainly of low-growing, often evergreen, shrubs known for their distinctive, frequently showy, flowers.

Here in northern Minnesota, we probably pay most attention to our most common heath, the blueberry, but for the more adventurous among us, early June is the time to explore the area peatlands for what are collectively known as the bog heaths.

They're in full bloom right now and in many peatlands across the area it's a carpet of pink, white, and magenta. The bog heaths are a distinctive lot, comprised of everything from the diminutive lowbush cranberries that slowly wind their way through hummocks of sphagnum moss, to the low-growing shrubs that dominate large swaths of area peatlands, including the ubiquitous leatherleaf, or Chamaedaphne calyculata, a plant whose name is highly descriptive of the small, tough, leathery leaves that populate this plant, interspersed this time of year with its white pearl-like flowers that

Above: The magenta flowers of the bog laurel can be found in a bog near you.

Right: Labrador tea is also in bloom.

Lower right: The pinkish, bell-like flowers of the bog rosemary were nearly ready to open.

photos by M. HelMBERGER

dangle beneath along the shrub's spreading branches. Labrador tea, or Ledum groenlandicum, is a similar example, only with a showy, white patch of flowers that grow only at the tips of its branches. And there's the bog rosemary, Andromeda polifolia, with its waxy, almost needle-like leaves that offers up its bead-like pink and white flowers this time of year, or the bog laurel, Kalmia polifolia, with its shiny, dark green, paired leaves and astonishingly large, magenta flowers.

The bog heaths all live almost exclusively in bogs or fens here in northern Minnesota and they've had to adapt to the harsh conditions of life in the bog. While some bog plants have turned to a carnivorous nature to survive in a world with few nutrients available for plants, the heaths have made their peace with it by becoming hoarders of the scarce resources they can obtain. Upland heaths, like blueber-

See HEATHS...pg. 5B



MARSHALL  
HELMBERGER



HEATHS...Continued from page 4B



The waxy, bell-like flowers of the leatherleaf are in bloom as well.

ries, have access to more nutrients so they can do common things like shed their leaves come fall in preparation for winter.

But in the bog, plants have learned to be more thrifty and see a simple thing as a leaf as too important to shed lightly. Rather than expend resources to grow a whole new suite of leaves each spring, the bog heaths hold tight to theirs right through the winter. That, of course, comes with its own challenges. Most broadleaf plants drop their leaves in the fall to ward off dessication by the dry winter winds, at a time when they don't have access to water because of the frozen ground.

To prevent that, the leaves of all the bog heaths are remarkably similar—thick, waxy, and tough, often curled along the

underside to further limit exposure to drying winds. The Labrador tea further protects the underside of its leaves with a layer of wool-like fuzz just for good measure.

Their short, squat nature also helps, since they'll typically spend much of the winter under the snow, where they're further protected from the drying winter winds.

The bog heaths are worth checking out, but they bloom at a time when the mosquitoes and deer flies are often at their worst. Fortunately, I've donned the appropriate gear to survive a trip into the June swamp for another look at the blooming of the heaths, so you can enjoy them from the comfort of your easy chair. Thomas Hardy would be pleased.

LAKE COUNTRY FORECAST

from NOAA weather

Friday					Saturday					Sunday					Monday					Tuesday				
80 52					73 44					73 44					80 50					84 52				
Ely	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Emb.	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Cook	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Orr	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Tower	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.
05/29	na	na	0.00		05/29	81	44	0.00		05/29	83	46	0.00		05/29	81	55	0.00		05/29	82	53	0.00	
05/30	na	na	0.00		05/30	80	56	0.00		05/30	83	52	0.00		05/30	79	61	0.00		05/30	80	52	0.00	
05/31	na	na	0.00		05/31	80	59	1.07		05/31	82	56	0.00		05/31	86	57	0.31		05/31	76	54	0.00	
06/01	84	53	0.06		06/01	85	55	0.39		06/01	87	59	0.21		06/01	86	63	0.05		06/01	76	54	0.43	
06/02	84	57	0.00		06/02	85	58	0.00		06/02	88	60	0.00		06/02	84	59	0.00		06/02	86	56	0.00	
06/03	83	58	0.00		06/03	85	54	0.00		06/03	85	58	0.10		06/03	88	59	0.00		06/03	84	54	0.00	
06/04	84	54	0.00		06/04	86	52	0.00		06/04	85	58	0.01		06/04	86	57	0.00		06/04	85	53	0.00	
YTD Total			8.12		YTD Total			8.73		YTD Total			6.02		YTD Total			NA		YTD Total				7.37

Outdoors briefly



Take a Kid Fishing weekend is June 9-11

REGIONAL — Want to fish this weekend without a fishing license? Then take a kid with you.

During Take a Kid Fishing weekend, which runs June 9-11, Minnesota residents can fish without licenses if they take children 15 or

younger with them.

“Connecting kids and families to the outdoors is a professional priority and a personal passion for me,” said DNR Commissioner Sarah Strommen. “With so many shore and pier fishing opportunities across our state, fishing is a fun and easy way to get outside and spend time together. I hope Minnesotans across the state take the opportunity this weekend to get outdoors and introduce the next generation to fishing.”

Youth 15 and younger do not require fishing licenses at any time of the year, though they must observe all fishing seasons and other regulations. Take a Kid Fishing weekend allows adult Minnesotans to fish without a license as long as they take a child fishing with them. Minnesota residents also may generally fish in state parks without a fishing license if the body of water does not require a trout stamp.

“Fishing is fun and it’s a great way to spend time outdoors together with kids,” said Benji Kohn, vol-

unteer mentor program coordinator with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. “Going fishing can be as simple as finding some rods and reels, finding or buying worms for bait, and heading to a nearby lake to give fishing a try.”

Take a Kid Fishing Weekend is one among many other outdoor opportunities available to Minnesotans during Great Outdoors Month. During the month, Gov. Tim Walz and the Minnesota DNR are encouraging Minnesotans to get out in nature and enjoy the state’s outstanding outdoor opportunities including fishing, riding all-terrain vehicles on state ATV trails, and visiting state parks and recreation areas to hike, bike, camp, swim, paddle or go birding. The proclamation of Great Outdoors Month cites the health and wellness benefits of spending time outdoors as one of the many reasons to encourage Minnesotans to get outdoors.

MOSQUITOES...Continued from page 4B

compared to enclosures that did not include bats. Not surprisingly, the researchers found that the number of mosquito egg clutches in the enclosures that included bats were 32 percent lower. The researchers readily acknowledged that the study, which concentrated both bats and mosquitoes, might have exaggerated the effect of the bats’ presence, but it definitely provided objective data that bats are a significant factor in controlling existing mosquito

populations as well as the number of eggs they lay for future generations.

Keep in mind, this was a 2009 study undertaken at a time when northern long-eared bats were still very common in the forests of our region in summer. Indeed, this was the bat species that we were most likely to see out in the late evenings swooping around our North Country cabins or lake houses, munching on mosquitoes and other night-flying insects. This,

of course, was before whitenose syndrome virtually wiped out the northern long-eared bat, which is now on the endangered species list and possibly headed for extinction.

The loss of this species alone is probably significant in terms of our mosquito population. Every year we experience the spring mosquito hatch and every year, at least in the past, the bats would start whittling away almost immediately. Mosquito numbers would

start moderating by mid-July and in a good year they were hardly noticeable by August.

That has since changed. In my experience, the spring hatch is now even larger than in the recent past, most likely because more mosquitoes survived to the egg-laying stage the year before. That means there is simply more mosquito potential on the landscape, just waiting for the aftermath of the snowmelt to spark a new and even

worse explosion of the pests than the year before. And, as that population continues to build, year after year, without experiencing the controlling influence of bats, the situation simply continues to worsen.

Unfortunately, there is little reason to expect that our mosquito population won’t continue to worsen in the years to come. Each year, a larger population base is able to lay more eggs and those eggs provide the potential for further popu-

lation growth the following year. It’s worth considering that a mosquito population that grows ten percent a year, doubles every seven years. Imagine twice as many mosquitoes out there by 2030 as we have today. On second thought, it’s probably better you don’t.

Cook VFW

POST 1757

HAPPY HOUR • 4-6 PM

MON, WED, THURS, FRI,  
SAT, SUN

(CLOSED TUESDAYS)

FRIDAY

BURGER NIGHT • 4:30-7 PM

Take-Out 666-0500

206 1st St SW, Cook, MN

PETERSEN DRILLING

Since 1948

Wells  
Water Systems

• PUMPS

• WELLS

• HYDRO-FRACKING

1-800-662-5700

Spring Park Rd.

Mt. Iron, MN 55768

Call

753-2950

to subscribe

to the

Timberjay!

CLEAN.DRAIN.  
DRY.

CLEAN

Boats, trailers, and gear

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

DRAIN

Water from boat, bilge, motor, and live well

Remove drain plug and open all water draining devices

Trash unused bait

DRY

Everything at least five days before going to other waters

(Or) Decontaminate with high pressure water (120°F or warmer)

STOP INVASIVE SPECIES!

LEARN MORE AT [CLEANDRAIN.DRY.ORG](https://CLEANDRAIN.DRY.ORG)



# EMPLOYMENT

## JOB OPENING – CITY OF ORR FT CLERK/TREASURER

The City of Orr is currently seeking qualified candidates for the position of City Clerk/Treasurer. This is a full-time position with competitive benefits. Primary duties include utility billing, payroll, accounts payable/receivable, monthly financial statements, meeting minutes, preparation of annual budgets, assist with city audit, and maintenance of city ordinances and record keeping. Applicants must possess strong analytical, organization, math, and computer skills. Must be able to work with the public; have excellent oral and written communication skills; and the ability to work independently and efficiently. Experience with Fund Accounting is preferred. Must pass drug test, background, and credit checks. The City of Orr is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer.

To obtain an application, contact the Orr City Hall, 4429 Hwy 53, PO Box 237, Orr, MN 55771 at 218-757-3288; or email: [orrmn@centurytel.net](mailto:orrmn@centurytel.net) Position will remain open until filled. tfn

## Program Accountant

**Closes: 06/30/2023**

**Position Purpose:** The Program Accountant is responsible for setting up, maintaining, and monitoring all general ledger accounts, funds, and budgets in the accounting system relative to State, Federal and Tribal contract/programs including preparing adjusting journal entries under the direction of the Program Accounting Supervisor. Also monitors contracts/programs by providing requests, reporting and documentation under the direction of the Program Accounting Supervisor (Supervisory Program Accountant).

**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, June 9, 16 & 23, 2023*

**Legal Secretary**  
**(Part-time, Virginia)**  
**\$19.25 - \$26.03 Hourly**  
**Apply by 06/15/23**

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

*Equal Opportunity and Veteran-Friendly Employer* 69

## CryptoQuote

AXYDLBAAXR  
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, **A** is used for the three L's, **X** for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each week the code letters are different.

FK FC QXQVFPU GMZ PFBW

HWMHTW QAW KM LMO ZGWP

KGWL YPMZ LMO QAW UMFPU

QZQL. — XFBGQWT QATWP

©2022 King Features Synd., Inc.

## STEGER MUKLUK COMPANY IS HIRING FOR THE SUMMER

**We are looking for bright motivated  
people to enhance our Sales Team!**

**Full-time hours, 7 days a week**  
**Apply in person at 100 Miners Drive, Ely**  
**email: [office@mukluks.com](mailto:office@mukluks.com)** ttn



### COME JOIN OUR TEAM!

Waschke Family Chevrolet is currently seeking an Auto Body Technician and an Automotive Detailer. Stop in and apply in person at 126 N Hwy. 53, Cook, or inquire by phone at 218-666-5901, or send resume to [Dgrelinger@waschke.com](mailto:Dgrelinger@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 [Dgrelinger@waschke.com](mailto:Dgrelinger@waschke.com). tfn

## FT JOB OPENING – CITY OF ORR MAINTENANCE/PUBLIC WORKS ASSISTANT

The City of Orr is seeking candidates for a full-time General Maintenance/Public Works Assistant. Minimum qualifications include a valid driver's license, high school diploma or GED, mechanical aptitude, and ability to obtain required water and wastewater certifications. Responsibilities include, but are not limited to, daily/seasonal operations of streets and parks, water and wastewater systems, operation and maintenance of works equipment and machinery, and the municipal airport. Hiring Range: \$14.47 to \$18.47/hr (DOQ) and competitive full-time employee benefit package. Must pass drug test and background check. The City of Orr is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer.

To obtain an application, contact the Orr City Hall, 4429 Hwy 53, PO Box 237, Orr, MN 55771 at 218-757-3288; or email: [orrmn@centurytel.net](mailto:orrmn@centurytel.net) Position will remain open until filled. tfn

**Legal notices are online each week  
at [timberjay.com](http://timberjay.com) and at  
<https://www.mnpublicnotice.com/>**

## CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: **M** equals **B**

HPCY YOCZ-XWZWTOE MCTTDOT

VDBPY JWVO QWZDXO MO

HTCQQDAB CTWLAE C XTDVO

JXOAO? XWTEWA MZLO.

©2023 King Features Synd., Inc.



### OPEN POSITIONS

10 Fifth Street SE Cook, MN 55723

#### Care Center

FT & PT Nursing Assistant (Wage starting at \$17.79/hr., \$1,500 sign-on bonus)  
PT Registered Nurse or Licensed Practical 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)  
Casual Unit Clerk/Nursing Assistant (Wage starting at \$17.79/NA certification or EMT required)

#### Environmental Services

PT & Casual (Environmental Tech I)  
Housekeeping and Laundry Aide  
Casual Laundry Aide

#### Radiology

FT Radiologic Technologist (\$4,000 sign-on bonus)  
Casual Ultrasound Tech (Independent Contractor)  
Casual Radiologic Tech (Independent Contractor, weekend only)

#### Dietary

PT Dietary Aide/Cook

#### TO APPLY:

[www.cookhospital.org/join-our-team/](http://www.cookhospital.org/join-our-team/)

More info? Contact Human Resources

**218-666-6220**

[humanresources@cookhospital.org](mailto:humanresources@cookhospital.org)

The Cook Hospital is an equal opportunity provider and employer

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

## King Crossword

### ACROSS

- Cave flier
- Beanies
- Experts
- Punk rock off-shoot
- Classic theaters
- Global septet
- Ages and ages
- When bar drinks are dis-counted
- First-rate, in slang
- Perched
- Apothecary measure
- Of the Arctic
- Annual celebration for a saint
- Forbidden act
- Freedom, for short
- First half of an LP
- Pol. party org.
- Raw materials
- Magazine founded in 1933
- Costume
- Admin. aide
- Composer
- Rorem
- Grammarian's concern
- Freshman
- Pen name

1	2	3		4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12				13					14			
15				16				17				
18			19				20					
			21		22	23		24		25	26	27
28	29	30				31		32				
33				34				35		36		
37			38		39				40			
41				42		43						
			44		45			46		47	48	49
50	51	52				53	54			55		
56					57					58		
59					60					61		

- Garfield's pal
- North Sea feeder
- "This tastes awful!"
- Engrossed
- Conked out
- Uncle (Sp.)
- Actor Kutcher
- Corp. boss
- Vichy water
- Old map letters
- Chatter
- Rx writers
- Tennis score
- Tyler Perry persona
- Mine find
- Diarist Frank
- Boulder
- Promote aggressively
- Hibernia
- Help a hood
- Evergreen trees
- Promised
- Twilight time
- Scale amts.
- Favorite
- Turned blue?
- Border on
- Leslie Caron role
- Repeat
- Supporting
- Lupino of film
- Wardrobe malfunction
- Peyton's brother
- Actor Vigoda

© 2023 King Features Synd., Inc.

## Even Exchange by Donna Pettman

Each numbered row contains two clues and two 6-letter answers. The two answers differ from each other by only one letter, which has already been inserted. For example, if you exchange the A from MASTER for an I, you get MISTER. Do not change the order of the letters.

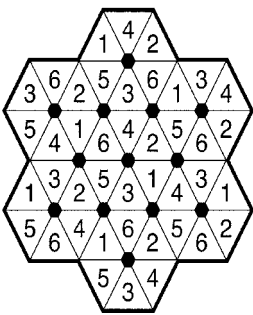
- |                     |               |                       |             |
|---------------------|---------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| 1. Toast topping    | — — T — — —   | Crabbe or Keaton      | — — S — — — |
| 2. Envy's color     | — — — — N     | Athens' language      | — — — — K   |
| 3. Movement         | M — — — — —   | Salve                 | L — — — — — |
| 4. Household task   | — — — — R —   | Decided upon          | — — — — S — |
| 5. Sylvester's prey | — — — — E — — | One score             | — — — — N — |
| 6. Saunter          | — — B — — —   | Plenty                | — — P — — — |
| 7. Confess          | — — P — — —   | Of late               | — — C — — — |
| 8. Musician Manilow | — A — — — —   | Small fruit           | — E — — — — |
| 9. Outspoken        | V — — — — —   | Indigenous            | L — — — — — |
| 10. Pig's protest   | — — — — — L   | Sound of a noisy door | — — — — — K |

©2023 King Features Synd., Inc.

**Get  
Results!**

**SNOWFLAKES**

solution



## Super Crossword

### Answers

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

## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦**

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

© 2023 King Features Synd., Inc.

**(218) 753-2950**  
**timberjay.com**



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

AUTOMOTIVE

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

HAIR CARE

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

HOSPICE

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

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 Thursdays at 7 p.m. in the upstairs of Woodland Presbyterian Church.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

King Crossword

Solution time: 24 mins.

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

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

GARAGE SALE

HUGE GARAGE SALE- Furniture, seasonal decor, Dept. 56 villages, household, clothing (new & used), antiques, Stampin' Up collection, and much more. No previews. No early birds. June 9-10, 9-5, 1819 Vermillion Dr., Cook. 6/9p

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

MARINE

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

Since 1926  
**Handberg's MARINA**  
& GENERAL STORE  
**Boat Sales, Service & Storage**  
YAMAHA MERCURY  
218-993-2214 • handbergs.com  
Crane Lake, MN

MEAT

EMBARRASS-RAISED BLACK ANGUS BEEF/HAMBURGER. \$5.50/lb. Call Carol at 218-290-0882. 6/16

MOCCASIN POINT MARINE

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



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

**Don't Miss a Single Issue**  
**SUBSCRIBE TODAY**  
**(218) 753-2950**

MARINE

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

**Serve your community and learn new skills while improving Minnesota's environment**  
48 positions starting this fall, apply May-June 15  
pca.state.mn.us/mngreencorps

**POWERFUL SAVINGS WITH GENERAC**  
FREE estimates  
Financing available  
AFFORDABLE backup power  
Delivery, Installation and Service  
Family and locally owned and operated  
**Clearbrook Electric**  
SALES AND "SERVICE"  
Randy Wetenkamp  
218-776-3995 • 218-556-5981  
Automatic Standby Generator  
Serving ALL of Northern Minnesota

Super Crossword

ACROSS

1 PC program shortcut  
6 Flog  
10 Pelting precipitation  
14 — Hopkins University  
19 Alternative  
20 Parka feature  
21 Quattro or TT carmaker  
22 Consume entirely  
23 King penguin's son?  
26 Dazzling light  
27 A, in Berlin  
28 Italian island  
29 Give a steed a spanking?  
31 Handheld firework  
33 Ad- —  
34 Direction from Ariz. to Ky.  
35 Actor Danson  
36 Hwy. violation  
37 Back in time  
39 Western treaty gp.  
42 Answer to "Are you?"  
44 Driving coast to coast on icy roads?  
52 — Purina (old pet food company)  
53 Consumed

54 Negative point  
55 Platform for speakers  
57 Folkie Guthrie  
58 "It makes sleeping comfortable," e.g.?  
63 "A Nightmare on Elm Street" director  
64 Like Dubliners  
65 Inning third  
66 Berate loudly  
67 Holy images  
68 Device like a TiVo, in brief  
69 Jigsaw unit  
71 Repeated  
74 U.S. org. with operatives  
75 One — (a handful)  
76 Writing tablet  
79 Nylon tights for people who are losing a lot of weight?  
83 "— la Douce"  
84 Hauling rig  
85 Gut-punch reaction  
86 Tree of Illinois  
87 Alternative to grits

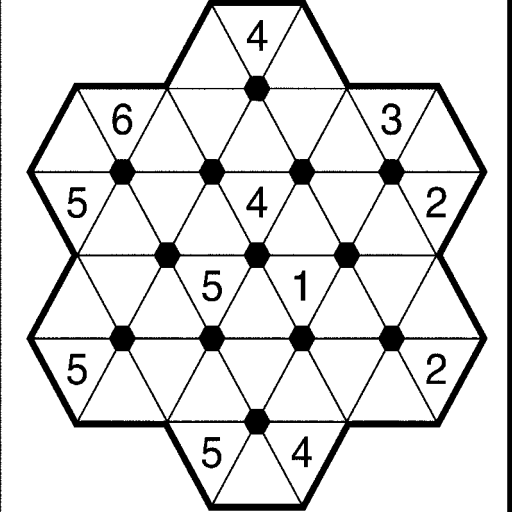
89 Violins donated to people who've gone broke?  
94 Prior to  
95 Cool, 1940s-style  
96 "See ya!"  
97 With  
115-Across, "Quit dreaming!"  
98 Ovine whine  
101 Water, to Yvette  
103 K-12 gp.  
105 Rebuke  
110 Presently riding as a jockey?  
114 Mix  
115 See  
97-Across  
116 Growing older  
117 Villain from a Virginia city?  
120 Roofing tile  
121 Writer Wiesel  
122 Frightful giant  
123 Sewing cases  
124 Skin qualities  
125 Split apart  
126 Go beyond  
127 Plains shelter

DOWN

1 Is sulky  
2 Take — (go somewhere)  
3 Porcelain babies, maybe  
4 "The Intern" actress  
5 Tolkien menace  
6 Entire  
7 Informal German tavern  
8 The Hawkeye State  
9 High-tech "appt. book"  
10 Gave birth to Tom, Dick or Harry?  
11 "— Lang Syne"  
12 Screened at a bar door  
13 Twisted cotton thread  
14 Archie's pal, in comics  
15 World capital on a fjord  
16 Valentine's Day symbol  
17 Surgery aide  
18 Quickness  
24 Twisting fish meas.  
25 Print quality  
30 City in Oklahoma  
32 Commercial suffix with Star or Sun  
33 State-run game  
38 Grind, as the teeth  
40 Natty scarf  
41 Hershey candy bar  
43 Halfway point  
44 Bird's gullet  
45 Unusual  
46 Become rusty, say  
47 — a million  
48 Maker of major repairs  
49 Like musical works with five sharps  
50 Hardware bit  
51 Gershon of "Killer Joe"  
56 USMC NCO  
59 Sure-footed equine  
60 Parka feature  
61 Glasses and goggles  
62 1920s-'30s art style  
64 Frosted  
67 Potassium — (table salt additive)  
68 Major racket  
69 Counterpart of 54-Across  
70 "No problem"  
71 Slalom curve  
72 Dish designer  
73 Half: Prefix  
74 — latte (espresso)  
75 "Someone to Watch Over Me" musical  
76 Made attractive  
77 "I'm —" (greeting in Apple ads)  
78 "Cagney & Lacey" actress Tyne  
80 Sushi eggs  
81 Ritzy  
82 "— dabba doo!"  
83 Obtain by entreaty  
88 Pulls hard  
90 Earth-scooping machines  
91 Preside over  
92 Sided against  
93 Bee fluids  
98 Be a braggart  
99 — -Saxon  
100 Thai or Iraqi  
102 Gut problem  
104 Old Pan Am competitor  
106 Trail activities  
107 Billy Joel's "Just the Way You —"  
108 Hawkins of "Li'l Abner"  
109 Mom on "Family Ties"  
111 Poker stake  
112 "Wilde" actress Jennifer  
113 No, in Bonn  
114 Onetime Nintendo rival  
118 Daddy  
119 Poker stake

SNOWFLAKES  
by Japheth Light

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



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

Even Exchange answers

- Butter, Buster
- Green, Greek
- Motion, Lotion
- Chore, Chose
- Tweety, Twenty
- Amble, Ample
- Repent, Recent
- Barry, Berry
- Vocal, Local
- Squeal, Squeak

CryptoQuip  
answer

What teal-colored barrier might some police be wrapping around a crime scene? Cordon blue.

CryptoQuote  
answer

It is amazing how nice people are to you when they know you are going away. — Michael Arlen

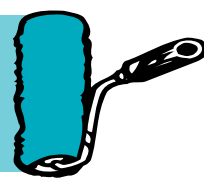
Answer

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





# HOME IMPROVEMENT GUIDE



**THE FINISHED LOOK**  
BUILDING | ROOFING  
REMODELING

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

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

**Your Source For Roofing**

• METAL ROOFING  
• ARCHITECTURAL SHINGLES

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

Licensed • Insured BC# 785662  
[VermillionRoofing.com](http://VermillionRoofing.com) | [VermillionRoofing@gmail.com](mailto:VermillionRoofing@gmail.com)

**CONGRATULATIONS**  
Mike & Brenda Fanum & the crew pictured,  
the new owners of "Squirrel Cage  
Bar & Restaurant" from Steve Bragg and  
James Hammer Business Brokers

Mike, Brenda and daughters plan to keep improving the  
menu and are looking for nights and weekend help, so if  
you or someone  
you know wants  
to work at a fun,  
exciting and grow-  
ing business call  
Brenda at:  
218-372-3181.



**Specialty - Carpet & Upholstery**  
Commercial & Residential

• Powerful Truck Mounted System  
• Water Damage Specialists

**Call for Estimates: Braschko Family**  
**218-365-7672**  
[raymondbraschko@gmail.com](mailto:raymondbraschko@gmail.com)  
Specialty Carpet Cleaning • Celebrating 35 Years!

## INSURANCE

**Tower-Soudan Agency  
& Palo Mutual**

*Your Independent Insurance Agency*



**We Can Insure:**  
Residential, Seasonal, Island and  
Non-Road Access Properties

**218-753-2101**  
415 Main St.  
Tower, MN  
[www.towersoudanagency.com](http://www.towersoudanagency.com)

## FOREST CONCRETE PRODUCTS

**Delivered Redi-Mix Concrete  
Septic Tanks**

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

**Celebrating Over 50 Years!** From Ely to Tower-Soudan and  
Virginia, using local gravel pits  
to support all your needs.

**FOREST CONCRETE  
PRODUCTS**

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

**Licensed Septic Design  
& Installation**

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

**Call for an estimate • 218-365-4220**  
2408 Hwy. 169, PO Box 608, Ely, MN 55731  
[jschulze.excavating2@gmail.com](mailto:jschulze.excavating2@gmail.com)

**YOU CALL, WE HAUL!**

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

Carl Anderson  
**Anderson Barging, Inc.**  
Cell 218-780-4955  
[www.andersonbarging.com](http://www.andersonbarging.com)  
Covering all of Lake Vermilion

## YOUR HOME-DECOR STORE

All furniture may not be as shown.

**ANDERSON**  
FURNITURE & KITCHENS

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

INTEREST  
FREE  
FINANCING  
AND LAYAWAY  
AVAILABLE

**PLUMBING & HEATING  
SOLUTIONS. INC.**

Here for all your Plumbing and Heating needs,  
Plumbing and Heating Service,  
Repairs, and New.

**Brandon Stone • 218-590-5294**

**Time For A New Dock?**

**2x6-6 ft  
Cedar Dock Boards**

**\$11.24** cash and carry  
while supplies last

 FROM CABINS TO CASTLES  
COOK BUILDING CENTER

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

**ENJOY GRILLIN' SEASON**

**In-Stock  
Traeger  
Grills  
& Pellets**  
• Spices & Rubs •

 **We've Got it ALL!**

We are a UPS Shipping Drop-Off

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

# RUGS & REMNANTS!



**YOU'LL LOVE  
OUR  
AREA RUG  
PATTERNS  
AND  
PRICES!**



**STOP in  
TODAY!**



**REMNANTS GALORE...**  
and while you're here...  
Check out our  
**HUGE SELECTION**  
of carpets!

**WE HAVE WHAT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR!**

BIG Enough to Serve you; small Enough to Know You

**FLOOR to CEILING**  
INTERIOR DESIGN SHOWROOM

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



HOURS: 8-5:30 M-F

Find us on:  
**facebook.**

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

Let these professionals  
help with your next home  
improvement project

**Subscribe Today**  
**(218) 753-2950 or [www.timberjay.com](http://www.timberjay.com)**