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the **TIMBERJAY**



Serving the communities of northern St. Louis County since 1989

VOL. 34, ISSUE 26

July 7, 2023

\$1⁵⁰

REAL ESTATE

Major development slated for Marjo site

Your Boat Club partners acquire 18-acre Mesojedec property; plan housing and new hotel

by **MARSHALL HELMBERGER**
Managing Editor

TOWER— Luke Kujawa couldn't resist the potential. The Twin Cities businessman, along with his business partner Michael Jellish, closed just last week on the 18-acre parcel of mostly upland property lodged strategically between Tower's harbor and Your Boat Club, which Kujawa and Jellish co-own.

The site, previously owned by Tom and Joe Mesojedec, includes the Marjo Motel and the former Mesojedec home located next door. Both existing structures are expected to remain, although they are likely to be renovated.

The site has long been eyed for possible development and last week's sale lays the foundation for a plan that is expected to bring dozens of new residences and a small hotel to the site, along with the possibility of a new home

manufacturing plant.

"It's such a fantastic piece of property," said Kujawa. "There's probably no other place in the state where so many trails come together in one place."

Kujawa isn't exaggerating. The property sits next to the junction of the Mesabi bike trail, the Prospector ATV trail, the Taconite and Arrowhead snowmobile trails as well as

See...**SALE** pg. 10



Left: With 1,100 feet of shoreline along the East Two River, just downstream of the Tower harbor, this 18-acre parcel is now slated for development.



INDEPENDENCE DAY 2023

A day for the red, white & blue

Big crowds turn out for 4th of July events in Tower, Ely, and Orr



Top: Kids were keeping their eyes on the prize, which in the case of a 4th of July parade means candy and lots of it.

Above: A lone horseback rider shows the colors in Ely.

Above right: Dressed in matching colors, the grandkids of Randy and Marjorie Johnson were decked out for the parade in Tower.

Right: The Vermilion Club gang, including "Arch" Archibald, Marco Stefanich, and Gwen Potter rode a float in the Tower parade.



ELY HISTORY

Why Ely gets its water from Burntside Lake

by **CATIE CLARK**
Ely Editor

ELY— Aging drinking water infrastructure has become a hot topic for the city council here in recent months as city officials are beginning the outreach for funding to help finance what is likely to be a multi-million-dollar project.

Clerk-treasurer Harold Langowski initiated the process to obtain federal funding with Eighth District Rep. Pete Stauber's office back in February, part of an effort to raise the estimated \$4.5 million it will cost to replace the aging infrastructure that brings Ely's drinking water nearly five miles from Burntside Lake.

"The original was built in 1932 with upgrades in the 1950s and 70s," Langowski told the city council back on March 7. "The intake infrastructure is approaching its end of useable life and requires replacement, at an estimated

See...**ELY WATER** pg. 11

RAINY RIVER WATERSHED

Mining issues to be aired in contested case

by **MARSHALL HELMBERGER**
Managing Editor

REGIONAL— Ely-based Northeastern Minnesotans for Wilderness, or NMW, is challenging a May 31 determination by the Department of Natural Resources that existing mining rules in Minnesota are sufficient to protect the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness from water pollution from proposed copper-nickel mining in the headwaters of the Rainy River watershed.

The group, which opposes a plan by Twin Metals to mine sulfide-based ore several miles upstream of the wilderness boundary, will pursue a contested case hearing before an administrative law judge, during which they hope to show

See... **MINING** pg. 10



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Community notices



Recent gift provides bike repair stations located along Mesabi Trail

REGIONAL - Several bike repair stations were made possible through a \$10,000 gift from the family of Ralph Carlson of Virginia. Thank you to the family and all they provided for bikers on the Mesabi Trail. These are a necessity when traveling the entire trail. The stations are located along the trail in Virginia, Hibbing, Mesabi Station, Embarrass, and Eagles Nest.

St. Louis County Sheriff's office cautions area residents to beware of scam calls

REGIONAL - The St. Louis County Sheriff's Office is investigating a scamming complaint that occurred in Clinton Township on July 1.

An individual called to report she was contacted by someone who claimed to be from the St. Louis County Deputy Sheriff's office. The suspect used the names of active and former members of the SLC SO. During the call, the suspect told the individual they had missed a court date and needed to meet up to sign a document. This is not a common practice of the SLC SO and members of the public should not meet anyone claiming to be law enforcement that need documents signed.

Found object puppet Take & Create Art kits available at area libraries in July

MT. IRON - The Arrowhead Library System (ALS) will be providing Found Object Puppet Take & Create Art kits to member public libraries to distribute July 5-31. This art experience was designed by COMPAS Teaching Visual Artist Christopher Lutter-Gardella. Each artist will receive a box of curiosities and an instruction manual on how to re-imagine the pieces into the parts of a uniquely imagined puppet. The artist can then write about their puppet, make a "character sketch" or write a play with their puppet as the central character. The puppet can be whatever each artist wants it to be. This program is geared towards participants ages 8-13. Please note each location has a limited number of kits - contact your local library for more information.

LIVE MUSIC
"Under The Big Top" concert to celebrate Veterans on the Lake 40th anniversary

ELY- Spiritwood Foundation is sponsoring a concert event to celebrate the 40th anniversary of Veterans On The Lake on Saturday, July 15 at 7 p.m. at Veterans on the Lake, located at 161 Fernberg Rd.

Over the years the nonprofit Fall Lake resort has provided thousands of veterans with a chance to enjoy the North Country. The event, dubbed "Under the Big Top," will feature performances by Monroe Crossing, Pat and Donna Surface, Mary LaPlant, Marina Whight, Butch Schmidt, and the Ely Ledgerrockin' Chorus.

Proceeds will benefit Veterans On The Lake and the Spiritwood Foundation's programs for seniors and veterans. The Spiritwood Foundation is an Ely-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization committed to supporting organizations that enhance the quality of life of those afflicted with Alzheimer's Disease and other forms of dementia. Donations to the foundation fund programs for veterans' homes and assist other nonprofits working in memory care.

"We are honored to be joining forces with Veterans On The Lake to create an annual event that will involve entertaining our veterans, and draw an audience from around the state," said Donna Surface, director of the Spiritwood Foundation. "This is truly a Big Top event- with a giant tent that will house a stage, seating for 350 people - and a great night of music. Not only do we have the premier bluegrass band, Monroe Crossing, but Mary LaPlant (six-time Minnesota State Fiddle Champion), is performing with our band. The evening will culminate in a show-stopping jam between us and Monroe Crossing, and the thrill of



Above: Monroe Crossing will perform at "Under the Big Top."

On right: The event will also feature Pat and Donna Surface, Mary LaPlant, Marina Whight, Butch Schmidt, and the Ely Ledgerrockin' Chorus (not pictured).



dueling fiddles!"

Surface added, "Many have expressed excitement and appreciation that an actual Big Top will appear on the grounds of Veterans On The Lake, where joyful sounds will rise to honor our veterans." Donna Surface formed the Spiritwood Foundation in 2007 after her father died of Alzheimer's disease. "He was a WWII hero, and our Foundation has always been dedicated to supporting our vets."

Veterans On The Lake serves first and foremost disabled veterans and their families, although it is open to current and retired military and their families and the general public as well.

In 2022, Veterans On The Lake completed major improvements on the property, including new wheelchair accessible cabins, two pontoon boats modified for wheelchair accessibility, and two handicap-accessible fish houses.

This event will raise funds to help them complete much needed renovations at the facility, including a new wheelchair accessible fishing pier, a new handicap-friendly bathroom and shower in the main lodge, and renovating docks to be wheelchair accessible from the cabins.

For more information or to purchase tickets visit www.spiritwood-bigtop.com.

NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

Operation Round Up gives more than \$49k to community programs

COHASSET - Through the contributions of Lake Country Power's participating members, the Operation Round Up Electric Trust Board recently approved \$49,950 in assistance to local community programs during its quarterly meeting.

The cooperative's trust board reviewed and considered 50 grant applications and distributed funds to 43 projects and programs this past quarter.

"I would like to thank the board for awarding Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge the funds to help overcome drug and alcohol addictions," said Dave Buxengard, northern Minnesota funding director for MNATC. "The program is not an easy one, so on behalf of the recipients of these services, I would like to thank co-op members for their generosity and support."

Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge is a 13-month program. To stay committed, patients receive counseling to diagnose the root cause of their addictions. With fund-

ing from Operation Round Up®, the organization will be able to provide counseling for 20 people for a month.

All funds generated through Operation Round Up are set aside in a trust fund. A voluntary trust board of nine co-op members administers the trust. Of the funds collected through the program, 100% is distributed to charitable organizations through an application and selection process.

Recent recipients in our area include:

- ▶ St. Louis Co. Rescue Squad
- ▶ Trinity Lutheran Quilters
- ▶ North St. Louis County 4-H Federation
- ▶ City of Tower/Tower-Soudan Historical Society
- ▶ Boundary Waters Care Center
- ▶ Project Care Free Clinic
- ▶ Gethsemane Women of the ELCA Quilters
- ▶ Well Being Development
- ▶ Northern Lights Clubhouse
- ▶ Ely Folk School

- ▶ ElderCircle Senior Day 2023
- ▶ Boundary Waters Choral Festival and Choral Arts
- ▶ Northern Lights Music Festival, Inc.

Operation Round Up is a charitable program unique to electric co-ops, which is designed to provide financial assistance to worthwhile activities and community projects by "rounding up" members' electric bills to the nearest dollar. The average donation of each participating Lake Country Power member is less than \$6 annually.

Among Lake Country Power's 43,000 members, 67 percent of all active electric accounts participate in the program through voluntary contributions. Interested members can opt into the Operation Round Up® program by calling the cooperative at 800-421-9959 or using an online form at lakecountrypower.coop. Applications are available online at www.lakecountrypower.coop (My Cooperative > Community > Operation Round Up®).

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COOK CITY COUNCIL

Housing needs at the top of Cook council agenda

by **MARSHALL HELMBERGER**
Managing Editor

COOK — The need for more housing and the challenges involved in fostering residential growth were hot topics on the city council agenda here last Thursday. It's a chronic issue that city officials have been hearing about for some time and they made the case for patience even as they pointed to potential progress.

The city has purchased land for new residential development and has extended water and sewer to the site. "It's shovel-ready," noted council member Elizabeth Storm following the meeting.

But getting from shovel-ready to new housing ready for occupancy is a process noted city administrator Theresa Martinson. "We need to meet with the HRA and IRRR to determine next steps," she said. While some cities have been able to create subdivisions and let the private sector build the housing, that hasn't always been successful in small, rural communities like Cook. Martinson said although the city has seen interest in a single lot from at least one party, it's

not clear that's enough to justify extending utilities into the site or who would pay for it.

If the city takes on the development process, that can facilitate the effort, but the city still has major questions to answer. "We need to decide on what kind of housing we need," said Martinson, "and then try to attract a developer."

"What is the time frame for that?" asked council member Liza Root.

"I would say two years," responded Storm.

Whether that's soon enough to satisfy the desire for more housing remains to be seen. A city survey conducted by Root and Storm during Timber Days festivities found that a limited supply of housing was the top issue for both residents and non-residents alike. Of residents who filled out the surveys, 59 percent indicated it was challenging to find housing in the community. Among non-residents, 11 respondents (14 percent of the total) said lack of housing was preventing them from living in Cook.

In the meantime, Martinson said the city tries to stay aware of houses or

lots that do go up for sale in the community, which can provide occasional opportunities for those looking to live in Cook or upgrade their housing.

City sale of cannabis?

Under the council forum portion of the meeting, a couple council members expressed an interest in exploring using the recent law legalizing adult recreational use of marijuana as a potential city revenue source. Both Root and council member Jody Bixby suggested it's an opportunity the city could consider given that the city already has a municipal liquor store.

"There's a lot of homework that needs to be done," said Martinson.

Storm, who asked to put the issue on the agenda, said the city needs to know more about its role and how it can or cannot regulate the sale of cannabis products once the new law takes effect on Aug. 1. She suggested at one point a temporary moratorium on the use of cannabis in the city while some of those issues are sorted out, but Mayor Harold Johnston said he doubted the city had authority to

prohibit the use of a product the state has deemed as legal. "Perhaps we can regulate how it's sold," he said. Storm agreed and suggested she may have misspoke on the issue. The council is likely to revisit the issue in the near future.

In other business, the council:

►Approved several items related to the ongoing airport expansion and maintenance. Airport coordinator Doug McDuff reported that the airport runway is in need of crack sealing and seal coating, which is a major focus of the facility's capital improvement program, which the council approved as part of last week's meeting. McDuff said a MnDOT analysis found that the condition of the runway is currently below average, but that the crack sealing and seal coating would put the runway in above average shape. The council approved a contract with SEH totaling \$45,200 for its design work and construction administration on the project totaling \$60,900. The council also approved the bid from Fahrer Asphalt Sealers totaling \$291,242 for the

actual runway work. The city's share of the cost for the \$353,142 project will be approximately \$17,657, with the FAA picking up 90 percent and MnDOT adding five percent.

The council also approved two invoices from Lake County Power totaling \$14,870 for work and a permit associated with the extension of taxi lanes at the airport, part of an expansion that will make room for nearly a dozen new hangars. The council also approved an invoice totaling \$2,000 from Udovich Enterprises for brush cutting and removal at the airport.

►Heard from new HRA director Mike Jugovich, who told the council about the need to do more to promote the Meals on Wheels program in Cook. He said anyone who meets the income guidelines for the program can qualify. "It's not just an HRA thing," he said. "We want to get as many people fed as possible. This is a good thing for people who don't always get fed regularly. It provides good quality food."

Storm noted that the community has some homeless individuals and

she wondered how they might access the program. "We should be able to find a way," said Jugovich. "Maybe they can get involved with our social worker, who can help them access other services, like housing and medical attention."

►Discussed how to recognize all the volunteers in the community and tentatively discussed an event in the fall, with food, that would provide a way for the city to offer thanks. The city took some heat at its May council meeting from some city volunteers who complained they felt disrespected at times. "Cook is amazing to have all these organizations," said Martinson. The council took no final action on the idea.

►Briefly discussed blight letters that were sent out recently to homeowners who aren't in compliance with the city ordinance. Martinson said some recipients had addressed the issues raised in their letters while others had indicated they need help to comply. "Some of them are elderly and

See COOK...pg. 5

Babbitt man found dead in Biwabik freezer

by **CATIE CLARK**
Ely Editor

BIWABIK- The body of a 35-year-old Babbitt man was discovered in a freezer in a vacant house in Biwabik on Monday, June 26. The Gilbert Police Department, whose coverage includes Biwabik, responded to the residence at approximately 3:30 p.m. after a 911 call reporting the shocking discovery there.

According to a statement release by the Gilbert PD on the evening of June 27, the Midwest Medical Examiner's of-

fice, which provides autopsy services to St. Louis County, identified the deceased as Brandon Lee Buschman.

Buschman's body was found in a chest freezer in the basement of a residence at 304 4th Ave. N. The freezer was an older style which locks upon being closed and cannot be pushed open or unlocked from the inside. The freezer was not operating at the time that Buschman's body was discovered.

The house where the deceased was found has been officially unoccupied since February. Public re-

ords from the St. Louis Co. Assessor office lists the owner of the property as the Northridge Community Credit Union.

"Investigators continue to interview neighbors and persons last known to have been with the deceased," reported Gilbert authorities in a press statement. "At this point, investigators believe that (Buschman's) death was an isolated incident and there is no danger to the public." The Gilbert PD is being assisted by the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension and the East Range PD.

Babbitt Police Chief Michael McGregor told the *Timberjay* that Buschman was not known to be missing to his agency. Last week, Buschman was not listed as missing with the Minnesota Missing and Unidentified Persons Clearinghouse.

Preliminary autopsy results from the medical examiner did not find any evidence of trauma or injury. The *Timberjay* inquired with Erik Thorson of the examiner's office as to how they identified Buschman. Thorson indicated that information wasn't immediately

available, and he would forward our request to those who could answer our question. Regardless, the final autopsy report, including toxicology results, should be available in four to eight weeks.

The news regarding Buschman was greeted with sorrow by his childhood and high school friends on the "What's Up, Babbitt?" Facebook group. His friends and family knew him by his nickname of Skippy. Buschman's brother has announced a memorial event to honor Buschman's life, to be held on July 15 at

noon at the Babbitt Beach. He was quoted in a post by Buschman's friend Melissa Brown as saying that the memorial "will be open to all who knew and loved him."

The *Timberjay* will update this developing story as more information becomes available.

Anyone with information about the Buschman investigation is asked to contact the Gilbert Police Department at 218-748-2225.

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OPINION

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The First Amendment of the United States Constitution

Editorial

An old school president

Biden has quietly engineered an economic revolution in America

As President Biden laid out in a key domestic policy speech this past week in Chicago, his administration is leading what amounts to an economic revolution that is already remaking America's heartland for the better.

Since the 1980s and the advent of Reaganomics, America lived under a general bipartisan belief that economic policy should be limited to the promotion of the free market and implementation of wide-open trade deals that promoters argued would help America's economy and its communities by allowing the export of more American-made goods.

Yet, as we learned painfully over the years, it was solid middle-class jobs that left our shores more than goods, leaving once prosperous communities across the Midwest struggling like never before.

Unfortunately, Presidents from Reagan to Obama went down this path, even as the evidence of the fallout piled up in the Rust Belt. Abandoned factories. Growing joblessness. Falling home values. Increasing despair. Declining life expectancy, led by a rise in suicides.

Donald Trump called it American Carnage, and he tapped the anger that many felt toward the free-market policymakers who brought us this economic disaster to win the White House in 2016.

The trouble was, Trump had no clue how to fix the problem, and even if he had he was aligned with a Republican Party utterly wedded to trickle-down, which was the basis of Reaganomics. Trump promised he would reinvest in America and rebuild the country's infrastructure and manufacturing base, but delivered only more tax cuts for the wealthy because that's the only thing Republicans consistently deliver when handed power.

While most of the public seems blissfully unaware, President Biden has actually delivered on a remarkable set of economic policies that responded effectively to the challenges posed by the years of neglect of U.S. industries, the challenges of climate change, and the economic disruptions posed by the COVID pandemic.

In his recent speech, the president referred to this set of policies as Bidenomics, as a means of branding this new direction for the economy.

For the first time in decades, we have an administration that is willing to implement true industrial policy. For far too long, our policymakers foolishly relied on the make-believe of the market's "invisible hand" to determine how the nation's economic resources and its rewards were allocated. The result was a disaster for all but the wealthiest.

Finally, we have an administration that recognizes that we can do better when we consciously direct resources where they can do the most good, for our communities, for our workers, for our environment, and for our nation's security. Biden and his economic advisors recognize that by shipping our manufacturing overseas, we lost our ability to innovate new technologies and protect our supply chains during crises, as was revealed during the pandemic. Now, thanks to the administration's policies, like the CHIPS Act and the Inflation Reduction Act, we're bringing that manufacturing base back to America. A recent report from the Treasury Department noted that real spending on the construction of new manufacturing plants in the U.S. has doubled since Biden's policies took effect. Companies in the U.S. are investing twice as much building new manufacturing facilities today than they were under the Trump administration. While Trump went around bragging about his inflated accomplishments, Biden has quietly done the hard work of crafting and winning passage of new laws that are actually rebuilding our economy.

Despite the rhetoric from Republicans, the results of Bidenomics have been remarkably impressive to date. In the first 29 months of Biden's presidency, the U.S. economy has created an astonishing 13.4 million new jobs—more than any previous president oversaw in a full four-year term. Trump, who bragged constantly about job creation under his administration, oversaw the creation of a relatively meager 5.2 million jobs in the first 29 months of his administration before all those jobs, and more, were wiped out by COVID.

The unemployment rate under Biden is lower than at any point in half a century and the U.S. is experiencing economic growth that surpasses virtually any other Western nation. And as the new manufacturing capacity begins to address supply shortages, inflation has been cut by half in the past year even as the economy has remained surprisingly strong. Wages are now growing faster than inflation, which is good news for workers.

Biden has been reluctant in some cases to tout his successes in part because he recognizes that a quiet approach is often much more effective than a loud mouth when it comes to achieving results. Biden is old school, who spent the vast majority of his political life in a Washington where politicians mostly came to get things done and where compromise wasn't a dirty word. America is reaping the benefits of Biden's experience. He is remaking America's economy for the better.



Letters from Readers

Sober house could provide benefits to the area

Societies are judged by how they treat their most vulnerable citizens. This oft-repeated saying is held as a truism of civilized, moral societies the world over, and solidarity with the most vulnerable is the essence of Jewish and Christian traditions. The way the proposal for a "sober house" in Soudan has been received by some calls into question whether those of us here, locally, will live up to these values.

There are few more vulnerable than those struggling to recover from substance abuse. Without supportive care in a residential facility, many will slide back into abusing drugs or alcohol, wreaking suffering on themselves, family (including children, who were cited as a concern), friends, co-workers and complete strangers—think intoxicated drivers. Would we rather have them in our midst in a facility offering them the best chance for recovery, or as our neighbors abusing drugs and alcohol, where they otherwise would be? There are few among us, including me, who can't name a friend or relative suffering from addiction. I've seen how a well-run, 30-day residential facility can support recovery in someone with a life-long addiction.

Concerns that our ambulance service and law enforcement can't handle the additional residents seems a fabricated worry intended to keep these particular folks from coming to town; otherwise, why wouldn't we oppose all new residents and visitors, including to the new state park?

Should there be concern about the Care Crossings' proposed facility in Soudan? Yes. I'm not familiar with this particular business, but we should be asking whether their other facilities have met industry standards for the health, safety, care and recovery of residents, and whether audits have shown the government grants they likely received were spent responsibly and for their intended purpose, rather than for gen-

erating excess profits.

Whether from the heart, or in recognition that substance abusers in recovery pose less risk to communities than those who aren't, we should shift our focus to concern for our future neighbors, not fear of them.

Steve Wilson
Isabella

Twin Metals offers questionable job figures, high risk to water

As addendum to the recent mining discussion at Ely City Hall, the pro-mining people continually tout that mining will provide high-paying jobs for Ely residents. However, many competitive mining operations have become highly automated using robots and self-driving equipment to replicate human tasks, improve safety, and increase productivity. This equipment is controlled by cameras and sensors remotely by staff members at corporate headquarters. The corporate headquarters are located where there are highly qualified tech personnel. In Australia, the operations of remote mining are controlled from offices in Perth, 1,000 kilometers from the mines. For local mines in Ely, the operation would most likely be conducted from Minneapolis.

It has been established that automated mining is less costly than using human labor. Automation operates 24/7 and 365 days a year. There are no personnel delays for holidays, vacations, coffee breaks, meals, bathroom needs, absenteeism, and no cost for shift pay differentials or longevity, no health benefits nor pension considerations. Regular maintenance and repair are scheduled to minimize downtime. Financing of equipment is possible because it can be collateralized. It is necessary to achieve a highly competitive cost structure in order to participate in the world market where the price of copper is established, not by the producer, but by exchanges. There is no brand differentiation.

Ely is a water rich envi-

ronment. Former mines in this area experienced water seepage into and out of the mines through cracks and crevasses. (It is reported that at various times due to the heavy inflow of water, the miners wore raincoats in the underground mines.) The totality of this inflow water cannot be controlled. According to the environmental impact report submitted by PolyMet, it indicated that only 90 percent of water inflow could be contained and controlled, leaving 10 percent to seep out though fissures in uncontrollable directions and distances.

If Twin Metals experiences similar amounts of seepage, the cumulated "escaping" 10 percent can cause immense environmental damage because toxic sulfuric acid is created when water and air are exposed to the copper ore in the mine. It kills fish, aquatic life, vegetation and can contaminate our many lakes and even our drinking water.

The mining companies say they can safely control the water seepage. If they can actually do so, why do they establish non-asset shell corporations for their operating companies which protect the parent company from any liability? Or alternatively, why don't they get sufficient liability insurance from a reliable insurance company? The insurance companies know there are many environmental risks. They are unlikely to provide copper mining insurance in a water-rich locality despite their opportunity to generate income from premiums.

Consequently, lacking the willingness to accept responsibility for the remediation of the environment suggests that the mining company does not believe their own rhetoric for operating without degrading the environment. In other words, they have given themselves an opportunity to generate profits, without the risks associated with copper sulfide mining in a water rich environment.

Gerry Snyder
Ely

COLUMNIST

God bless everyone—no exceptions

Although I love the resplendent fireworks, I have had ambivalent feelings about the Fourth of July for a

very long time, and I'm not sure when that started. Maybe it was during the battles over civil rights, then the Vietnam War followed by wars with Iraq, Afghanistan, and all the unacknowledged



BETTY FIRTH

aggressions our country has perpetrated on others. As a kid I enthusiastically walked with the

Girl Scouts in the parade in my home town and joined my family and friends to watch the fireworks at the local bowl-shaped park, oohing and aching over the beautiful display. I don't think I liked the loud fireworks then, and I like them less now. I'm pretty sure

they've gotten louder through the years, and I know they add a layer of irritation over the loss of political naiveté.

My late dog, Lucy, was terrified by the noisy fireworks and started trembling as soon as neighbors started shooting them off two days ahead of time. She didn't calm down until after the city display finished with the typical cacophony of ear-splitting explosions. The situation at my house is magnified because I'm surrounded by ledgerrock,

which forms an acoustic amphitheater amplifying the noise, rocking the house, and rattling the windows. The first year I wrapped Lucy up in a blanket and went outside to sit where it was quieter and I could see some of the color. In later years, I put her in the car and drove out of town, far enough away to muffle the noise but allow me to see the higher fireworks. This year I'm dog-sitting for another explosion-phobic dog, and he is sitting on my feet as I type be-

cause my neighbors feel it necessary to burn up more money exploding things, so it will be many hours before he can relax.

Just as fireworks celebrate the sights and sounds of war, the money spent on them in cities and towns across the country parallel the bloated military budget. I have heard that Ely used to have neighborhood picnics, and I think that would be a delightful, alternative way to

See PARADE...pg. 5

Letters from Readers

Sober housing should be the least of your concerns

Regarding the article "Concerns Aired Over Planned Sober House" in the *Timberjay*, I am very much in favor of converting the Vermilion Park Inn into an adult sober house. My name is Roshael Jacobsen. I am a former Tower resident and a 2006 graduate of the Tower-Soudan High School. I was very involved in sports and my community. However, I

developed a problem with addiction that progressed over time. Thankfully, I have been completely sober since July 25, 2012 and will be celebrating 11 years in recovery. After my last treatment, I went on to earn an A.A. degree from Central Lakes College and a B.A. in Criminal Justice from St. Cloud State University. I am now currently working for a mental health facility for the state of Minnesota.

All that I have accomplished is because of my sobriety and the supports offered and available in other communities. Un-

fortunately, coming back to Tower-Soudan was never a healthy choice for me (and many others) due to the lack of sober housing, resources, and opportunities. If you have not suffered with addiction yourself, you probably know or have known someone very close to you that has. Having a sober house would be very beneficial to your community. When people come back to Tower-Soudan, they need support, structure, and accountability. Families that have loved ones who must go far away to seek treatment have a difficult time

attending family treatment or any type of unification because Tower-Soudan does not have these resources in the community. People are going to return to your community regardless and it would only be beneficial to the community and families to have this added support.

The people living in the sober house could be your, or someone else's, son, daughter, father, mother, brother, sister, cousin or relative. They will not be a threat to your community. They have completed treatment and are seeking additional support to stay

sober. The multiple liquor establishments in the community are more of a threat than a sober house. If the Tower-Soudan area wants to have a healthy and progressive community they should seriously consider approving the conversion of the Vermilion Park Inn into a sober house.

**Roshael Jacobsen
Brainerd**

Handwriting is on the wall

In case you missed it, we just broke the all-time record, two days in a

row, for the highest average global temperature. On the third of July, the average global air temperature (recorded two meters above Earth's surface) was 62.62 degrees Fahrenheit. On the Fourth of July, the average global air temperature was 62.92 degrees Fahrenheit. This is the average of all temperatures recorded around the world on those dates.

**Jim Ganahl
Cook**

PARADE...Continued from page 4

spend money to celebrate the formation of our country. People could meet their neighbors and break bread, and it wouldn't be so easily rained out.

The parade is a successful community event with people filling the sidewalks, claiming their spots with pre-positioned lawn chairs, ready to cheer on their young dancers, marchers, and musicians, as well as the politicians whom they favor. One year I was walking with Amy Klobuchar's supporters, and when I attempted to hand a brochure citing what Amy was working on to an onlooker, she threw up her hands like I was trying to hand her a poisonous snake. She said, "The politicians shouldn't even be here...it's for the kids!" That was a new one on me,

and I was taken aback for a moment. I'm pretty sure when I was participating in the 4th of July parade as a kid, I didn't think it was about me. The people cheering us on weren't applauding my 10-year-old existence but my participation in the ritual. We all felt the connection with each other, celebrating our flag and our history, as well as all the good work that the participating organizations took on throughout the year.

Did this woman think the parade really happened solely for the benefit of those kids scrambling in the street for more candy, oblivious to most of the parade passing them by? (It does seem like a battle that can't be won, since sugar is such a cheap treat, but do we really need to cel-

brate our democracy by throwing buckets of sugar out for children whose generation is experiencing an epidemic of diabetes?) I was tempted to ask the woman if she talked to her kids about what the 4th of July means, including our freedom to vote for candidates of our choice, tell them what we think in their offices and other public places such as, well, parades. Does she let them know that the freedom we have fought for means we can even walk in parades protesting what the government does?

Public appearances also give us the opportunity to thank our politicians for their work and cheer them on, which is certainly fitting this year with all the state legislature has accomplished. Thanks to

the Democrats, the legislature did more in one session than has been accomplished in years, including the Child Tax Credit, Social Security tax relief, direct property tax relief, Local Government Aid, County Program Aid, payments for county-owned public land, a \$2.2 billion increase in the per-student funding for K-12 schools, transportation sparsity aid for rural schools, and funding for the Ely school construction and other school construction projects. Additionally, they approved \$300 million for nursing homes, \$300 million in public safety money for individual communities and counties, as well as a \$2.3 billion infrastructure package, the largest in state history, which will fund wastewater projects,

recreation facilities, campus renovating. Is it the first infrastructure package approved in three years, thanks to the partisan game playing that was going on, so be sure to thank Senator Grant Hauschild for his hard work.

This has felt like a special 4th of July, having nothing to do with parades, fireworks, or buckets of candy. I have been very happy to welcome some newcomers to Ely who have accomplished a dangerous journey, traveling over 3,000 miles from Venezuela, looking for a better life. Thanks to the generosity of a local homeowner and other residents, they have a safe place to stay and assistance with getting settled here. They are warm, gracious, and amazingly

resilient people. I tried to imagine immigrating to another country where I didn't speak the language with only the belongings I could carry, not knowing if I'd be turned away at the border when I got there.

While I don't have much appetite for patriotic jingoism, this is when I am joyful about being an American, grateful for the laws that protect those seeking asylum from other countries, as they have throughout our history, and witnessing the open-hearted generosity of fellow citizens who honor these intrepid spirits. Bienvendio, mis amigos. Es tan bueno tenerte aqui. And God bless everyone, no exceptions.

COOK...Continued from page 3

live alone," said Martinson. "Some are new to the area."

Martinson said the city has to follow its ordinance but was willing to see what it could do to help those who were

struggling to comply. Johnston agreed. "We're not trying to be punitive. We want to help people."

►Heard from maintenance director Tim Lilya who recommended retaining JPJ Engineering to

consult on replacing any city water service lines containing lead.

►Heard from Matt Litherland who asked for more city assistance with flag displays, noting that many of the local veterans

are "getting up there in age." Martinson suggested he fill out a project request form so the city can more clearly understand what he is requesting.

►Approved a temporary liquor license for

Northwoods Friends of the Arts for an Aug. 11 event.

►Discussed beginning to hold work sessions for the 2024 budget. "We started in September last year but would like to start

in August this year," said Martinson.

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the **TIMBERJAY**

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

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

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

Publisher	Marshall Helmberger
General Manager	Jodi Summit
Cook/Orr Editor	David Colburn
Ely Editor	Catie Clark
Office Manager	Michelle Toutloff
Staff Writer	Rachel Brophy
Graphics/Ad Sales	Scarlet Lynn Stone
Ad Sales/Sports	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.

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St. Louis County Solid Waste Facility
Area site hours

Northwoods Transfer Station 9384 Hwy 21 N., Ely/Babbitt Summer Hours Mon, Thu, Fri, Sat: 8am-3pm Tue: 9:30am-3pm Wed: noon-6pm	Cook Transfer Station 2134 S. Beatty Rd., Cook Hours Mon: 10am-6pm Tues thru Sat: 9am-3:30pm
County 77 Canister Site 2038 County Rd. 77, Greenwood Twp Summer Hours Tues: 1-6pm Thurs: 8am-1pm Sat: 8am-5pm Sun: noon-6pm	Soudan Canister Site 5160 Hwy 169, Soudan Hours Mon, Wed, Sat, Sun: 8am-5pm
Embarrass Canister Site 7530 Koski Rd., Embarrass Hours Sat: 12:30-4:30pm Thu: 10am-5pm	Aurora Transfer Station 5910 Hwy 135 N., Aurora Hours Mon, Thurs, Fri: 8am-4pm Tue, Wed: 10am-4pm Sat: 8am-noon
Household Hazardous Waste Facility 5345 Regional Landfill Rd, Virginia Hours Tues and Sat: 8am-1pm	Regional Landfill 5341 Regional Landfill Rd, Virginia Hours Mon-Fri: 8am-4:30pm Sat: 8am-3:30pm

Summer hours effective April 15th through September 30th
For solid waste and recycling information go to www.stlouiscountymn.gov/recycle

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Week of July 10

Monday

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

Tower City Council- 5:30 p.m. on July 10

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 July 18.

Greenwood Town Board- 6:30 p.m. on July 11

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.

Free firewise demonstration on July 8

VERMILION LAKE TWP- Have the recent wildfires made you think about the readiness of your property in the face of wildfire? There will be a free firewise demonstration on Saturday, July 8 from 10 a.m. – 12 noon at a lakeshore home on Pike Bay Dr. Attend this event to learn about the things a property owner can do right now to make their home and property more wildfire resilient. The event will be held outdoors, rain or shine, at the home of Aaron Kania and Roxanne Tea, 6197 Pike Bay Dr., Tower. The event is being sponsored by Dovetail Partners, the Vermilion Lake Fire Department, St. Louis County, and Firewise Minnesota. For more information, contact Gloria Erickson at 218-365-0878 or gloria@doetailinc.org.

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.

David Joki
Jim & Cathy Wright
Robert Desannoy & Family
George Stefanich
Muriel & William Scott
Kathy & Tom Tellepsen
Kathleen Paulson
Lyle Eidelbes
Bergetta & Michael
Indihar
Moccasin Point Marine
Nancy Larson

Old Settlers Reunion and Picnic set for July 15

BREITUNG TWP- The annual Old Settlers Reunion and Picnic will be held on Saturday, July 15, with booyah dished up at 12 noon sharp.

Memberships are available the day of the picnic, and newcomers are encouraged to attend! Membership in Old Settlers is open to anyone born or living on the Vermilion Iron Range. The money raised through memberships pays the expenses of putting on the annual picnic. If you have never tasted Old Settlers booyah (meat and vegetable soup prepared from the same recipe year after year), you are in for a

treat. The meal is cooked overnight over wood fire in 100-year old iron kettles, and it always tastes amazing.

But if you don't qualify for "membership," guests are also welcome to purchase a \$10 ticket to attend the event.

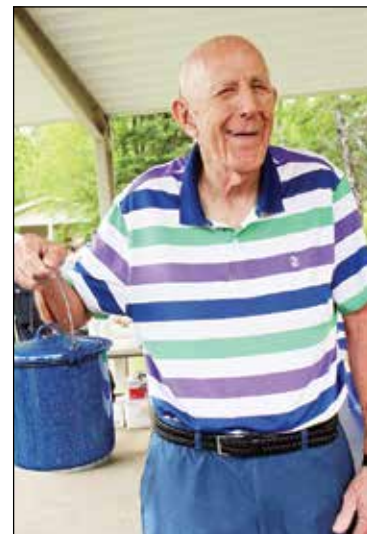
Attendees need to bring a pot to hold their portions of the boiling hot booyah, along with their own dinnerware and other picnic fixings to go along with the meal. Bread, butter, and coffee are available with the booyah. Cold beverages can be purchased at the campground store.

Take-outs are also available

if you are unable to stay for the picnic, live music, and raffles. Steve Solkela and his ever-popular one-man-band will be performing.

Old Settlers 50/50 raffle

BREITUNG TWP- This year attendees at the Old Settlers will have the opportunity to participate in a 50/50 fundraising raffle. Tickets will be \$5 and available during the event, with the winner drawn that day. This will be a fun way to help the Old Settlers Committee with event expenses.



NORTHERN LIGHTS MUSIC FESTIVAL IN TOWER

Lake Vermilion Cultural Center to host Chamber Music Concert on Sunday, July 9



TOWER- On Sunday, July 9 at 4 p.m., the LVCC will host a concert as part of the Northern Lights Music Festival. The NLMF will present an afternoon of chamber music in St. Mary's Hall at the LVCC, 705 Main Street, Tower. Faculty and young artists will be heard in a program of piano trios and string quartets, including the Schubert Piano Trio in B Major; and the Mozart first Piano Quartet. Solo works by Wienawski, Chopin, and Kreisler will be performed

by award-winning pianists and string players. The NLMF has been presenting concerts on the Iron Range for 20 years, but this is the first time a concert is being hosted in Tower at St. Mary's Hall. While the building is still being renovated, the beautiful, historic former sanctuary has amazing acoustics and stained glass windows making it a wonderful venue for events like this chamber music concert. Lemonade and cookies will be served after the program.

Tickets are available on the LVCC website at vermilionculturalcenter.org or on the NLMF website at northernlightsmusic.org, or may be purchased at the door. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$5 for students under 18. To help the LVCC with the renovation project you may donate at the LVCC website or by sending a check to the LVCC at PO Box 659, Tower, MN 55790.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Learn about the proposed sober house in Soudan

SOUDAN- Cathy Hervieux and associates will be at Soudan's Vermilion Park Inn, 30 Center Street on Sunday, July 9 from 12 noon to 2 p.m. They will answer questions concerning the purchase of the old Soudan Hospital to be used as a Christian sobriety house. All are welcome.

St. Pauls and Soudan Baptist hosting VBS starting July 17

SOUDAN- St. Paul's Lutheran and Soudan Baptist are hosting a joint Vacation Bible School Monday, July 17 through Thursday, July 20 from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. VBS is open to all area and visiting children ages 5 to 14 years old. Lunch is provided. The theme this year is "Wholly Love" and the week will include fun, games, and crafts. Please preregister by calling 218-753-3047.

Tower-Soudan History Talks set for July, August

TOWER- The Tower-Soudan Historical Society is hosting two history talks this summer. All

are open to the public and admission is \$5 per person.

Thursday, July 27 at 4 p.m. in Coach Car 81. Mary St. Onge will share her memories of a lifetime of summers at the lake. Mary's family were early settlers of Pine Island on Lake Vermilion. Mary is the author of *The Forever Days - A Memoir about Healing and a Lifetime of Summers at the Lake*. Mary's family is one that traveled to Tower by train and took the steamboat in the harbor to their Pine Island property. Books will be available for purchase.

Tuesday, Aug. 8 at 4 p.m. at the Herb Lamppa Civic Center. Dick Peyla will share the "incomplete story" of the Peyla family and the Arrowhead Garage. As Sonny Peyla would say "It's 20 below. Let's go to work." Dick has a fun and interesting powerpoint to present.

We may have a refreshment reception with harp background music in the Coach Car 81 following the presentation. Stay tuned for more information.

Free "Train Tales" storytelling for kids in Coach Car 81 on Wednesdays, July 19, Aug. 9 and 30. Dates are in conjunction with the Arrowhead Bookmobile visit. Story time is from 2:30 - 3:30 p.m. and the bookmobile gets there at 3 p.m. Get aboard the train for a fun trip in story telling! Each week is a new book and storyteller who will keep the kids in suspense and engaged in the stories. Snacks are provided.

Children pre-kindergarten and younger must be accompanied by an adult. There is no cost to attend.

History Happy Hour

TOWER- Stop by the Tower Farmers Market on the fourth Friday in July and August for "History Happy Hour." There will be free ice-cold lemonade from 4 - 5 p.m. to share with our community to thank you for the wonderful support of the Tower-Soudan Historical Society! Dates are July 28 and August 25

Lunch Bunch to meet July 20 at the Montana Cafe

COOK- The Lunch Bunch will meet at The Montana Cafe in Cook, Thursday, July 20 at 12:30 p.m. A show at the Comet Theater will follow. Please RSVP by July 17 to Judy 218-753-3982. Anyone that would like to join us are welcome to attend.

Art on the Lake event July 28 - 29 at LVCC

TOWER- There is nothing quite so dreamy as the image of a cabin beside the lake, fisherman on the shore with a pole bent over with a fish on the other end. There is the sound of water lapping on the rocks, loons calling out, sunsets that make your heart jump, and trees in fifty shades of greens. This is what motivates local and summer artists to try to capture some of the sights and sounds here on Lake Vermilion, it's an artist's dream.

Local artists are hosting "Art On The Lake." A preview party and sale of the artists' work is Friday, July 28, from 5:30-8:30 p.m., at the Lake Vermilion Cultural Center in Tower. Tickets are \$25 available to purchase

**Fourth of July raffle winners announced**

SOUDAN- Winners of this year's Fourth of July raffle were drawn at the Breitung Community Picnic. Proceeds from the raffle help fund the Fourth of July events each year.

First place \$300- Frank Akins
Second place \$200- Patti Banks
Third place \$100 Linda Bristol

Watch for more Fourth of July results, winners, and photos in next week's paper!

through Lake Vermilion Cultural Center website at vermilionculturalcenter.org. Appetizers and beverages will be served.

The public art show and sale is Saturday, July 29 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. An artist will be conducting a demonstration of a painting from the beginning at 10 a.m. Proceeds will go to the Lake Vermilion Cultural Center.

This year's event is also honoring the memory of Carol Brown, a long-time Lake Vermilion resident and artist. If you wish to make a donation to the LVCC in memory of Carol, details are on the LVCC website along with other Art on the Lake details.

St. Martin's Summer Luncheon and Silent Auction on July 12

TOWER- St. Martin's Catholic Church in Tower is hosting a Summer Luncheon and Silent Auction on Wednesday, July 12. Doors open at 11 a.m. Bidding on the auction begins will run until 12:30 p.m. Lunch will be served from 11:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. The cost for lunch is \$8. In addition to the luncheon and silent auction, the St. Martin's Quilt Ministry will have handcrafted items and Robin Majerle will

have Norwex products available for purchase. This is a great opportunity for you to sit back and let someone else do the cooking, and a chance to visit with neighbors and summer visitors. Hope to see you there.

Proceeds from this event will go to Youth Activities and the Charity Fund.

Tower-Soudan Bookmobile Schedule

REGIONAL- The Arrowhead Bookmobiles will be in the Tower-Soudan area on Wednesday, June 28, July 19, and Aug. 9 & 30.

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

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

TOWER CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

To All,

Your support is needed. Give what you can. It will help pay for a new water line. Hopefully the Tower Cemetery will get monies from the IRRRB, but it won't be enough to cover the cost for this water project.

You know who you are that have given in the past. We ask for your continued support and we hope to get newcomers to help.

Thank You.

**Donations can be sent to:
Tower Cemetery Association
PO Box 874
Tower, MN 55790**

Published in the Timberjay, May 19, June 2, 16, 23, and July 7, 2023



MUSIC

134 years of the Ely Community Band

by CATIE CLARK
Ely Editor

ELY—The *Duluth Evening Herald* has perhaps the first known documentation of a community band in Ely. The *Duluth* paper reported on April 8, 1890, about a fundraising concert at Vail's Hotel to benefit the Presbyterian church. The "Ely Band" provided the music for its own overture as well as for soloists and instrumentalists, according to the now-134-year-old report.

That historical mention appears to be the basis for the claim that the band is now in its 134th season performing in the community.

Their first-known concert venue, the Vail Hotel, was once Ely's largest building. It burned down in 1905 in one of Ely's most famous early conflagrations.

The next mention of the band is in 1891, when a newspaper article mentioned that the 24-piece Ely Band led by a drum major marched in the city's July 4 parade.

The upstart newspaper, the *Ely Miner* reported in 1895 that the city band sent 18 musicians down to Duluth for the visit of Ohio governor William McKinley. McKinley was a nationally prominent figure at the time and went to become the 25th President of the United States two and a half years later.

A March 1895 article in the *Ely Miner* mentions the band showed up to play at the train station for the arrival of academics from Princeton University, who came to visit the local mines. The newspaper reported that



The tuba section of the Ely Community Band at practice on June 26 in the new band room at ISD 696. photo by Ian Lah of the Northern Lakes Arts Association

the stalwart band played in sub-zero temperatures and an impromptu dance started at the depot with the band's musicians providing the music.

To put these early mentions of a band in perspective, the first frame house in Ely was built in 1887. The first hardware store also opened in 1887. St. Louis County recognized Ely as an official village in 1889. That year also saw the construction of Ely's first school. Ely incorporated as a city in 1891, so it appears that Ely had a city band before it had a city government. It comes down to priorities, you see.

Early Ely music scene

Ely's first fifty years

saw not just a community band, but also several other bands, like the Ely "Scandia Band," plus a Slavic band, a Finnish band, and other ethnic-group bands. After the end of the World War One, the band sponsored by the American Legion post was very active.

Ely was a city that earned a reputation for the number and quality of its local musical organizations. Commercial radio didn't become established until the 1920s, so any musical entertainment prior to that time had to be provided live. Ely had several bands, a community orchestra at one time, a community choir, and a community glee club. One typical gig for the Ely Band and the other band

groups in the city was marching at the head of funeral processions. Early Ely funerals were often four or more city blocks in length.

The 2023 band season

This year, the Ely Community Band has a new conductor in Karl Kubiak, who was the new music teacher at Ely Memorial High School starting with the 2022-2023 school year. The band is open to all who want to play and to carry on this remarkable community tradition.

In his first announcement of the 2023 community band season, Kubiak wrote, "In regards to who can play, I am a firm believer in having everyone

participate, regardless of age, local/semi-local/visitor (status), or how much time you've taken off the horn. In light of one of my favorite quotes, 'the best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second-best time is now.' If you know of anyone that is interested in joining, extend an invitation for them to pack their instrument with their hiking boots and/or tackle boxes on their visit to the end of the road."

The band will perform every Tuesday evening at 6 p.m. in Whiteside Park after the Farmers Market, through the end of July. In case of rain, the Tuesday evening concert will move to the auditorium at Washington Elementary School.

Ely Chamber celebrates 115 years

ELY- This year, the Ely Chamber of Commerce celebrates over one-hundred fifteen years of serving the Ely business community. The chamber invites the community to an open house on July 12 from 10 a.m. to noon.

At 10 a.m., a dedication ceremony is planned for Linda's Garden, which is in memory of long-time director Linda Fryer. For those who have not stopped by the chamber building recently, the grounds now feature two new outdoor gathering areas provided by the Ely Rotary Club. The chamber grounds are also dog friendly. In addition, the chamber has abundant materials and maps on local businesses and attractions, including information on hours and maps.

The chamber began life 115 years ago as the Business Men's Association of Ely. The first meeting minutes were penned

on July 15, 1908. The board included Charles Trezona, who the local walking trail is named after. The early Association focused on supporting the business community and encouraging tourism.

The Men's Association changed its name to the Ely Commercial Club in 1916. On January 28 of that year, over 400 citizens attended the club's meeting. In May 1947, the Ely Commercial Club changed its name to the Ely Chamber of Commerce. In 1959 the Ely Chamber of Commerce officially filed articles of incorporation with the Internal Revenue Service as a nonprofit. Members of its board included several recognizable names, including: E.W. Hanson, J.A. Rothman, Matt Vertin, A.D. Klun, J. Kovach, H. Homer, J. Koschak, L. Champa, J. Smekar, Dr. J.P. Grahek, B. Richards, F. Childer, and M. Palcher.

These families formed the foundation of the local business community across the decades. They believed sincerely in the importance of supporting each other for the betterment of Ely.

Although the Chamber name has changed, the Ely Chamber of Commerce continues to keep its commitment to area businesses and the community. The mission statement of the Chamber is to provide leadership and advocacy, strategic partnerships, career development of its citizens, business diversity, and education.

The Ely Chamber of Commerce operates from a little log cabin on the town's east end. Over 8,000 people pass through its door each year. Chamber staff help connect residents and visitors with area businesses and resources, answer questions, and hand out thousands


of visitor and business guides, maps, and other forms of literature. Plus, they coordinate three significant events, several smaller events, and multiple business promotions. Their goal is to promote and showcase the diverse Ely area business community.

People suggest, from time to time, that the Chamber should be either a visitor center or a Chamber, but not both. Over twenty-five years ago, while the chamber was doing the same work, folks at Explore Minnesota told then-executive director Linda Fryer that a Chamber of Commerce Visitor Center was a recipe for failure. Fryer stood firm and its tourism outreach is one of its best successes. Approximately one-third of the chambers of commerce in the U.S. provide both business and tourist information services.

Elyite on dean's list

MORRIS- Abbie Rehbein, of Ely has been named to the University of Minnesota Morris Dean's List for the spring 2023 semester. To be eligible for the Dean's List, students must achieve a grade point average of 3.666 or higher while taking 12 or more credits on the A-F grading system, with no incompletes or non-satisfactory grades.

Get Results!



Advertise in the Timberjay!

Upcoming Events

Ely Public Library

ELY- The spice for July is mustard.

The Friends of the Library Bookclub will meet on Monday, July 10, from 3-4 p.m., to discuss "The Hundred Year Old Man Who Climbed Out of the Window and Disappeared" by Jonas Jonasson.

The Friends of the Library monthly board meeting will be on Tues-

day, July 11, from 1-2 p.m.

The Get Crafty group for kids 8 and older will do tile art on Wednesday, July 12, from 1-2 p.m. Preregister for the session so the library can order enough supplies for all participants.

The library will hold a Kahoot trivia game on the "Parasol Protectorate" series of books by Gail Carriger. Preregister for the kahoot with an email address so the library can send the link for the game. The kahoot will start on Thursday, July 13 at 3 p.m. and end on Monday, July 17 at 8 a.m.

The library will host

a "Kids for Kids" concert on Tuesday, July 18, from 10:30-11:30 a.m. The performers will be a small group of students that are taking part in this year's Northern Lights Music Festival.

The library will host a presentation on the Beaver float planes used by the Superior National Forest. This program is for adults. The presentation will be on Wednesday, July 19, from 10:30-11:30 a.m.

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.

Theater camp musical

The Northern Lakes Arts Association Youth Theater Camp will present the musical production of *Suessical Kids* on July 8 with two performances, one at 2 p.m. and one at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$12 and are available at the door or at northernlakesarts.org/tickets.

Farmers market and Arts in the Park

Ely's farmers market and the Northern Lakes Arts Association Arts in the Park program are

every Tuesday evening, from 4-6 p.m. The evening music presentation starts at 5 p.m.

As of July 05,
206 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 ElyTuesdayGroup@gmail.com or call her at 218-216-9141.

Upcoming Tuesday Group speakers:

► July 11: Trust for Public Land

► July 18: Ooof, Here We Go Again: Tamarack Water Alliance & Talon

Breathing Out

by Cecilia Rolando © 2023



flowers bloom madly
beautiful blossom colors

nasturtium lunch

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.

ORR THIRD OF JULY

Orr Fun Day offered a full day of activities

by JEN SHUSTER-DAHLIN
Staff Writer

ORR— Orr's July 3rd Fun Day lived up to its name with numerous events and activities throughout the day, designed to be fun for the whole family.

The day started with breakfast at the Orr Community Center by Northwoods Travelers, a group of students from the Northwoods School who are raising funds to travel to Barcelona and Paris. The Travelers, who most recently traveled to the Grand Canyon, also cooked lunch, offering fried bread with honey butter and sugar or fried bread tacos.

The morning events also

included a 5K run sponsored by the Orr Lions Club.

Various vendors peddled different food and wares in and around the Community Center, selling items like deep-fried doughnuts, lemonade, caramel apples, handmade clothing and jewelry, and Native American artwork.

A classic car show and tractor show were highlights of the day, as were pony rides for children provided by Pennie Moes.

The main event was the Kiddie Parade, featuring several local children on bicycles, in floats, walking, or in wagons pulled by their parents. The local chapter of the American Legion led the parade.

TJ and Kate Smith of Ango-

ra ran a booth offering free face painting and repaired bicycles. The Smiths run Valhalla Ridge Farms, and TJ is frequently refurbishing bicycles to give them away.

At 2:30 p.m., kids could partake in the sawdust dig to hunt for buried coins. The dig was separated into three age groups so even the youngest children had a chance to dig up plenty of change. The older the kids, the bigger the pile of sawdust. This event had a large turnout, with little room in the two oldest kids' sawdust piles.

A beanbag toss competition was held at the Orr Muni at 5:30 p.m., followed by a street dance. Fireworks over Pelican Bay capped off Orr's celebration.



MUSIC AND ARTS

World Class jazz guitar and bass duo to perform in Cook on Wednesday, July 12



COOK- Sam Miltich and his father, Mathew, will perform in Cook at Music in the Park from 6 to 8 p.m. on Wednesday, July 12. Every Wednesday this summer grab a blanket or a lawn chair or sit in your car to hear a different sound of music. Enjoy food and refreshments provided by St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Alango. In case of rain Wednesday the concert will be moved to the Cook VFW near the park.

Sam Miltich appeared in Cook in 2016 with his band "The Clearwater Hot Club" at the historic Comet Theater. He toured five towns in Minnesota in 2018 on a Minnesota Arts Board grant performing "The Improvised Life: Exploring Intersections of Mental Health & Creativity Through Jazz" at Trinity Lutheran Church presented by Northwoods Friends of the Arts. Scenic Rivers Health Services sponsored another performance in

Cook for health care professionals.

Sam Miltich's fluid and instinctive sound has graced hundreds of stages, from small town bars on the Iron Range to Lincoln Center. The Miltich family came from the Iron Range and continued building a life near Grand Rapids where Sam is a long-time fixture on the Minnesota jazz scene. Sam has composed his own music and played regularly at venues throughout the state. He has been featured on TPT's "Minnesota Original" and NPR's "Weekend Edition" and performed for Garrison Keillor's "A Prairie Home Companion". He also hosted his own radio program "Sam and Friends" which showcased a year of interviews with renowned Minnesota jazz musicians for KAXE radio.

Music In The Park is made possible by the St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Alango, Cook Lion's Club, the Cook VFW Post 1757 and the VFW Post 1757 Auxiliary, Northwoods Friends of the Arts and free will community donations.

"Wonderful World" exhibit reception on Friday, July 7, from 5-7 p.m.

COOK- Cook's own, Priscilla J. Hiipakka, will be honored with an exhibit and reception at Northwoods Friends of the Arts beginning Wednesday July 5 until July 29 in the gallery's Wolfe Den. The open house reception will be held amongst the "Wonderful World" of Priscilla's art works on Friday, July 7 at NWFA



Gallery, 210 S. River Street next to Dream-Weaver Spa and Salon from 5 to 7 p.m.

Better known at the gallery as the Volunteer Coordinator, Hiipakka is a dependable volunteer and new member of the board of directors. She has a busy complex family with lots of grandchildren. Despite all the aprons she wears,

Hiipakka is a dedicated, striving, prolifically talented artist. Visitors will enjoy her range of creativity!

Please visit this exhibit in July and the open house on Friday. NWFA provides support to about forty artists and provides classes and opportunities for new artists. The open hours for the gallery in summer are Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. You may register for classes there or call 218-666-2153.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Crane Lake Chapel Bazaar on July 19

CRANE LAKE- The Annual Crane Lake Chapel Bazaar is Wednesday July 19 from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. at 7399 Handberg Rd. Organizers are accepting quality donations of items for the event, and ask that clothes and electronic items, including TVs and CD and VHS players, not be donated. Donations can be brought to the firehouse back garage. Enjoy shopping, raffles, and lunch. There will be books, crafts, and baked goods for sale in the Chapel. Across the street at the Fire Hall you will discover antiques and other "used treasures". Raffles are going on as well with \$5 tickets already available for purchase. You can win a gorgeous handmade quilt, a hard shell Yeti cooler, a large Lily Pad floating mat, a free day on Pine Points pontoon, and other gift certificates and generous prizes. Join us July 19 for fun, food, and fellowship.



Upcoming events listed for NWFA

COOK- Northwoods Friends of the Arts has a busy schedule of activities ahead.

►WRITERS MEET —Saturday, July 8 from 2-4 p.m. at the gallery, open to all interested writers and no registration required.

►PAINTING WITH DIANE LEVAR — Monday, July 10 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., paint water lilies at the Cook Community Center, 510 Gopher Dr., Cook. Registration required, call 218-666-2153.

► QUILTING CLASS/HEARTS —

Wednesday and Thursday, July 12-13; 10 a.m.-4 p.m. each day at the gallery. Registration required, call 218-666-2153.

► L I N O C U T / B L O C K P R I N T I N G — Saturday, July 15 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the gallery. Lyn Reed, instructor. Registration required, call 218-666-2153.

►MAKE A FINNISH (TOSSUT) WOOL FELTED SLIPPER — Friday, July 21 with Sue Archibald at the NWFA Gallery. Bring a tote lid. Students may select wool color from Sue. Registration required, call 218-666-2153.

►BEGINNING WATERCOLOR WITH LYN REED—Thursday, July 27 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. This free curious and creative class is open to students from age 7 to 90 but

registration is required. Call 218-666-2153.

NWFA Gallery at 210 S. River St. is open from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and Saturdays from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. 50/50 raffle tickets and tickets for the Aug. 11 concert event are available. See more information at www.nwfamn.org, and on Facebook and Instagram. The email address is nwfamn.org@gmail.com.

Cook library offers summer programs

COOK- Summer is here, and the Cook Public Library is offering programs and activities for all ages.

Preschool-Elementary: Come to the library and pick up reading materials, including a free

book for preschool and elementary readers. Preschoolers get to color in a circle every time they read. Elementary-aged kids are challenged to get a BINGO through reading books and doing activities.

Completion prizes can be picked up between August 1 - 31.

Teens/Adults: Pick up a summer reading BINGO card, read or listen to 5 books to make a BINGO and return your card between August 1 - 31 to receive a prize.

July and August Events:

► July Take & Create Kit: Found Object Puppets (while supplies last)

► July 13: Story Time, 10 a.m.

► July 18: Minnesota Author Darrell J. Pederson, 2 p.m.

► July 20: Story Time, 10 a.m.

► July 25: Bubble Wonders, 3 p.m.

► July 27: Story Time, 10 a.m.

► Aug. 2: Forest Service Program, Ungulates Love Forest Fires, 11 a.m.

► Aug. 3: Story Time, 10 a.m.

The Cook Public Library Summer Reading program is sponsored by the Friends of the Cook Public Library with funding support from the Cook Lions Club, United Way of NE MN, Dollar General Literacy Grant and individual donations.



Area St. Louis County Solid Waste and Recycling Facility site hours

Ash River Trail Canister Site
11391 Ash River Trail
Summer Hours
Wed: 1pm-4pm
Sat: 2:30pm-5:30pm

Kabetogama Lake Canister Site
10150 Gamma Rd
Summer Hours
Mon. & Wed: 9am-noon
Sat: 10:30am-1:30pm

Sturgeon Canister Site
8380 Hwy 73
Hours
Sun: 8am-noon

Orr Canister Site
4038 Hwy 53
Summer Hours
Tue: 9am-1pm, Thu: 2pm-7pm
Sat: 8am-noon, Sun: 10am-2pm

Portage Canister Site
6992 Crane Lake Rd.
Summer Hours
Tue: 2pm-6pm; Thu: 10am-1pm,
Sat: 1pm-5pm; Sun: 3pm-6pm

County 77 Canister Site
2038 County Rd. 77
Summer Hours
Tue: 1-6pm, Thu: 8am-1pm
Sat: 8am-5pm, Sun: noon-6pm

Cook Transfer Station
2134 S. Beatty Rd.
Hours
Mon: 10am-6pm
Tues thru Sat: 9am-3:30pm

Regional Landfill
5341 Regional Landfill Rd, Virginia
Hours
Mon-Fri: 8am-4:30pm
Sat: 8am-3:30pm

St. Louis County Environmental Services Department
1-800-450-9278
Office hours 8-4:30 Mon. thru Fri.
stlouiscountymn.gov/recycle

Household Hazardous Waste Facilities
5345 Regional Landfill Rd., Virginia
Tue, Sat: 8am-1pm

3994 Landfill Rd, Hibbing
Sat: 8am-1pm

Summer hours effective April 15th through September 30th



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ELY FOLK SCHOOL

Kids Makers Morning classes are wide ranging

by JEN SHUSTER-DAHLIN
Staff Writer

ELY — For five days a week this summer, local kids will have the opportunity at the Ely Folk School to learn various arts, crafts, and life skills at the Kids Makers Morning class. The class has returned for this summer after a smaller version was tried in 2022.

A team effort between the folk school and Ely Community Resource, the class is a summer-long program for children between the ages of 3 and 12 where children learn fun and valuable skills like gardening and foraging and creating various art projects such as pressing flowers and creating model canoes out of birch bark.

“The mission of Kids Makers Morning classes is to forge community and connection to place through craft and to offer opportunities to foster creative spirit through exploring new hands-on skills, materials, and hobbies,” said folk school director Melissa Soderstrom.

Jen Toddie and Bekah Lunn are leading this year’s class. Toddie has an extensive background in education and has taught subjects such as social studies, yoga, and reading and



Kids work on a wide variety of projects and explorations as part of the classes being offered for kids at the Ely Folk School. photo by J. Shuster-Dahlin

writing to various age groups. Lunn is an artist who brought her own kids to last year’s makers class. This year, she utilizes her specialties in herbalism, printing, and exploring the natural world to contribute to the class projects. Toddie and Lunn were both volunteers at last year’s program before being hired as instructors.

Due to the program’s immense popularity, registration for the whole summer class is closed for registration but, on Mondays, five spots are opened for the 7-12 age group

for the Friday morning class. The class is divided into groups: “The Chickadees,” the 3-6-year-olds, and “The Warblers,” ages 7-12-year-olds. The Chickadees are capped at 11 kids, and the Warblers are capped at 30 kids. Each week the groups do a project based on a theme.

For the week of June 19-23, to celebrate the summer solstice, the older kids’ group made beeswax luminaries (wax candle holders) and window stars, and the younger group made paper lanterns.

The classes are free to students because of funding from the Arrowhead Regional Arts Council, a nonprofit organization based out of Duluth that supports local arts through grants, workshops, and other similar assistance. Soderstrom said the combination of open registration on Mondays and a no-cost class gives families in the area flexibility over the summer months.

“We wanted to be able to give more people a chance to join, people who didn’t care about registration opening. If people have visiting friends or who are up for the week, we think it’s really valuable for local kids to be able to engage and interact with visiting kids, so the drop-in structure is a way we are trying to accommodate that, despite our limited resources, space, and funding. The main point is each week having the space for kids to come and try new things and work with their hands and have a space outside of school, outside of their home, where they can feel comfortable asking questions and engaging.”

Soderstrom said the program was brought back because of high demand and its positive impact on the community.

“We were really excited

by how much of an impact the program was able to make last summer and how grateful families seemed to be to have this free, artistic option for kids, and we recognized that we could continue to develop and expand it, which is why we hired coordinators and why we ended up creating a registration system. Last year it got a little bit hectic with so many different ages; it was really fun, but this year we thought, ‘let’s separate it,’ we can put resources into it because this is clearly a community need. We value getting everyone exposed to folk art and working with your hands, and discovering what you can do, whether it’s washing dishes, or working with beeswax, or making your own decorations. Kids as young as three realize that they are capable and have a lot of power within their own hands. They can do a lot for themselves.”

The 2023 Kids Makers Morning course began on June 16 and runs Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to noon, until Aug. 25. Visit elyfolkschool.org to learn more about the course or other courses offered at the folk school.

POOR TASTE

Profanity-laced flag mars Ely kids activities on the 4th

by CATIE CLARK
Ely Editor

ELY- Residents in Ely were unhappy over the appearance of a profanity-laced flag that a homeowner located across the street from Whiteside Park erected here on July 4.

The house is located less than 50 yards from where the Christian youth group Young Life had set up games for kids in the park from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

During the entire time that Young Life had their games set up, the residents at 26 8th Ave. E. hosted a party in their front yard. Prominently displayed from the flagpole in the house’s yard was a “F**k Biden” flag, where every child in the park could easily observe it. The actual flag included the full profanity without the editing

provided by the *Timberjay*.

The flag, its location, and the timing of its appearance, shocked and upset many Ely residents and others who attended the Fourth of July parade and other activities, many of which were focused at the park.

It also brought uncomplimentary attention to Ely when a photo of the house and its flag appeared on reddit.com. A picture of the house’s front yard showing the parade seating and the flag was posted to the r/minnesota subreddit by user SamWise050 between noon and 1 p.m. Before the day was over, the post had garnered 559 comments and over 2.1 k upvotes.

SamWise050 commented on his post: “I could do without the ‘F**k Biden’ flag at a parade. It’s not as bad as a naked man

on a bike but still something kids don’t need to see.”

The comments on the post mostly reiterated the post’s remark about the

inappropriate display with so many children present, or they made humorous comments regarding the flag and the person who

decided to fly it.

Reflective of the general disgust that viewers posted in the wake of the subreddit post, one user

remarked, “I live here and it is embarrassing. Didn’t even bother with the parade due to this kind of behavior.”

Bubble Fun at area libraries



to inspire others to follow their dreams. Geoff Akins combines incredible bubble wizardry with whimsical words of wisdom and will leave the audience feeling like anything truly is possible! This free program is 45 minutes and family-friendly for ages 4 to adult.

MT. IRON- The Arrowhead Library System (ALS) is pleased to present “Bubble Wonders,” a free program being offered at the following locations:

- Tuesday, July 11, 3:30 p.m. at the International Falls Public Library
- Wednesday, July 12, 3:30 p.m. at the Mt. Iron Public Library
- Thursday, July 13, 10:30 a.m. at the Virginia Public Library
- Monday, July 24, 10 a.m. at the Babbitt Public Library
- Monday, July 24, 3:30 p.m. at the Ely Public Library
- Tuesday, July 25, 3 p.m. at the Cook Public Library

“Bubble Wonders” is an uplifting show, full of surprises, using bubbles

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Vivaldi's *Four Seasons* with NLMF Orchestra and Alexander Markov, soloist
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JULY 10 • 7PM Ely

Rachmaninoff 150 Festival
JULY 12 • 7PM Virginia
JULY 19 • 7PM Ely

Opera Arias
JULY 18 • 7PM Ely
with our Opera Apprentices

Winners Concert
CONCERTO COMPETITION WINNERS
JULY 20 • 7PM
At the iconic Hibbing High School Auditorium

Puccini
LA BOHÈME

JULY 14 • 7PM Aurora
JULY 16 • 3PM Chisholm
Full Sets, Costumes and Orchestra
Conductor: Gavriel Heine

La boheme for Tweens and Teens
JULY 13 • 3:00PM Aurora
One hour abridged version with full sets, costumes & orchestra performed by the NLMF Opera Apprentices

THIS ACTIVITY IS MADE POSSIBLE 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.

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SALE...Continued from page 1

the channel that provides direct boat access in summer and snowmobile access in winter to Lake Vermilion. Popular hiking and cross-country ski trails lie within just half a mile.

“There’s so much opportunity that wasn’t happening, it just didn’t seem fair not to move this forward,” Kujawa added.

Kujawa and Jellish have formed a new LLC, Marjo RE, to oversee the project, and Kujawa said he hopes to move forward with the project with deliberation. “Once we finalize the best concept, we’ll set a steady plan to get it done.”

While plans for the site are still under development, initial concept drawings show a primary access off of Marina Drive, which will lead to the hotel along with several tiers of homes that will follow the elevation contours of the property, which slopes gradually toward the East Two River. The site includes more than 1,100 feet of river frontage and the plan envisions a series of cabins aligned along the river. A paved path would connect the site to both the harbor and Your Boat Club.

“The final plan is obviously a ways away, but I like the current concept,” said Kujawa. The synergy between the boat club and the development is obvious, since the site is likely to include a number of short-term rental units or hotel rooms that will be available for use by members of the boat club. “It will certainly add more traffic to the marina,” said Kujawa. With the marina renting both boats and ATVs, “the marina will really become a hub of that activity,” he



added.

Orlyn Kringstad, of Tower, who helped arrange the sale, has signed a consulting agreement with Kujawa and Jellish to assist in managing development of the site. Kringstad is also expected to continue to lease and operate the Marjo Motel.

“This goes back to the original Tower Vision 2025 plan, which was to do the harbor first and then hop over and do harbor north,” said Kringstad. “It may be five years later than we had hoped, but I’m pleased to see it finally moving forward.”

TEDA role likely

The Tower Economic Development Authority may also play a role in shaping the development. A five-acre parcel that TEDA purchased from St. Louis

County in 2020 provides a convenient access point and additional developable property for the Marjo group and Kringstad has already submitted a letter on the group’s behalf asking to purchase the 5.02-acre TEDA site. The letter describes “an affordable home development, senior living housing, riverside cottages, and a 16-unit Marjo Hotel.”

Any potential sale of the TEDA property would likely be subject to a development agreement which would give TEDA input into the design and the timing of construction. Kringstad’s letter confirms that the group is interested in meeting with TEDA soon to present their development concepts as part of reaching an agreement for acquisition of the acreage.

The development, once completed, would likely bring well over \$10 million in tax base to the city of Tower.

TEDA officials and Kringstad have already met with officials from the Department of Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation to discuss a water and sewer extension to the site.

Local plant a wild card

Kringstad said the years of delay in the development at the harbor may ultimately yield an unexpected benefit—the importation of a Norwegian-based small home and cabin manufacturer to the area in another potential deal being brokered by Kringstad and his Norwegian business partner Lars Hanstad.



Left: An early concept drawing of the development planned for the property recently purchased by the owners of Your Boat Club. The final plan may look considerably different.

Above: A cabin manufactured by Tinde-Hytter, a Norwegian company considering locating a plant in Tower.

next year. Company management has expressed strong interest in the idea and pledged a financial commitment to equip a new facility here.

The plan still faces challenges, not the least of which is finding or building a facility large enough to house the operation, which would likely employ 15-20 people, not including local contractors.

Given the region-wide housing shortage, the possibility of bringing a manufacturer of well-designed and energy efficient homes to the area has piqued the interest of development officials as far away as Duluth as well as area trade unions, which are excited at the possibility that the location of a plant in the region could help jumpstart new home construction in the region. Given that possibility, a second Tinde Hytter plant, most likely located in Duluth, is already under consideration.

While the price tag for the Tinde-Hytter homes isn’t known at this point, Kringstad is hopeful that the relatively small square footage of the units will keep the price affordable.

MINING...Continued from page 1

that the DNR’s determination was flawed.

The contested case process will allow all parties involved to present evidence, including documents and witness testimony, supporting their claims. An administrative law judge will review the evidence and issue findings of fact and possible recommendations.

As part of a 2020 lawsuit testing the protections offered under the Minnesota Environmental Rights Act, or MERA, NMW succeeded in getting the DNR to re-examine its

mining rules and determine whether they were adequate to protect the BWCAW from the effects of the Twin Metals’ mine. The group also won the right to require a contested case if it disagreed with the DNR’s determination on the adequacy of the state’s mining rules.

The DNR subsequently determined that its rules are inadequate to protect the Boundary Waters from noise and light pollution from a mine but found that its rules—which require no degradation of wilderness waters—were adequate to

protect the BWCAW.

In its original lawsuit, NMW 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 within the Rainy River headwaters. But the DNR determined otherwise, concluding that the existing rules, “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 any measurable impact on waters of the BWCAW.” NMW says it supports that policy objective but argues that while the DNR’s rules may appear strict on paper, there’s no way to really enforce them once a mine is built within the watershed.

According to a statement, NMW says its case is not about whether the DNR should revise its mine

siting rules to make a new, stricter policy, but about the need to revise the existing rules to actually guarantee implementation of the policies that have already been enacted by Congress and the Minnesota Legislature. “DNR’s decision that existing water quality standards are sufficiently protective of the Boundary Waters assumes that nothing will ever go wrong—that no human errors will take place and that unforeseen natural problems, whether resulting from climate change or the ordinary vagaries of weather and geography, will never occur,” notes NMW in a press statement. “It assumes that there will be no engineering, mechanical, or technical failures. Unfortunately, toxic sulfide-ore copper mining always pollutes water. One hundred percent of sulfide-ore copper mines have resulted in surface or groundwater pollution.”



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ELY WATER...Continued from page 1

cost of \$4.5 million. The prospects for the funding aren't clear, since Congress typically receives many more requests for project earmarks than it ultimately funds."

Despite Langowski's caution on funding, an application for the money to replace the water intake line is already in progress.

Boaters on Burntside Lake may have noticed the 92-year-old structures that support the city's water intake line across the open waters of the lake and the Burntside River. A simple visual inspection of the ancient wooden pilings that support the water line is all that is needed to see why Ely wants to modernize the structure and pipe.

Water from Shagawa

Ely originally established its first water supply intakes much closer to home, in Shagawa Lake near where Semers Park is today. The water was pumped to a small concrete-floored holding reservoir at Ely's first water supply plant, at "the foot of Chapman Street," as reported in the June 24, 1889 issue of the *Duluth Evening Herald*. From there it was pumped to a wooden water tower next to city hall.

Given the primitive state of wastewater treatment back when Ely was founded, the water quality in Shagawa Lake began to deteriorate quickly during Ely's first three decades as the community failed to recognize the problems inherent in using the lake as both a source of drinking water and the destination for its nearly raw sewage.

An early sign of trouble was reported in the July 14, 1916, issue of the *Ely Miner*. "On June 21, an investigation was undertaken on the public water supply, at the request of the health officers. The supply was obtained from Shagawa Lake and subjected to filtration and disinfection. The field investigation showed that the purification treatment was being applied in a satisfactory manner, but that an unsanitary condition was being produced by the maintenance of an emergency connection with the lake. In the analytical results, indications of contamination were not found in the treated supply. It was recommended that the emergency intakes to the lake be disconnected from the clean water pumps."

As problems continued, the city called a special city council meeting on July 19, 1918, in order to approve the solicitation of bids for new water supply piping and the addition of a sedimentation tank to help filter the city's potable water.

Shagawa water degrades

By 1928, water from Shagawa Lake was getting noticeably worse. On Nov. 9, 1928, the *Ely Miner* reported that the Minnesota Health Department was in Ely "for a week investigating the Ely water supply and trying to figure out a method to rid the water of the mouldy (sic) taste which persists in remaining. Previous tests have proven the water fit for drinking purposes with no



The piers supporting Ely's water intake line as they cross the open water of Burntside Lake. The structure seen here was built 1931-32. The water line updated in the 1970s is in the wooden box sitting on the top of the piers. This photo was taken during a city inspection of the intake structure during the summer of 2022. photo by Harold Langowski

evil effects but the mouldy (sic) taste remains however, although the volume of the taste has been cut down to a minimum."

By the summer of 1930, the quality had deteriorated still further. The *Ely Miner* wrote, "Two years ago the local water supply became highly objectionable... due to certain algae or minute plant growths in the lake, which gave off foul-smelling and (foul-)tasting volatile oils. A general public demand that something be done... and has persisted since that time."

The same article also mentioned the push to get Ely's water from a different lake like Burntside or from wells, noting that "a natural assumption (is) that sewage from the city (was) entering the lake."

The newspaper went on to report that the same kind of purification plant would be necessary for Burntside Lake water as was being used for water from Shagawa because similar contaminating material is present in each lake. The paper reported the cost of reaching Burntside Lake with a pipeline would be in excess of \$200,000. At the time, because of Ely's foul water, the city was already using a sedimentation basin, filtering, and a new experimental chlorine and ammonia treatment. The *Ely Miner* reported,

"The object of this (treatment) is to kill harmful bacteria and wipe out odors and tastes. This treatment has thus far been very satisfactory and Ely is one of very few cities in the entire country and the first in the state to use such a water purification process and this method is regarded as the last word in water purification... 25 years ago Ely was the first city in the state to put into operation a water filter."

The *Ely Miner* also

wrote that the state health department testing showed the water was safe to drink after passing through Ely's drinking water treatment measures, despite its lousy smell and taste. "It should be needless to state in conclusion, but still it seems necessary, that persons going to springs and poorly-constructed wells for drinking water are sacrificing the safety offered by our city water supply to overcome what appears to us at present an imaginary distaste for the public water supply."

The move to Burntside

After years of discussion and community pressure, the city council resolved to spend the money to build a water intake line to Burntside Lake. The *Ely Miner* reported on Jan. 23, 1931, "City water has occupied the attention of the city fathers for several years and the several councils have

put in many sleepless nights trying to figure out some method of overcoming the criticisms aimed at them by reason of the medicinal taste in the water on several occasions."

The decision came as Otto E. Brownell of the state health department recommended piping water in from Burntside Lake, which he said would save the city the "very heavy expense" of more rigorous treatment of the sewage that the city dumped into Shagawa Lake.

It was a time of burgeoning population growth in Ely, which only added to the pollution problem in Shagawa. Ely's population peaked with the 1930 U.S. census count at 6,156, an increase of over a thousand from the 1920 census. The population spike impacted the volume of water needed in Ely. For the first time since the city was founded, water use exceeded "the amazing totals of 1 million

gallons a day" several times a year, according to reports at the time. The city council recognized that despite its efforts to filter and treat the water from Shagawa, the lake could no longer meet the city's needs for drinking water.

At a special city council meeting in January, 1931, the council bit the fiscal

bullet and resolved to build a water line to Burntside Lake by that summer. The current water intake structure was completed in 1932.

The 1931-32 construction and subsequent updates of the water intake line to Burntside will be subject of an upcoming *Timberjay* article later this summer.

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TOWER-SOUDAN

Fourth of July attendance exceeds expectations

by JODI SUMMIT
Tower-Soudan Editor

TOWER-SOUDAN- The Sunday afternoon community picnic in Soudan might have been one for the record books. It featured 600 freshly-grilled hot dogs, 22 gallons of ice cream that made hundreds and hundreds of ice cream floats (root beer or orange), and a steady supply of water powering old-fashioned water toys to keep the youngsters happy and cool.

Breitung Township sponsors the picnic each year, and township officials and staff keep busy for three hours grilling up and serving hot dogs and all the fixings. A dedicated crew of volunteers spent the same amount of time scooping up the ice cream floats, with help from some younger volunteers who served them outdoors. The ice cream ran out a little earlier than the hot dogs, even though they had upped the total number of gallon tubs from 17 to 22 this year.

The picnic was the kick-off for this year's Fourth of July celebration, organized by the Tower-Soudan Lake Vermilion Events Board. Jolene Mroszak ably took over the leadership spot from Julie Johnson. The parade was perfectly timed, featured three live bands, Shriners, plenty of floats, fire engines, and enough candy to keep every single one of the kids in attendance wired for days.

After forecasts threatening severe weather for



Parade Marshals Al and MaryBeth Reller waved to the crowds lining the street. Below: Daphne and Clark Mayo enjoyed a nice cold snow cone.
photos by J. Summit.



days in advance, the day began cooler and drier than the previous week, perfect weather for the 40th annual Vermilion 5K/10K race. Attendance was high. Racers ranged in age from under 10 to over 70. Race day reg-

istration went smoothly, with over 80-percent of the 250-plus participants signing up that morning. The race is a family favorite, and some runners have been participating in the race since the 1980s, when it first began.

Lines stretched out of the pancake breakfast, sponsored by the Tower-Soudan Civic Club, from when it opened at 8 a.m., serving at least 500 people. Luckily, they didn't run out of pancakes, but it was close.

The kiddie parade got the Main Street crowds warmed up for all the action. There were bikes, scooters, wagons, and floats. The event committee had prepared participation prizes for almost 200 children, but ran out and then scrambled, with help from adults watching nearby to get the additional five dollars each for all the marchers. The main parade kicked off exactly at 11 a.m. with Color Guard members Rod Politano and George Mihelich leading the way. Al and MaryBeth Reller got a lot of waving in as they acted as this year's parade marshals. This year's honored citizen was the late Carol Alstrom, long-time teacher at the Tower-Soudan School.

Brotten Construction once again showed off their formidable float-creating process, winning best business float and best of show. Their WWE-themed float featured costumed wrestlers, colored smoke, and a rather impressive amount of brightly-colored confetti blown up in the air.

The most daring float featured a Lamppa Kuuma sauna stove, wood fire burning hot, with owner Garrett Lamppa pouring water onto the hot stones, creating steam and dreams of an end-of-the-day re-

laxing sauna time. Josh Hasbrook, from Vermilion Tree Service, traversed the parade route belaying off the side of his tree service crane truck.

There was kettle corn, shaved ice, ice cream, fish tacos, fried cookie dough, lots of sandwich options, and of course, beer and green-colored alcoholic beverages.

The fighter wing flyover was a little later than usual and flew over Main Street right around 12 noon. As if to make up for their late entrance after the end of the parade, the two jets did a low-flying circle around town, raising a lot of heads.

Attendance at the children's races was amazing. At least half of the football field, as well as the entire set of bleachers, were filled with children and their family members. Kids were still digging in the sawdust scramble pile as the races were underway, and were still finding plenty of coins. Many of this year's volunteers said they decided to help out because they remember how much they loved these races

when they were kids. The weather, though starting to get cloudy, remained dry until the races were over.

A light rain settled in late afternoon, but by that time Main Street was quiet, the Tower Fire Department's beer garden tent was closed, with noises still filtering down from the karaoke at Good Ol' Days and beer garden at D'Ericks.

Fireworks were scheduled to be shot off in Big Bay on July 5, thanks to sponsorship by the Lake Vermilion Resort and Tourism Association, spreading out the fun an additional day.

The entire celebration is organized by the Tower-Soudan Lake Vermilion Events Board, a volunteer-run nonprofit that raises the funds needed to put on the event each year. Donations are still needed, and can be mailed to TSLVEB, PO Box 461, Tower, MN 55790.

Watch for the Vermilion Run results and children's races results in next week's paper.

Obituaries and Death Notices

Patricia Mason

Patricia Griffis Waisanen Mason died on Wednesday, Feb. 15, 2023, at her home in Albany, Ore. A celebration of life will be held on Sunday, July 16 from 12 noon to 3 p.m. at the Embarrass Town Hall.

She is survived by four children, Candace Dale, George Curtis Waisanen (Jill), James Waisanen (Wendy) and Holly Waisanen; three brothers, Donald, Harold (Dick) and Curtis Griffis, all of Montana; seven grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Melia Shikonya

Melia Palo Shikonya, 78, of Ely, originally of Soudan, passed away on Friday, June 23, 2023, surrounded by her beloved family. Her life will be celebrated at St. Anthony's Catholic Church on Thursday, July 13 with visitation at 10 a.m., Mass at 11 a.m., burial following Mass at the Ely Cemetery, and lunch following burial at St. Anthony's Catholic Church. Funeral arrangements are by Landmark Funeral Home in Virginia.

She is survived by her husband of 60 years, Anthony Shikonya; daughter, Lisa (Kevin) Skule; son, Bob (Rose) Shikonya; grandchildren, Dylan (Nicole) Skule, Jonathan Skule (Maddy Finlayson), Riley, Reece and Rachel Shikonya and Ryan (Emma) Janssen; sister, Helen Huovinen; sisters-in-law, Etta Palo and Gen Palo; brother-in-law, Wendall Wilson; and numerous nieces and nephews with whom she was in continuous contact.

William L. Purdy

William Lee "Bill" Purdy, 88, originally of Orr, passed away peacefully at his home in Apache Junction, Ariz., surrounded by family on Wednesday, June 21, 2023. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, July 29 at Holy Cross Catholic Church in Orr. Visitation will be held one hour prior at 9 a.m. at the church. Lunch and fellowship will continue immediately after the service at the American Legion in Orr. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in Bill's name to the American Cancer Society.

He is survived by his loving wife, Maxine Hall Purdy; daughter, Teresa DuMarce; son, Jeff (Wendy) Purdy; grandchil-

dren, William Purdy and Tiffany (Jethro) Davis; great-grandsons, Jacob Davis and Logan Davis; and many special nieces and nephews.

Joan M. Lamppa

Joan "Joanie" Marie Engstrom Lamppa, 87, of Virginia, passed away at her home on Thursday, May 18, 2023. Services were held on Sunday, July 2 at Grand Ely Lodge. Family services were provided by Bauman-Cron, a Bauman Family Funeral Home in Virginia.

She is survived by her devoted husband, Harry; loving daughter, Renee and son-in-law Alan; precious grandchildren, Jonathan Fotopoulos (Sara), Katelyn Hogan (Daniel), Olivia Johnson; and be-

loved great-grandchildren, Aurora, Tommy, Hayden, James and Mary; as well as many nieces and nephews.

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Saturday, July 15, 2023 • McKinley Park Campground

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INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

LET FREEDOM RING!

Scenes from Fourth of July celebrations around the area



Photos by Timberjay staff



Top left: The Ely honor guard marches in the front of the Ely parade.

Top center: Riding a pony at Orr's July 3 Fun Day.

Top right: Nicholas Mullen enjoyed cooled down during the Breitung Community Picnic.

Above: The Rock Ridge marching band performed in Tower and Ely.

Above right: A parade-goer in Orr reacts to flying candy.

Above right: Layla Vraa gets a ride on her father Jack's shoulders at the Tower parade.

Right: Shriners at the Ely parade.

Left: Ariya Nieuwenhuis takes advantage of a mother lode of candy at the Tower parade.



Far left: John Eloranta takes a family photo with Rep. Pete Stauber and his mother Corky, wife Megan, and son Brooks.



Left: Brynlee Benck in her patriotic glasses.

Below: Thea Desannoy smiles as she shows off her big bag of candy.

Lower left and center: Crazy getups are always in fashion with the Ely Klown Band.





Outdoors

Our lives in the
Northwoods

RESEARCH

Study offers new hope for buckthorn control

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

REGIONAL— New research from the University of Minnesota offers hope for more effective control measures against the invasive shrub European buckthorn. The plant is a widespread problem throughout much of Minnesota, although it has only recently begun to gain a foothold in northeastern Minnesota.

For years, those

working to eradicate buckthorn had targeted larger, seed-bearing shrubs for control. They had largely ignored smaller shrubs under the mistaken belief that seeds would remain viable in the soil for up to six years. Rather than control the small shrubs immediately, managers would return year after year to control sites for up to five years, and only control the small shrubs in the final control effort.

Yet, new research, published in the journal *Biological Invasions*, suggests that approach wasted time and control resources, thereby giving an advantage to the buckthorn. The latest research confirmed that buckthorn seeds, in reality, only remain viable for about a year, which means control efforts can be completed in a roughly two-year cycle, rather than five or six years.

The researchers believe the prevailing belief on the

Right: The dark green oval leaves, and green berries that turn black as they ripen, are indicative of the European buckthorn.

file photo

longevity of buckthorn seeds came from the misreading of a 1997 newspaper article, which was picked up in a municipal report which was later

See **STUDY**...pg. 5B



ICONIC SPECIES

MONARCH SUMMER

Monarch numbers have spiked in the North Country. That seems like good news.

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

While the long-term prospects for the monarch butterfly remain in doubt, there is evidence that the individual efforts of people who care about this remarkable insect are making a difference.

The good news is that monarch butterflies and their larvae are being seen in huge numbers in many parts of the North Country this year.

"It's just been unbelievable," said Kelly Dahl, of Linden Grove, who has seen some of the volunteer milkweed plants near his high tunnel chewed right down to the stalk by monarch caterpillars, which are readily identifiable by their unique yellow, black, and white striping.

He's actually gathered and moved hundreds of the larvae in recent days to a larger patch of milkweed nearby, so they have enough food to make it to the pupal stage and to be less visible to potential predators.

Dahl said he's never seen a year with so many monarch caterpillars and it's a hopeful sign after last year, when the butterflies and their larvae were relatively hard to find in the region.

Chip Hanson is an Ely veterinarian but he's also a close observer of the natural world. He agrees with Dahl

that this year has seen a remarkable resurgence in monarch numbers— at least here in northeastern Minnesota. "One day, I counted 135 [monarch] caterpillars in my garden," Hanson said. "I've never had anything close to that before."

Monarch numbers can vary significantly from year-to-year in part because they're subject to the vagaries of wind currents. This year, the winds seem to have brought them to the North Country in exceptional numbers. That could be a fluke, or a sign that the species might be doing better than a decade ago, when numbers plummeted, raising public concern that the population was finally succumbing to a series of stressors.

It's well known that the monarch population has been in trouble, so much so that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is considering protection under the Endangered Species Act.

Habitat loss is one of the biggest factors in the decline of the species in recent years, but most experts on the species see climate change as the biggest long-term threat. While there's little individuals can do by themselves to reduce the effects of climate change, that's not the case with habitat destruction. Individuals and organizations throughout North America have taken it upon themselves to grow milkweed, the plant upon which the monarch life

See **MONARCHS**...pg. 5B



Top: A single milkweed plant in Linden Grove is devoured by monarch caterpillars.

photo by K. Dahl

Above: A just-emerged monarch butterfly sits at a Tower residence as its wings dry.

Left: A monarch caterpillar forms a "J" as it prepares to form its chrysalis. Two other chrysalises hang nearby in an enclosure in Tower.

photos by M. Helmberger

Wildflower Watch

This week's featured flower
BLUE FLAG IRIS



The **Blue Flag Iris**, *Iris versicolor*, is one of our showiest wildflowers and it's one that definitely prefers wet feet.

It's easily recognized by its large pale blue-to-violet blossoms which measure three-to-four inches across as well as by the contrasting purple and white veining toward the center of the flower.

The light green, saber shaped leaves are another distinctive feature of this species, one of only two native irises in Minnesota and the only one found typically in northern Minnesota.

Outdoors briefly

Burning restrictions lifted in NE

REGIONAL— Recent rains have allowed land management agencies throughout northeastern Minnesota to lift burning restrictions that were imposed back in June.

The restrictions were lifted effective on Monday, July 3, just in time for a busy Fourth of July holiday, a time when many Minnesota families are spending time outdoors.

The recent rains reduced, but did not eliminate, the wildfire danger, according to the Department of Natural Resources. As of early this week, the fire danger was listed as moderate thanks to recent rains and high humidities.

The DNR will continue to monitor conditions and will adjust county-specific burning restrictions as necessary. You can check the current fire danger and see where burning restrictions might be in effect at mndnr.gov/burnrestrictions.

The lifting of burning restrictions aligns with lifting of restrictions by the U.S. Forest Service for the Superior National Forest and the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. Restrictions have also been lifted in Voyageurs National Park and on lands that are part of northeastern Minnesota tribal nations.

Fishing reports

Ely area

Walleye fishing is starting to show signs of improvement on many area lakes, as the mayfly hatch is beginning to wrap up. Anglers have been having to work hard for each and every fish where the mayflies are plentiful. On lakes where the hatch hasn't happened or has already wrapped up, anglers have been catching good numbers of walleyes. Anglers on all lakes have been finding walleyes in 15-20 feet of water, on top of sunken islands. Orange, gold, pink and blue colored jigs, tipped with leeches or crawlers, have been the ticket. Spinner rigs have also accounted for a fair share of walleyes.

Pike fishing was excellent this last week for a lot of anglers. While there weren't too many reports of fish over 34" being caught, good numbers were had by just about everyone targeting pike. Classic pike presentations like spoons, buzz baits, spinnerbaits and suckers fished under a bobber, kept pike anglers busy all of last week. Weed beds, mouths of shallow bays and areas where water enters the lake, are places to focus on pike.

Topwater fishing for smallies continues to be hot

and popular among anglers. Anglers continue to find big smallies along shorelines with boulder flats, rocky points and downed trees. Ned rigging, wacky worms and spinners continue to be very effective on smallies as well in those same areas.

Stream trout fishing has started to slow up this last week for many trout anglers. As surface temps continue to climb, trout are forced deeper to find their preferred temperature. Anglers have been having the best luck fishing night crawlers 10-15 feet down, under a bobber.

Panfish fishing was a popular choice this past week as many anglers struggled to catch walleyes. As weed beds are established, finding panfish hasn't been too hard for most anglers. Small leeches are proving to be deadly on sunnies in these weed beds. Beetle spins, small spinners and angleworms or waxies fished under a bobber have also been effective. Crappies are also being caught on these same weed beds and same lures, but more often than not during the evening hours, just before dark.

Courtesy of Arrowhead Outdoors. See more at Arrowhead OutdoorsElyMN.com.

LAKE COUNTRY FORECAST

from NOAA weather

Friday					Saturday					Sunday					Monday					Tuesday				
74 51					72 50					75 53					70 47					71 48				
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.
06/26	63	57	0.17		06/26	65	58	0.20		06/26	63	58	0.14		06/26	81	57	0.65		06/26	65	58	0.92	
06/27	78	56	0.00		06/27	78	55	0.00		06/27	79	56	0.00		06/27	77	54	0.00		06/27	79	63	0.00	
06/28	78	58	0.24		06/28	80	58	1.29		06/28	81	55	0.22		06/28	66	59	0.13		06/28	77	56	0.17	
06/29	78	58	0.99		06/29	67	59	0.75		06/29	67	58	0.33		06/29	79	55	0.23		06/29	67	59	0.84	
06/30	74	57	0.40		06/30	81	51	0.16		06/30	81	56	0.18		06/30	79	55	0.52		06/30	78	49	0.05	
07/01	78	59	0.00		07/01	79	51	0.00		07/01	81	56	0.00		07/01	81	57	0.00		07/01	79	53	0.00	
07/02	79	56	0.00		07/02	80	49	0.00		07/02	80	56	0.00		07/02	84	54	0.00		07/02	80	49	0.00	
YTD Total	11.32				YTD Total	12.52				YTD Total	8.09				YTD Total	NA				YTD Total	10.53			

MONARCHS...Continued from page 2B

cycle depends. In gardens all across the country, particularly in the Midwest—the heart of monarch breeding territory— individuals have planted patches of milkweed in hopes of sustaining the population. It's a classic example of individual collective action and it may be making a difference.

Cathy Anderson, of Tower, is one who has turned her attention to the monarch. Just this week, Anderson was tending her roughly 225 square-foot patch of dense milkweed, which she planted just a few years ago in her small backyard. In the right conditions, milkweed will thrive and spread quickly, as Anderson's patch, which she grew from just two original plants, attests.

Around noon earlier this week, her patch was alive with monarch butterflies flitting about. She also maintains small, screened enclosures on her back patio, where she carefully places the monarch caterpillars she finds along with milkweed plants that she places inside. In the protection of the enclosures, the monarch caterpillars stand a much better chance of making it to their adult stage. Inside her enclosures were dozens of monarch caterpillars as well as chrysalises.

Anderson monitors the enclosures regularly and releases the butterflies once they have emerged



from their chrysalis.

Thousands of Americans are doing the same thing in an effort that is loosely organized at best, but is inspired by a shared awe for this iconic North American species.

Can it be enough to save this species from extinction? It certainly offers hope, as long as humans continue to interact meaningfully with the natural world, an open question in an age when so many youth seem lost in a virtual world.

On a broader scale, policy changes could make a difference. The widespread adoption of herbicide resistant crops as well as federal policies to encourage the production of renewable fuels, like ethanol, have

contributed to a dramatic decline of milkweed in agricultural regions. Farmers, who used to take advantage of programs like the Conservation Reserve Program, or CRP, which used to provide millions of acres for milkweed, have since put those acres back into commodity production, have eliminated vast amounts of monarch habitat.

The small patches now being grown in gardens all across the country are making a difference, but can they replace the truly vast amounts of milkweed lost in recent years? It's not clear, but one thing's for sure: The future of the monarch depends on it.

Correction

In a column last week on Lost Lake, it was erroneously stated that the Winnipeg River flows

into Lake Manitoba. It, of course, flows into Lake Winnipeg. The Timberjay regrets the error.

STUDY...Continued from page 4B

used as an authority for guidance from the U.S. Forest Service. That guidance failed to go back to older studies on the plant, which had indicated that the seeds were short-lived. It all created a conventional wisdom surrounding buckthorn that turned out to be wrong.

In fact, according to the study's lead author Michael Schuster, with the University of Minnesota's Department of Forest Resources, 97 percent of buckthorn seeds studied sprouted within the first year, with the remaining three percent sprouting within two years.

These findings suggest that a shorter period of more intense management that targets a broader range of buckthorn sizes may be sufficient to control existing buckthorn invasions. By also targeting small stems, management can be more effective since smaller plants are more vulnerable. This is also likely to lower overall management effort, although managers will need to be vigilant of stems that avoid treatment or seeds that are dispersed by birds.

The findings are important because they offer hope for better control of an invasive shrub that some fear could have ecosystem-wide implications in northeastern Minnesota.

"This should be good news for folks looking to remove buckthorn: you can cut down all the fruit-bearing trees and be confident that what remains after a year or two really is the extent of the problem. If we are more aggressive in those early interventions, we will likely have better outcomes compared to more selective approaches," said Schuster.

The invasive from hell

Buckthorn has a reputation as one of the invasive plants with the highest potential to devastate Minnesota forests. As the plant spreads, it crowds out other native understory plants, but its impact can go well beyond displacing native shrubs. According to longtime University of Minnesota forest ecologist Lee Frelich, buckthorn contains a toxin in its leaves known as emodin, which prevents native plants from

growing in the vicinity. The emodin also affects developing amphibians, like frog and toad tadpoles and salamanders, when it washes into nearby wetlands. The emodin also sickens birds, although it's not known to be fatal to them. Even so, Frelich said while most birds probably learn fairly quickly not to consume the berries— they likely don't learn until they've already spread some of the seeds. Not only are the buckthorn berries a poor food source

for birds, they have the potential to displace a number of native shrub species that do provide a major source of food for birds and many other species.

Frelich and others have been particularly concerned that buckthorn could become established in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness and the Superior National Forest, potentially impacting critical habitat for many species of wildlife.

Frelich notes that the buckthorn does best in partial shade, which he said is common in much of the Superior National Forest, because the rocky terrain creates a lot of open and semi-open areas, particularly under white pine, aspen, and paper birch. Those are the areas currently occupied by shrubs like blueberries, juneberries, pin cherries, chokecherries, and dogwood, all of which provide an abundance of wild foods for native birds.

If those shrubs are replaced by buckthorn, the impacts to native bird populations could be significant. And it isn't just the organisms we see that can be affected by buckthorn. Frelich notes that the presence of buckthorn alters the soil chemistry in a way that can impact the soil microorganisms as well as the fungi and the mycorrhizal connections between fungi and other plants.

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)

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PUBLIC NOTICE

STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF ST. LOUIS SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT DISTRICT COURT PROBATE DIVISION

will be appointed with full power to administer the Estate, including the power to collect all assets, to pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses...

Estate of Janice Jeweldene Johnson, Decedent

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

Notice is also given that (subject to Minnesota Statutes section 524.3-801) all creditors having claims against the Estate are required to present the claims to the Personal Representative or to the Court Administrator within four months after the date of this Notice...

BY THE COURT Michelle Anderson Judge of District Court Amy Turnquist Court Administrator Chelsea Opdahl, Deputy

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on July 24, 2023, at 9:30 a.m., a hearing will be held in this Court at Virginia, Minnesota, for the adjudication of intestacy and determination of heirship of the Decedent...

Attorney for Petitioner Angela E. Sipila Sipila Law Office, LLC 412 1st St. S. Virginia, MN, 55792 Attorney License No: 024501X Telephone: (281) 741-5000 FAX: (218) 741-5000 Email: ange@sipilaw.com

Published in the Timberjay, June 30 & July 7, 2023



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PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF FILING DATES FOR ELECTION TO THE SCHOOL BOARD INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 707 NETT LAKE STATE OF MINNESOTA

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the period for filing affidavits of candidacy for the office of school board member of Independent School District No. 707 shall begin on August 1, 2023, and shall close at 5:00 o'clock p.m. on August 15, 2023.

The general election shall be held on Tuesday, November 7, 2023. At that election, one member will be elected to the School Board to fill vacancy of term expiring the first Monday in January, 2025.

Affidavits of Candidacy are available from the school district clerk, Nett Lake School, 13090 Westley Drive, Nett Lake, MN 55772. The filing fee for this office is \$2.00. A candidate for this office must be an eligible voter, must be 21 years of age or more on assuming office...

The affidavits of candidacy must be filed in the office of the school district clerk and the filing fee paid prior to 5:00 o'clock p.m. on August 15, 2023.

Dated: June 12, 2023 BY ORDER OF THE SCHOOL BOARD Brian Whiteman, School District Clerk

Published in the Timberjay, July 7, 2023

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.

WAB OZC MZW ACG ENHCS ZDABE HSCAYZCOG: ENGYG MGGXM EA DG XAYG ENZC GCABSN EA SA ZYABCR. - IZXGM UGHVVGXZC

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Super Crossword

Answers

Grid of crossword answers: A B S C A M, A N A R M, A S I F, S C H, B R I D G E, E Y D I E, Z I N E, A L I, R O T R E S I S T A N T, P E T E R R L O G, A M A, S N O O T, P E T E R T O S H, M O T T S A P P L E S A U C E, A O N E, R A G E S, O P P, O R E I D A, A N T I G E N, G A R B A G E P I C K U P, D A R L A, O U S T, O R E L A P S, D O U B L E B U N K, B R O N C H I, E M M Y, E A T, B I E N, O P R A H, R I A, B L A R N E Y C A S T L E, I V E, S E N D A, I N N S, A U G, W O E D, R E L I V E D, B I L G E W A T E R, P I P E, A D A, S E V E, I L E N E, B R I A N M A L A R K E Y, S H E L D O N, J I M M I E, X I I, A P O L O, D I O N, B A L O N E Y S A N D W I C H, B E E F T R I P E, R E T I E, W I I, M S N, H O O S, N O N S E N S E W O R D, O C T, L U T E, B R I E R, T R A N C E, C E O, Y E A S, C R E S S, Y E N T A S



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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Chewable stick 4 Parisian river 9 Chaney of horror films 12 Links org. 13 Leek's kin 14 Rage 15 Food's freshness period 17 Hardly any 18 Call - day 19 Papa Hemingway 21 Boot camp reply 24 Swelled heads 25 Curator's concern 26 Mayo ingredient 28 "Bullitt" director Peter 31 Leeway 33 Hirohito's title (Abbr.) 35 Aspiration 36 Rapper's headgear 38 "Chandelier" singer 40 Stimp's pal 41 Christmas 43 Aged, in a way 45 As a whole 47 Perch 48 Zodiac feline

King Crossword grid with numbers 1-59 indicating starting positions for clues.

- 49 Novel storage area? 54 Buddy 55 Kate's sitcom partner 56 Aussie hopper 57 Fine, to NASA 58 Property claims 59 Chopper 5 Blow up sword 6 Sundial numeral 7 Type of checking 8 Vigor 9 Biography 10 Raw materials 11 Salamander 16 Fleur-de -- 20 Ham's dad 21 Three feet 22 Slang suffix 23 Tot's reading material 27 Baseball execs 29 Fencing 30 Fax 32 Manhandle 34 Football, slangily 37 Worldwide 39 Comes up 42 Dangerous bacteria 44 Sports fig. 45 Exile isle 46 Sleuth Wolfe 50 Flamenco cheer 51 Historic period 52 Bagel topper 53 Nemesis

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

9x9 Sudoku grid with numbers 5, 1, 9, 6, 4, 7, 3, 2, 8, 1, 7, 9, 6, 3, 2, 1, 5, 9, 8, 3, 2.

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

- ♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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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: G equals U

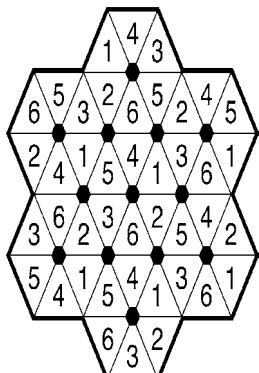
BFWZT FWTF NP COT G.M. QOTWT LTNLBT FBQFDM LGC PNWCO CNXM NP TPPNWC: COT ZWTFCLFYXM WTZYNX.

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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.

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.

AA MEETING IN COOK- Sunday Night Big Book Group meets at Trinity Lutheran Church, 231 2nd St. NE, Cook, at 7:00 pm Sunday.

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.

AA MEETING IN COOK- Sunday Night Big Book Group meets at Trinity Lutheran Church, 231 2nd St. NE, Cook, at 7:00 pm Sunday.

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

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

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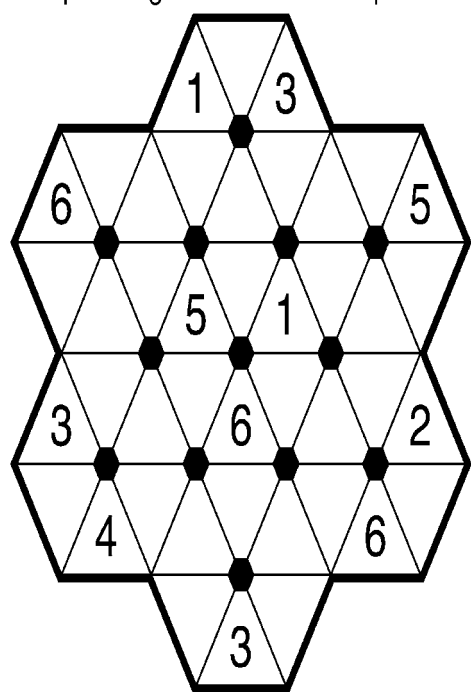
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Super Crossword IT'S MEANINGLESS

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

ACROSS 1 Carter-era FBI sting 7 "It costs — and a leg" 12 "Likely story!" 16 Learning inst. 19 Spanning structure 20 Gorme with Grammys 21 Mag online 22 Boxer Clay, renamed 23 Withstanding decay 25 Dak., in the 1800s 26 Sawmill item 27 Org. for drs. 28 Haughty type 29 Reggae singer with the Waiters 31 Pureed fruit product since the mid-1800s 36 Top-drawer 37 Is storming 38 Antonym: Abbr. 39 Maker of Tater Tots 41 It induces an immune response 44 Trash collection service 48 "Our Gang" girl

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CryptoQuip answer CryptoQuote answer Large area of the U.S. where people always put forth tons of effort: The Great Pains region. You can say one thing about ignorance: there seems to be more than enough to go around. - James Feibleman

Weekly SUDOKU Answer

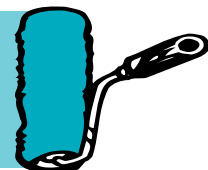
Sudoku grid with numbers 8, 2, 5, 1, 3, 9, 7, 6, 4 in the top row and other numbers in the rest of the grid.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100 101 102 103 104 105 106 107 108 109 110 111 112 113 114 115 116 117 118 119 120 121 122 123

King Crossword Answers Solution time: 22 mins. GUM SEINE LON PGA ONION IRE SHELFLIFE FEW



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