



Inside:
NLAA announces '24 season... See /3
Visit a state park for free... See /11
New sauna stove debuts... See /1B
Repairing aging bridges...See /1B

The **TIMBERJAY**



Serving the communities of northern St. Louis County since 1989 VOL. 34, ISSUE 46 November 24, 2023 \$1⁵⁰

PLANT HARDINESS ZONES

USDA climate map shows major warming in the state

Zone 4 now extends to the Mesabi Iron Range; Twin Cities in Zone 5

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
 Managing Editor

REGIONAL— The effects of climate change are, once again, apparent in the latest plant hardiness zone map update put out by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The hardiness map is used by plant growers to help guide their selections of perennial plants, such as fruit and ornamental trees, shrubs, and flowers.

The zone designations, which range from 1a to 13b, are based on the annual minimum temperatures experienced within the zone.

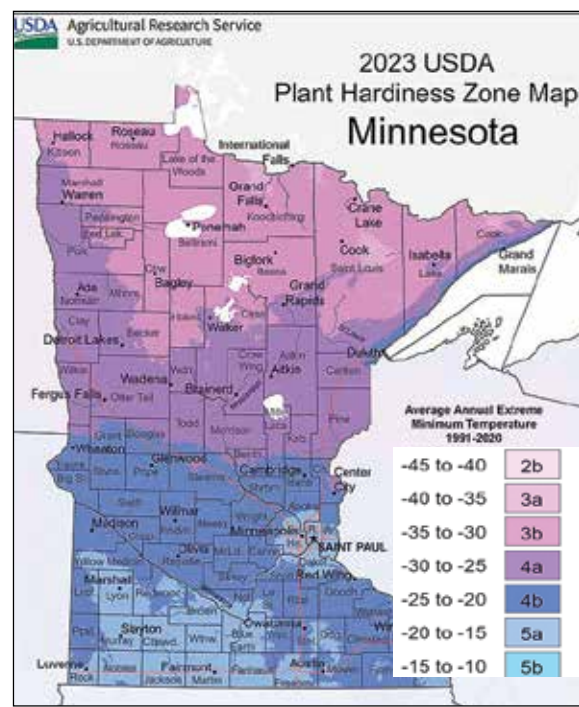
It's updated by the USDA periodically and it has provided a highly accurate portrait of the warming climate in recent decades as the zones have marched steadily northward.

The 2023 map, released this past week, again shows major changes across Minnesota, including here in

Right: The latest plant hardiness zone map shows dramatic changes in Minnesota's climate. See a comparison map on page 10.

the North Country.

As recently as 1990, the vast majority of St. Louis and Koochiching counties were listed as Zone 3a, which reflects an annual minimum temperature of minus 35-40 degrees *See...WARMING pg. 10*



GIVING BACK

QUILTS AROUND THE WORLD

Trinity Lutheran parishioners continue a nearly 70-year tradition

by DAVID COLBURN
 Cook-Orr Editor

COOK- Nothing conveys warmth and love quite like a homemade quilt, and a Christian expression of that was on full display in October when the pews of the Trinity Lutheran Church sanctuary in Cook were draped with more than 100 quilts lovingly made by the church's quilting group for those in need around the world.

The group has been quilting for good works for decades, current leader Gerry Ruuska said. Norma Thomas said her mother was turning out quilts for the church in the 1950s. Literally thousands of quilts have been produced to be distributed by Lutheran World Relief (LWR), an organization that works to address global poverty by helping people based on need, regardless of race, religion or nationality. Some of the Trinity quilts are also given to the Salvation Army in Virginia, and others find their way to people in need here at home in Cook.

Since Ruuska took on her leadership of the group in 1990, along with Thomas and Lorraine Carlson, Trinity's quilters have made almost 4,000 quilts, Ruuska said.

See...QUILTS pg. 10

Top: The pews of Trinity Lutheran Church are awash in the colors of quilts made by the church's quilting group.

Below: Audrey Armagost, left, and Lynn Polich, right, help Hope Simpson deliver a load of quilts to Trinity Lutheran Church. Simpson has made more than 300 quilts for Lutheran World Relief.

photos by D. Colburn



CITY OF ELY

RV park hearing canceled yet again

by CATIE CLARK
 Ely Editor

ELY- The Ely Board of Adjustment's Nov. 15 meeting on the conditional use permit application for a new RV Park along Pioneer Rd. lasted all of 22 seconds as board chair Mike Banovetz opened the meeting at 5 p.m. and promptly announced that the permit application under consideration was incomplete.

The blitzkrieg meeting marked the third time Ely residents packed council chambers at City Hall for a public hearing on the RV park proposed for 1759 N. Pioneer Rd. The first hearing was scheduled after Dean and Lee Ann Peterson of AOK Outdoors submitted a conditional use permit (CUP) in

See...RV PARK pg. 9

TRAGEDY

One teen killed, another critical in high speed crash

by DAVID COLBURN
 Cook/Orr Editor

ORR- One area teen was killed and another was critically injured in a one-vehicle accident on Nett Lake Rd. on Wednesday, Nov. 15, according to a release from the St. Louis County Sheriff's Office.

The driver, Tra'von Raymond Boshey, 17, of Tower, and a passenger, Matthew Goggeye, 17, of Nett Lake, both students at North Woods School, were westbound when the vehicle

See...CRASH pg. 9



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Community notices

Come eat breakfast with the Grinch at Timber Hall Pancake Breakfast Dec. 2

EMBARRASS- Join the Grinch for breakfast between 8 and 11 a.m. at Timber Hall Dec. 2. Enjoy all-you-can-eat pancakes, choice of ham or sausage links, fruit cup, juice, a bottomless cup of coffee. Cost is \$6 for adults, \$3 for children ages 6-10, and kids 5 and under are free.

And don't BE a Grinch! Timber Hall Event Center will host a chance to give blood from 8:30 a.m. to noon:

►Holiday Craft Sale – Support our local crafters and small businesses with a purchase of handmade blankets, jewelry, décor, baked good and more.

►Donate Blood- Give the gift of life. Go online to mbcherohub.club to pre-register or signup inside Timber Hall Saturday morning. Walk-ins welcome!

►Donate Gifts – Drop off an unwrapped gift or gift card for a child in our community. All gifts will be delivered to the *Timberjay* for Operation Santa (see information on page 6).

►Donate clothing – Once again Disabled American Veterans (DAV) will be accepting donations of gently used clothing. Please pack in white garbage bags.

And don't forget to check out our brand new Little Free Library under the eaves.

Learn to swing dance on Dec. 1

ELY-Reflections Dance Company and NLAA are hosting a Swing Night dance on Friday, Dec. 1 at the Ely Senior Center. Swing dance basics will be taught from 6:30 – 7 p.m., and then there will be open dance time from 7 – 9 p.m. The event is pay-what-you-can with a \$10 suggested donation (cash, check, or card).

Sheriff's Office hosts Coffee with a Cop event in Virginia Nov. 30

VIRGINIA - The St. Louis County Sheriff's Office is hosting "Coffee with a Cop" - an event aimed at building relationships and encouraging conversation between citizens and deputies. The event will be Thursday, Nov. 30, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Adventures Restaurant located at 5475 Mountain Iron Drive.

Coffee with a Cop is free to attend, with Adventures Restaurant donating coffee, soft drinks and water free of charge. Attendees have the option to purchase additional menu items.

The event gives people the opportunity to ask questions, share concerns, and get to know some of the deputies who serve our county. There is no set program for the event, and people are welcome to come or leave however fits their schedule.

**'TIS THE SEASON
Northwoods Partners decks halls at GEL with Festival of Trees Nov. 19 - Dec. 3**

ELY - Northwoods Partners' annual Festival of Trees will take place at the Grand Ely Lodge Nov. 19 - Dec. 3. This will be the 21st year celebrating the season with this wonderful event.

"This festival is made possible through generous contributions from many local businesses and community members. Many talented individuals help transform the Grand Ely Lodge lobby into a winter wonderland filled with decorated trees and wreaths. "We are so grateful to all the individuals who help make the Festival of Trees a wonderful fundraising event to support services for our area seniors and caregivers. It has become a wonderful tradition that makes such a beautiful difference in our community," said Executive Director Lisa Porthan.

Be sure to kickoff holiday shopping at the Northwoods Partners Christmas Boutique. This talented community provides a wonderful selection of hand-made gift items available for purchase. Enjoy taking a stroll through the lighted winter wonderland and place a bid on

the beautifully decorated trees or wreaths. The bidding for these decorated items began at 7:30 p.m. on Nov. 19 and continues until noon on Sunday, Dec. 3. Be sure to come back often to check your bid. This is a wonderful way to support the health of our community. All winners will be notified to pick up their items at the Grand Ely Lodge.

One of the favorite trees at the Festival is the tall white Memorial Tree at the center of the event. Memorial balls may be purchased throughout the holiday season to remember or honor a loved one. This is truly a special way to celebrate the special people in our lives. The Memorial Tree will be displayed at the Grand Ely Lodge until Dec. 29.

Monies raised from the Festival of Trees will be used by Northwoods Partners to provide support services that promote healthy aging and independence. These services include friendly visits, transportation, exercise programs, support groups, memory care support and caregiver consultant services. These services are provided to individuals living in Ely, Babbitt, Tower and surrounding



A peek at previous FOT displays is a reminder that the festive event never disappoints.

townships.

Please help support area seniors and their caregivers by making Festival of Trees a part of your holiday festivities. For further information, contact Northwoods Partners at 218-365-8019.

MUSICALLY INCLINED

Three unique Iron Range acts take stage for one big concert Nov. 25

ELY — Music fans across the Iron Range are familiar with standout performers Christopher David Hanson and Steve Solkela. Now, the two are teaming up at Ely's Historic State Theater located at 238 E. Sheridan St., Saturday, Nov. 25, at 6 p.m. to bring us "Monster in the Woods: Vol. 4."

The three-act concert opens with Steve Solkela, a comedian-musician who performs on up to 14 instruments at once — and sings too. Solkela grew up in Palo, and first got into music as a tenth-grader at Mesabi East High School in Aurora. He didn't think it was fair that guitar players who only knew five chords got all the female attention, so though already busy with speech, theater, choir, and multiple sports, he picked up the accordion.

After high school, Solkela studied at Rowan University in Glassboro, N.J., where he performed in bands, choirs, and operas. That's where his "Overpopulated One-Man Band" got its start when he brought a cowbell to a cross-country meet to



Hanson plays in two of the groups featured in the holiday weekend performance.

cheer on the runners, then decided to try playing it with his foot.

One by one, he added more instruments, including hi-hat cymbal, double bass drum pedal, trumpet and even a bicycle horn, spin whistle and slinky. According to Solkela's website <https://stevsolkela.com> "This band is possible due to the combination of static muscle memory, multi-tasking and entertaining stories.

When Solkela, now of Duluth, isn't performing music, you might find him competing in a Rubik's Cube speed-solving contest. He's solved up to 7x7 cubes and has even solved a 3x3 under water. (Find the video on his YouTube channel.)

The evening's headliner is singer-songwriter Christopher David Hanson, who fronts several bands that vary in style, and also performs solo. This weekend's concert features two of his groups.

Woodsong Souvenir, an all-acoustic Americana band of five, is the concert's second act. According to Hanson's website <http://www.christopherdavidhanson.com>, it's "a group of good friends that all have a passion for good music, and the ways that good music makes you feel and leaves you more hopeful." Along with Hanson, Woodsong Souvenir includes Jill Burkes on violin, and Rob Wheeler on mandolin, who bring the folk element to the group; Mesabi Symphony Orchestra member Lynn Evenson plays stand-up bass and Matt Jarva is on percussion. The group's

debut album entitled "A Handful of Sundays" came out this year.

The final act will be the three-piece Christopher David Hanson Band performing all-original roots-rock with some throwback country and big-band swing mixed in. "If you like the music you hear in Nashville after 10 p.m." says Hanson, "that's the kind you're going to be listening to at the end of the show." He also promises "fun lights for folks to dance." In this band, Hanson's guitar and vocals are joined by Jim Pietila on percussion/vocals, and James Christian playing bass guitar/vocals. The band has been touring for 10 years and has shared the stage with Black Hawk, Trampled by Turtles, Charlie Parr, Cory Chisel, Sister Hazel, and others. Their most recent album is "Whippoorwill" (2021).

When Hanson isn't performing, you might find him in his home studio Birch Bay Studios which is located between Babbitt and Ely, writing music, and producing albums. He also enjoys time with his dogs, Minnow and Big Mac, and his cats, Edna and Pico.

Tickets for "Monster in the Woods: Vol. 4" are \$25, available at www.elystatetheater.org or at the door.

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Pictures with SANTA 3-5 PM
Angel Bucks: Children 16 and under who bring a food item to donate to the Food Shelf will get "Angel Bucks" good for picking out a gift for every member of their household from the Thrift Shop.

LIVE THEATER

NLAA announces their 2024 season

by CATIE CLARK
Ely Editor

ELY- The Northern Lakes Arts Association officially announced its 2024 season during its 2023 Gratitude Gathering event on Monday evening. While bits and pieces of the upcoming season have been teased out on social media, the entire program in one unified package has now made its official debut.

"I admit I've posted some of the upcoming season little by little over the last several weeks, like 'Fiddler on the Roof,'" NLAA Executive Director Ian Francis Lah told the *Timberjay*, "but now, all the information is officially out there."

Here's the entire 2024 season in summary. For brevity, we have used date ranges instead of listing each performance date and time, since tickets do not go

on sale until next year.

➤ "Fiddler on the Roof," March 14-23. The famous 1964 Tony Award-winning musical is coming to Ely.

➤ "The Last 5 Years," June 7-9. This 2001 award-winning musical stars a couple whose story is told in competing timelines, one forward, one backward, where they only meet in the middle.

➤ "Bright Star," June 20-30. The season includes another award-winning musical, including taking home a Grammy Award. The 2015 "Bright Star" has a complex plot of two intertwined love stories in the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina at the end of WWII.

➤ "Finding Nemo Kids," theater camp, June 24-July 5; two performances on July 6.

➤ "Into the Woods," July



18-28. Yes, Stephen Sondheim's Tony Award-winning masterpiece is coming to town this

July.
➤ "Broadway in the Boundary Waters Gala," Aug. 2-3.

Ticket purchases and signing up for theater camp will be available online through the northernlakesarts.org website. Tickets will not go on sale for any of the 2024 productions until after Jan. 1, 2024.

Left: The Tony Award-winning play "God of Carnage" was the last offering of the 2023 Northern Lakes Arts Association (NLAA) theater season. The NLAA officially announced the 2024 theater season lineup at its Nov. 20 Gratitude Gathering event at the Vermilion Fine Arts Theater at Minnesota North College. Seated: Karin Schmidt. Standing left-to-right: Vince O'Connor, Bob Winkleman, and Emily Weise. photo by C. Clark

Timberjay turkey contest winners

Orr
Orr Municipal Liquor Store – Tyae Pattenn
Pelican Bay Foods – Bette Hoffer
Lumber Orr Hardware – Julie Aune

Cook
Northern Comfort Company – Taylor Pauling
Cook Hospital & Care Center – Sara Gaslin
Park State Bank – Sonja Hartline
North Star Credit Union – Jackie Clay-Atkinson
Cook VFW – Elaine Tibbetts
McDonalds – Jerry Shaster
Waschke Family Chevrolet – Lindie Newman
Cook Building Center – Judy Vaughn
Zup's Grocery Cook – Greg Arntz
1st National Bank – Deb Olson

Tower-Soudan
Vermilion Land Office – Roberta Ames
Vermilion Park Inn – Scarlet Stone
Little Green Pantry – Laurie Fischer
Sulu's Espresso Café – Keran Flynn Kroska
Rick's Relics – Courtney Olson
Lamppa Manufacturing – Maria Larson
Embarrass Vermillion Credit Union – Vi Hildebrandt
Soudan Store – Peg Simonson
Tower-Soudan Agency – Dennis Passi
Ubetcha Antiques & Uniques - Jay Barnes
Frandsen Bank - Tower – Genelle Bjorgo
Zup's Tower Grocery – Nicole Setter
Vermilion Fuel & Food – Terry Sandnas
D'Erick's – Jim Runkle

Ely
Piragis – Lisa Porthan
Kwazy Wabbitt – Josh Tuomala
Zup's in Ely – Jim Frisell
Frandsen Bank - Ely – Terri Muhvich
Wintergreen Northern Wear – n/a
Ely Auto Service – Louis Gerzin
Dee's Bar – Bonnie Zupec
Grand Ely Lodge – Cheryl Hegman
Ely Flower & Seed – Sarah Jonas
Ely Surplus – Cheryl Hegman
Mealey's Gift & Sauna Shop – Marcia Kauppi
Merhar's Ace Hardware – Kat Gembeck
Range Cenex Ely – Mikala Shusta
Northridge Credit Union – Patty Velcheff
Ely-Bloomenson Comm. Hospital – Jill Lossing

Babbitt
Zup's Grocery – Beverly Vagle
Range Cenex Babbitt – Ron Freeman

Embarrass
Embarrass Vermillion Credit Union- Roland Fowler



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Crane Lake-\$459,000 Historic 1936 full log, 2 BR cabin on 53+ acres. Updates include a new, never used Crane Lake septic system, new free-standing shower house and 64 ft dock. Boat-access. **MLS#145757**

Crane Lake-\$269,000 This 40-acre boat-access property with 1,440 ft of gradual sloping shoreline is located on Crane Lake right before entering Rollick Creek (Snake Creek). **MLS#145305**

Cook-\$159,000 Very private year-round 3 BR, 2 BA mobile home on 10 acres. Detached 2-car garage/storage shed, playhouse, drilled well, compliant septic, round out this property. **MLS#145461**

Johnson Lake-\$159,000 2.3 wooded acres with 35+/- feet of shoreline. Rustic off the grid cabin with generator power, gas cook stove, wood stove and privy. Johnson Lake is located 15 miles west of the town of Crane Lake. **MLS#146065**

*As measured by residential transaction sides.



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OPINION

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

The First Amendment of the United States Constitution

Editorial

The four freedoms

Despite our discontent, Americans have much to be thankful for

America can seem a discontented nation at times. Perhaps it is built into our DNA, since this is a country that was built by the those who weren't content in the places they were born. This is a country that always felt a desire for more—more land, more resources, more wealth, and more security.

Perhaps because of our very nature, and because America has long been a prosperous nation, we don't always take the time to reflect on the fundamental things for which we really should be thankful and strive to protect.

It's worth looking back at Jan. 6, 1941, which was the year that then-President Franklin Delano Roosevelt delivered the State of the Union address to Congress that later became known as his Four Freedoms speech. In it, FDR reiterated what he viewed as the four fundamental principles of a free and democratic society, including freedom of expression, freedom of worship, freedom from want, and freedom from fear. Those principles were ultimately enshrined in the Atlantic Charter and became a rallying cry of sorts for America and Britain as we fought during four long years of war to protect those very principles from fascist forces.

While FDR spoke during dark times that were soon to grow darker, Americans rallied in support of a society that understood the value of these four freedoms. In the 80-plus years since that speech, America has made considerable strides in not only protecting those freedoms but in extending them to more and more Americans who didn't have the same kind of freedoms in the past that most other Americans enjoyed.

Perhaps because these freedoms are so fundamental to America, it's easy to take them for granted. Yet, at a time of the year when we often take stock and reflect on the things in our lives for which to be grateful, it is worth considering these fundamental freedoms and recognize that they are an exception, not the rule, in this troubled world.

Most people on Earth do not have freedom of expression. Repressive governments around the world routinely imprison or even execute their own citizens for the things they say or write, or otherwise create. Expressing one's true nature, or loving the wrong person, can be punishable by death in some parts of the world. This

is a freedom here in America that we should recognize and seek to protect.

Our freedom to worship, which includes the freedom not to worship, as we see fit is another right for which we should be thankful. Government repression of religious belief is all-too-common around the world, but not here in America.

And while we, unfortunately, have too much inequality in America, we have made strides to ensure that even the poorest Americans have enough to eat. When we sit down to our Thanksgiving feasts this Thursday, we should all take a moment to recognize the plenty that America produces.

Finally, while every country has problems with violence, and America is a far more violent country than most, the vast majority of Americans live in remarkable safety compared to almost any other time in human history. At a time when entire cities are being destroyed in places like Ukraine or Gaza, we can be thankful that we, as Americans, are by and large free from the fear of bombs raining down over our heads.

We should give thanks for these freedoms and recognize that they provide the basis for America's success. When we all have the right to express our views, worship as we please, don't worry about our next meal, and feel secure in our own homes, we are all free to live to our full potential as people.

We recognize that America is far from perfect and there is much progress we must still make to ensure that all Americans fully share the benefits of these four freedoms. We also recognize that these freedoms are under threat from those who would use the power of the government to punish those who express differing views and those who belong to certain religions. We recognize that freedom from fear means taking steps to build a less violent America and freedom from want means doing more to provide for the basic needs of those who still struggle.

Yet there are few places in the world that can claim the kind of commitment to and progress toward the full flowering of these four fundamental freedoms as America. And that is something for which we should all be enormously thankful.



About that Minnesota weather

In response to the idea that “two state flags would be better than one,” how about one flag for summer and one for winter?

Given the way our weather changes so often and so suddenly, we could just go with a two-sided flag to flap in the wind, like our weather does. One side could depict nice weather, the opposite side could show some of the

other kinds. There could be caption in Latin, Lakota, or Ojibway along the lines of, “If you don't like the weather, just wait a minute.”

Dave Porter
Minneapolis

BBB's 12 scams of Christmas

With 2023 quickly winding down, the Better Business Bureau has compiled the naughty list of the top 12 scams of Christmas. When shopping or donating this holiday season, watch out for schemes trying to swipe your cash or steal your personal information.

You can avoid most of the scams on this list by taking a few simple precautions. Always exercise caution with social media ads promoting discounted items, holiday events, job opportunities, and donation requests, as well as direct messages from strangers. If you are asked to make a payment or donation by wire transfer, through a third party, or by prepaid debit or gift card, treat it as a red flag.

Be mindful of these scams that could cut into your holiday cheer

1. Misleading social media ads: As you scroll through your social media feed, you often see products advertised.

Always research before you buy. BBB Scam Tracker receives daily reports of people paying for items that they never receive, getting charged monthly for a free trial they never signed up for, or receiving an item that is counterfeit or much different from the one advertised. The 2022 BBB Online Scams Report found that online purchase scams were the most common cons reported to Scam Tracker. Before ordering, check out the business profile on BBB.org and read the reviews.

2. Social media gift exchanges: Each holiday season this scheme pops back up, and this year is no different. The older version was called “Secret Sister.” A newer version of this scam revolves around exchanging bottles of wine; another suggests purchasing \$10 gifts online. Another twist asks you to submit your email to a list where participants get to pick a name and send money to strangers to

“pay it forward.” There is even a twist about “Secret Santa Dog” where you buy a \$10 gift for your “secret dog.” In all of these versions, participants unwittingly share their personal information, along with those of their family members and friends, and are further tricked into buying and shipping gifts or money to unknown individuals. And— it's an illegal pyramid scheme. Stick to buying your friends gifts from trustworthy businesses.

3. Holiday apps: Apple's App Store and Google Play list dozens of holiday-themed apps where children can video chat live with Santa, light the menorah, watch Santa feed live reindeer, track his sleigh on Christmas Eve, or relay their holiday wish lists. Review privacy policies to see what information will be collected. Be wary of free apps, as they can sometimes contain more advertising than apps that require a nominal fee. Free apps can also contain malware. Be sure to read reviews as well.

4. Fake texts that say you've been hacked: BBB receives tons of reports on Scam Tracker about fake texts and emails, many of them claiming your Amazon, Paypal, Netflix or bank account has been compromised. Victims are told there has been suspicious activity on one of their accounts, and it further urges

See SCAMS...pg. 5



COMMENTARY

Write from your heart, and by hand

This week we might pay more attention to what we're grateful for. I have an odd one. I'm grateful that I was taught cursive writing in elementary school by teachers who

insisted on excellence and gave us time and the tools to practice. I believe we started learning cursive writing in third grade, but only with pencils. We were not allowed to use pens until fourth grade, and then only fountain pens. Those early



BETTY FIRTH

ballpoint pens were unreliable, often leaking, smearing, and blopping ink blots, and we were not even allowed to have them in the classroom. Calligraphy captured my attention in the sixth grade. I was given some traditional calligraphy pens with multiple, changeable points and a book showing many kinds of let-

tering along with demonstrations of how to correctly form various fonts like Old English, Hobo, or Brush Script. Years later calligraphy sets with refillable fountain pens became available, and later yet, disposable fountain pens with calligraphic points in multiple colors. When I once used a fountain pen to write a check for groceries, the checker asked, “What in the world is that?” She had apparently never seen a fountain pen, and I felt sad for her as well as feeling every one of my years.

Not too long ago, I

heard that schools were no longer teaching cursive handwriting, which shocked me. What would that be like to grow into adulthood not knowing how to write cursively? I remembered receiving letters from my father during summer camp after fourth grade. He had very spiky handwriting which I could not decipher, and I cried in frustration and loneliness, for I was very homesick. Not being able to read his message made the separation more painful. I did let mom know, and my dad's next letter came printed in capital letters, which is

the way he communicated with me and others the rest of his life. He told me that his colleagues at work were grateful for the improvement. Would these younger generations feel that frustration anytime they were confronted with cursive writing? Would they never be able to decode family letters from earlier times? It would seem like pieces of history would be unavailable to them.

I assumed that curriculum deciders reasoned that people would be communicating mostly through computers,

keyboards, and texting, so why bother teaching cursive. They overlooked that writing in your own, unique hand is so much more than just putting words on paper. Using pens or pencils and paper is a very different kinesthetic experience as you feel the drag of the pen on the paper as the flowing of the ink fills up the page with your personalized graphic design. The shape of your letters, the slant of your lines, the expressive tilt of your ascenders and

See WRITE...pg. 5

SCAMS...Continued from page 4

them to take immediate action to prevent the account from being compromised. Be extra cautious about unsolicited calls, emails, and texts; contact the business directly and don't click on any links.

5. Free gift cards: Nothing brings good cheer like the word "FREE." Scammers have been known to take advantage of this weakness by sending bulk phishing emails requesting personal information to receive free gift cards. In some of these emails, scammers impersonate legitimate companies and promise gift cards to reward their loyal customers. They may also use pop-up ads or send text messages with links saying you were randomly selected as the winner of a prize. If you have received an unsolicited email with gift card offers, do not

open it. Instead, mark it as spam or junk. However, if you opened the email, do not click on any links.

6. Temporary holiday jobs: Retailers typically hire seasonal workers to help meet the demands of holiday shoppers. Shippers and delivery services are top holiday employers this year because of the increase in online orders and the need to get most of these packages delivered before Christmas. These jobs are a great way to make extra money, sometimes with the possibility of turning into a long-term employment opportunity. However, job seekers need to be wary of employment scams aimed at stealing money and personal information from job applicants. Keep an eye out for opportunities that seem too good to be true.

7. Look-alike websites: The holiday season brings endless emails offering deals, sales, and bargains. Be wary of emails with links enclosed. Some may lead to look-alike websites created by scammers to trick people into downloading malware, making dead-end purchases, and sharing private information. If you are uncertain about the email, do not click any of the links. Instead, hover over them to see where they reroute. Go directly to the official website.

8. Fake charities: The last few weeks of the year is a busy time for charitable donations. Donors are advised to look out for fraudulent charities and scammers pretending to be individuals in need. Avoid impromptu donation decisions to unfamiliar organizations. Respon-

sible organizations will welcome a gift tomorrow as much as they do today. Verify a charity at Give.org. Where possible, donate to the charity through their website and use a credit card.

9. Fake shipping notifications: More consumers are making purchases online, and there is also an increase in the number of notifications about shipping details from retailers and carriers. Scammers are using this new surge to send phishing emails with links enclosed that may allow unwanted access to your private information or download malware onto your device. They may also try to trick people into paying new shipping fees.

10. Advent calendars: This year, there seem to be more advent calendars for sale than ever; CNN

has a list of over 60 calendars, and many are in hot demand. In past years, BBB received reports to Scam Tracker about advent calendar ads on social media not delivering as promised. Some were not received, and others received inferior products or incomplete orders.

11. Top holiday wish list items: Low-priced luxury goods, jewelry, designer clothing, and electronics are almost always cheap counterfeits and knockoffs. The same applies to popular toys. This year, Barbie and Ken, Bitzee, and Paw Patrol headphones are some of the items in high demand. Be very cautious when considering purchasing popular toys from resellers on Facebook Marketplace and other platforms.

12. Puppy scams: Many families may be

considering adding a furry friend to their household this year. However, be on the lookout for scams. Many would-be pet owners turn to the internet to find their future cat or dog, but experts say a shocking 80-percent of sponsored pet advertisements may be fake. Be sure to see the pet in person before making a purchase.

More information

For general information on how to avoid scams, visit BBB.org/AvoidScams. For more advice, read BBB's tips on online shopping. If you've spotted an online scam, report it to BBB ScamTracker.

We welcome your letters

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

We ask that letters be limited to 300 words.

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

Letters are a great way to offer your input to the *Timberjay's* editorial page. We want to know what you think!

WRITE...Continued from page 4

descenders reveal a lot about your mood as well as your feelings about the subject at hand.

It was not realized that writing engages different brain circuits than typing, with multiple tactile experiences involving the small and large muscles of fingers, hands, arms, and eyes. Research has shown that writing improves memory and academic performance, and that pre-literate children learn and retain letters more quickly through writing them. During presentations I take notes constantly that I may never look at just to assist my memory.

One day in a restaurant, I was writing in my journal, and as an older woman passed my booth, she commented on my lovely handwriting. I guess that's how unusual it is, that a passing stranger would notice and comment. It makes me want to offer classes in penmanship and calligraphy to those who missed out. At its most excellent, it's an art form, embellishing historic documents and revered in many cultures. Are young people even

using cursive to write their signatures, or are they printing? Even hastily written, our signature stood for who we were, our declaration and proof that we are the person we say we are, with dramatic flourishes or indecipherable scribbles. Who could doubt the passion and commitment of John Hancock on the Declaration of Independence?

I do like typing when I want to get a lot of ideas down quickly, with the added benefit of easy editing, but I still like to write with pen and paper, and the choice of each is important. I like to use paper that is smooth and pens that flow evenly, allowing me to write quickly and precisely. Unfortunately, the calligraphic pens and most fountain pens slow my writing down, so I seldom use them these days except on greeting cards, especially at Christmas, but there is still satisfaction in knowing that I can. Sometimes I even add a wax seal.

A friend of mine from Minneapolis and I wanted to keep in touch, and we decided to do that with handwritten letters. We

have done that for many years, although our letters weren't very frequent. Seeing her handwriting in the midst of bills and junk mail is like getting a little burst of caring.

This summer I saw an article about the Letteracy Deck in Grand Marais, a program sponsored by the Minnesota Children's Press and funded by a Blandin Foundation grant, to promote letter and postcard writing. Visitors to the deck overlooking the harbor and Lake Superior were given materials for writing and drawing along with beautiful stamps. The project was called "Love Letters to Lake Superior," which were addressed to editorial pages, environmental groups, elected officials, worship groups, and friends and family. Young people were given

a chance to participate in civic action and environmental education while experiencing the power of expressing and sharing their ideas in their own handwriting about how they felt about the incredible wonder of nature called Lake Superior. That's quite a different experience from clicking a button on a computer to sign a petition.

I told my friend about the postcard-writing, and we discovered we each had a large stash of unsent postcards, so we decided using them would be a great way to post quick updates more often. Now we receive several postcards a week, enjoying scenes from our favorite artists, vacations from yesteryear, beautiful photos, and some goofy cartoons.



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the **TIMBERJAY**

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THANK YOU

This year's TSAA Auction was an unqualified success. This is the first time we've been able to host the fundraiser since 2019, and both attendees and those who donated made sure the event was extra-special and our fundraising exceeded our expectations. The money raised is being split between Friends of Vermilion Country School, which is the booster club for the charter school, Tower-Soudan Elementary PTO for PTO sponsored events and projects, and Tower-Soudan summer youth baseball programs.

Thanks to all our volunteers from Friends of VCS, T-S Elementary PTO, and T-S Youth Baseball.

A big thank you to Muriel Scott and Joan Dostert for manning the registration table, and tabulating auction winners (this is a much bigger job than most realize).

Also, a big shoutout to the staff at the Wilderness for serving up a beautiful appetizer buffet, having wonderful staff, and helping with setup and cleanup. Thanks to LuAnn Zuadtke for her karaoke and running our live auction. Thanks to our event night volunteers: Jodi Summit, Stephanie Ukkola, Marshall Helmberger, Karin Schmidt, Amy Banks, Sam O'Brien, and Victoria Ranua. Thanks to additional volunteers who helped with event setup, Sarah Flores and Orlyn Kringstad. Thanks to Tiffany Clemenson from the T-S PTO, and to staff at VCS who helped get donations. Thanks to Paul at Northwoods True Value for repairing the Wheel of Fortune the day before the event!

This event would not have been possible without generous donations from the following individuals and businesses:

Adrienne Devries, Amy Hinkel and Paige Olson, Aronson Boatworks, Barb Soderberg, Benchwarmer's Grille, Bob's Service, Broten Construction, Boathouse Brewpub, Corky Hill, Crapola/Brainstorm Bakery, D'Erick's Tower Liquors, Elaine and Peter McGillivray, Boulder Busters/Eloranta Family, Ely Subway, Embarrass-Vermillion Federal Credit Union, Fortune Bay Resort Casino, Frandens Bank of Tower, Good Ol' Days, Gruben's Marina, IBI Construction, Harborview Spa, Immanuel Lutheran Church Quilters, Insula, Jodi Summit, Kay Vandervort, Lamppa Mfg., Leigh Lillquist/Small Lots Wine, Linda Haugen, McKinley Park Campground, Mickey Bristol, Mickey White, Nancy Larson, Vermilion Design Works, Northwoods True Value, Robin Majerle/Norex, St. Martin's Catholic Church Ladies, Shoes and Things, Sulu's Espresso Café, Susan Norha, The Timberjay, Tower Café, Tower Car Wash, Tower-Soudan Elementary Teachers, Tower-Soudan Agency, Ubetcha Antiques/Ufda Thrift, Vermilion Club, Vermilion Lumber, Vermilion Park Inn, Vermilion Shear Image, Vermilion Storage, Wilderness Golf, Wolfand Computer, Marjory Wood, Zup's of Tower, Zup's of Ely, Pebble Spa, Dee's Liquor, Michelle and Dave Toutloff, Monica Porter, Sarah Flores, Stephanie Ukkola, Pike River Products, Little Green Pantry, Marjo Motel, Pike Bay Lodge, Catherine and David Farley, Barb Rinne, Farmstead Artisans, Jill Berg and Katie Hamelink, Pier 77, Amy Banks, Scenic Rivers Medical Staff, Functional Fitness, Casie Skala, Nordic Home North, Shelby Vaske, Marit Kringstad, Mike's Liquors, an anonymous donation of quilted Christmas items, and Northern Lakes Arts Association. We apologize in advance if we missed naming any of our donors!

Many businesses generously donated cash which we used to purchase gift certificates from local and area businesses! So this event not only supports our local children, but also supports our local businesses.

**Jodi Summit and Stephanie Ukkola
Event Co-Chairs**

Week of Nov. 27

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

Tuesday
Tower Area Food Shelf- Open on the third Tuesday of every month from 2:30-5 p.m. Located in the back of the Timberjay building on Main Street. Next food shelf day is Dec. 19.

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

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

Vermilion Country School Board- Meetings posted online at vermilioncountry.org.

Indoor walking at the Timber Hall
EMBARRASS- This winter the Timber Hall will be open for indoor walking on Mondays and Wednesdays from 5 p.m. until 7:30 p.m.

Tower Ski Trails work day on Dec. 9, brush burning help needed

TOWER- The Howard Wagoner Trails Club is holding a volunteer work day on Saturday, Dec. 9 starting at 10 a.m. Volunteers should meet at the southern trailhead on Hwy 135. The club will be burning brush piles built up during trail clearing this summer, depending on the weather (hoping to have more than three inches of snow). Wear fire resistant clothing such as canvas jackets, or cotton material. Do not wear flammable material like fleece. Good boots, leather gloves, and a hat will be helpful as well. If available, bring a shovel or saw.



The Idea Warehouse held an open house this past weekend.
Families had fun visiting with the animals from Cooks Country Connection, who set up pens with animals to pet.
At left, Christopher Suihkonen and his son Finn and in the center is Lorayne Parker.



Harborview Spa owner Beth DeBeltz had demonstrations of her new skin care system.



Little Green Pantry features antiques and gifts, as well as natural foods.

photos by J. Summit



Below center: Adam Swanson's mural depicting Stuntz Bay lines the hallway in the building. Swanson, from Two Harbors, stopped by to sign the mural.

COMMUNITY GIVING

It's time to start planning for Operation Santa

TOWER- Donations have started to come in for this year's Operation Santa toy drive, but we still have a long way to go to reach our goal.

Operation Santa is a local fundraiser that purchases Christmas gifts (toys, gift cards, and warm winter items) for children whose families use the Tower Food Shelf. Last year's total included 177 children from 56 families who use the Tower Food Shelf, and thanks to everyone's generosity, we also had enough for small gifts for the 53 students at Vermilion Country School.

This year, the Embarrass Region Fair Association will also be collecting gifts and donations for Operation Santa at their Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, Dec. 2 from 8 a.m. - 12 noon.

Take advantage of the great deals, many of which are being offered right now, to bring some joy into a child's life.

We have started to receive some donations, but much more



is needed to make sure every child in our community receives gifts and warm clothing this Christmas season.

The effort is organized by the *Timberjay* and the Tower-Soudan Civic Club, with help from many area groups, churches, organizations, and individuals. If your group or church is planning to donate this year, please contact Jodi at 218-753-2950. (This helps with planning!)

Lake Country Power's Operation RoundUp® program has once again made a very generous donation to the Tower-Sou-

dan Civic Club to help cover the cost of purchasing warm items for the children.

We are looking for donations of toys, games, art supplies, and sporting equipment for children, and gift cards to either Target or Walmart for our teenagers (\$10 or \$15). Stocking stuffer type gifts and holiday candy are also appreciated. We are always in need of gifts for infants and babies (must be labeled as safe for children under three). Gift ideas for children include games, action figures, building toys, dolls with accessories, craft sets, art supplies (including crayons and markers), sporting goods (basketballs, footballs, playground balls, sleds), puzzles, cars and trucks, and science kits. Please don't worry about picking out the right gift; I promise there will be

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a child on our list who will love whatever you pick out!

If you purchase a toy that uses batteries, please also send a spare set! Donations of batteries (especially AA and AAA) are appreciated.

We also accept gently-used holiday decorations and gifts for the adults who use the food shelf. We do assemble gift bags for the senior citizens who use the food shelf, so small gifts for them are appreciated also, such as boxes of Christmas candy, candles, puzzles and puzzle books, holiday scented lotions and soaps, holiday décor, and warm socks.

Donations can be dropped off at the *Timberjay* in Tower, and will be distributed at the food shelf on Dec. 19. Families who use the Tower Food Shelf and have not yet signed up, can call Jodi at the *Timberjay* at 218-753-2950, or email editor@timberjay.com to get your children on the list.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Celebrate small businesses in Tower this Saturday

TOWER- The Tower-Soudan Area Events Board is sponsoring their first annual Small Business Saturday event in Tower on Nov. 25.

There will be sales, special offers, raffles, and more at most Tower retail businesses, plus Tower Farmers Market winter vendors set up at the Pike River Products building.

Santa will be visiting Tower's Gathering Gallery (side entrance) from 12:30 - 3 p.m. with hot cocoa and cookies provided by Pike River Products. Katrina B. Photography

has volunteered to take photos and they will be posted on her Facebook Page. Be sure to talk to Katrina about booking a family photograph session.

Enter the 50/50 raffle benefiting Tower-Soudan Area Events Board. Plus over \$200 in raffle prizes available - simply make a purchase on Main Street on Nov. 25, and bring in your receipt for entry at Pike River Products. Multiple purchases equal multiple entries, however only one prize awarded per person. Raffle drawings held at 3:30 p.m. on Nov. 25, need not be present to win.

Karate classes in Embarrass

EMBARRASS- Karate North Tae Kwon Do will be holding classes at the Timber Hall Event Center, 4855 Hwy. 21, on Mondays and Wednesdays. Beginner class is from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. and color belt students from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Cost is \$20 per month per person.

Timber Hall will be open those nights for indoor walking on the perimeter from 5 - 7:30 p.m. at no charge, but walkers need to wear indoor shoes.

Children's math club forming

TOWER- Children PreK

- sixth grade and their families are invited to a weekly math game club, Tuesdays, 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. at Tower's Gathering Gallery.

Children will be able to select their own activities according to their ability and interests. Some activity options include number exploration, counting, patterns and play store for littles; games like war, cribbage, go fish, Monopoly, Yahtzee; dice rolling, puzzles and an occasional group science experiment.

Whether numbers make your child nervous, or your kid is already a whiz, playing number games and having fun will

increase their confidence and help them learn to love math. Parents should come prepared to play with their kids and others. Homework help available too.

The club will be held on Tuesdays from 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. at Tower's Gathering Gallery, 515 Main St., Suite 104 (use the side entrance of Pike River Products). Club dates are Nov. 28, Dec. 5, 12 and 19.

One-time suggested membership fee of \$10/ family to pay for venue, math supplies and snacks. If popular, organizers plan to keep it going in 2024. Call Stephanie Ukkola for questions, 218-410-6001.

Free community meal at Immanuel on Nov. 29

TOWER- Immanuel Lutheran Church in Tower is hosting their monthly free community meal on Wednesday, Nov. 29 from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m., or until the food is gone. The meal will feature spaghetti, salad, and garlic toast. All are welcome. Dine-in or carry-out available.

Vendors needed for Tower Holiday Craft Sale on Dec. 2

TOWER- Now is the time to make plans for this year's Holiday Craft Show on Saturday, Dec. 2, from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the Lappa Civic Center. Tables are available for \$25 in advance. A few tables are still available. The Tower-Soudan Civic Club will be selling coffee and scones in the morning, and then chili, childdogs, hot dogs, chips, cookies and water for lunch. This annual holiday shopping event is sponsored by the Friends of Vermilion Country School.

Meet our students

One in a series of interviews with Vermilion Country School students and staff by VCS sophomore Elspeth O'Brien

What made you decide to switch to our school? It was harder to get extra credit at my old school than here. The work is more personalized here.

What do you do outside of school? I like hiking, hunting, and fishing. I like hanging out with my friends and girlfriend. I like to adventure throughout the woods.

What is your favorite thing about VCS? The culinary class. It's interesting because I don't know a lot about cooking, and I get to actually make things.



Isaiah

Meet our staff



Amy Heglin

How long have you been at VCS? Since 2018.

What is your role at VCS? Bus driver and para, and I'm a parent.

I understand that you're going back to college while working here. What are you going to college for? Psychology. I'm not sure which direction yet, I'm deciding between working with children in schools or with trauma and abuse.

What do you love outside of school? I love animals, cats are my favorite. To relax, I like to listen to music. I have over 2,200 hours of music on my playlist.

WINDOWS INTO YESTERDAY

Ely's Bowery District

by DAVID KESS
Ely-Winton Historical Society

ELY- What is there now gives no hint of the so-called Bowery District Ely once had. This Bowery occupied the first two blocks of Central Avenue just north of Ely's train depot. In the earliest years of Ely's history, the railroad was really the only artery to-and-from Ely since the only other means of travel were foot and wagon trails. This area got its name undoubtedly by the number of cheap bars and saloons that accommodated new arrivals.

The name Bowery originally referred to a colonial Dutch plantation or farm. In New York City, it was the name given to a district in Lower Manhattan with wide boulevards, numerous trees, and gardens. That was several hundred years ago and since then, it has taken on a negative connotation.

The Sanborn Insurance Maps of 1900 for Ely show 14 bars and saloons in this two block stretch. By 1907 the number had decreased to twelve—still quite a few for a small area.

All of the surviving buildings have gone through several different owners. The first building north of the depot was a bar once called the First and Last Chance, a place for a drink before boarding the train or coming off the train into town. The premises also had room rentals. It is now Mealey's outlet store.

The current Surplus Store, a double building, once housed a bar in one half and a restaurant on the

other. Some other buildings going north no longer exist. Further on are several buildings, one of which began as Crossman's Buffet and Saloon. Crossman's later became Lampi's saloon, and still later Forsman's Tavern. Now it is one of the two buildings that house Piragis Northwoods Co.

Mr. Crossman and his wife became very well known, even today, with their moose team. Pictures of them appear in several places, perhaps the most visible of which is the mural on the east side of the Art and Soul Gallery. The Crossmans were in Ely only a dozen or so years. They built a substantial home on Harvey St., across the street from the former Community Center.

On Central Ave., just north of the depot, the first building on the northeast corner of Camp St. and Central Ave. was a boarding house. Who owned it originally is not known but it later became the Oberstar Boarding House. The Oberstar building was torn down when Jim Mealey and Teri Murphy bought it. They rebuilt it much in the original style and it is now Mealey's Gift Shop.

The maps also show some empty spaces that were probably once business buildings. The smaller building that now houses Mealey's Sauna and Gift Shop had previously been a fur trading business, a taxicab office, and then a second hand store. The bike shop across the street once was occupied by Breen's Second Hand Shop, where many "treasures" could be found.



Above: Inside Ed Crossman's Buffet and Saloon on N. Central Ave. in 1905. The building is now part of the Piragis Northwoods storefront. The two blocks on either side of Sheridan were Ely's "Bowery District." Left: The Ely railroad depot in 1914.

The Chocolate Moose location was once a large hotel building. Over the years, a bottle shop and a Maytag store occupied the first floor. It was known as the Shagawa Hotel. Before it was a hotel, the upstairs had been a popular venue for many community social events. At that time, it was called the Turf Hall. It was destroyed by fire about thirty years ago.

On the opposite corner stood the elegant three-story Vail Hotel. In contrast to some of the neighboring hotels, it served the "brass" of the railroad and mining companies. It burned to the ground in a spectacular fire in March of 1905. Sometime later, it became Andy Jacobson's Pure Oil Station, then Tony's Conoco, and more recently, the BoatWorks recreational vehicles enterprise.

Across Sheridan St. is the ElyWear building,

one of the oldest in this area. Before ElyWear, it had been the home of the *Ely Echo* and before that, it had been Kochevar's Clothing and Shoe Shop. Prior to that, it had been a saloon which had had several other owners. Speculation is that the upstairs rooms were used by ladies of the night.

Continuing south on Central, the road name changes from North to South Central when crossing the intersection at Sheridan St. The I. W. W. bar was a two-story brick building which still stands today, reborn as the Northern Grounds Coffee Shop.

Further south was Oja's bar. That building was replaced by the Kwazy Wabbit bar. The brick building now housing Legacy Toys was once Pete's garage, a Dodge and Plymouth dealership. Prior to that, however, it was a

large two-story log building that had been moved there from the Spaulding location. The first floor of this two-story log building was Cormick's general store. The second floor served as another hotel. A large picture of this is on the Klun Law Office building.

Much very early history unfolded here. Trains no longer come and go from Ely and the depot remains empty. Three highways lead out of town. Gone is anything resembling a Bowery District.

A picture exhibit of these early structures can be found in the Fine Arts Lobby of the Vermilion College campus. Winter hours for the history museum and historical society office are noon until 4:00 p.m., Tuesday through Friday. The office can be reached at 218-365-3226.

COMMUNITY EVENTS AND NOTICES

Babbitt Public Library

BABBITT- The current art display is driftwood art.

Starting on Dec. 4 while supplies last, the library will have take-and-create art kits to make four handmade toys per kit. Created by 321 Art Studios, the kits include all the materials to make a yarn doll, a string-and-button spinner, and swing-and-catch cup, and a craft stick catapult. The kits for patrons ages six and older

The book club will meet on Monday, Dec. 4, at 2 p.m. The book under discussion will be "French Braid" by Anne Tyler.

The Friends of the Library currently selling tickets at the library for a holiday raffle. \$1/ticket, for a fresh wreath or holiday-themed bowl, towel, and spices. The drawing will be on Dec. 7.

The library will host an adult crafting class on Monday, Dec. 11, at 4:15 p.m. on making a wool ornament. Participants must pre-register for this program.

Preschool Storytime is held every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m.

All library events are at the Babbitt Public Library at 71 South Drive unless otherwise noted.

Ely Public Library

ELY- The library will be closed on Thursday and Friday, Nov. 23-24, for Thanksgiving.

The spice for November is sage. The library has a free sage sample and recipe kit to handout while supplies last.

A new Kahoot will start on Wednesday, Nov. 22, at 3 p.m. and run until Tuesday, Nov. 28, at 8 a.m. The Kahoot trivia game will be on the first eight books of the "Junie B. Jones" series by Barbara Parks. Pre-register in advance to provide an email address. The library will email the link to the game when it starts.

The Get Crafty activity group will meet on Thursday, Nov. 30, 3-4 p.m., to make a variety of snowman crafts appropriate for home decoration for the winter holidays. This program is for adults. Pre-register in advance in person or by calling 218-827-3345 so the library can order enough supplies.

The library board will meet on Wednesday, Dec. 6, at 5:30 p.m.

The Library Scientists group will meet on Friday, Dec. 8, from 3-4 p.m. The topic is aerodynamics with lots of paper airplanes to make and use to explore concepts of flight. Pre-register in advance so the library can order enough supplies.

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

All library events are at the Ely Public Library at 224 E. Chapman St., unless otherwise noted.

Music Festival

ELY- The Monster in the Woods Music Festival will be on Saturday, Nov. 25, at 6 p.m. at Ely's Historic State Theater, 238 E. Sheridan St. Tickets are \$25.

Youth Fall Boutique

ELY- St. Anthony's of Padua Catholic Church will hold its annual Youth Fall Boutique Sale and Raffle on Saturday, Nov. 25, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., 231 E. Camp St. Use the downstairs entrance on 3rd Ave.

Finnish Piikujoulu

ELY- A Finnish Piikujoulu (little Christmas) lunch will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 28, beginning at 11:30 a.m. at the Grand Ely Lodge. Anyone interested in Finnish heritage and culture is welcome to attend. Attendees can order their own lunch or just join us for friendship. David Kess, local historian and Finnish Kaleva member, will present a program on the Finnish tradition of the Christmas Peace and will share the reflections of an 8-year-old Finnish immigrant on her first American Christmas tree.

Maker's Market

ELY- The next Maker's Market and Mixer will be on Saturday, Dec. 2, at the Ely Folk School, 209 E. Sheridan St., from 3-6 p.m.

Frozen Fundraiser

ELY- As a fundraiser for the Ely Memorial High School production of "Disney's Frozen—The Broadway Musical," baritone Elias Mokole and pianist Linda Turpening will perform an evening of music on Saturday, Dec. 2, at 7 p.m., at the First Presbyterian Church, 226 E. Harvey St. The concert is free. Donations for the

musical are welcome at the door.

Hospital Foundation

ELY- The annual meeting of the Ely Health and Hospital Foundation will be on Monday, Dec. 4, at 7 p.m. in the Ely-Bloomenson Community Hospital community conference room. All foundation members are welcome. Registration for the meeting will be from 6:30-7 p.m. The agenda will include the election of new members of the foundation board.

Networking Breakfast

ELY- The Ely Chamber of Commerce quarterly networking breakfast will be Tuesday, Dec. 5, from 8:30-9:30 a.m. in the banquet room at the Grand Ely Lodge. Breakfast will feature a presentation from the newly founded Ely chapter of the North Country Trail group. All businesses and interested parties are welcome to attend. Breakfast is pay-your-own-way. Please RSVP to director@ely.org, or call 218-365-6123 to ensure enough space for everyone attending.

Medicare 101

ELY- Ely Community Education will offer a Medicare 101 class on Wednesday, Dec. 6, at 5:30 p.m. in the media center. Enter the center door (door No. 1) into the new addition to the Ely School District campus (between the elementary and high school buildings). Turn right after the entrance hallway. The me-

dia center is on the right, across from the new gym. Register at ely.k12.mn.us/medicare-101-fall-2023.

Forest Service Open House

ELY- The Kawishiwi Ranger District will hold an open house on Thursday, Dec. 7, from 4-6 p.m., at the district ranger station in Ely.

Call of the Wild

ELY- The next Northern Lakes Arts Association Call of the Wild Poetry Reading Night will be on Thursday, Dec. 7, from 5-6 p.m. at the Ely Folk School, 209 E. Sheridan St. The theme is "The naughty list: coal, creation, and coniferous." Sticking to the theme is optional. Bringing someone else's poem to read is okay. Just coming to listen is fine too. The event is free.

Holiday Concert

ELY- On Saturday, Dec. 9, at 7 p.m., Ely's Historic State Theater will host the annual Hometown Holiday Concert, featuring caroling, the Northern Lakes Arts Association Ely Community Choir, and other musical numbers, both live and recorded for this event.

Beach Party

ELY- Bring your surfboards, beach towels, sun umbrellas, and marshmallows to roast over the campfire because it's once again time for the Ely Folk School holiday party on Semers Beach, Saturday, Dec. 9, from 3-5 p.m. All this beachside fun is free.

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:

► Nov. 28: No meeting. This begins the winter holiday hiatus. The break over the holidays will last through Jan. 1, 2024. Upcoming speakers will be posted here..

Breathing Out

by Cecilia Rolando © 2023



thanks festivities begins the celebrations

gratitude and food

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.

AA FRIDAYS - 7 p.m.

Fridays, First Presbyterian Church, 262 E. Harvey St., Ely.

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

BABBITT AA - 7 p.m. Thursdays, Woodland Presbyterian Church.

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

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

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

ADULT BASIC EDUCATION GED

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

CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUPS:

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

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

COOK CITY COUNCIL

Council considers citizen's street safety concerns

City to host community-wide celebration at community center on Nov. 26

by DAVID COLBURN
Cook-Orr Editor

COOK- The Cook City Council took care of a relatively light and routine agenda at its regular monthly meeting on Nov. 16.

Resident Tom Soderberg appeared at the meeting to discuss safety concerns regarding lighting and street signage.

City administrator Theresa Martinson informed the council that in response to a request by Soderberg three street lights are being added on Lund Rd.

"When that street was developed and infrastructure was put in the idea was the road would continue once more homes were built, and now that has happened," Martinson said. "So I approved three

additional lights on Lund Rd. for safety."

Soderberg also had asked the city to consider putting up speed limit signs on Johnson Rd., but Martinson said that the city does not have the authority to do so, as the road is classified as a county road.

Soderberg suggested that speed limit signs should also be placed on Gopher Rd., as people are unaware that they are in the city of Cook because of the lack of signage. Martinson said that traffic engineers have recommended that the council should consider signage for the city as a whole rather than look at isolated streets, and recommended that the council's transportation committee meet in January to review possible needs and

options. The council did, however, pass a motion to place a speed limit sign on Gopher Drive.

The crosswalk by the old Cook school crossing Vermilion Dr. is also unmarked, Soderberg noted, and it would be the county's responsibility for providing appropriate signage and markings.

"The other one that's up by the tire shop that's also a county road is marked," Soderberg said.

The council also discussed possibilities for providing more benches to accommodate pedestrian traffic in the city. It was noted that benches along River St. were provided as part of a beautification grant, and that the city could encounter right-of-way issues in placing benches elsewhere.

The council approved

receipt of a Minnesota Department of Transportation grant for new snowblowing equipment for the airport. Under the agreement, the city's portion of the overall \$32,878 expense is only \$1,644. The state will match that amount, with the bulk of the funds, \$29,590, coming from federal aviation aid. The council also authorized auctioning a 2008 snowblower attachment that is obsolete.

An invoice from SEH for \$7,200 for work related to updating the airport zoning ordinance was approved.

Martinson reported that she has submitted an application to the Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board for funding for the proposed housing study for Cook and hopes to hear about

that by the end of the month. It is anticipated that the study will kickoff in early 2024.

The council reviewed plans for a community-wide celebration to be held on Sunday, Nov. 26 from noon to 4 p.m. at the Cook Community Center, Sunday Fun Day. A luncheon of pulled pork sandwiches, chips, coleslaw and cookies will be served, and free-will offerings will be accepted. The event will feature games, raffles, baskets, and more, and promises fun for the whole family. Funds raised will go to support programming at the community center.

In other business, the council:

► Re-appointed Sharon Ratai as a resident member to the Cook Housing Authority Board.

► Approved license renewals for the Old Muni and Cook VFW.

► Approved compensation of \$10.85/hr. for election judges and \$11.85/hr. for the election judge supervisor.

► Received an update on the mail-in survey responses for the city council regular meeting time. Martinson noted that responses received thus far are running in favor of changing the meeting time from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. She also reminded council members that the December meeting would start at 6 p.m. as it is the annual Truth-in-Taxation meeting, which is required to be held in the evening.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Celebrate the holidays with area community events Dec. 1-3

REGIONAL- There will be holiday cheer in abundance the weekend of Dec. 1-3 in Cook and Orr, with no fewer than five community holiday-themed events scheduled to take place.

Things will kick off with a whoop and a holler on Friday, Dec. 1 at 6 p.m. with "A Wild West Christmas," a dinner theater production at the Cook Evangelical Covenant Church at 11 2nd Street E. in Cook. Reservations for the production closed on Monday. All proceeds from the event will go to the Cook Food Shelf.

The festivities begin early in Orr on Saturday, Dec. 2 for the annual Snow City Christmas festival with a pancake breakfast at the Orr Community Center beginning at 7 a.m., hosted by the

Orr Fire Department. Christmas shoppers will find unique vendors offering their wares at the community center from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Spaces are still available by contacting Jenny Lind through the Orr Snow City Christmas Facebook event page.

Folks should arrive early to stake out a prime viewing spot for the always festive Christmas parade at noon, and Santa Claus will be at Pattenn's Café from 1-3 p.m.

Afternoon events include Music at The Dam featuring Uncle Eric from 2-5 p.m. and a free movie at Calvary Church, "Christmas Angel," from 3:30-5 p.m. A bean bag tournament at the community center will be held from 5-7 p.m. Adults can continue the fun into the evening with music at the



Santa will be busy in the North Country well before his Christmas Eve travels. file photo

Orr Muni featuring Deep Tracks from 8 p.m.-midnight.

Special food service for the day includes a street taco lunch by Sug-

arlicious and More from 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m. and a chili dinner hosted by North Woods Travelers from 4-7 p.m.

Also going on in Orr

that Saturday is a Christmas fair at the Orr Center, 10960 Hwy. 23, where a variety of vendors will be offering goods from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and baskets, gifts, and other items will be offered in a silent auction. Kids will have the opportunity to get their pictures taken with Santa from 3-5 p.m.

Festivities in Cook get underway at 3 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 2 with "Operation Rudolph," the annual event sponsored by Northwoods Riders at the Cook VFW that turns four hours of fun for participants into Christmas cheer for others by raising funds to help local families during the holidays. Enjoy a \$10 a plate meal and participate in the raffles to make the holidays brighter for others in need. Operation Rudolph offi-

cially ends at 7 p.m., but folks are invited to extend the fun with karaoke and music lasting until 11 p.m.

The celebration of the season continues on Sunday, Dec. 3 with "Santa's Workshop," sponsored by the Cook Friends of the Parks. There will be a free movie shown at the Comet Theater beginning at 12:45 p.m., and the main event will be at the Cook Community Center from 3-6 p.m. All food - pizza, cookies and beverages -- and activities are free thanks to generous community donations. Enjoy games, crafts, an animal walk and Hanson's horse-drawn wagon rides. Families can also receive a free photo with Santa Claus.

Registration opens for Orr Christmas lighting contest

ORR- It's time to be thinking about decking the house in holiday lights for the annual Orr City Christmas lighting contest.

Help light up the city with Christmas spirit by preregistering your home or business for the contest by calling Orr City Hall by Friday, Dec. 1. Participants must live within one mile of the Orr city limits and must be preregistered in order to qualify to be judged.

Judging will take

place on Saturday, Dec. 16, with results to be announced that day on the Orr City Facebook page. First place will be awarded \$125, second place will receive \$75, and third place will get \$50. Winners may choose to receive a cash payout or apply their winnings to their city utility bill.

The contest is sponsored by the City of Orr.

Library annual holiday raffle and auction continues

COOK- The community is encouraged to support the Friends of the Cook Public Library Fourth Annual Holiday

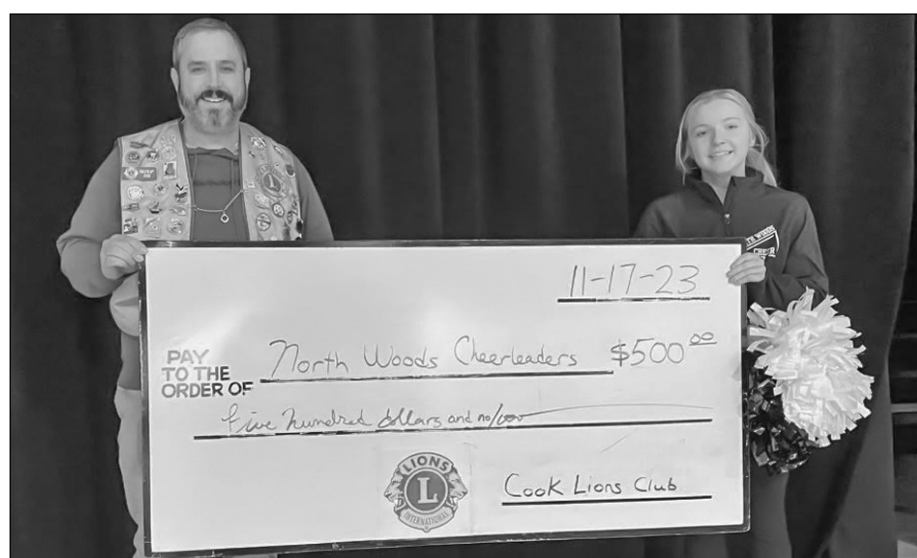
Basket Fundraiser going on now through Dec. 14 at the library.

An array of beautifully decorated baskets, lovingly assembled by volunteers, are on display and available by silent bid or the purchase of a raffle ticket. They are just right for gift giving. Visit the library to place a silent auction bid or buy raffle tickets to win a basket.

Bids and ticket sales end at 5 p.m. Dec. 14. Winners will be contacted on Dec. 15.

Proceeds from this event benefit programs sponsored by the Cook Public Library.

LIONS CLUB DONATION



Cook Lions Club President Steve Kajala presents a \$500 donation for the North Woods School cheerleaders to Chloe Johnson. submitted

NORTH WOODS SCHOOL FIRST QUARTER HONOR ROLL

A Honor Roll Seniors

- Evelyn Brodeen
- Jonah Burnett
- Annabelle Calavera
- Brandon Cook
- Madison Dantes
- Sean Drift
- Addy Hartway
- Riley Las
- Cadense Nelson
- Victoria Olson
- Tiauna Peltier
- Ella Smith
- Isaac Spears
- Trinity Vidal
- Adriana Whiteman
- Jacob Whiteman

Juniors

- Addison Burckhardt
- John Carlson
- Ryder Gibson
- Aidan Hartway
- Cody Kirkman
- Sierra Schuster
- Amber Sopoci

Sophomores

- Lincoln Antikainen
- Lauren Burnett
- Brynn Chosa
- Rowan Christian
- John Danielson
- Isabelle Koch
- Blaze Markwardt
- Victoria Mathys
- Isabel Pascuzzi

Freshmen

- Alethea Bangs
- Corralyn Brodeen
- Kate Cheney
- Presley Chiabotti
- Emarie Gibson
- Andrew Hartway
- Carson Johnson
- Ella Kruse
- Sophia Mathys
- Victoria Phillips
- Kaycee Zupancich

Eighth Grade

- Gage Aune
- Sophia Bangs

- Zoey Burckhardt
- Carsyn Burnett
- Colt Chosa
- Kayson Gaskell
- Sawyer Glass
- Cyrus Johnson
- Rebecca Koch
- Brittan Koskela
- Tysen Lenzen
- Joshua Long
- Kalle Nelson
- Aubrey Olson-Stoltenberg
- Vincent Pascuzzi
- Alice Sopoci
- Peyton Swanson
- Evalyn Thiel

Seventh Grade

- Olivia Baumgartner
- Anelise Brodegen
- Michaela Brunner
- Tessa Burnett
- River Deatherage
- Josie Gibson
- Laurin Glass

B Honor Roll Seniors

- Cora Chapman
- River Cheney
- LeMar Drift
- Talise Goodsky
- Chloe Johnson
- Nahvaya Kingbird
- Cynthia Kirkman
- Zefrym Mankowski
- Steven Morrison
- Alex Niles
- Jessy Palmer
- Cole Rabas
- Covington Rintala
- Luke Will

Juniors

- Nicholas Abramson
- Susan Aderman
- Rory Bundy
- Nia Gaskell
- Nevada Gauthier
- Vincent Kajala
- Rose'Lee Knott-Morgan
- Jaida Lambert
- Brielle Lindgren

- Louie Panichi
- Dayton Rintala
- Sheyenne Schuster
- Lydia Trip
- Lakota Villebrun

Sophomores

- Tatum Barto
- Josephine Carlson
- Talon Day
- Mariah Glowaski-Kingbird
- Brittin Lappi
- Scott Morrison
- Brent Morrow
- Anna Nelson
- Landon Novak
- Rogelio Noyes
- Payton Scofield
- Sadie Spears
- John Warren

Freshmen

- Grace Bundy
- Abigail Dargontina
- Kaelyn Ehrbright
- Collin Grah
- Khloe Holland
- Aiyeshia Mohamed

- Michael Nuthak
- Hunter Schwarzenberger
- Danika Udovich

Eighth Grade

- Johnathon Hampson
- Felicity Hoagland
- Cedar Holman
- Michael King
- Evangelina Mathys
- Connor Mickle
- Preston Novak
- Lila Pearson
- Cassidy Pinski
- Nevaeh Wipf

Seventh Grade

- Savannah Abts
- Beau Fahabts
- Caitlynn Goodbird
- Kaleb Gornick
- Alexis Hanson
- Lila Kajala
- Buckley LeForte
- Cooper Long
- Bayla Rutchasky
- Elias Sheffer
- Brady Swanson

FIGHTING CLIMATE CHANGE?

Proposed fed rule would allow perpetual use of national forests for carbon dioxide sequestration

But most of the CO2 would likely be used to boost fossil fuel production

by CATIE CLARK
Ely Editor

REGIONAL- Earlier this month, the U.S. Forest Service published a proposed rule that would grant both exclusive and perpetual rights to use national forest lands for the permanent capture and sequestration of carbon dioxide.

The proposed new rule, published Nov. 3 in the Federal Register, represents a departure from longstanding USFS policy, which has not granted perpetual rights on its lands in the past.

What's more, the Federal Register announcement excludes the proposed rule from any environmental review under the National Environmental Policy Act, or NEPA.

The new rule, if ultimately adopted, would potentially speed up the creation of new carbon capture and sequestration projects, which could include the construction of new pipelines to carry the gas. While it appears unlikely any such projects would be proposed on the Superior National Forest, it is possible new pipelines could impact other national forest lands in Minnesota, and it's already drawing criticism from environmental groups.

"It's public land," said Hudson Kingston, an Ely-based attorney who serves as legal director for CURE "and they're giving it away for nothing." CURE is based in Montevideo, Minn., and has focused recently on carbon dioxide pipelines.

Pipelines and EOR

While carbon capture and sequestration has the potential to be an important tool in the fight against climate change, oppo-

nents of most recent proposals note that the devil is in the details, or perhaps more accurately in the definitions of Carbon Capture and Underground Sequestration, or CCUS. While the process can include geological sequestration through the injection of carbon dioxide into certain geological formations, it can also include the use of the CO2 for what is known as enhanced oilfield recovery, or EOR. In EOR, oil and gas producers inject the CO2 under high pressure to help force more oil and gas to the surface, enhancing their production, and simply adding more CO2 back into the atmosphere as those products are burned for fuel.

Over 80 percent of carbon dioxide captured at its emission source in the U.S. is used for EOR and under federal law it is not only legal but eligible for a tax credit of \$60 for every metric ton of carbon dioxide disposed of in this manner. Environmental groups have called out this scheme for using funds that are supposed to mitigate climate change to increase oil and gas production.

Explaining the rule

Sequestration of gasses in deep geologic formations may sound like something new, but it's actually an old technology. American expertise in underground gas sequestration is the result of more than a century of underground storage of natural gas combined with the nation's once-dominant position in controlling the world's supply of helium, formerly stored in deep repositories under the Texas Panhandle and Oklahoma.

Deep injection of gas, including CO2, safely into deep forma-

tions underground is proven and feasible. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has already permitted deep well injection of CO2 into geologic formations in Illinois, while the U.S. Department of Energy has a pilot plant in operation in Washington State, injecting carbon dioxide into the Grande Ronde basalt on the Columbia River Plateau.

Disposal of carbon dioxide in the ground requires deep wells and a geologic formation that can hold onto the gas for at least a thousand years. Because storage is extremely long-term, the USFS wrote its proposed rule to reflect this longevity.

"Carbon capture and storage entail injecting and storing carbon dioxide in pore spaces below the surface of the earth," states the announcement of the proposed rule in the Nov. 3 Federal Register. "Carbon dioxide injected in pore spaces may remain for over 1,000 years after injection and would be tantamount to an exclusive and perpetual use and occupancy if authorized," notes the Federal Register in its recent announcement.

CCUS and Minnesota

The metamorphic bedrock underneath the Chippewa and Superior National Forests lacks the deep brine aquifers suitable for underground sequestration of carbon dioxide, so any potential impact on Minnesota's national forests would be limited to pipelines. Pipeline companies and carbon sources, like ethanol plants and fossil fuel power generation stations, would benefit from building a network of CCUS pipelines because of the current federal subsidies and carbon

capture tax credits.

National forests were created and intended for public multiple uses, including for resource extraction, like logging and mining. Pipelines are not considered a use contrary to the multiple mission of the USFS, and in fact, pipelines are common on national forests between Dallas and Houston. All these pipelines must renew their permits with the USFS at regular intervals.

Even here in Minnesota, Enbridge Energy, a Canadian multinational, has easements and permits from the USFS for their six oil pipelines through Chippewa National Forest. It is a plausible hypothetical example that a company like Enbridge could decide to build a carbon dioxide pipeline along its pre-existing right-of-way, perhaps to provide EOR carbon dioxide to the oil fields of North Dakota or Wyoming or the tar sands of Alberta.

"We know there are Enbridge easements through Chippewa National Forest," Kingston commented while discussing the proposed new CCUS rule with the *Timberjay*. "Enbridge has to renew those every 30 years. But now, the USFS is proposing to give pipeline companies like Enbridge a perpetual and exclusive right to occupy public land?"

Comment period

The USFS is accepting public comments until Jan. 2, 2024. Because the 60-day commenting period spans three major national holidays, a coalition of 140 environmental, social justice, and consumer advocacy groups sent a request to the USFS to extend the commenting period by 60

days. "There are a fair number of Minnesota organizations on that list of 140 orgs," Kingston pointed out. Among those groups are CURE and Ely's Northeastern Minnesotans for Wilderness.

The letter to the USFS argues "The public, particularly communities that stand to be most directly impacted by carbon capture and storage projects and CO2 pipelines and injection on USFS lands, cannot be expected to adequately consider and comment on the Proposed Rule given the time of year and tight timeline." It also raises the argument that area tribes have not been adequately consulted about the rule, which could affect their treaty and sovereign rights.

In an email to the *Timberjay*, Kingston wrote, "The point I'm making about carbon capture and public lands is that even if it's feasible, it's not necessarily acceptable. Just because you can do something doesn't mean that you should do it."

The text of the proposed USFS rule RIN 0596-AD55 is at <https://www.regulations.gov/docket/FS-2023-0014/document>. This link also serves as a portal for leaving public comments during the commenting period which is now open through Jan. 2 unless the USFS grants the requested extension.

Comments can also be mailed. Identify all comments by RIN 0596-AD55 and mail them to: Director, Lands, Minerals, and Geology Management Staff, 201 14th St. SW, Washington, DC 20250-1124.

RV PARK...Continued from page 1

August for an RV park and campground with 35 RV pads, nine tent sites, and five seasonal cabins.

In Ely, the Board of Adjustment makes all the decisions on conditional use permits. The BOA is essentially a committee of the whole of the Planning and Zoning Commission and, according to Ely's city ordinances, a board decision on a CUP can only be overruled if the application is denied and then appealed to the city council.

Dean Peterson did not expect the wall of opposition from neighbors at the BOA's first public hearing for his CUP application on Sept. 20, as reported in the Sept. 29 *Timberjay*.

The Sept. 20 BOA meeting concluded the public testimony phase of the CUP hearing. The BOA decided to continue the meeting and hold its discussion and vote on the



One of many signs along Pioneer Rd. in Ely protesting a proposed new RV park. The third public hearing on the matter was recently adjourned after 22 seconds without a decision.

photo by C. Clark

CUP application on Oct. 11. The Petersons and their Spaulding neighborhood opponents went home without a resolution on the CUP for the RV park.

The council chambers

were once again packed on Wednesday, Oct. 11, for the continuation of the CUP hearing, at which time Banovetz announced that the Petersons had withdrawn the applica-

tion temporarily and then adjourned the meeting 37 seconds later.

AOK reapplied for their CUP on Oct. 19, with an application several pages longer than the original. The new application decreased the number of RV pads by four, added a three-year phased workplan for construction, and included additional material like proposed campground quiet hour rules, and an engineering evaluation of shoreline stability. The Planning and Zoning Commission scheduled a new public hearing for Nov. 15, which mimicked the meeting on Oct. 11.

Many of those in attendance last week made it clear they weren't happy to have the hearing adjourned without resolution for a third time. In a repeat of both the Sept. 20 and Oct. 11 hearings, a small handful of members of the crowd

shouted their extemporaneous comments at the board immediately after the quick adjournment.

One unidentified commentator said he found the board's actions to be "rude and uninformative," and alleged that Banovetz had conspired to achieve passage of the CUP through attrition of the local opposition.

Banovetz told the commentator that he would take the gentleman's remarks "under advisement."

Ely area resident Paul Johnson brought up Banovetz's Oct. 18 exchange with city council member and Planning and Zoning Commission liaison Angela Campbell, which was covered in the Nov. 10 edition of the *Timberjay*. Johnson told Banovetz he disapproved of the way he had addressed Campbell on Oct. 18.

Without addressing

how he spoke to Campbell, Banovetz called Johnson's comment "unacceptable and untrue," and denied he had used vulgar language.

Following up at city hall after the BOA meeting, Ely clerk-treasurer Harold Langowski confirmed that the city determined the second, longer application was incomplete. By comparison, the first, much shorter application produced positive findings of fact from the city's planning and zoning administrator and was treated as complete. Langowski declined to list any specifics in the application that were considered to be incomplete.

Whether or when AOK Outdoors would be submitting new CUP paperwork is not known.

Dean Peterson of AOK Outdoors did not respond to a *Timberjay* request for comment.

CRASH...Continued from page 1

veered off the roadway, flipped over, and struck a tree. Boshey was pronounced dead at the scene, while Goggleye received critical injuries and was airlifted to a Duluth-area hospital for treatment.

Preliminary indications suggest that the vehicle was traveling at a

high rate of speed before the accident. Both individuals were wearing seatbelts at the time of the accident.

Tribal rites for Boshey were held Sunday at the Vermilion Wellness Center.

A GoFundMe campaign has been established to assist with Goggleye's medical

expenses. Donations can be made at <https://www.gofundme.com/f/matthews-family-with-expenses-for-hospital-stay>.

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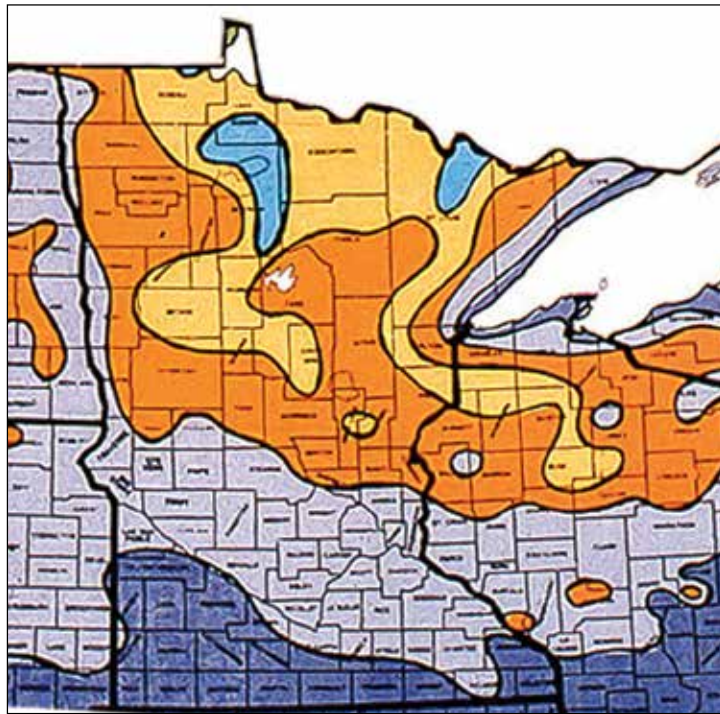
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WARMING...Continued from page 1

F. Much of northeastern St. Louis County, including Tower, Ely, and Embarrass, were listed as Zone 2b, reflecting an annual average minimum of minus 40-45 F. Most of central Minnesota was classified as Zone 3b, a designation that extended as far south as the northern suburbs of the Twin Cities and reflected annual average annual minimum temperatures of minus 30-35 F.

By 2012, Zone 3 had retreated to the northern half of the state and a few pockets in the southernmost counties of the state were designated as Zone 5a for the first time, reflecting annual minimums of minus 15-20 F.

The map released last week, by contrast, shows Zone 3a, which used to cover a huge swath of northern Minnesota back in 1990, was reduced to two small pockets centered over Tower and Embarrass and the far northern edge of Koochiching County, while Zone 4a now encompasses the entire Mesabi Iron Range.



Zone 3b, reflecting annual minimums of minus 30-35 F, has retreated to the northern third of Minnesota east of the Red River

valley. Much of southern Minnesota and the entire Twin Cities metropolitan area is now classified as

Left: The 1990 version of the plant hardiness zones produced by the USDA highlights the dramatic changes in the climate over the past 33 years. The bright blue areas in the far north designate Zone 2b, which no longer exists in Minnesota. The light orange signifies Zone 3a, which now only exists in the Tower/Embarrass area and along the Canadian border in far northern St. Louis and Koochiching counties. The light purple reflects Zone 4a, which now extends to the Mesabi Iron Range. Much of southern Minnesota is now Zone 5, which did not exist in the state back in 1990.

Zone 5a, a zone that didn't exist within 100 miles of Minnesota as recently as 1990.

"It's a big change," said Pete Boulay, state climatologist.

The disappearance of the

Zone 3 designation in the Lower 48 states has been among the most dramatic changes in the past 30 years. In 1990, Zone 3a or 3b classification extended across the northern half of Minnesota and North Dakota, northeastern Montana, the northern third of Maine and in pockets of the intermountain West and higher elevations of New England.

Today, Zone 3 is limited mostly to northern Minnesota, with smaller pockets along the Canadian border in North Dakota and Montana. Today, the only Zone 3a designation remaining in the Lower 48 is found in pockets of St. Louis and Koochiching counties in Minnesota, and a tiny pocket at high elevation near the Idaho-Montana border. If current trends continue, it is a designation almost certain to vanish in the Lower 48 with the USDA's next update.

"You don't get to minus 40 like you used to up north," said Boulay.

QUILTS...Continued from page 1

The church celebrated All Saints Day on Nov. 5, and over 170 quilts produced this year created a colorful display in the sanctuary, adorning pews, railings, and even neatly folded and tucked in the bottom of the altar.

"We've run out of room," Thomas said.

Given that the group's annual goal is 50 quilts, it can easily be said Trinity's quilters are a bunch of motivated overachievers.

And all those quilts were produced in just two months, Ruuska said.

"The ladies picked the time, they didn't want to have to come all of the time," she said. "So we picked the months that were slowest for them. For March, they were pretty well done with their spring cleaning and they hadn't

started gardening yet. And October was a good month because they were done with the gardening and outside stuff and it's before the holidays. It works. The ladies love it."

But pinning down just who all is "in the group" of quilters isn't exactly easy.

"We have about 12 that are regulars who show up and tie quilts," Ruuska said, "but there's probably a whole lot more that we don't even know about. They know that we do it and they'll maybe make tops for quilts and then bring them down to the church and we'll put them together."

There's a designated quilting room at the church, but sewing the tops is mostly done in quilters' homes, by choice.

"The ladies didn't like carrying their sewing

machines from home, and they didn't like our machines," Ruuska laughed. "We do keep a machine here at the church in case somebody wants to use it, or if they need a machine and want to borrow it they can."

Once a week in March and October the quilters gather at the church to tie and finish the quilts.

"It's a wonderful thing, and we have fun doing it," Thomas said.

"And we always stop for coffee," Ruuska said.

"Coffee's always at 10," Thomas added.

They're always looking for new volunteers, and one doesn't have to have expert seamstress skills to contribute.

"Can you tie a knot? You can quilt," Ruuska said.

There's little direction about how to make the quilts other than the size, 60"x80", and to use big pieces of material.

"Their (LWR) suggestion is just big pieces because a lot of the quilts they give out are laid out on the ground for use or tents are made out of them," Ruuska said. "But as long as the ladies want to do it, we use what we can get."

That includes some quilts from expert quilters that may not measure up to their usual standards.

"They may make something and they're not satisfied with it," Ruuska said. "One little thing is wrong with it. We've gotten some beautiful quilt tops where maybe they weren't happy with how they turned out."

The church also gets

some of the quilts through donations.

"It's not just our church, because everyone in Cook knows that we do this," Ruuska said. "We get donations from all around the area. You know, when grandma has been quilting for umpteen years and the kids don't know what to do with the quilts when she dies, they know we will take them. So they bring it to us."

Ruuska admits that she's done so many quilts that she has a hard time identifying her quilts in the sanctuary.

"I couldn't pick out the quilts I've made anymore," she chuckled. "I know that there's probably 30 quilts here that I've made, and I couldn't tell you which 30 they are."

On the other hand, she doesn't have a problem

picking out quilts made by the group's most prolific quilter, Hope Sampson, who's turned out over 300 quilts.

"All these denim quilts that you see scattered around here that have about the same-sized blocks, those are made by her," Ruuska said.

"She uses the same style, which is wonderful," Thomas said. "Why change it?"

Last year, the quilts from Trinity could have been shipped from LWR's Minnesota warehouse to Burkina Faso, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Haiti, Niger, Peru, Sierra Leone, and Tanzania, demonstrating that a little bit of home-grown God's love goes a long, long way.

PANCAKE Breakfast with THE GRINCH
DECEMBER 2 • 8-11 AM
 - Timber Hall Event Center - 4855 Hwy 21, Embarrass

Enjoy all-you-can-eat pancakes, choice of ham or sausage links, fruit cup, juice, a bottomless cup of coffee.
 Adults \$6, children (6-10 years) \$3, and 5 and under are FREE.

And, don't be a Grinch! Timber Hall Event Center will host a chance to give blood from 8:30 AM to Noon.

Holiday Craft Sale • Support our local crafters and small businesses with a purchase of handmade blankets, jewelry, décor, baked goods and more.

Donate Blood • Give the gift of life. Go online to https://www.mbcherohub.club/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/72761 to pre-register or signup inside Timber Hall Saturday morning. Walk-ins welcome!

Donate Gifts • Drop off an unwrapped gift or gift card for a child in our community. All gifts will be delivered to the Timberjay for Operation Santa (see info on page 6).

Donate Clothing • Once again Disabled American Veterans (DAV) will be accepting donations of gently used clothing. Please pack in white garbage bags.

And don't forget to check out our Little Free Library under the eaves.

This winter the Timber Hall will be open for Indoor Walking on Mondays and Wednesdays 5 PM until 7:30 PM

ANNUAL ORR SNOW CITY CHRISTMAS
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2
 Orr Community Center (former Legion)

- 7 AM-9:30 AM **PANCAKE BREAKFAST**
Orr Fire Department
- 9 AM-3 PM **CRAFT VENDORS**
- NOON **CHRISTMAS PARADE**
- 11:30 AM-3 PM **STREET TACO LUNCH**
By Sugarlicious and More
- 4 PM-7 PM **CHILI DINNER**
By The North Woods Travelers
- 1 PM-3 PM **SANTA at PATTENN'S CAFE**
PONY RIDES (Depending on Weather)
- 2 PM-5 PM **MUSIC AT THE DAM**
By "Uncle Eric"
- 3:30 PM-5 PM **MOVIE TIME**
"Christmas Angel" at Calvary Church
- 4 PM-7 PM **BAR IS OPEN**
At The Legion
- 5 PM-7 PM-ish **BEAN BAG TOURNAMENT**
At The Legion
- 8 PM-MIDNIGHT **MUSIC AT THE MUNI**
By "Deep Tracks"

Sponsored by:
 Orr Lions Community Foundation
 Orr Area Chamber of Commerce
 The Orr Center

TOWNSHIP NEWS

Huge turnout for Owens Twp annual meeting

by DAVID COLBURN
Cook-Orr Editor

OWENS TWP- A full slate of business was conducted at the Owens Township town meeting on Nov. 14 prior to the surprise resignations of Town Clerk Shirley Woods and Town Board Chair Wally Refsdal over the controversy surrounding Derusha Rd. that consumed the latter half of the meeting.

The meeting room at Woods' country home on Leander Rd. was filled to capacity with about 30 attendees, a fact Woods noted in her opening remarks.

"I thought it was interesting to know that we had ten people last year," Woods said. "A little bit different tonight, so that's pretty awesome."

Woods had good news for the assembly regarding the 2024 budget and levy—no increase will be necessary.

"The supervisors have gone over this and they believe that we

can keep the levy at \$24,000," she said. "It's been at \$24,000 for a number of years and we're able to run the township within that budget," she said.

Residents registered their approval in a voice vote.

The township retains about \$35,000 in its checking account and has reinvested \$23,000 from a money market account earning little interest into three certificates of deposit of \$15,000, \$5,000, and \$3,000 earning about five percent interest that should yield approximately \$1,300 this next year. Investing in variable sizes of CDs gives the township options to tap the funds if needed while reducing its exposure to possible early withdrawal penalties for doing so.

The group discussed possible donations to area groups. Town supervisor Doyle Svedberg said that the group should set a total amount for giving that would then be allocated to the groups they wished to give to. Woods

countered that the township had never done so in the past and had simply dealt with individual requests with a \$500 maximum donation per gift.

Marge Hyppa, the Owens Township representative to the Cook Hospital governing board, gave an extensive report on hospital activities. She indicated that the board had decided to raise the overall tax levy for the district by \$100,000, the first raise in the levy since 2020. However, the impact on property owners will be minimal due to increased tax capacity within the 2,500-square-mile district, she said. She also noted that the Cook Hospital Auxiliary donated \$30,000 to the hospital in 2022 from its thrift shop operations, and that the W.C. Heiam Foundation, which also supports the hospital, raised between \$40-50,000 at their annual fundraiser in August.

In other business at the annual meeting, the assembly:

➤ Heard a report on the Lake

Vermilion Trail Project. The township has actively supported the initiative, including donating \$1 per resident to the initiative, a total of \$244 for 2023.

➤ Heard a report about fire service through the Cook Fire Department. Svedberg reported that the per capita fee paid to the department for fire protection was raised from \$28 to \$40 to provide for necessary upgrades to equipment.

➤ Heard a report from township supervisor Mike Christensen about maintenance performed at the cemetery. He noted that it is the responsibility of families to have crooked stones righted and that the board is working to try to get those issues addressed.

➤ Heard an update about projects at the Cook airport.

➤ Heard from two residents about issues with snowplowing and grading on township roads. Woods advised them that those were issues that should be dealt with through the county per the

township's maintenance agreements and encouraged them to contact the Public Works office in Cook with their concerns.

➤ Approved a \$500 donation to Cook Friends of the Parks for a project to renovate the ice rink at the Cook Community Center for use as a pickleball court.

➤ Declined to donate to the St. Louis County Fair, as it provides little benefit to the township.

➤ Approved a \$500 donation to the Cook Public Library.

➤ Designated the *Cook News-Herald* as the official township newspaper.

➤ Held a 50-minute discussion about the controversy surrounding Derusha Rd., as reported in the Nov. 17 *Timberjay*, at the end of which Woods presented the resignations for herself and Refsdahl and unilaterally ended the meeting, directing attendees to leave her property.

GETTING OUTDOORS

Free entrance to all Minnesota state parks this Friday

REGIONAL — The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is waiving entrance fees to all 75 state parks and recreation areas on Friday, Nov. 24 — the day after Thanksgiving. This "Free Park Day" is one of four days each year when the DNR waives the requirement for a vehicle permit at state parks and recreation areas. The goal of Free Park Days is to encourage Minnesotans to get outdoors and enjoy the health and wellness benefits of spending time in nature.

"During the hustle and bustle of the busy holiday season, Minnesota state parks

and recreation areas are the perfect places to enjoy the tranquility of nature," said Ann Pierce, director of the DNR Parks and Trails Division. "We encourage people to get outside with friends and family after Thanksgiving gatherings to enjoy the calming sights and sounds of nature."

Many published studies show the positive physical and mental health benefits of spending time in nature. According to the American Psychological Association, the calming and restorative qualities of nature help lower cortisol levels, which leads to reduced stress and improved

cognitive function.

Some state parks will offer naturalist programs on Nov. 24. Among the programs planned on Free Park Day are guided nature walks at Whitewater, Wild River and Split Rock Lighthouse state parks. Most naturalist programs are free, but sometimes require advance registration. Check the parks and trails event calendar webpage (mndnr.gov/ptcalendar) for details.

Right: You can work off a few of those Thanksgiving calories with a hike in a Minnesota state park this Friday. Entrance is free.



Tower's First Annual Small Business Saturday Saturday, November 25



Participating Main Street businesses include:

Stop at Pike River Products

- **Santa will be visiting Tower's Gathering Gallery:** (side entrance) from 12:30-3 p.m. with hot cocoa and cookies provided by Pike River Products. **Katrina B. Photography** has volunteered to take photos and they will be posted on her Facebook Page. Be sure to talk to Katrina about booking a family photograph session.
- **Winter Market:** featuring local artisans and farmers market will be set up at Pike River Products.
- **Enter the 50/50 raffle:** benefiting Tower-Soudan Area Events Board.
- **Over \$200 in raffle prizes available:** simply make a purchase on Main Street on Nov. 25, 2023, and bring in your receipt for entry at Pike River Products. Multiple purchases equal multiple entries, however only one prize awarded per person. Raffle drawings held at 3:30 p.m. on Nov. 25, need not be present to win.

Good Ol' Days Bar & Grill: \$1.00 off tap beers & well drinks.

Benchwarmer Grille: Cheeseburger & Fries for \$10.50 + \$3 Rail drinks & domestic bottles; sweatshirts also for sale, great gift item!

Harbor View Health and Wellness:

Open 10-4, sales up to 50% off in-store, minimal exclusions apply +10% off first Obagi Skincare order + \$20/month Skin Club memberships providing discounts and additional savings just for members + Gift basket drawing.

D'Erick's Tower Liquor: \$1.00 tappers + \$1.00 Chuck Norris & Johnny Vegas - ALL DAY!

Sulu's Espresso Cafe: Gift items on sale. Soup, sandwiches, and delicious drinks available. Craft items by artisan Sue Ellis for sale.

Zup's: Assorted Doritos and Cheetos 2 for \$6. Sweatshirts also for sale, great gift item!

UBetcha Antiques & Uffda Gifts: We will pay your sales tax on sales Friday/Saturday/Sunday.

Nordic Home North: \$100 off already reduced floor model chairs. Door prize drawing for a FLICKR fire personal fireplace, 50% off giftware table, free wooden ornament just for visiting the store (limit two per family), and as always, hot chocolate and Nordic goodies.

Northern Lights Salon & Co: Purchase \$75 in gift cards, receive \$10 gift card for free, plus 10% off all in-stock products.

Vermilion Fuel & Food: Save 15% on all fishing tackle purchases over \$50 with cash payment.

Little Green Pantry: Healthy food, large variety of gifts, and antiques. Open 10 AM - 4 PM.

Pike River Products:

Stop in to find a great selection of hand-made gifts including purses, wallets, belts, backpacks, t-shirts, soaps, rugs, blankets, and canoe paddles; there will also be a Special Pricing sale table featuring various items.



And... For that hard-to-buy-for person...gift certificates for groceries, gas, and personal services are a great option, at the above businesses but also check out Bob's Service, Vermilion Golden Rule Lumber, Northwoods True Value, Timberjay, Tower News, Vermilion Shear Image, Rick's Relics and LeAnn's Beauty Salon.

Sponsored by the Tower-Soudan Area Events Board

SUPPORT
Small
Businesses

SEE YOU
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RECOGNITION

Babbitt Friends of the Library honored by top state award

by CATIE CLARK
Ely Editor

BABBITT- Last June's Up North Craft and Vendor Extravaganza has won the Friends of the Babbitt Library the 2023 Eva Nordley Award for Best Project from the Minnesota Association of Library Friends, or MALF. The statewide association describes the Eva Nordley Award as its "flagship prize," named for one of the founders of organization. The June event at the Babbitt Library was nominated

over the summer and reviewed by a panel of judges, which made the award.

The association only gives out one Eva Nordley award a year, which comes with a plaque, certificate, and cash prize of \$1,000.

"Babbitt is one of the smallest communities to ever earn what is MALF's highest prize," said a statement from the Babbitt Public Library, "which shows that exemplary, innovative Friends work happens within groups and

towns of all sizes."

The Babbitt Friends of the Library are extending their sincere appreciation to the many wonderful vendors and shoppers who attended the event, the city of Babbitt, the Babbitt Seniors, and members and other supporters who made the Up North Craft and Vendor Extravaganza event such a success. Stop by the library to see the award plaque and join the award-winning Friends of the Babbitt Library if you haven't already.



The Friends of the Babbitt Library with the Eva Nordley Award from the Minnesota Association of Library Friends. Left-to-right, back row: Kathleen Graber with the award certificate, Renee Adams, Elaine Postudensek with the award plaque, Carolyn Holm, and Terri Loewen. Front row: assistant librarian Joann Briggs, library director Lisa Pennala, library clerk Jenna Sutter.

BUSINESS BENEFITS

Grants available for businesses impacted by border closure

REGIONAL—Grants up to \$50,000 each are being made available to businesses located in counties bordering Canada. For-profit businesses that lost 10 percent or more in revenues during the closure of the Canadian

border since 2020 and/or the 2021 closure of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness will be eligible.

The Northland Foundation will help manage the process to award funding of more than

\$2.5 million. The funding and eligibility guidelines were established in law during the last legislative session.

Businesses located in counties bordering Canada, including the tribal nations of Bois Forte, Grand

Portage, Fond du Lac and Red Lake, can apply.

A portion of the state funds are set aside for businesses that are majority owned (at least 51 percent) by enrolled member(s) of a Minnesota-based tribe and tribal government-owned businesses located within a county that borders Canada.

Businesses that apply must have experienced at least a 10 percent drop

in gross receipts between 2019 and 2021, which they can show by providing copies of tax returns from those years.

Grant dollars must be used for business purposes, for example, to support payroll expenses, rent or mortgage payments, utility bills, equipment, and other similar expenses that occur in the regular course of business.

Applications will be accepted electronically until 5:00 p.m. on January 12, 2024. More information, along with the link to apply, can be found on the Northland Foundation's website at <https://northlandfdn.org/grants/special-grants.php>.

Grants will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis.

REFLECTIONS DANCE COMPANY + NLAA PRESENT:

SWING NIGHT

DEC 1, 2023 7-9 PM

ELY SENIOR CENTER

PAY-WHAT-YOU-CAN
(suggested donation \$10 payable via cash, check or card)

6:30-7:00 PM: 30-minute lesson of the basics.
7:00-9:00 PM: Open dance.

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THANK YOU FOR HELPING RAISE \$27,400 FOR UNITED FOR VETERANS!

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DEC. 31, 2023 AT ELY'S HISTORIC STATE THEATER

6 PM RECEPTION

7 PM CONCERT

\$50 PER TICKET

QR Code

New Year's Eve With TONY AND FRANK

Featuring IAN FRANCIS LAH & MSO POPS ORCHESTRA

Prepare to be swept away by an evening that pays homage to the legendary Tony Bennett and Frank Sinatra.

Experience the charm and charisma of two of music's greatest icons as their melodies fill the air. Our stage will come alive with the enchanting sounds that made Tony Bennett and Frank Sinatra legendary.

Join us at Ely's Historic State Theater for a night of music, culinary delights, and New Year's celebrations that promise to be nothing short of spectacular. Reserve your spot now and make memories that will last a lifetime.

Let's welcome the New Year with an elegance and grace that only the classics can provide. We look forward to celebrating with you.

Admission includes heavy hors d'oeuvres, and a champagne toast

Tickets are \$50 and only available at www.mesabisymphonyorchestra.org

Reserve Your Spot

This activity is made possible in part by a grant from Ely's Donald G. Gardner Humanities Trust

Gardner Humanities Trust, BRAIN STORM, pebble, GREAT RIVER ENERGY, CLIFFS

NorthCountry

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SNOWMOBILE TRAILS

Aging bridges pose challenge for clubs, DNR

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

REGIONAL— The state of Minnesota, with help from local clubs, maintains more than 22,000 miles of snowmobile trails across the state, and that means countless bridges that cross streams, ditches, and wetlands, all requiring maintenance and eventual replacement.

And with much of the state's trail infrastructure dating back to the 1980s and 90s, many of those bridges are coming due for major repairs or replacement— and the cost of that work is a lot higher than

it was in the past.

And that means some bridges may go without needed repairs for longer than would otherwise be the case. A typical example can be found right in Tower, where the Iron Ore Trail cuts south from the Taconite Trail. A small wooden bridge provides access across the East Two River and it's used by snowmobilers as well as hikers accessing the Ancient Cedars Trail.

But the condition of the bridge deteriorated significantly over the past two years, with decking that had rotted and fallen away in places, and a wooden railing that has fallen

Right: The snowmobile bridge over the East Two River in Tower as it was as of mid-November. The missing and rotted decking and collapsed guard rail have since been replaced.

into the river.

"We have a lot of bridges like that, a lot of homemade bridges from back in the day," said Joe Majerus, area trails manager in the DNR's Tower office.

While DNR trails staff made
See BRIDGES...pg. 2B



NEW PRODUCT LAUNCH

ULTIMATE SAUNA

Kuuma BluFlame ushers in a new era for sauna stoves

by JODI SUMMIT
Tower-Soudan Editor

TOWER- The portable sauna sitting in the parking lot of Lamppa Manufacturing was a toasty 190 degrees this past week and the small bundle of firewood fueling the stove had burned down to a pile of red-hot embers. But anyone walking by would not realize the sauna had been lit, because no smoke was coming out of the chimney.

The sauna, built by Bear Naked Sauna from Hermantown, has been serving as a testing ground for a new type of sauna stove developed by Lamppa Manufacturing. It's Lamppa's latest invention, the Kuuma

Above: Daryl and Garrett Lamppa are announcing the launch of their new wood gasifying sauna stove, known as BluFlame.

photo by J. Summit

Right: Daryl and Glenn Auerbach, of saunatimes.com with the original BluFlame prototype.

submitted photo

BluFlame wood-burning sauna stove, and it has the potential to revolutionize the sauna stove market.

Lamppa sold about 20 of the new stoves this summer, mostly to commercial sauna

See SAUNA...pg. 2B



GOOD READING



The newly-installed Little Free Library at the Timber Hall in Embarrass, installed by the Babbitt Friends of the Library. photo by C. Clark

Little Library installed at Timber Hall

by CATIE CLARK
Ely Editor

EMBARRASS- A small house full of stories and ideas popped up last month just outside the Timber Hall in Embarrass. The little house was a foot and a half wide by two feet high, perched on a post and base. A glass door opened to three compartments filled with books. A sign on the door proclaims, "Take a book, share a book."

The little house full of reading material is a registered Little Free Library, one of six that the Babbitt Friends of the Library have put up around the area. Other locations include the Babbitt Cenex station, Lossing Building Center, 10 Hemlock next to the Babbitt Ice Arena, Just Bite Me Bait, and now the Timber Hall in Embarrass.

"They were all built by volunteers," Babbitt Librarian Lisa Pennala told the *Timberjay*. "The Little Free Library at the Timber Hall was built by a gentleman from Embarrass, who also built the log cabin-style library currently at Lossing's."

Mike Radtke built the two little libraries and donated them back in 2021. The little library at Lossing's was installed shortly after, but Pennala said a variety of factors delayed the installation of the little

See LIBRARY...pg. 3B

THE ALL NEW KUUMA

BLUFLAME

THE ULTIMATE SAUNA STOVE

Daryl H. Lamppa

CHECK IT OUT AT LAPPAKUUMA.COM

HANDCRAFTED IN TOWER, MN

SAUNA..Continued from page 1B

businesses who have been providing feedback and suggestions. The stoves feature a very high-grade stainless interior, that won't rust and can withstand the higher temperatures. The stove exterior is more decorative. The commercial operators appreciate the stove's efficiency, using less wood (three sticks) and requiring less frequent refilling, which means little or no smoke escaping into the sauna room. They also appreciate how easy these stoves are to use.

"They are using less wood and getting more heat," said Garrett Lamppa, the fourth generation of the Lamppa family designing sauna stoves.

While residents of the North Country can get firewood easily, it is expensive and harder to come by in urban areas, Garrett noted, so efficiency is a key selling point.

The decorative rock box that sits on top of the stove was designed by Garrett and Lamppa's plant manager Dale Horihan. Plans are to offer different designs, which can also be swapped out on existing stoves.

"There are a lot of strong supporters out there who like this product and what we stand for," Garrett said.

Orders are now being taken on their new website for BluFlame, and stoves are expected to start shipping out in January. The stove is priced about \$1,000 higher than their regular sauna stove but comes standard with a large glass window to view the fire inside. Options will include



a hanging water tank.

"These are built to last and last," Garrett said. "Our competitors are using lower quality steel and materials. They care about their margins. They don't care how long their stoves last."

Garrett said they have been selling quite a few stoves to people in Alaska, and while the cost to ship them is quite high, the customers know they won't need to be replacing the stove anytime soon. Also, he noted, Alaska has air quality restrictions, so the smokeless stoves are a big draw.

Developing the BluFlame

Lamppa Kuuma is synonymous with sauna in the Northwoods. Since moving to their new manufacturing plant in Tower, they have been selling over 500 of their traditional wood-fired sauna stoves each year.

After the move in 2019 from Lamppa's cramped quarters in an old dairy plant on S. Third Street in Tower, and with Garrett

Above: The new portable sauna located in front of Lamppa Manufacturing for use in testing.

Right: The sauna was at a toasty 190 degrees on a day last week.

photos by J. Summit

now leading the day-to-day operations at the company, Daryl Lamppa took his semi-retirement time to work on a new dream—designing and testing how to transfer the technology they had developed when creating the cleanest wood-burning furnace to the simpler set-up required for a wood-burning sauna stove.

Creating a "gasification" process in a sauna stove, without the computerized controls utilized in Lamppa's Vapor-Fire Furnace, is something that turned out to be tricky to achieve. It took Daryl about three years and five pickup loads of firewood to get a stove that could achieve a burn process hot enough to burn clean and



hot enough to capture over 70-percent of the heat in the firewood. And to their credit, it is the only sauna stove in the world that runs this efficiently.

In the meantime, the staff at Lamppa Manufacturing was also working on creating a new stove design that was safer, prettier, and had more options than their current model.

Garrett gave credit to his entire crew, but especially employees Nick Lempia, Jason Barnes, Chad Reichensperger, and Lauren Aho.

"That's the coolest part of this," Garrett said. "They wanted to help make it better. We worked

through all the challenges, and there have been plenty of them. This was really a team effort."

This new stove is filling a relatively new niche in the sauna stove market. The popularity of sauna has exploded in recent years, and that means more saunas are being installed in urban areas, and more sauna-related businesses are popping up in urban centers.

"There is a new generation getting into sauna," Garrett said. "And this appeals to them."

Saunas were and still are a fixture in many rural homesteads in the northern states, where firewood is readily available, and neighbors are far enough away that chimney smoke is not an issue.

But wood-fired stoves in urban areas can cause problems with particulate pollution, as well as producing smoke that is irritating for neighbors.

"This stove can be used in states that regulate wood-burning stoves," Garrett said. "It won't bother neighbors. It's environmentally friendly. It burns much less wood."

No smoke means no creosote, and creosote is what causes chimney fires, Garrett said. The new design also features a larger decorative rock box on the top of the stove, which can be filled with up to 275 pounds of rock and will retain the heat at sauna-ready temperatures for over a day. More rocks create a more mellow steam, he said. But sauna owners can choose to use fewer rocks, which will get hotter and produce a more

stinging steam.

Sauna stoves run in the family

Garrett's great-grandfather Richard welded up his first sauna stove back in the 1930s, with help from Garrett's grandfather, Herb. The stoves were made from old metal oil drums, and one of these earliest models is on display at the Lamppa building.

That first sauna stove was about 15-percent efficient, meaning that 85-percent of the potential heat from the wood being burned was piped out and out the chimney.

Richard had taught his son Herb to weld, and in later years Herb along with his son Daryl went on to manufacture a much more efficient sauna stove, the Lamppa Kuuma in the 1970s. The sauna design was refined over the years, and in 2004 the stove received its UL approval.

The Lamppas went on to manufacture what is now the cleanest burning wood furnace ever tested, along with both wood-burning and electric sauna stoves.

Daryl's son Garrett soon joined his father in the business, and shepherded the business as it moved to their new manufacturing plant on Hwy. 135.

The BluFlame is burning wood with efficiencies in the 70th-percentile.

Lamppa is also working on developing a highly-efficient and UL-certified electric sauna stove. About 80-percent of sauna heaters currently sold in the U.S. are electric, so they see another opportunity to grow their business by entering this market.

BRIDGES..Continued from page 1B

repairs to the bridge this past week, the situation helps to highlight the magnitude of the task of maintaining a vast trails infrastructure, most of which is maintained by private snowmobile clubs.

Majerus said he'd gotten a couple inquiries about the condition of the bridge in question, and a call from this reporter was another reminder that the bridge was in serious need of repair. Majerus had said his staff would make the needed repairs by the time the snowmobile season gets officially underway on Dec. 1 — a promise that he fulfilled just ahead of Thanksgiving.

But assessing the condition and safety of hundreds of bridges across the state, and funding needed repairs, replacement, and upgrades on bridges that may not be as easily accessible as the bridge in Tower, is a challenging and often complicated balancing act. "We've got a backlog of aging infrastructure that we're continually trying to keep up with," said Chuck Carpenter, the DNR's parks and trails regional manager based in Grand Rapids.

Carpenter said safety is the DNR's first priority and he said engineers are supposed to inspect every state-managed bridge on a three-to-five-year cycle.

How many bridges are we talking about?

"We don't know how many bridges are in the system," said Wade Miller, state trail and snowmobile program consultant with the DNR, based in St. Paul. "There are a lot of bridges within the snowmobile system on private and public lands. The DNR owns, inspects, and maintains 550 of them. A total of 442 are snowmobile bridges." According to Miller, when the DNR inventoried all the snowmobile trails in the state back in 2009, it identi-



The Iron Ore Trail bridge over the East Two River was repaired last week and is ready for the snowmobile season. photo by M. Shedd

fied its own bridges, but has inventoried the many grant-in-aid bridges not on state lands. "I couldn't even give you a guess how many the clubs maintain," he added. Determining that number "hasn't been a priority," he said, because landownership changes, trail permissions terminate and reroutes are identified.

Complicating that question for the DNR is the fact that the agency isn't responsible for most of the bridges in the system. Out of the 22,000 miles of snowmobile trails in the state, the DNR actually grooms about 1,200 miles. The vast majority of trails in the state, about 21,500 miles, are maintained by local snowmobile clubs who fund their operations through a combination of local fundraising and state grant-in-aid dollars that pays for trail maintenance and grooming. In most cases, as part of their grant-in-aid contracts, clubs agree to take responsibility for maintaining their own bridges.

"They need to make sure it can support the weight," of things like snowmobiles and groomers, said Miller. "They need to inspect their own bridges."

In other cases, where

bridges cross existing roads, it's up to the local road authority to inspect and maintain their bridges to a safe standard in most cases. Bridges located on county and federal lands are typically the responsibility of agencies like the U.S. Forest Service to maintain. That's not always the case since underlying maintenance agreements are sometimes made that place the responsibility for bridge maintenance with another entity. What's more, many of the snowmobile trail bridges are on private land and it can be up to the landowner, depending on the agreements in place, to ensure their bridge is safe.

And many of the bridges are beginning to show their age. Much of the existing snowmobile trail network was established back in the 1970s, which means many of the mostly wooden bridges that provide road and water crossings are anywhere from 35-45 years old.

"Some of them are pretty scary," said Ron Potter, who retired from DNR trails several years ago and has worked mostly on ATV trail development since. "A lot of times, when the clubs built those bridges years ago, they used whatever they could find. Old

telephone poles, and things like that. One we replaced on the Birch River was an old railroad flat car," he said. Some clubs have used old railroad trestle bridges, sometimes hundreds of feet long, that are among the scariest, and oldest, bridges on the system, noted Potter.

Ongoing maintenance, repairs, and replacement is key to maintaining this critical trail infrastructure, but Miller notes that the cost of doing that work has increased dramatically.

A 15-ton bridge, which is the standard for statutorily authorized state trails, such as the Taconite or Arrowhead trails, is a big investment these days. "They can cost from \$200,000 up to a million dollars," said Miller.

Those investments can improve the efficiency of grooming operations, particularly as older bridges, such as the Taconite Trail's arched metal bridge over the Pike River, are replaced. That's a five-ton bridge that DNR groomers quit using several years ago as a result of its unnerving tendency to bounce noticeably as the grooming rigs passed over. Majerus said that bridge is scheduled for replacement soon.

The Pike River bridge is something of an excep-

tion given its length and height and metal construction. Majerus said most of the bridges are like the one crossing the East Two River along the Iron Ore Trail — homemade, wooden, and well past their prime.

While maintaining a high standard for the trail system's bridges might be a laudable goal, Miller said the impact could be significant. "If every bridge in the state had to meet the same specs, there's not the money anywhere to meet that requirement," said Miller. "If you think of all the water in Minnesota, we would lose a lot of trails."

At the local level, Majerus said his staff is "slowly chipping away" at the backlog of needed repairs on bridges in the Tower work area as funds are available and notes "some bridges are worse than others."

Keeping track of what bridges are most in need, and determining which of any number of entities might be responsible for maintaining them isn't always easy, acknowledges Miller.

"In some cases, it's probably unclear," said Miller and can require locating old agreements that might date back decades.

Funding variable

While local snowmobile clubs are responsible for maintenance and grooming of their trails under their grant-in-aid funding, money for significant bridge repairs or replacement generally comes from separate DNR project grants. Demand for those funds appears to be on the rise. Miller said in the past, the DNR received few applications for bridge projects from local clubs, but the agency received 12 applications this year and were only able to fund half of them, at a little over a million dollars combined.

The funding avail-

able for that work, like the funding available for grooming and other trail work can be highly variable, depending on winter conditions.

The funds that go out to clubs are raised from two primary sources, snowmobile registration fees and a small portion of the state's gas tax that is supposed to reflect the percentage of fuel used by snowmobilers. Gas tax dollars have been slowly declining, notes Miller, as more drivers turn to electric or hybrid vehicles that use little or no gasoline. And he said the amount of funding generated by registration fees is highly dependent on snow conditions. In winters when little snow falls, registration fees can drop significantly.

On average, said Miller, the DNR generates a little over \$13 million annually to fund grooming and maintenance of the entire trail system, which highlights the challenges when replacing a single bridge can cost a million dollars.

"The snowmobile account can't sustain all the bridges by itself," he notes.

Fortunately, notes Potter, many clubs have learned to tap other sources of funding. When the Ely Igloos decided recently to replace an old bridge over the Kawishiwi River, he said they reached out to Lake County to put in for state bonding dollars. The Babbitt area club tapped funds from Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation, some ATV-dedicated, and a federal recreation funding program to replace the old rail car bridge over the Birch River which serves both snowmobiles and ATVs. Potter said tapping such funding sources are critical since the available from the snowmobile account isn't up to the need.

Obituaries and Death Notices



Robert E. Miettunen

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Robert "Bob" Edward Miettunen, 82, on Friday, Nov. 3, 2023. He was a man of strength, dedication, and unwavering love for his family. A celebration of life is being planned for family and close friends in Ithaca, New York, in the summer of 2024. Arrangements are with Cremation Services Direct of Myrtle Beach, S.C.

In lieu of flowers, those who wish to honor our dad's memory are asked to contribute to Grandma Gini's Coffee... And Fund. All that our dad wanted was for our mom to be happy and taken care of. She enjoys her daily walk to a marketplace near her home called Market Commons to get her steps in and to get a coffee and sweets. She has her favorite places where the staff know her and take care of her. Coffee... And gives her joy.

Bob was born on May 2, 1941, in Soudan and raised in Tower-Soudan. A proud alumnus of the University of Minnesota, he graduated with a B.S. in Engineering in 1969. His first career venture involved working in support of the NASA Apollo missions. Later, his expertise led him to Xi'an, China, where he spent six years developing a joint venture for GTE/Sylvania. Bob retired from SONY in Pittsburgh, Pa., in 2000.

Bob's greatest passion besides his family was playing and coaching ice hockey. He was his son Rob's travel hockey coach for many years, a position that took the Miettunen family all over upstate New York and Canada. Years later, he coached his grandson Cameron's hockey team in Geneseo, N.Y. His coaching and mentoring had a positive impact on his players; he was a second father/grandfather to many. He also passed down his love

of hockey to his grandchildren and took pride in watching all of them play at various levels, including collegiate.

Bob was a talented hockey player himself, playing in his youth and in his retirement years with his beloved Gray Wolves Hockey Club. For many years, he made the trip from Rochester to Skaneateles, N.Y., to play with the Gray Wolves and traveled to "Gerihatricks" tournaments along the East Coast. He was active as a player with the Gray Wolves until his move to South Carolina in 2021.

Bob was a master woodworker and cabinet maker. He spent many hours in his workshop designing and building furniture. Many of these pieces are cherished by his family and close friends.

Bob was a man who believed in enjoying life. He often found joy spending time golfing with family and friends, and vacationing in Maine, his favorite destination, creating cherished memories with those he loved. Once retired, he and Gini enjoyed many travel adventures with his two cousins, Diana and Karen, including trips to Finland, Ireland and Nova Scotia.

Bob was extremely proud of his Finnish heritage and enjoyed passing on Finnish traditions and culture to his children and grandchildren. He epitomized the Finnish trait of *sisu*, which can be translated into English as "strength of will, determination, perseverance, and acting rationally in the face of adversity".

Bob's life was a testament to hard work, perseverance, and an enduring love for his family. His presence will be deeply missed by all who had the privilege to know him, and his spirit will continue to live on through the many lives he has touched.

Bob was a beloved husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather. He is survived by his wife, Gini Miettunen, born and raised in Ely, to whom he was married for more than 60 years. Their love story was the foundation upon which their family grew, encompassing two loving daughters, Juli Hatlee (Michael) and Kristi Hughes (Shawn), and a devoted son, Rob

Miettunen (Claudia). His legacy continues through his precious grandchildren, Brendan Hatlee (Courtney), Ian Hatlee (Alex), Michaela Houston (Amanda), Allison Miettunen (AJ), Juliette Miettunen (Brady), Robbie Miettunen, Cameron Hughes, Makenna Hughes and Parker Hughes; and great-granddaughters, Harlow Hatlee and Madeleine Hatlee, who brought him much joy.

He was predeceased by his parents, Julia and Edward Miettunen, and carries their memory with him.



Tra'von R. Boshey

Tra'von Raymond Boshey, age 17, of Tower, an amazing big/little brother, son, cousin and friend died Wednesday, Nov. 15, 2023, as a result of injuries sustained in an automobile accident.

Tribal Rites were held on Sunday, November 19, 2023 at the Vermilion Wellness Center. Vernon Adams was the Spiritual Advisor. Burial will follow in the Bois Forte Vermilion Cemetery. Family services provided by Bauman-Vermilion, A Bauman Family Funeral Home in Tower.

Tra'von was born on April 13, 2006 to Amber Boshey and Roba Mohamed.

Tra'von is survived by his parents Amber Boshey and Roba Mohamed; brothers Davonte Boshey, Omari Mohamed, Hunter Petersen, Esknder Roba, Akram Roba, and Adil Roba; sister Aiyeshia Mohamed; paternal grandparents Ahmed Omar and Amina Adem; maternal grandparents Kim Day and Dale Boshey, Sr.; and numerous extended family and many friends.

He was preceded in death by his maternal great-grandparents, Ray and Gloria Boshey.

He was amazing to everyone he had crossed

paths with. We loved to watch you grow into the amazing person you were. Tra'von was very smart, athletic, funny outgoing; the list will never end. Your laugh would light up the room and make everyone smile. Tra'von loved to play basketball, any chance he could get, but only with his boys. He had plans on joining the basketball team this year, we were all so excited to cheer him on. We wish we were able to watch you and your career flourish. We will always cheer for you that will never stop.

Richard R. Tornow Sr.

Richard "Dick" Roy Tornow Sr., 81, of Baxter, formerly of Embarrass, passed away on Monday, Nov. 13, 2023. Funeral services were held on Saturday, Nov. 18 at Good Shepherd Free Lutheran Church in Baxter. Arrangements were with Brenny Family Funeral Chapel of Baxter.

He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Lucy; children, Richard Jr. (Denise), David (Rahna) and Melissa (Jim); sister, Kathy (LeRoy) Hamberg; brother, Charles (Betty); grandchildren, Angela, Aaron, Brittany, Caleb, Ricky, James, Wade, Johnathon, Jordan and Fayth; eight great-grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

Millard J. Kendrick

Millard John Kendrick, 77, of Embarrass, passed away on Tuesday, Nov. 14, 2023, at his residence. Funeral arrangements are pending with Range Funeral Home in Virginia.

Marie A. Seopa

Marie A. Seopa, 79, of Cook, passed away on Friday, Nov. 17, 2023. A celebration of life will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 25 at Mlaker Funeral Home in Cook. Visitation will be one hour prior to the service. The celebration will continue immediately after the service, with lunch served at the South Switch in Angola.



Mark D. Duame

Mark Doyle "Muk" Duame, 61, of Mt. Iron, passed away on Thursday, Nov. 2, 2023. A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 11 at Mlaker Funeral Home in Cook. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service. Lunch and fellowship will follow at the VFW in Cook.

Mark was born on June 6, 1962, in Virginia, to Dennis and Jill Menelli Duame. He grew up and lived on Lake Vermilion beside Duame's Marina. After high school, Mark's adventurous and fearless love to travel led him to take a construction job at Larsen Bay Lodge on Kodiak Island in Alaska. When he returned home, he continued his carpenter career; he had been a member of Carpenters Local 606 since 1998 and most recently working for Alesch Construction.

Mark never gave up his love of traveling and considered himself a "wanderer". Among his other adventures, he was able to return to Kodiak Island a few times during his life. Another of his memorable trips was taking the Amtrak to California with his grandpa Russell.

In his younger years, Mark enjoyed hunting and fishing. He was a naturally talented artist; he could pick up anything and draw it. He also painted and was an excellent woodworker. He made many items that he loved to give to other people, including a rocking chair for his niece Kayla. Mark was a history buff and enjoyed anything to do with old military memorabilia. If he was watching TV, it was usually a war history show.

Mark enjoyed getting together with family and friends and also enjoyed going to different functions. Mark had a great sense of humor; he enjoyed razzing people and drawing some questionable, but humorous, birthday cards for his family. He mischievously enjoyed being sarcastic, but in

good form. Mark's family lovingly remembers him as "a really good guy with a kind heart". He will be dearly missed by all.

Mark is survived by his wife, Tammy Duame; daughter, Ashley (Alex) St. Clair and their children Rian and Brooks; stepson, Kyle Aune; siblings, Mike (Kathy) Duame, Lisa Holter and Brian Duame; and numerous nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Dennis and Jill Duame; aunt, Susan Mattson; and two brothers-in-law, Gary Bamberg and James "Ding" Holter.

This obituary is being reprinted due to using the incorrect photograph.



Luvern Sauerbry

Luvern "Dutch" Sauerbry, 96, longtime Lake Vermilion summer resident, passed away on Monday, Oct. 23, 2023, to reunite with his beloved best friend, Lois. Memorial donations can be made in honor of Dutch to the Fisher House Foundation, part of the Minneapolis VA.

Dutch and Lois bought a tiny cabin on Pine Island in 1969, later building a new cabin in the same bay. Lake Vermilion was truly their happy place. They found great joy in entertaining family and friends at the lake. If you knew them, please raise a glass to toast their wonderful life together. Dutch will raise a Manhattan back to you!

Dutch is survived by his daughter, Jane (Mike) Travis; sons, Steve (Laurie) Sauerbry and Jim (Sarah) Sauerbry; eight grandchildren; eighteen great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

This obituary is being reprinted due to using the incorrect photograph.

LIBRARY...Continued from page 1B

library at the Timber Hall.

Pennala described some of the challenges of maintaining a network of little free libraries in a rural area. The Babbitt Public Library and its Friends organization keep up the stock in the little libraries if they get low and clean and maintain them

as needed. Sometimes they need to make major repairs or must replace them if the damage is too severe.

The Little Free Library organization got its start in Madison, Wis. in 2009, inspired by "take a book, leave a book" programs in coffee shops and

other public spaces, and also by the library philanthropy of Andrew Carnegie.

The Little Free Library became a 501(c)(3) nonprofit in 2012 and the organization now supports the "take a book, leave a book" movement through helping volun-

teers erect their own little libraries, and through grants to library and literacy programs. Today, over 150,000 little free libraries in over 120 countries are registered with the non-profit organization.

LAKE COUNTRY FORECAST

from NOAA weather

Wednesday					Thursday					Friday					Saturday					Sunday				
Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Emb.	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Emb.	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Emb.	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Emb.	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Emb.
35	14				21	9				23	13				26	17				24	19			
11/13	42	20	0.00		11/14	48	27	0.00		11/15	53	30	0.00		11/16	54	27	0.00		11/17	53	21	0.00	
11/14	45	27	0.00		11/15	55	23	0.00		11/16	49	28	0.00		11/17	39	21	0.00		11/18	38	29	0.00	
11/15	45	30	0.00		11/16	55	23	0.00		11/17	53	20	0.00		11/18	45	27	0.00		11/19	45	17	0.00	
11/16	50	23	0.00		11/17	33	20	0.00		11/18	38	22	0.00		11/19	48	18	0.00		YTD Total	23.40	8.4"		
11/17	54	23	0.00		11/18	38	20	0.00		11/19	44	23	0.00		YTD Total	19.87	6.5"			YTD Total	23.54	4.9"		
11/18	37	23	0.00		11/19	44	15	0.00		YTD Total	19.87	6.5"			YTD Total	NA				YTD Total	23.54	4.9"		
11/19	43	16	0.00		YTD Total	24.90	4.1"			YTD Total	19.87	6.5"			YTD Total	NA				YTD Total	23.54	4.9"		

Ignore the risk; try Lutefisk!

9th Annual Community Lutefisk & Meatball Dinner



Trinity Lutheran Church, Cook
231 2nd St. SE

Saturday, December 2
4 to 6:30 PM

Adults-\$18, Children under 10-\$7
Take out meals available

Join us for a traditional Scandinavian dinner! Lutefisk, white sauce and/or melted butter, meatballs, potatoes and gravy, green beans, rutabaga, lefse, homemade bread, cranberries, pickled herring, desserts and more.

Net proceeds will be donated to Cook Community Food Shelf and Trinity's National Youth gathering Krewe



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EMPLOYMENT

OPENINGS



Vermilion Country School (VCS) is seeking applicants for the following positions:

1 FT Paraprofessional (full-time, benefits eligible) High school diploma required.

1 Van Driver (part time - 15-19 hours per week) Current Driver's License Required, CDL not required)

For inquiries, contact
 info@vermilioncountry.org
 and/or 218-248-2485

Contract and Procurement Manager Closes: 12/04/2023

Position Purpose: The Contract Manager will be responsible for overseeing contracts and agreements made by the Tribal Government with other entities. The successful candidate will manage the Tribal Government's contracting with vendors and contracted employees, ensure that contracts are in place when needed, and develop and implement a comprehensive contract development and tracking system to promote Tribal Government compliance with all relevant laws, regulations, and procurement policies.

Excellent Benefits:

Single Medical & Dental - Free • Annual Leave • Sick Leave • 401k match • 15 paid holidays • Flex Plan • Life Insurance • LTD • Voluntary Benefits available by payroll deduction

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

Published in the Timberjay, Nov. 10, 17, 24 & Dec. 1, 2023

COME JOIN OUR TEAM!
 Waschke Family Chevrolet is currently seeking an Auto Body Technician and an Automotive Detailer. Stop in and apply in person at 126 N Hwy. 53, Cook, or inquire by phone at 218-666-5901, or send resume to Dgrecinger@waschke.com.

WANTED!

Waschke Family Chevrolet is currently seeking an A/B technician. Prefer GM Certified but will train. Base pay plus incentives! Stop in and apply in person at 126 N Hwy. 53, Cook, or inquire by phone at 218-666-5901, or send resume to Dgrecinger@waschke.com.

Program Accountant

Closes: 12/04/2023

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

Excellent Benefits:

Single Medical & Dental - Free • Annual Leave • Sick Leave • 401k match • 15 paid holidays • Flex Plan • Life Insurance • LTD • Voluntary Benefits available by payroll deduction

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

Published in the Timberjay, Nov. 10, 17, 24 & Dec. 1, 2023

Assistant St. Louis County Attorney – Hibbing, MN

Assistant St. Louis County Attorney, Criminal Division, Hibbing, Minnesota. Duties include charging and preparing all levels of adult criminal offenses for trial or resolution in the interest of justice. Seeking an attorney with excellent communication skills and the ability to successfully handle the challenges of daily litigation. Courtroom advocacy experience, demonstrated commitment to public service, integrity and passion for justice are highly desired attributes. Salary is commensurate with experience.

St. Louis County is an equal opportunity employer that recognizes the value of diversity, equity, and inclusion. The St. Louis County Attorney strongly encourages all interested candidates to apply.

Please submit a resume and letter of interest to Wade Backstrom, St. Louis County Attorney's Office, 100 N. 5th Avenue West, #501, Duluth, MN 55802-1298; backstromw@stlouiscountymn.gov.

Resumes will be accepted if emailed or post-marked by November 27, 2023.

Published in the Timberjay, Nov. 17 & 24, 2023

Subscribe
(218) 753-2950

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF BOARD APPOINTMENT TOWN OF CRANE LAKE

The Crane Lake Town Board of Supervisors will be making one appointment to the Crane Lake Water & Sanitary District Board of Managers for a three-year term that will commence on January 1, 2024 and expire on December 31, 2026. Application Forms are available at the Clerk's office. A completed application, current resume and cover letter stating qualifications and experience to serve must be filed with the Clerk of the Town of Crane Lake by December 4, prior to the Board of Supervisors' Meeting on December 12, 2023.

Jo Ann Pohlman, Clerk, Town of Crane Lake
 218-993-1303
 info@cranelaketwp.com

Published in the Timberjay, Nov. 17 & 24, 2023

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Squid squirt
- 4 Beloved
- 8 "Ditto"
- 12 "The Simpsons" barkeep
- 13 Killer whale
- 14 Director Kazan
- 15 Get older
- 16 Feel elated
- 18 Two-dot punctuation mark
- 20 Triage ctrs.
- 21 Calendar entry (Abbr.)
- 24 Smiles broadly
- 28 Flight costs
- 32 "Phooey!"
- 33 Hosp. area
- 34 Rich cake
- 36 Quarterback Manning
- 37 Arrears
- 39 NPR show hosted by Terry Gross
- 41 Thoreau piece
- 43 Gym site, for short
- 44 Promptly
- 46 Film trophy
- 50 Rock fan's imaginary instrument
- 55 Employ

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		

- 7 Yard tool
- 8 Had a hunch
- 9 Carte lead-in
- 10 Roman 1002
- 11 Corn spike
- 17 Sphere
- 19 Klutz
- 22 Campus VIP
- 23 Towel material
- 25 Vicinity
- 26 Niger's neighbor
- 27 Swizzle
- 28 Staffer
- 29 Frozen desserts
- 30 Abrades part, for short
- 35 Prom dates
- 38 Snarl
- 40 Owns
- 42 One of us
- 45 Trace
- 47 Rubik's baffler
- 48 "Dream on!"
- 49 Monopoly payment
- 50 Bonfire residue
- 51 Debtor's note
- 52 Bad hairpiece
- 53 Overly
- 54 Illustrations

DOWN

- 1 Apple computer
- 2 NASA scrub
- 3 Fall (over)
- 4 Memorized
- 5 Historic period
- 6 Oft-torn knee

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Even Exchange by Donna Pettman

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

- | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------|--------------------|-----------|
| 1. Lower leg joint | ___ K ___ | Viewpoint | ___ G ___ |
| 2. Shindig instrument | F ___ | Equidistant | M ___ |
| 3. Humpback or nurse | ___ K | High-pitched | ___ P |
| 4. Coal worker | ___ N ___ | Penny pincher | ___ S ___ |
| 5. Beekeeper's farm | ___ P ___ | Bird farm | ___ V ___ |
| 6. Work of fiction | ___ V ___ | Peace prize giver | ___ B ___ |
| 7. Squabble | ___ I ___ | Financier | ___ A ___ |
| 8. Like the grass | ___ N | Welcome warmly | ___ T |
| 9. Governing body | ___ N ___ | Tranquillize | ___ D ___ |
| 10. Toffee or bonbon | ___ N ___ | Golfer's assistant | ___ D ___ |

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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.

OZUI MIZMGI BQICU ZS ORKKIOO

VYDGI ZPYIQO VCNI RM CJB

VZQN YCQB CP DP.

— RJNJZVJ

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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: **D** equals **S**

TE OKI DILLXNHTHTKIDGO

NKYQXH W NIDJNTU KIH KE W

JWLRSWLX DHK LX, SJWH RK OKI

RK? DUXWQ W HWYQ.

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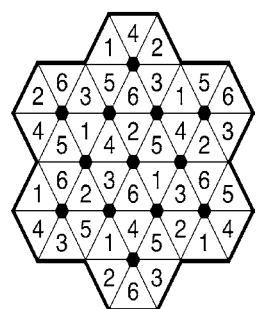
Super Crossword

Answers

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

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

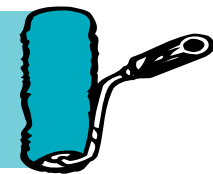
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
 ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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HOME IMPROVEMENT GUIDE



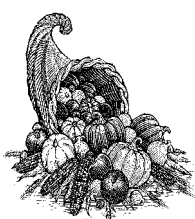
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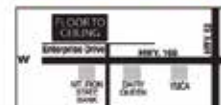
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GO FIGURE! by Linda Thistle

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

DIFFICULTY: ★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!

	÷		+		16
-		+		-	
	-		×		15
×		×		×	
	-		×		20
16		9		16	

1 2 3 4 5 5 7 8 9

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