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# The **TIMBERJAY**



Serving the communities of northern St. Louis County since 1989

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## WILDERNESS THREATENED?

# Stauber bill could relaunch battle over Ely mine

### U.S. House gives narrow approval to measure that rescinds mineral withdrawal, reissues leases

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

REGIONAL— The U.S. House, this week, gave a narrow vote of approval for legislation that would rescind the mineral withdrawal affecting a portion of the Superior National Forest and require the reissuance of mineral leases for a proposed copper-nickel mine near Ely.

The measure, authored by Eighth District Congressman Pete Stauber, stands little chance of passage in the Senate this year, although it could herald a changing tide toward wilderness protection depending on the outcome of the November election.



Pete Stauber

Stauber's bill, HR 3195, called the "Superior National Forest Restoration Act," would reverse the decision by Interior Secretary Deb Haaland to issue a 20-year mineral withdrawal that prohibits new mineral leasing on about 225,000 acres of the Superior National Forest, located

within the upper reaches of the Rainy River watershed, upstream from the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. The bill would also restore the mineral leases, formerly controlled by Twin Metals, that the Biden administration canceled in 2022 after concluding they had been issued by the Trump administration in violation of longstanding federal law. The leases had originally

been canceled by the Obama administration in late 2016.

Stauber's measure would also allow just 18 months for environmental reviews of any mine plans of operation filed on federal lands within the Superior National Forest. Such studies have typically taken several years to complete due to their

See...MINE pg. 10



## BALANCING USES

# Trail designation ruffles feathers

### Some trails on Tower's north side were designated non-motorized, Facebook reacted

by JODI SUMMIT  
Tower-Soudan Editor

TOWER- A self-titled "rant" on the "What's Up Tower" Facebook page this week asked a question that volunteers in the Wagoner Trails Club have expected was coming for some time. The club had developed the new Pine Ridges Trail on the north side of Tower using a few short segments of old forest road, along with newly created single-track trails that follow the rugged rock ridges, featuring overlooks of Lake Vermilion. A couple short segments saw occasional use by ATV riders, although the segments were never officially designated for ATV use.

Volunteers with the Wagoner club asked the Tower City Council last year to designate two short segments as closed to ATV use to prevent conflicts with hikers on the Pine Ridges Trail. The council agreed. Then, after a review last fall, council members added an additional roughly mile-long segment, that loops around the base of the hill on the city's north side, for non-motorized use only. That segment, which had largely fallen into disuse, had seen little if any ATV traffic in years. But when Wagoner vol-



Top: An overlook on the Pine Ridges Trail on Tower's northside hill.

Above: Two trails lead off from the Pine Ridges trailhead, one closed to ATVs, the other, muddy and rutted, is being used by ATVs and would be virtually unusable by hikers. photos by J. Summit

unteers cleared the old corridor last year, they worried that their efforts might attract more ATV use.

The signs announcing the closures went up last fall after hunting season was



over. With the ATV season just getting underway, the blowback arrived more or less on schedule. More than three dozen comments on a Facebook thread, all posted this week, rail against the designation of the trail sections as non-motorized. Others, however, posted comments in support of the designation.

"Is there a trail committee for the Pine Ridge Hiking Trail?" an ATV user asked

See...TRAILS pg. 10

## COMMUNICATIONS

# Whiteside Park may host wifi

by CATIE CLARK  
Ely Editor

ELY-TheElyTelecommunications Advisory Board (TAB) is proposing to install fiber-based wifi into Whiteside Park.

The hard-wired connection is expected to improve internet access for the city's webcams and for vendors during festivals. After talking about it for the last two meetings, the TAB will forward a quote to the Ely City Council and ask for approval for the work.

According to TAB member Todd Crego, the quote is from CTC, the provider of the fiber loop downtown.

CTC offered to do the \$6,400 fiber installation for no cost with a five-year contract. The cost to the city will be \$100/month for 100 megabytes during

See...WIFI pg. 10

## FBI REPORT

# Elders at higher risk as targets of fraud and scams

by DAVID COLBURN  
Cook/Orr Editor

REGIONAL- In a brand new report, the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3) says there was a significant uptick in elder fraud complaints in 2023.

The Elder Fraud Report, released on Tuesday, indicates that elder fraud increased by 14 percent over the past year, with associated financial losses growing by about 11 percent to over \$3 billion.

FBI Assistant Director Michael D. Nordwall said, "Combating the financial exploitation of those over 60 years of age continues to be a priority of the FBI. Along with our partners, we continually work to aid victims and to identify and investigate the

See...FRAUD pg. 10



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**Community notices**

**Shannon Gunderson in concert on May 19**



EMBARRASS- Sisu Heritage, Inc. will host a concert by Shannon Gunderson on Sunday, May 19 at 3 p.m. in the Embarrass Finnish Apostolic Lutheran Church.

Gunderson, of Virginia, is well known in the region as a piano teacher and a member of The Divas trio. For this concert, she will be performing solo, adding vocals to her keyboard playing. Admission is \$10 for adults and \$8 for Sisu members; children ages 12 and under are free.

The historic church building was gifted to Sisu by its former congregation and is a great venue for live music. Parking is available on the lawn. The address is 5103 Hwy. 21, across from Hope Lutheran Church.

This family-friendly concert is generously sponsored by Knuti Farm of Embarrass. For questions or further details, call 218-984-3012 or visit sisuheritage.org.

**80th anniversary tribute to D-Day and WWII heroes scheduled for June 6**

VIRGINIA – This year marks the 80th anniversary of D-Day. In recognition of this important day in history Veterans and family/friends of Veterans are invited to the Elks Lodge located at 200 N Fifth Ave. W on Thursday, June 6 for a tribute to D-Day and WWII heroes. The tribute will be from 5-7 p.m. Food and drinks will be provided with a short program at 6 p.m. If you plan to attend, advance notice is requested. To RSVP call Larry Cuffe Jr. at 218-780-9941.

**Meeting series on sustainability practices begins with informational meeting on May 9**

ELY - The Ely Climate Group, CURE, and friends from the City of Morris, Minn. are holding upcoming meetings on sustainability practices for small cities in Greater Minnesota. The first of these meetings will be an informational meeting on Thursday, May 9 at 4 p.m. in the Senior Center and is open to all.

Morris, Minn. has become a model community for local sustainability over the last ten years. They are reaching out to other cities to provide ideas for good practices. The meeting will include a review of some of their efforts as well as some of the accomplishments made in Ely. Come join the conversation.

**Ladies and Knights of Kaleva to meet May 9**

VIRGINIA - The Ladies of Kaleva Soinnuttaren Tupa 32 and the Knights will be meeting Thursday May 9 at 6 p.m. at Kaleva Hall. The Knights will be serving in honor of Mother's Day. Please plan to attend. New members are welcome. For questions call 218-750-2729 and leave a message.

**Lokka Tupa #1, Ladies of Kaleva to meet May 6**

VIRGINIA -Lokka Tupa #1, Ladies of Kaleva, will meet on Monday, May 6, at noon at the Kaleva Hall.

**Finnish Americans and Friends to host Russ Mattson at meeting May 7**

HIBBING - Presenter Russ Mattson of Two Harbors is the son of a man who, among many other Finnish Americans, went to Soviet Karelia in the 1930's, having been promised a better life for their families. Anyone interested in learning about this sad dark chapter of history is invited to the Tuesday, May 7, meeting of Finnish Americans and Friends at Grace Lutheran Church located at 4010 Ninth Ave. W at 2 p.m. A coffee/social time is part of the program.

**Evangelical Free Church to host concert by the Teen Challenge Men's Choir May 5**

EMBARRASS - The Evangelical Free Church of Embarrass will host a concert by the Teen Challenge Men's Choir on Sunday, May 5, at 10 a.m.

Minnesota Teen Challenge is one of the largest faith-based residential drug and alcohol rehabilitation programs in the state. This men's choir is from the Duluth campus.

Come and hear music and testimonies of changed lives and freedom from addiction.

**ON STAGE**

**Lyric Center Youth Theatre to perform The Lion King Jr. May 10-12**

VIRGINIA - A roaring (and singing) dose of Africa is coming to the Iron Range. The Lyric Center for the Arts/Laurentian Arts and Culture Alliance Youth Theatre education program in Virginia, in partnership with Voices for Ethnic and Multicultural Awareness (VEMA) in Chisholm, are presenting the musical version of Disney's "The Lion King Jr.," May 10-12 at Merritt Auditorium at Mt. Iron-Buhl Schools.

The performances feature 40 local actors and backstage crew in grades 3-6. Participants began rehearsing for the production in March. The Saturday, May 11 performance will include American Sign Language interpreters for the deaf and hard-of-hearing community.

"This is a wonderful opportunity to not only display the talents of our young people who have been working very hard on this project, but it also allows us to work with VEMA to highlight the African components incorporated in the production.

Although the story is fictional, the African inspirations are everywhere within the material," said

Lyric Executive Director Paul M. Gregersen. "The concept of the Circle of Life, those who have come before us remain living inside of us all, and our responsibility to maintain that balance is an important message."

One powerful aspect of the performances will be a scene in which a large group of African American Iron Rangers of all ages take the stage to chant and sing while dressed in African inspired wardrobes.

"The scene will be incredible," Gregersen said. "VEMA is an amazing organization that highlights the importance of diversity on the Range. As demographics continue to evolve in our area, we must continue to recognize all the cultures that make up our region beyond the Scandinavian roots that are often attributed to the Range. Opportunities like this program are what people, especially families with children, are looking for. It is our responsibility to represent everybody."

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the number of Black, Indigenous, and other people of color (BIPOC) in St.



Participants of "The Lion King Jr." work on props for their performances that will run May 10-12 at Merritt Auditorium at Mt. Iron-Buhl

Louis County makes up between seven and eight percent of the total population. Gregersen said BIPOC participation in Lyric Youth Theatre programming is over 20 percent and proof that local families are seeking out inclusive opportunities for their children.

Tickets for "The Lion

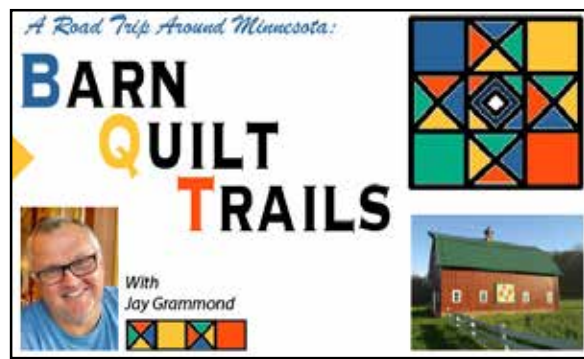
King Jr." are available at lyriccenteronline.org. Any remaining tickets will be available at the door prior to each performance. Friday, May 10 at 7 p.m., Saturday, May 11 at 7 p.m., and Sunday, May 12 at 2 p.m.

**PIECE BY PIECE**

**Take a road trip around Minnesota with Jay Grammond and his barn quilt trails presentation at area libraries in May**

MT. IRON - The Arrowhead Library System is pleased to host A Road Trip Around Minnesota: Barn Quilt Trails with Jay Grammond. This free program is being offered at the following locations:

- Tuesday, May 7, 11 a.m.- Ely Public Library
- Tuesday, May 7, 3 p.m.- Cook Public Library
- Tuesday, May 14, 1 p.m.- Virginia Public Library
- Tuesday, May 14, 5 p.m.- Eveleth City Auditorium
- Thursday, May 23, Noon- Babbitt Public Library
- Thursday, May 23, 3:30 p.m.- Hoyt Lakes Public Library
- Saturday, May 25, 1 p.m.- Aurora Public Library



Minnesota is fortunate to have several Barn Quilt Trails across the state – pieces of art that adorn the side of barns and buildings that are created to not only pay homage to heritage or interests, but to bring people into an area. Instructor Jay Grammond will lead attendees

around the state to give folks a sampling of what is out there in hope that they will create their own road trips. This free program is 60 minutes long and is geared towards ages 12 and up.

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

**PHILANTHROPY**

**Lake Vermilion PEO welcoming new members**

REGIONAL- Thirty-eight years ago, 21 local women decided to form a P.E.O. chapter and name it the Lake Vermilion Chapter ER. These women shared the same goals and ideals of the P.E.O. (Philanthropic Education Organization) Sisterhood. P.E.O. is a nonprofit organization that celebrates the advancement of women through education by offering scholarships, grants, awards and loans, and the stewardship of Cottey College. Today Lake Vermilion Chapter ER has more than doubled

in size and is a thriving organization of women with diverse backgrounds, talents, and ages.

Our chapter conducts monthly meetings that include very interesting programs. Most recently, our chapter met and toured Camp Vermilion. We've been treated to a lovely display of local watercolor artwork and have enjoyed listening to a guest speaker from the Vince Shute Wildlife Sanctuary. We are also a social group. From pontoon parties on Lake Vermilion to hiking and cross-country

skiing with the "Trailer Blazers," we have a lot of fun. Friends are welcome to participate.

The P.E.O. Sisterhood began more than 150 years ago and has grown to exceed a quarter of a million women. Today the organization owns Cottey College in Nevada, Mo., a fully accredited liberal arts and science college for women. P.E.O. also sponsors educational financial assistance through loans and scholarships ranging in value from \$2,500-\$25,000. Our chapter supports these

programs, assists in the application process, and provides annual scholarships to local high school senior women. Every year we sponsor fundraising activities to help pay for these scholarships.

For more information about P.E.O. membership or Chapter ER's educational projects, please contact Diane Culbert at dkc103@hotmail.com. or other P.E.O. members. More information can also be found online at mnpeo.org or peointernational.org.

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ARTS

# “Dancing with the Ely Stars” doubles last year’s donations

by CATIE CLARK  
Ely Editor

ELY- Emily Roose and Erik Nelson took the top prize during Northern Lakes Arts Association’s “Dancing with the Ely Stars” event held last Friday at Ely’s Historic State Theater.

The fundraising event helps NLAA finance its youth programs and scholarships to NLAA youth activities for kids who would otherwise not be able to attend.

Roose, from Ely, paired with Erik Nelson, who hails from Montana, as they performed an intense and tight swing dance that won the hearts of the judges and the audience.

Nine couples competed for the giant trophy this year and winners were decided by popular vote, with each ticket good for one vote. Attendees could buy extra votes for \$1 apiece.

Last year saw dancers perform an eclectic variety including Austrian folk dancing, modern interpretive dance, and even the Charleston. This year most couples stuck to routines with a lot of swing and ballroom dance moves. The exceptions were the disco number, a “post-modern” piece, and a tap dance.

### Judge shenanigans

The judges this year were Peta Barrett, Lacey Squier, and one-half of last year’s winning couple, Andrea Strom. Of the three judges, Barrett played the straight man, while Squier, who was the only repeat judge, reprised her grumpy “Russian judge” routine from last year, entertaining the audience.

Strom brought “Iris” with her, the manikin that usually occupies the sidewalk outside of the Brainstorm Bakery and Crapola headquarters, which



**Right: First place winners Emily Roose and Erik Nelson.**

**Above: Second place winners Megan Olson and SunShine Gardner.**

**Right: Third place winners Megan Wind and Jesse Olson.** photos by C. Clark



Strom owns with her husband Brian. Strom allowed Iris to do all of her judging for her. Iris had a sign taped to her hand that read “10,” so every dance Iris judged got top marks.

### Other winners

Second place in the competition went to Megan Olson and SunShine Gardner, who performed a contemporary ballroom number remarkable for its athleticism and the couple’s bathing suits.

Third place went to Megan Wind and Jesse Olson for their humorous tap dance number. Olson was one-half of last year’s runner-up couple in his performing debut and this year’s event was just his second time performing and first-time performing

tap. Wind and Olson, wearing identical black fringe dresses and pink feather boas, danced and lip-synced to “I Can’t Do It Alone,” from the musical “Chicago.”

The biggest winner of the evening was the NLAA. With a sell-out audience, the event raised an unofficial total of \$8,250, almost twice the haul from last year’s performance.

### Sold out

“Dancing with the Ely Stars” is the second NLAA production to sell out this year. Originally booked for the 178-seat Vermilion Fine Arts Theater, the show sold out quickly.

NLAA decided to move the venue to Ely’s

Historic State Theater with its 280 seats and the additional tickets sold out in just four days. Because of the demand, NLAA added 20 more seats, which also sold out.

“Honestly, if I could have added 50 more seats, we could have sold them,” NLAA Executive Director Ian Francis Lah told the *Timberjay*, “but we had

maxed out our occupancy for the State Theater.”

Lah added, “It’s truly inspiring to witness Ely’s passion, enthusiasm, and unwavering support for the arts ... Our community’s spirit is remarkable. The consecutive sell-out events reaffirm my belief that arts and culture can thrive and support Ely.”

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# OPINION

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OF SPEECH, OR OF THE PRESS;”

The First Amendment of the United States Constitution

## Editorial

### This isn't democracy

What happens when “journalism” becomes an illegal campaign contribution

“I have a spoiler alert: There's nothing wrong with trying to influence the election. It's called democracy.”

So said defense attorney Todd Blanche last week as he tried to favorably frame Donald Trump's alleged conspiracy involving Michael Cohen and *National Enquirer* publisher David Pecker, who spent much of last week on the witness stand in Trump's ongoing trial in Manhattan.

Blanche is right, at least to a point. Unfortunately for his client, the actions recently described under oath by Mr. Pecker go well beyond that point and begin to look a lot like the criminal conspiracy outlined by Manhattan prosecutor Joshua Steinglass.

There are many ways to influence an election. Some are legal and some aren't, and the rules get a lot stickier when a corporation, like American Media (which published the *National Enquirer* at the time) get involved. Corporations, in fact, are prohibited from donating to campaigns, and that includes both cash and in-kind contributions.

Yet, what Mr. Pecker described was exactly that, a corporate contribution that went well beyond the money paid out to buy up exclusive rights and then bury (known as “catch and kill”) unsavory stories about Donald Trump. According to Pecker's testimony, he met with Trump and Cohen ahead of the campaign and set up a scheme to aid Trump's presidential run by suppressing unflattering stories about Trump and headlining false stories attacking his political opponents. The *National Enquirer*, with direct coordination from Cohen and Trump, ran only flattering stories about Trump along with an endless stream of false political hits on Trump's opponents, typically timed just as they were rising in the polls.

“Bungling Surgeon Ben Carson Left Sponge in Patient's Brain”; “Ted Cruz Sex Scandal—5 Secret Mistresses”; “Ted Cruz Father Linked to JFK Assassination”; “Family Man Marco Rubio's Love Child Stunner!” were just some of the phony *National Enquirer* covers published during the Republican primaries.

Hillary Clinton, of course, became the focus of the *Enquirer's* false attacks once Trump had won the GOP nomination in 2016. Headlines at various times accused her of being corrupt, racist, or simply dying. “Hillary's hit man tells all!”; “Hillary: Six months to live!” were among the weekly false smears against Clinton that appeared on the cover of the *Enquirer*.

The impact of these headlines was enormously beneficial to Trump's campaign and amounted to a corporate contribution worth

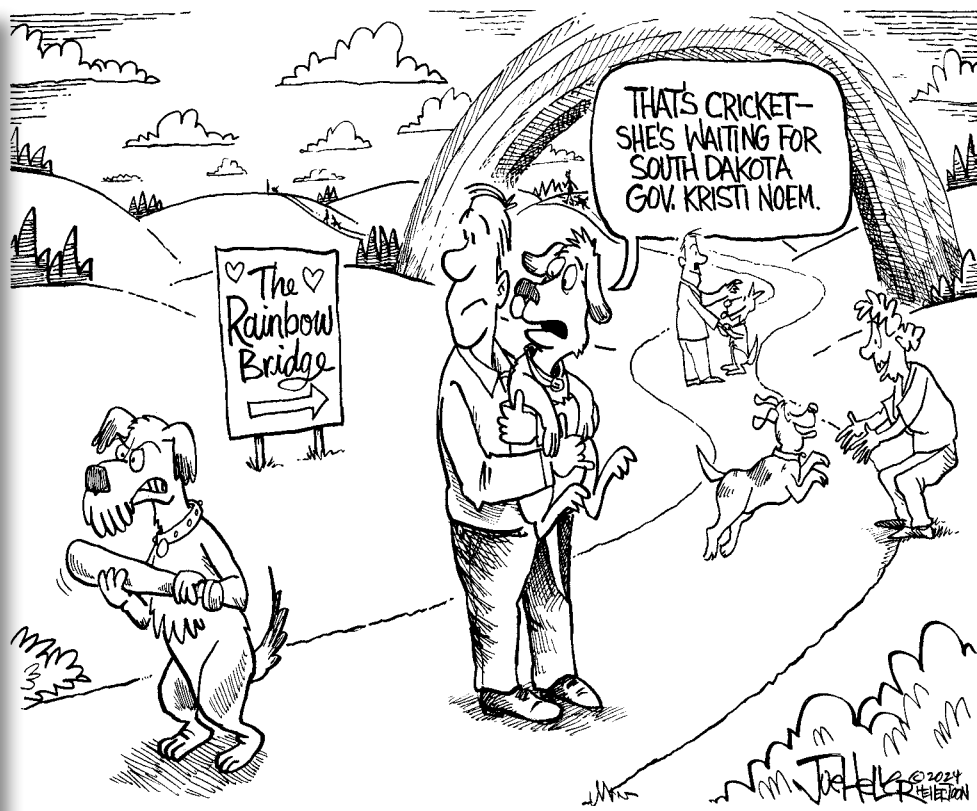
millions. Not only did the *Enquirer* headlines generate tens of millions of looks at grocery checkouts around the country, the headlines generated significant additional coverage as the phony claims bounced around the right-wing media echo chamber. While most Americans probably know to look askance at anything in the *Enquirer*, at the time it was highly influential with low-information Americans, the kind who flocked to the polls to back Trump in 2016. And as those claims became fodder for cable news chatterers and social media, these falsehoods were amplified and made more credible simply through repetition.

The *Enquirer's* actions were plainly a violation of federal campaign finance laws, which is why the company admitted as much as part of a cooperation deal it signed with prosecutors, in which it agreed to pay a \$187,500 fine and testify truthfully about the arrangement between its publisher and Trump.

While Trump could certainly be prosecuted federally for his role in this crime, federal prosecutors have their hands full with Trump's even weightier violations. Prosecutors in Manhattan, who can't charge the federal violations themselves (though state campaign finance rules may apply to the case), do have a means of holding Trump accountable because he disguised the payments to the porn actress Stormy Daniels as legal expenses attributed to his business. Ironically, had Trump accounted for the payments to Daniels properly, he likely wouldn't be facing 34 felonies, since paying hush money isn't a crime on its own. While his actions still almost certainly violated federal campaign laws, it's doubtful that federal prosecutors would make that charge by itself.

Yet, by falsifying his business accounts, Trump ran afoul of a New York law that makes such falsifications a felony if they are done to cover up a related crime. In this case, it appears the mischaracterization of the expenses was done to cover up the illegal scheme that Trump, Cohen, and Pecker undertook, to use the *Enquirer* to influence the 2016 election in a manner that was both illegal and highly unethical.

That is perhaps the clearest message in this entire affair. Donald Trump is a sleazy individual who willingly conspired with a bottom feeding yellow journalist, like David Pecker, to win an election at any cost. Whether he is ultimately judged guilty beyond a reasonable doubt, there is no doubt that Donald Trump is a man without principles, one who should never be allowed to set foot in the White House again.



## Letters from Readers

### Our environmental footprints can be depressing

Earth Day celebrations always remind me of an experience my wife and I had nine years ago. It was early 2015, and some friends talked us into going on a three-day cruise out of Houston.

We went along the coast of Mexico, as far as Honduras and back. Two of those days we went ashore, and each time, as we were headed back out to sea, I just happened to be in the bow of the ship as we were leaving harbor. And each time the ship was literally cutting a path through a debris field - mostly plastics - that appeared to be solid as far as the eye could see. And in each case, we seemed to be several miles out to sea, and the debris field hadn't noticeably changed at all. It's awfully depressing and sad to think that much of the world could be like this.

Lynn Scott  
Soudan

### Using English with precision and integrity

How we say things is important, but what we say should (pardon the expression) trump all. Cognitive interjections such as “um” and “like” may actually buy the speaker a millisecond or two in which to phrase their thoughts more precisely to reflect their meaning with greater integrity. Precision

and integrity are what matter most.

We are in an age when language is misused to advance agendas that have no place in a democratic society such as ours. For example, I have seen the phrase “Return of the Great Maga King” used in reference to a discredited former president. This phrasing is wrong on so many levels that it's difficult to know where to start, but let's begin with the word “King.” It is impossible for the United States to have a king because we are a federal democratic republic as mandated by our constitution, a document that begins with the words: “We the people...” The intention of this introduction, as all politicians and grade-school civics students know, is to emphasize that it is the will of the people that governs this great nation and not the personal agenda of some self-proclaimed monarch.

As for the word “great,” you cannot use this adjective to precisely describe anything to do with our 45th president. There are many nouns that are appropriate to this individual, and each of these can be embellished with one or more precise and accurate adjectives. You could, for example, identify him as a sociopath and serial misogynist with many victims under his belt. You could point out that he is a pathological liar with a long history of distorting the truth for personal gain. You could recognize the fact that he is a sadistic megalomaniac who appears to take pleasure in

ruining careers, destroying lives, and discarding associates who are of no further use to him. You could say that he is an irrepressible conman who has bilked his followers, associates, would-be university students, humanitarian and political donors and others of many millions of dollars. You could call him a remorseless fraudster who possibly stole one election and definitely tried to steal another. In fact, you would be right in calling him an insurrectionist.

There are many other words that we could use to identify and accurately describe Donald J. Trump, but “great” is not one of them. This country faces a choice. If we wish to continue being a federal democratic republic it is an easy one, but if we choose wrongly, it will be a great shame.

David Stanton  
Cook

## 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](mailto:marshall@timberjay.com).

We ask that letters be limited to 300 words.

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

## COMMENTARY

# The road to recovery (the rest of the story)

As promised in my last column, “Facing the fear and finding hope”, that appeared in the April 5 edition of the *Timberjay*, I'm resuming the story of Kelly Cramer and her recovery from three tick-borne illnesses. To recap, Kelly's story began in 2021 after



KATHLEEN  
MCQUILLAN

hiking with her sister in a forested area near Two Harbors. What started as a recreational outing on an early autumn day soon turned into a nightmare that's taken a lot of physical and mental healing for nearly three years. At a recent meeting over lunch,

Kelly described the unexpected aftermath that had left her not only with an array of problems with her physical health but also an intense fear of being infected again. She's been working hard, pushing against her comfort zone to regain a normal sense of security in nature. “I was afraid to sit in my suburban back yard at first,” said Kelly. It was the encouragement of her supportive husband who helped coax her to start slowly and begin going on nature walks again. Kelly

and her husband now live on the outskirts of Ely. While not completely comfortable yet, she considers her living closer to wilderness now a badge of honor. “I had a choice to either let fear rule my life or stand up to it and proceed forward.”

Since publishing her story, some readers informed me they'd put the story down halfway through because it was just too difficult to finish reading. I was surprised to hear this, but Kelly was not. She explained that feeling repulsed is a common reaction when people first hear about tick behaviors and the serious illnesses that they can transmit. Especially disturbing can

be the details of their reproductive cycle and the role that large mammals, including humans, play in their procreative success. By acting as hosts, we who live in close proximity to these tiny arachnids are at greater risk for infection. And when we learn about the risks for serious illness from Lyme and other tick-borne diseases, intense fear is a frequent response. It means the information is getting through. She hopes that distressing emotions will trigger readers' instincts to take effective precautions, the first step to reducing infection.

After years of research, numerous visits to specialists, and the eventual correct diagnosis, she is

ready to talk about her road to recovery. She admits it took a lot of determination to embark on a path toward healing. That's why she wants to help others live safer and healthier lives.

Her goal was never to frighten people from enjoying being outdoors. Rather, to understand the inevitable risks of sharing a common habitat with infection-bearing co-habitants and being proactive about it. Total isolation isn't possible nor recommended, but responding appropriately and being proactive is! Climate science predicts that tick-borne and insect-carried diseases will likely continue to rise in our region. Staying as safe as possible

only makes sense.

Another aspect of Kelly's story is her pursuit to find appropriately skilled medical care for Lyme. She became frustrated by the confusing and conflicting information regarding diagnostic protocols and medical treatments. She was fortunate that when she was first examined, she still had signs of multiple tick bites. This confirmed the probable cause of her symptoms. “Not all people are so lucky,” she explained. “Practitioners often won't confidently claim a tick-bite as the culprit, even when their patient is quite certain it is. This can

See *LYME*...pg. 5



# Gardner Humanities Trust awards \$6,210 to local groups

ELY- The board of the Donald G. Gardner Humanities Trust, at its April 10 meeting, voted to award \$6,210 in spring grant awards to local arts organizations. The twice-yearly grant program helps the trust to fulfill its goals of enhancing the arts in the Ely area and supporting the Ely Public Library.

"The Gardner Humanities Trust budgeted \$9,250 across four grant categories: scholarships, youth grants, individual artist grants, and organization project grants," stated Peter Schamber, executive director for the trust. "However, not all

categories received applications." The trust did not award any scholarships or youth grants during this grant round because no organization applied for funding.

Schamber explained the importance of adequate detail in an application to the trust. Because of this, the trust did not give out any individual artist grants for this grant round.

"Some of the applications lacked sufficient detail. As a granting organization, it is our responsibility to make sure the trust funds are disbursed responsibly, and applications that are not sufficiently de-

tailed cannot be approved. The trust wants to disburse the full amount budgeted for each grant round."

Schamber said the trust's board hopes to continue to improve their online application process and provide more examples and guidance to applicants so they can be successful in the future. "Applicants are also encouraged to reach out before applying for assistance," he said. All unused funds from the spring grant round have been reallocated to the fall round.

The trust's project grant program supports activities in the fine arts for

activities, presentations, and productions. The following organizations received spring project grants:

► Ely Winter Festival: \$2,000 to support the 2025 Snow Sculpting Symposium, a staple of the Ely Winter Festival. At this event, professional snow sculptors will carve 14 to 18 giant blocks of snow and local artists will have the opportunity to carve smaller sculptures and learn from these professionals.

► Mesabi Symphony Orchestra: \$2,000 to present a pops concert of movie music in Ely. Eligible

students from the Ely Public Schools and Minnesota North College will receive free tickets to this event.

► Tofte Lake Center: \$1,250 to host their second annual Day at the Lake event. The Ely public is invited to engage in a free day of art workshops, interactive arts activities, musical performances, nature, food, and fun.

► Dorothy Molter Museum: \$960 to record the scripts from the History Happy Hour program as podcast episodes to be released online and freely available to the community.

► The trust also al-

located \$3,000 for use by the Ely Public Library this year.

Applications for the fall grant round with applications will be due by the last Wednesday of September. The fall budget is \$6,500 for youth and individuals, and \$6,000 for organizations. Full details will be published in the papers and announced online before the start of the grant round.

Any questions about the grant programs or the trust can be directed to Peter Schamber, Executive Director at 218-365-2639 or at info@gardnertrust.org.

## LYME...Cont. from page 4

delay proper testing, or lead to re-testing when Lyme tests come back negative as they often do."

Lyme symptoms can look similar to those of many other conditions, often sending practitioners down "rabbit holes" that can be unproductive and costly. Extensive testing that aren't rendering useful results can be frustrating and demoralizing for both doctors and their patients.

Another challenge is that symptoms of Lyme and many other chronic diseases don't always follow a clear path. They may be characterized by "good days and bad days," vague and varying symptoms that effect one's general quality of life, or periods of intense debilitating pain. They may migrate from one area of the body to another, and include headaches, extreme fatigue, loss of energy, or a feeling of malaise. Sleep disturbances, loss of concentration or mood swings are also common. And symptoms can come on gradually or suddenly

appear "out of the blue," making a definitive diagnosis very difficult.

Kelly couldn't count how often her doctors implied it might be "all in her head," one of the hardest aspects of her doctoring. Physicians are trained to "find the cause of disease and fix it." Being unable to do so isn't rare and can be discouraging. It takes a highly-committed physician to persist in the search for a cause, especially when the medical system is increasingly calling for greater efficiency. Typically, the more complicated the medical issues, the more thought and time are needed. Treating patients with ambiguous symptoms or chronic diseases present the greatest challenges for practitioners constantly under pressure to speed up visits to see more patients.

Kelly decided to adopt a more active role in her health care. She kept a log and a health journal to track the signs and symptoms of her condition. And she took it into the exam room

every visit. She discovered "blind spots" occurring when doctors are trained to see diseases through a limited lens. Diagnosing now relies heavily on technology. Many symptoms aren't measurable in centimeters or degrees nor show up on a scan. Western medicine tends to compartmentalize bodily systems named by their major organs, overlooking the intricate connections between complex systems of our anatomy and physiology. These narrow views can impede the search for effective diagnosis and treatment.

Kelly's self-advocacy model includes, "learn everything you possibly can about your disease." With her knowledge, logged data, and journal in hand, Kelly began to see a change in the way her practitioners related to her. "Armed with concrete information, they seemed to take me more seriously."

She also looked beyond mainstream western medicine for a path toward healing. She investigated

philosophies, medical systems, diagnostic and treatment techniques from different cultures, some that were more holistic in their approach. She learned of and sought a "Lyme-literate" physician, someone who was specifically trained to look and listen more broadly and precisely to what the patient was saying about living with the disease. Together, Kelly and her practitioner developed a more effective treatment plan.

Kelly documented her recovery. She's published a set of self-help materials under the moniker, Happiness Recharge (www.happinessrecharge.com). She even created a health logbook designed to assist people with chronic conditions to expedite their healing. Her books and materials all have a message of personal empowerment, listening to one's inner voice, and crafting one's own path to better health and well-being. Through artistry, encouragement and gentle guidance, Kel-

ly helps create a way that nurtures our inner peace, a vital part of her recovery. Her work encourages self-reflection, meditation, and self-expression. Through a variety of easy to access activities, she lays a foundation for taking charge and "recharging" our lives.

Kelly acknowledges that beautiful weather is arriving to the Northland. Nature is "recharging" after a long winter of hibernation. Willows are budding. Lilies are poking through the ground. Soon the forest's understory will be ready to burst into leafy bloom. Yes, and creeping and crawling lifeforms will also abound. Hungry ticks will be among them and soon entering the peak of their feeding cycle. Climatologists are predicting a more active season so we should be wise and take precautions.

Here are some simple tips from experts:  
 1) Wear light clothing to spot little "cling-ons."  
 2) Keep pant cuffs tucked into high top shoes or boots. Tuck in your shirt. Wear long sleeves.  
 3) Use DEET-containing tick repellants on exposed skin. Permethrin ONLY on outer clothing.  
 4) Be extra aware in tall grass and brushy areas.  
 5) Avoid sitting or lying on leafy duff or laying your gear or

clothing on the ground.  
 6) Upon coming indoors, remove outer clothing. Place in a hot dryer for 30 minutes to kill tick larvae.  
 7) Take a hot shower. Check closely for ticks. If possible, save them intact.  
 8) If symptoms develop, or if in doubt, see a doctor for testing. Take with you any saved ticks. Current data shows that it may take 4-6 weeks for accurate results. If a tick has bitten or embedded itself in skin, or if symptoms are present, prompt antibiotic treatment is recommended.

And Kelly's biggest recommendation for being proactive, in addition to the list above, bring clear tape with you when going out in nature. "It sounds silly, but it's my secret weapon if I get a tick on me." She explained, "You can secure a tick by folding it into the tape for safe-keeping. Then, if it bit you, send it in for testing! It's so much cheaper to test the tick before having to test yourself."

Awareness, precautions, and prompt attention are keys to healthy living in the north country. We hope this introduction to the risks of tick-borne illness proves useful. So, dress right. Get outside for some sunshine. And enjoy our beautiful environment!

*Keep it Clean,*  
**ST. LOUIS COUNTY**



**AURORA TRANSFER STATION**  
 5910 Hwy 135 N, Aurora

**HOURS**  
 Mon, Thu, Fri: 8 a.m.–4 p.m.  
 Tue, Wed: 10 a.m.–4 p.m.  
 Sat: 8 a.m.–Noon

**EMBARRASS CANISTER SITE**  
 7530 Koski Rd, Embarrass

**HOURS**  
 Thu: 10 a.m.– 5 p.m.  
 Sat: 12:30 p.m.– 4:30 p.m.

**NORTHWOODS TRANSFER STATION**  
 9384 Hwy 21 N, Ely/Babbitt

**SUMMER HOURS**  
 Mon, Thu-Sat: 8 a.m.–3 p.m.  
 Tue: 9:30 a.m.–3 p.m.  
 Wed: Noon–6 p.m.

**SOUDAN CANISTER SITE**  
 5160 Hwy 169, Soudan

**HOURS**  
 Mon, Wed, Sat, Sun:  
 8 a.m.–5 p.m.

**REGIONAL LANDFILL**  
 5341 Regional Landfill Rd, Virginia

**HOURS**  
 Mon-Fri: 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m.  
 Sat: 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

**HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE FACILITY**  
 5345 Regional Landfill Rd, Virginia

**HOURS**  
 Tues and Sat: 8 a.m.–1 p.m.

**ST. LOUIS COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT**  
 218-749-9703 | OFFICE HOURS MON - FRI 8 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.

Summer hours effective April 15 - September 30



*the*  
**TIMBERJAY**

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 St. Louis County: \$48 year Elsewhere: \$62 year. We accept VISA/Mastercard/Discover/AmEx. NOTE: Changes of address must be sent or called in to the Tower office. Out-of-state delivery may take 2-3 weeks. For prompt out-of-state delivery try the First Class Subscription: \$119 year or \$12 per month.

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

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



Week of May 6

**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 May 21.

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

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

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



**TSHS weekly winner**  
TOWER- The winner of the Charlemagne's 52 Club \$100 cash prize for week 40 is Gretchen Niemiste of Tower.

History Tidbit: Continued.....The story of the cabin that sits among some cedars on the western side of Tower's City Park is also the story of Mike Smulter, the man who built it.

Mike then decided to find some land to "squat" on and soon found a 40-acre section on Smarts Bay, where he built a 13'x17' cabin. Using only a double bit axe, and a "buck saw," Mike cut down trees that were about 14 inches in diameter and made the round logs into 10-inch square ones with a broad axe. He then fit these logs using "dove-tail joints" so tight no chinking or plastering was needed. He completed the cabin with a tin roof.

Mike, a loner, happily lived on this property for many years, trapping, hunting, fishing and making fine furniture which he sold in Tower to tourists. He eventually left the area and his cabin, which sat vacant for many years.

*Story to be continued next week.*

**Bookmobile stops**  
REGIONAL- The Arrowhead Bookmobile will be in the Tower-Soudan area on Wednesdays: May 8 and 29, no bookmobile stop in June, Jul 10 and 31, Aug 21, Sept. 11, Oct. 2 and 23, Nov. 13, and Dec. 4, 2024.

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

For more information on the Bookmobile or Mail-A-Book services, contact the Arrowhead Library System, 218-741-3840, email at [als@alslib.info](mailto:als@alslib.info), or website at [alslib.info](http://alslib.info).

# TOWER-SOUDAN ELEMENTARY

## Time to sign up for kindergarten and pre-K



Above: Noel Goodsky checked out the toys in the kindergarten room play area.

Below: Andy Salmela did a craft with his daughter Parker. photos by J. Summit



Julia Boskaykin helped Kalila create a picture frame.



Above: Millie Trancheff checked out the toys in the preschool room.

Left: Cade Gornick played with the lego collection with Otto.

### COMMUNITY NOTICES

**Car Show on Saturday, May 4 in Tower**

TOWER- The Tower Café is hosting a classic car show on Saturday, May 4 in downtown Tower from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Entries are available at the Tower Café the day of the event. Stop by and check out classic cars and talk with their owners.

The entry fee is a food donation to the Tower Area Food Shelf (non-perishable food item or cash). In the event of inclement weather, the car show will be cancelled.

**Cemetery cleanup day on May 4 at Vermilion Lake Cemetery**

VERMILION LAKE TWP- The Vermilion Lake Township Cemetery Cleanup day is scheduled

for Saturday, May 4 at 1 p.m. Volunteers are asked to bring their own rakes, shovels.

In case of rain, it will be on Sunday, May 5 at 1 p.m.

**Save the date for the LVCC's first event of the season**

TOWER- Mark your calendars and save the date for the first event of the season at the Lake Vermilion Cultural Center. The cultural center will be hosting a spectacular show on Saturday, May 18 featuring two local performers, Jeremy Lepak and Steve Solkela. Jeremy is a ventriloquist, and Steve is an accomplished musician and singer. You won't want to miss this spectacular event which will begin at 6 p.m. Admission is by freewill donation.

The LVCC is dedicat-

ed to community enrichment through education and the arts by offering quality programming and providing opportunities to showcase the rich cultural heritage of the area. To learn more about the LVCC or to donate, visit [vermilionculturalcenter.org](http://vermilionculturalcenter.org). The LVCC is located at 705 Main St. in Tower.

**Lunch Bunch to meet on May 16**

GREENWOOD TWP- The Lunch Bunch will meet at Tavern in the Bay (Bayview) on Thursday, May 16 at 12:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome to join the group for these monthly lunch get-togethers. Call Kathy at 218-753-2530 to RSVP.

**Looking for used tin roofing material for TSHS project**

TOWER- A smal

group of volunteers, led by Joe Morin, will be replacing the roof on the Old Settler's Cabin at the mini-park that is maintained by the Tower-Soudan Historical Society.

They are looking for donations of gently-used corrugated tin in decent condition.

They will need at least 20 sheets that are 24"x9' or 24"x10'. Tin that is 26" wide would also work. The pieces need to be at least 9' long.

Anyone with material to donate can contact Morin at 218-780-7306.

**Singers needed for Tower-Soudan Memorial Day program**

TOWER- Anyone who enjoys group singing is invited to join with the Tower-Soudan Area Singers to help celebrate

Memorial Day. The annual program to honor all military Veterans will be held in the Herb Lamppa Civic Center on Monday, May 27 at 10 a.m.

**Rehearsals for the program will be on Mondays, May 6, 13, and 20 at 5 p.m.** in the music room at the Tower Elementary School.

Participants are asked to enter the building through the 3rd St. (north) entrance.

Traditional patriotic music will be performed for and with the audience. The music and folders will be provided. If you have any questions contact Rolf Anderson at 218-753-3262.



ARBOR DAY

# Ely honored for 10 years of trees



Kindergarten teacher and Ely Mayor Heidi Omerza brought her class to city hall on April 26 for Arbor Day. photos by C. Clark

by CATIE CLARK  
Ely Editor

ELY- The Arbor Day Foundation gifted Ely with a flag in honor of the city's ten-year streak as an official "Tree City USA." The flag had its unveiling on April 26—Arbor Day—at city hall with the kinder-

garten class from Washington Elementary School in attendance. Their teacher, Heidi Omerza, is also the Mayor of Ely.

As part of their Arbor Day activities, Omerza's students walked from the school to city hall. When they arrived, Mary Groening, co-founder of the

Ely Tree Board and the Friends of the Trees of Ely, gave the kindergarteners a lesson on how to properly mulch a tree. The kids then mulched three trees across from city hall at the library.

After the tree mulching, the kindergarten class went to council chambers inside city hall where

Omerza read and signed a proclamation establishing Arbor Day in Ely.

Ely is one of over 3,600 communities in the nation with the "Tree City USA" accolade. The Arbor Day Foundation has four broad requirements that a municipality or township must meet to receive

the designation. First, the community must maintain a tree board or department. Second, it must have a tree ordinance. Third, it must spend at least \$2 per capita per year on urban forestry. And, finally, it must officially celebrate Arbor Day.

# NLAA can "Elf" it in the fall

by CATIE CLARK  
Ely Editor

ELY- The Northern Lakes Arts Association announced that they'll be performing the musical "Elf" as part of the fall season this year. The musical, based on the 2003 movie

of the same name, played on Broadway during the 2010-11 and 2012-13 holiday seasons, and on London's West End during the 2015-16 winter holidays. The musical has toured extensively in the U.S. and the U.K. and was also adapted by NBC in 2014

as a stop-motion animation featuring songs from the musical.

Auditions will be held on Oct. 13-14, with rehearsals set for Sunday through Thursdays starting Oct. 28. The show will run Dec. 12-21

## AROUND TOWN



Paan, of Ely's beloved food truck "Thai cuisine by Paan," taught an Ely Continuing Education class on making egg rolls last Saturday at the Ely Senior Center. The class included how to make that yummy sweet red chili dipping sauce. photo by C. Clark

## Alworth scholarships

ELY- Two Ely Memorial High School students, Esther Anderson, and Gavin Marshal, have won Marshall H. and Nellie Alworth Scholarships, worth \$24,000 over the next four years. The scholarship program is the main purpose of the Alworth Memorial Fund, now in its 75th year.

The fund's board of directors met on April 17 and selected 95 students who are pursuing studies in "math, science, medical and related research" to each receive these coveted scholarships, which provide \$6,000 annually for four years.

The fund is named for Marshall H. and Nellie Alworth. Alworth was a longtime Duluth resident and a mining and lumbering industrialist. He was well known as a "generous supporter of charitable enterprises and as a quiet, unassuming man," according to the Alworth foundation website. Since its founding, the foundation has donated a total of \$55 million to more than 5,400 students in northeastern Minnesota.

Two Tower residents, Patty Phillips and Marie-tta Johnson, are currently members of the foundation's board of directors.

## 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:

► May 7: Conversation with a Loon Enthusiast with Ely's Loon Ranger, Sherry Abts.

► May 14: Electric School Buses - Health Benefits & Funding Opportunities

## Breathing Out

by Cecilia Rolando © 2024



rain spurs green and growth  
daffodils, tulips push up

signs of a sweet spring

## 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-2 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, 4:00 p.m. Tuesdays, Wellbeing Development, St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 712 S. Central Ave., 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.



## COMMUNITY EVENTS AND NOTICES

### Ely Public Library

ELY- The spice for May is caraway. Pick up a spice kit with a sample and recipes at the circulation desk.

The library will host a presentation on Tuesday, May 7, from 11 a.m. to noon, by Minnesota photographer and public speaker Jay Grammond on the state's barn quilts, art pieces that adorn the sides of barns.

The library will celebrate National Etiquette Week on Wednesday, May 8, from 2-3 p.m. This program on minding your manners is for all ages. Preregister so the library can order enough materials for participants. Registration is limited to 25.

The library will hold a Kahoot online trivia game for all ages on the Babysitter's Club se-

ries books 11-15 by Ann Martin. Preregister with an email address so the library can send the link for the trivia game. The Kahoot will start at 3 p.m. on Friday, May 10, and end at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, May 14.

The Friends of the Library Book Club will meet on Monday, May 13, from 3-4 p.m. The book for discussion is "The River We Remember" by William Kent Krueger.

The Friends of the Library monthly board meeting will be on Tuesday, May 14, 1-2 p.m.

The Get Crafty group will hold a session for adults on making DIY bath scrubbers on Thursday, May 16, at 1 p.m. All materials will be provided. Preregister so the library can order enough materials for participants.

The Library Scientists group for grades 4-6 will hold a session on pollution on Friday, May 24 from 3-4 p.m. The event will include a hands-on project. Preregister so the library can order enough materials for participants. Registration is limited to 25.

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.

The library will be closed on May 27.

### Dorothy Molter Annual Meeting

ELY- The annual meeting of the Dorothy Molter Museum will be on Monday, May 6 from 5:30-7 p.m., open to all museum members in good

standing. See rootbeerlady.com/programs-events to RSVP.

### Dog Training

ELY- Ely Continuing Education has spaces left in the beginning and advanced dog training classes on Monday evenings, May 6 through June 24 at the Ely Ice Arena on S. Fourth Ave. E. Park in the lot at S. Fourth and White St. Cost is \$120. The beginning class will be 6-7 p.m. and the advanced class will be 7-8 p.m. For more details and to register, go to ely.k12.mn.us/communityed.

### Medicare Class

ELY- Ely Continuing Education will offer a free Medicare 101 on Wednesday, May 8, from 5:30-6:30 p.m., in the media center at the Ely Public Schools Campus, 600 E.

Harvey St. Enter through door No. 1, and turn right. The media center is on the right across from the new gym. The class will explain the confusing landscape of Medicare options and benefits, taught by local Ely Medicare expert Joe Weise. Register at ely.k12.mn.us/communityed.

### Spring Bonfire

ELY- The Ely Folk School will hold its spring bonfire on Wednesday, May 8, from 5-7 p.m. at Semer's Beach, rain or shine. There will be refreshments. The event is free.

### Bake Sale

ELY- The Ely Senior Center, 27 S. First Ave. E. will hold a bake sale on Saturday, May 18, from 9 a.m. until noon.



## COOK CITY COUNCIL

# Transportation survey gets endorsement from council

by DAVID COLBURN  
Cook-Orr Editor

COOK- Representatives of a citizens' committee exploring solutions for transportation problems sought and got the Cook City Council's endorsement of their efforts following a presentation at last Thursday's regular council meeting.

Kathleen McQuillan and Judith Ulseth described for the council how their grassroots effort came about and what their mission to improve conditions for the transportation-challenged in the Cook and North Country region might entail.

"We're here this evening to bring to your attention a project that we are working on in partnership with some people in the community of Ely," McQuillan said. "We're looking at the needs and gaps in transportation services in our community. This has been an issue forever, it's common in lots of rural areas that people really lack adequate transportation. It's a really serious issue in our community."

McQuillan and Ulseth are part of a group called Northern Progressives, which McQuillan described as "a grassroots community-based organization with not a lot of formal structure." But the group has been focused in recent months on developing action projects related to essential services, and they realized that underlying all of the resource access issues they identified was the lack of transportation options. Step one in tackling the problem was to gather real information from real people in the area to better understand the problem. The Cook Transportation Needs survey they created is available now through May 15 with accompanying drop-off boxes at the Cook Public Library, the Homestead and Pioneer HRA buildings, Cook Scenic Rivers Clinic and Zup's Grocery. It



**A tricorn hat and a white wig fit well with this man's message as he invoked the Founding Fathers in a call for a constitutional convention.**

is also available by calling Ulseth at 218-750-4304. The surveys have a mailing address printed on the back so that they can also be folded, stamped, and mailed in. Completed surveys should be returned by May 15.

"We're asking the community to answer certain questions that reflect their basic needs for transportation - what kind of vehicle they rely on to get to their appointments, to get to work, to get to the grocery store, and what their experiences in the past have been with transportation," McQuillan said. "What have they tried, how was it, and we also ask for any ideas or input that they have on what would be most beneficial to their accessing adequate transportation."

The two groups have also been in contact with transportation providers such as Arrowhead Transit and Big Woods Transit, and have been seeking out other sources of transportation such as private services or rides offered by agencies or civic groups or others providing trans-

portation to those in need.

"We're looking at what exists now and where are the gaps," McQuillan said. "We'll be pulling together all that information that we get from the community and sitting down as a committee to look at what we do with the information. And then also do some research on other rural communities in our state, or even the nation, that are coming up with innovative ideas to provide transportation."

"We're at the very earliest stages of this, and we're all doing it voluntarily," McQuillan continued. "We've got many partners, and we've talked with many people around the community who are very excited about us working on this, so we don't feel alone. But we'd like the council to offer their moral support to what we're doing working out in the community and that you're not adverse in any way or have concerns about anything."

Council members responded with a unanimous endorsement of the committee's work, and

council member Elizabeth Storm added a personal plea for people to do the survey.

"I'd also like to encourage everybody to complete the survey," she said. "Surveys that we have had in the past couple of years have yielded good results, for instance the cleanup of the city and housing that we're still working on."

## Colonial flair

Next up in the public forum was as curious a sight as seen at a Cook council meeting in a good while, a gentleman walking to the podium wearing a black tricorn hat and a white wig, a throwback to the days when the United States was in its infancy as a nation and the ink was barely dry on the Constitution.

It was appropriate attire for a man who identified himself only as a member of group that's advocating for a constitutional convention of the states to address government overreach and restore limited federal government, he said.

"You've got to have two-thirds of the states to make it happen," he said. "We have nineteen states on board and we have 2.5 million petitions across the United States trying to make this happen."

The man referred back to the Founding Fathers and their intent in structuring the Constitution that the nation remains a republic and not "communism or socialism with a totalitarian dictatorship."

A constitutional convention as outlined in Article Five of the Constitution would "guarantee states citizens rights," he said.

Numerous legal scholars have argued the opposite, saying that a constitutional convention could be dangerous to democracy because it would allow the convening group to rewrite the Constitution for their own benefit. It could potential-

ly curtail the protections granted under the First and Fourteenth Amendments, and restrict the federal government's ability to protect citizens from state overreach.

When asked by Mayor Harold Johnston what he would like the council to do, the man asked them to pass a resolution supporting the call for a constitutional amendment and send it to local legislators and the legislature's leaders as well.

After twice advising him that the council needed to move on, Johnston cut off the presentation and the council chose not to act on the issue.

## Blight

Maintenance Supervisor Tim Lilya gave an update on the city's attempts to address property blight issues since updating the blight ordinance.

"We've been sending letters, and seven residents have not been responding to our letters," Lilya said. "So they are receiving a final letter this week or next week, and after that it will be handed over to the attorney."

Council member Jody Bixby suggested that the city do more to publicize the efforts being made to remedy blight, so that citizens who observe properties that haven't been cleaned up could be aware that actions are being taken.

"They have had letters, they have had warnings, and now we're proceeding to the next level," she said.

## Other business

In other business, the council:

►Heard that the city-wide cleanup days will be May 17-18. In addition to providing a dumpster for resident's waste, the Cook Lions Club has agreed to have several pickup trucks available to haul items for those who don't have any way to get them to the drop off site.

►Heard a presentation by Courtney Clark of the Tower DNR office

about development plans for the 164-acre Owens Wildlife Management Area just south of Cook and north of the airport, including increasing accessibility for parking for the walking trail.

►Heard about plans for repeating the "Adopt-a-Pot" hanging flower baskets on River St. this summer and approved organizers going ahead with the project.

►Heard from residents Brian and Martha Nordmann, 112 1st St. SW, about a years-old dispute with the city over the level of the alley behind their property, the alley that runs behind City Hall, the park, and the library. Having shaped their lot to conform with flood plain requirements, the Nordmanns said that the city's failure to raise the alley has rendered 60 percent of their garage and 75 percent of its doors unusable. Supplemented with pictures of serious flooding, Brian Nordmann walked through a timeline of meetings and discussions with various officials, in which he said they were told it is the city's responsibility to do the work and that there was supposedly money available through the county to pay for it.

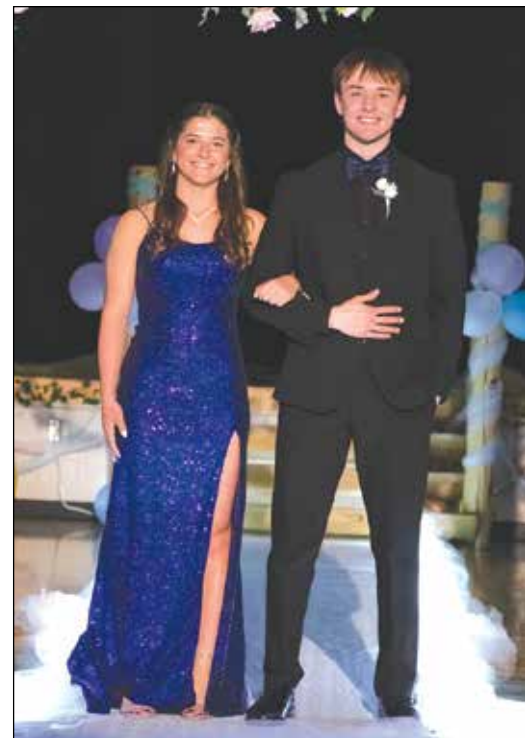
Council member Kim Brunner responded that the alley has never been a project endorsed or planned by the city.

"We never intended to do the alleys," she said.

"We feel we've done everything we're supposed to do," Nordmann said. "We're sitting now with a building that we can't use."

The Nordmanns said they would try to get more documentation verifying the statements of a county commissioner who weighed in on the issue by saying the commission allocated funding for an alley. There was no additional resolution reached on the dispute.

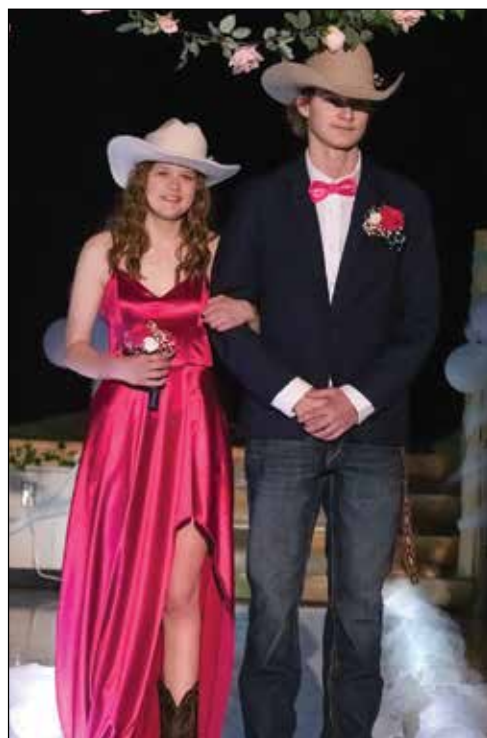
## GRIZZLIES GRAND GALA



Addison Burckhardt and Tommy Miller



Kambry Pearson and Talen Jarshaw



Rory Bundy and Dylan Prickett



River Cheney and Talise Goodsky

North Woods School celebrated prom on Saturday, with a full house in the gymnasium for the traditional parade of attendees. While all students walked the same path, many also tried to carve their niche in Grizzlies prom lore by adding a unique pose or accessory to their stroll along the glistening runway. River Cheney's dress was arguably the most unique among all the finery on display, as the senior, a self-taught crocheter, crocheted her lavender and white gown herself. After the parade attendees had time for some picture taking before moving on to the banquet and dance.

photos by D. Colburn



Evelyn Brodeen and Victoria Olson

## Library to host quilt trail talk

COOK- The Arrowhead Library System is pleased to host "A Road Trip Around Minnesota: Barn Quilt Trails" with Jay Grammond, a free program being offered at the Cook Public Library on Tuesday, May 7 at 3 p.m.

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AN ALLETE COMPANY

# RATE INCREASE NOTICE

April 2024

Minnesota Power has asked the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) for permission to increase its electric rates by approximately 17.2% or \$127.9 million overall. Included in the proposal is a 5.2% or \$38.8 million annual reduction in the Minnesota Policy Adjustment line item on your bill. Depending on customer class and usage, the actual percent will vary based upon final approval by the MPUC. The MPUC will make its decision regarding final rates in early 2025.

## Public Hearings

Administrative Law Judge Kimberly Middendorf has scheduled public hearings to give customers an opportunity to present their views regarding Minnesota Power's request to increase electric rates (MPUC Docket No. E-015/GR-23-155 and OAH Docket No. 21-2500-39686). Any Minnesota Power customer or other person may attend or provide comments at the hearings. You are invited to comment on the adequacy and quality of Minnesota Power's service, the level of rates or other related matters. You do not need to be represented by an attorney.

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	
Monday, May 20, 2024	1:00 p.m.	Little Falls, MN	Morrison County Govt. Board Room 213 1st Ave SE
	7:00 p.m.	Cohasset, MN	Cohasset Community Center 305 NW 1st Avenue
Tuesday, May 21, 2024	10:00 a.m.	Eveleth, MN	Range Recreation Civic Center 901 Hat Trick Ave
	2:00 p.m.	Hermantown, MN	AAD Shrine Meeting & Event Center 5152 Miller Trunk Hwy
	7:00 p.m.	Cloquet, MN	U of M Forestry Center 175 University Rd
Wednesday, May 22, 2024	10:00 a.m.	Virtual Only	<a href="https://minnesota.webex.com">https://minnesota.webex.com</a> Meeting number (access code): 2492 688 9582 Meeting password: bgUKT6paE82

**Bad weather?** To find out if a meeting is canceled, call 651-201-2213 or (toll-free) 1-855-731-6028, or visit [www.mn.gov/puc](http://www.mn.gov/puc).

## The MPUC welcomes comments from customers. There are several ways to participate:

**Online:** [www.mn.gov/puc/get-involved](http://www.mn.gov/puc/get-involved) (for convenience, a link to a comment form is provided on this page)

**Email:** [www.consumer.puc@state.mn.us](mailto:www.consumer.puc@state.mn.us)

**US Mail:** 121 7th Place East, Suite #350  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

**Fax:** 651-297-7073

### Comments must be received by May 30, 2024. Be sure to include docket number 23-155

**Important:** Comments can be viewed by the public on the MPUC website, except in limited circumstances consistent with the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act. The MPUC does not edit or delete personal identifying information from submissions.

For questions or help with the public comment process, contact the MPUC at: 651-296-0406 or 1-800-657-3782.

Customers with hearing or speech disabilities may call through Minnesota Relay 1-800-627-3529 or 7-1-1.

## Accessibility Accommodations

If you need any reasonable accommodation to enable you to fully participate in these public hearings (i.e., sign language or foreign language interpreter, wheelchair accessibility, or large-print materials), please contact the Office of Administrative Hearings at 651-361-7834 at least one week in advance of the meeting. **Customers with hearing or speech disabilities may call through Minnesota Relay 1-800-627-3529 or 7-1-1.**

## Evidentiary Hearings

Formal evidentiary hearings on Minnesota Power's proposal are scheduled to start on May 28, 2024, at 10:30 a.m., in the Large Hearing Room, Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, 121 Seventh Place East, Suite 350, St. Paul, MN. The purpose of the evidentiary hearings is to allow Minnesota Power, the Minnesota Department of Commerce—Division of Energy Resources, the Office of Attorney General—Residential Utilities and Antitrust Division and others to present testimony and to cross-examine each other's witnesses on the proposed rate increase.

Anyone who wishes to formally intervene in this case should contact the Administrative Law Judge, Kimberly Middendorf, at the Office of Administrative Hearings, PO Box 64620, St. Paul, MN 55164 or by email to [oah.webmaster@state.mn.us](mailto:oah.webmaster@state.mn.us).

## Effect of Rate Changes

Below are examples of the effect of the proposed increase on typical bills of Minnesota Power's customers. Individual changes may be higher or lower depending on actual electricity usage.

Customer Classification	Avg. monthly kWh usage	Avg. current monthly cost	Net interim monthly increase	Proposed final net monthly increase*
Residential	691	\$94	\$8	\$11
Residential Dual Fuel	970	\$96	\$8	\$11
General Service	2,683	\$361	\$31	\$43
Commercial & Industrial Dual Fuel	3,598	\$344	\$30	\$45
Large Light & Power	258,754	\$26,403	\$2,293	\$3,172
Large Power	49,194,469	\$3,999,252	\$344,917	\$478,966
Lighting	156	\$64	\$5	\$8

\*Monthly increases include all line items on bills except sales taxes and municipal franchise fees, and may vary by customer based on usage.

The rate changes described in this notice have been requested by Minnesota Power. The MPUC may either grant or deny the requested changes, in whole or in part, and may grant a lesser or greater increase than that requested for any class or classes of service.

## For More Information

You may examine our current and proposed rate schedules and our request for new rates by visiting our website at [www.mnpower.com/RateReview](http://www.mnpower.com/RateReview), or you may contact the Minnesota Department of Commerce—Energy Division at 85 7th Place East, Suite 280, St. Paul, MN 55101, Phone: 651-539-1500.

**Web:** <https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/search.jsp> and select 23 in the year field, enter 155 in the number field, click on Search and the list of documents will appear on the next page.

**Need help translating this text?** People who communicate in a language other than English can request translation services by calling Minnesota Power at 800-228-4966. We also offer a translation option at [mnpower.com](http://mnpower.com).



**TRAILS...**Continued from page 1

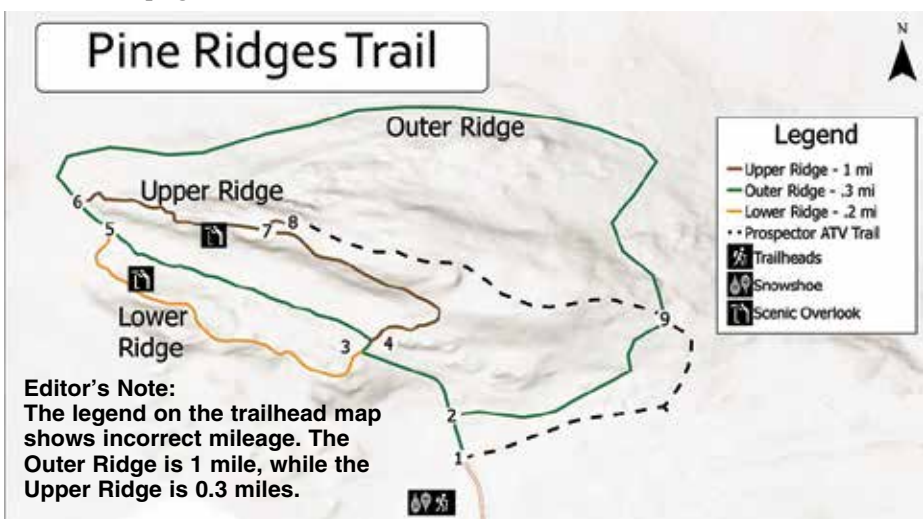
on the thread. "What gives them the right to hang no ATV signs, and on top of that, bury trails with trees to stop people from going down them."

**The trail closure**

"The decision to close off about a mile of old forest road and trails to ATVs was made by the Tower City Council," said Mary Shedd, former club president and a longtime volunteer with the trails club who spent many hours clearing the Pine Ridges Trail.

The council as a whole made a decision to close a roughly 200-foot segment of an old forest road at the top of the hill last June and gave an ad-hoc council committee the authority to review the trail and make any further decisions. Last fall, council members Kevin Norby and Bob Anderson, along with Michael Schultz, hiked the trail with club volunteers, and made the decision to designate the lower trail, dubbed the "outer loop" as non-motorized. According to Shedd, the decision was made mainly for safety concerns and to provide a more accessible and less steep route to the top of the overlook.

Council members also reasoned that the creation of the Prospector's Loop Trail, just south of Tower, had created significant additional opportunity for



ATV riding in the immediate Tower area, so the limited closures along the hiking trail would have little impact on ATV enthusiasts.

**A history of use**

Most of the old forest roads in that area were never formally designated as ATV routes, although the DNR had maintained a winding route up the hillside from behind the Tower-Soudan Elementary School that connected to many of these old trails, most of which are still used by ATV riders. Out of about seven miles of trails previously used by ATVs around the Pine Ridges area, the council's decisions affect less than a quarter mile combined, and both closed segments were effectively dead ends. The "outer loop" trail added to the closure hadn't been

used by ATVs in years.

Two of the newer trails developed by the club, including the Ancient Cedars Trail and the Pine Ridges Trail have seen increasing use, as evidenced by traffic counters set up on the trails. From spring to late fall of last year, 260 people were recorded walking on the Pine Ridges Trail, 819 on the Ancient Cedars Trail, and 162 on the Wagoner Ski Trails for a total of 1,241 people using these trails.

During that same time period, 1,397 ATVs were counted on the Prospector Trail section south of Tower. "So non-motorized use was roughly equivalent to ATV use," said Shedd.

Hiking trails and ATV trails require different trail surfaces as well as having different maintenance requirements. ATV trails require a rockier trail

surface, and require regular maintenance to address erosion, rutting, and mud-holes. Hiking trails can follow a narrower trail, with a grass-covered surface.

"They looked at the plan and decided it was reasonable to diversify the trail opportunities," Shedd said. "The proposal pointed out there might be some ATV users upset with the decision."

Tower City Clerk-Treasurer Michael Schultz noted that portion of the trail in question was a dead-end route for ATVs, and was not used very often, since it only took a few minutes to go up and then back down.

"It was a pointless trail for ATVs," Schultz said. "I've driven it many times, but it's easy to get up the hill using the other route." The path to the hilltop itself is still open, albeit through

an alternate route that runs parallel to the "outer loop" trail and then cuts towards the hilltop where there is a picnic area (the dotted line on the trail map).

A short section of former trail that had been used occasionally by ATVs was blocked with brush so that hikers do not get lost. The area is crisscrossed with old forest roads and unofficial ATV trails, which can make following the Pine Ridges Trail somewhat more challenging than it would otherwise be.

The Prospector Trail, a new 130-mile ATV trail connecting Ely, Babbitt, Embarrass, and Tower, now has an official, and city-approved path through the hillside north of Tower.

"These trails were built to sustain ATV traffic," said Shedd. "A natural trail can't sustain regular ATV use." The trails club has already seen issues with the portion of the cross-country ski trails that are used as part of the Prospector Trail. The Prospector Trail group has been repairing damage and rutting on the ski trails that occur during the ATV season.

**Tower-Soudan trails planning**

The city of Tower created a plan for trail development in the Tower-Soudan area in 2022. The plan conducted a survey of area residents which

showed that 69 percent used walking trails, and 52 percent used hiking trails. 32 percent of survey respondents said they used ATVs or other off-road vehicles.

Tower and Breitung are currently working together to secure funding to complete the Tower-Soudan, McKinley, Hoodoo Point paved trail loop. And Breitung Township recently completed a project which created a safer paved trail from the existing paved trail to McKinley Park. The city of Tower recently completed the area's first water trail, a signed trail that runs from the East Two River to the Lake Vermilion-Soudan Underground Mine State Park shoreline. The Wagoner Trails Club recently repaired and updated the lighted loop at the ski trails, and while the snow did not cooperate for skiing this winter, the lighted trail was used for evening group hikes by the recently formed Vermilion Area Activity Club (weekly hikes are posted on Facebook).

The trails club is working with Breitung Township to dedicate a portion of an existing trail that runs through the township gravel pit by the campground to non-motorized use.

**FRAUD...**Continued from page 1

individuals and criminal organizations that perpetrate these schemes and target the elderly."

The annual report specifically highlights fraudulent activities against older Americans, as perpetrators target their financial resources including money and cryptocurrency.

The 2023 report outlines several critical points:

- Financial impact – Elder fraud resulted in over \$3.4 billion in losses in 2023, with the average victim losing \$33,915.
- Demographic disproportion – Over 101,000 victims aged 60 and over reported to IC3, versus just 18,000 victims under age 20.

- Common scams – Tech support, personal data breaches, confidence and romance scams, non-payment, and investment scams were the top fraud

types reported by seniors.

- Costliest scams – Investment scams topped the list in terms of financial impact, costing victims over \$1.2 billion in 2023.
- Cryptocurrency targeting – Over 12,000 seniors reported scams involving cryptocurrency.

The document notes that the incidence of elder fraud may be far higher, as many seniors may not report fraud due to lack of knowledge on how to report, shame, or fear of losing financial autonomy in the eyes of their families. When they do report, detailed information may be scarce.

**Common elder fraud schemes**

Elder fraud can take on many guises, reinforcing the need for elders to be vigilant but increasing the challenges of doing so. Some common financial

scams are:

- Romance scams – Criminals pose as romantic interests on digital platforms.
- Tech support scams – Scammers claim to solve non-existent technology issues to gain remote access to computers or smartphones.
- Grandparent scams – Imposters pose as an elder's relative in financial distress.
- Government impersonation – Criminals impersonate officials and even law enforcement and threaten legal action to extort money.
- Sweepstakes/charity scams – Scammers pretend to be from charities or claim the victim has won a prize requiring a fee.
- Home repair scam – Fraudsters charge upfront for never-provided services.

- TV/radio/social media scams – Scammers use illegitimate ads to lure victims with services like reverse mortgages.
- Family/caregiver scams – Relatives or caregivers financially exploit the elderly.

And, according to various sources, scammers are becoming more efficient and effective through the use of artificial intelligence (AI). If scammers can obtain a voice recording of a relative, they can create an interactive AI audio "bot" that sounds just like the real person. That interactive bot can increase the perceived realism of a call for financial assistance. With pictures found online, a fake AI video of someone can be used to scam elders, who are less adept at recognizing the signs of deepfakes.

AI can be used to create automated chat bots

that can mimic customer service representatives from well-known retailers to steal personal information, online, through robo-calls, or through automated text and email scams.

**What you can do**

- Attempt to recognize and cease communication with scammers.
- Verify contact information and offers online. A reverse phone search can often reveal numbers commonly used by scammers.
- Resist the urgency to act hastily – scammers will pressure you to act quickly.
- Be wary of unsolicited communications and offers.
- Secure your personal and financial information.
- Update security software and enable pop-up blockers.
- Get assistance in setting any social media accounts to the highest

privacy/security levels available.

- Consider using a prepaid debit card instead of your bank card or credit card for online purchases.
- Monitor for any suspicious activity on your accounts.
- Report suspected fraud attempts immediately.

If you or someone you know may have been a victim of elder fraud, contact your local FBI field office or submit a tip online at tips.fbi.gov. If the suspected fraud was internet-facilitated, you can also file a complaint with the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center at ic3.gov.

By staying informed and cautious, seniors can better protect themselves from the financial and emotional damage caused by fraud.

**MINE...**Continued from page 1

complexity.

Reaction to the House vote from wilderness advocates was swift. Ingrid Lyons, executive director of the Campaign to Save the Boundary Waters, called the measure a "giveaway" of America's public lands to a foreign mining company.

"It sets a dangerous precedent for the conservation of America's most sensitive ecosystems. By attempting to undo Secretary Haaland's prudent decision to ban sulfide-ore copper mining in the watershed of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness,

HR 3195 directly contradicts the robust science, favorable public opinion, and sound legal basis of the Secretary's decision."

Passage of the bill is likely to reignite the longstanding debate in the region over the risks and potential benefits of a cop-

per-nickel mine upstream of the canoe country, home to some of the most pristine waters in the lower 48 states. The economic feasibility of the proposed Twin Metals mine has never been demonstrated publicly since the company, which is controlled by Chilean

mining giant Antofagasta, has yet to release any financial projections.

An earlier iteration of the mine concept showed marginal profitability.

While the Duluth Complex, a large geological formation known to contain vast quantities of

copper, nickel, and other valuable metals, the formation is very low grade, which impacts both the profitability as well as the environmental impact of mining operations in the region.

ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MINNESOTA

# LAND AUCTION

Opens: Monday, May 6 | 8AM  
Closes: Wednesday, May 15 | 1PM CDT 2024

**Auctioneer's Note:** Looking for recreational land that abuts State of Minnesota woodlands? You don't want to miss this extraordinary opportunity to own a piece of serene beauty in the Town of Field in St. Louis County, MN. This auction encompasses 122± acres of picturesque woods and lush pasture. What sets this offering apart is its unique surroundings - enveloped by woodlands owned by the State of Minnesota. Whether you're a nature enthusiast, an outdoor adventurer, or a seeker of solitude, these parcels offer endless opportunities. This auction will be held on the Steffes Group, Inc website as a Timed Online Auction ending on May 15 at 1:00PM.

Contact Eric Gabrielson at Steffes Group 320.693.9371 or 701.238.2570, or visit SteffesGroup.com.

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Scott Steffes MN81527; Eric Gabrielson MN40381547. TERMS: 10% down upon signing purchase agreement with balance due at closing in 30 days. This is a 5% Buyer's Premium Auction.

**WIFI...**Continued from page 1

the off-season and \$500/month for one gigabyte during the on-season. The city will be responsible for the equipment to moderate the connection speed to users.

The city would charge festival vendors a small per-booth fee to use the wifi,

according to Crego. The hard-wired wifi would also allow the city to host the Whiteside Park webcam. At the previous TAB meeting, Ely Clerk-Treasurer Harold Langowski reported the city is using a resident's service for the webcam and continue to have router and

service issues.

The city owns two webcams which both receive heavy internet traffic. The Sheridan St. webcam is currently working but the Whiteside Park webcam is down.

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# DRY NEEDLING



THE LEGISLATURE

# Proposed law targets job misclassification

by DAVID COLBURN  
Cook/Orr Editor

**REGIONAL-** The distinction between an employee and an independent contractor can be confusing to some employers, while for others it's one that can be manipulated to the employer's benefit and the worker's detriment.

Calling an employee a contractor or vice versa is called misclassification, and it's a prevalent issue in Minnesota businesses that the Legislature is trying to address.

Their work flows from a 66-page report developed by the Office of the Legislative Auditor on the subject. While noting that misclassification occurred in many industries and up to 22 percent of employers in an unemployment insurance audit, the report singles out two groups, construction and gig workers, for stand-alone chapters. While the construction industry employs eight percent of the state's workers, 16 percent of them were found to be misclassified. The gig economy, Uber and Door Dash drivers and such, where drivers are considered by their employers as independent contractors, is a nontraditional, more recent development that deserved more scrutiny.

**What's the difference?**

The answer to that question is not as clear cut as one would think, as state law outlines many different

"tests" to determine worker classification. Indeed, state law prescribes specific worker classification tests for at least 30 different industries or occupations. The state uses different classification tests to determine a worker's eligibility for unemployment benefits and worker's compensation. The Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED), Department of Labor and Industry (DLI), and the Department of Revenue (DOR) use different standards to determine a worker's classification. There are even different standards within a single agency—the Department of Labor and Industry uses one standard to determine eligibility for worker's compensation, but a different standard to determine whether an employer violated the state's prohibition against misclassifying employees. One agency could classify a worker as an employee and another agency could classify the same worker as an independent contractor, creating confusion for both workers and employers.

The most common factor is the level of control an employer has over an individual's work. The more they prescribe and direct an individual's activities, the more likely that person should be classified as an employee. Setting worker schedules, requirements that a worker personally performs the work, designating the place

of work, requiring workers to comply with an employer's instructions, whether the employer provides tools and materials, and reimbursement of worker expenses are some of the approximately 20 factors considered when determining whether a worker is an employee or an independent contractor for purpose of worker's compensation.

**Problems caused**

Worker misclassification has numerous impacts for workers, employers, and government.

Workers misclassified as independent contractors rather than employees are prevented from receiving many employment-related rights and protections. For example, because independent contractors are generally not subject to minimum wage and workplace safety requirements, a misclassified worker may not receive wages to which they are legally entitled, and they may work in an environment without required safety precautions.

Independent contractors must pay both the employee and employer shares of Social Security taxes, and typically aren't considered eligible for employee benefits such as health insurance or paid time off.

Employers who misclassify employees as independent contractors avoid legally required obligations such as contributions to the unemployment insurance program, reducing labor costs. An unfair competitive advantage is created favoring employers who willfully misclassify employees over those who follow the law.

Misclassification carries the risk that an employer could be sued by an employee and be required to pay monetary fines or compensate workers for damages.

Government suffers

through lower program and tax revenues or increased reliance on state coverage of worker's compensation benefits. Workers who don't receive all the compensation or benefits they are owed often turn to government social assistance programs.

**The bill**

Rep. Emma Greenman, DFL-Minneapolis, is the chief author of the House bill, which has 20 co-authors. HF 4444 would ensure a business does not classify, represent, treat, report, disclose, document, or enter into an agreement with an employee, or require employees to agree to be misclassified or treated as something other than an employee — like an independent contractor. The Department of Labor and Industry could penalize a business up to \$10,000 per violation. Employers could be held personally liable for violations, and the bill includes a multi-factor test that could hold a new owner of a business liable for past violations of the former owner. Employers have the right to demonstrate extreme financial hardship when required to reimburse the state for litigation expenses and have those costs reduced.

The bulk of the bill zeroes in on the construction industry, creating a new definition of independent contractor specific to the industry. A new multi-part test with 14 requirements will be established to determine independent contractor status.

The bill also defines an employer-employee relationship in the following way: "An individual who provides or performs building construction or improvement services for a person that are in the course of the person's trade, business, profession, or occupation is an employee of that person and that

person is an employer of the individual. It reinforces that an employee may not be required to represent themselves as an independent contractor, and that they must be treated in their work and compensation as an employee.

The bill also creates the Intergovernmental Misclassification Enforcement and Education Partnership, composed of the commissioners of labor and industry, revenue, employment and economic development, and commerce, and the attorney general. The partnership is required to meet quarterly on issues related to investigation and outreach on employee misclassification. The partnership's duties will include efforts related to education, outreach, detection, investigation, deterrence, and enforcement of employee misclassification.

Unsurprisingly, the bill has met with pushback from construction industry organizations. A letter from the Associated Builders and Contractors of Minnesota (ABCM) called the bill "overly punitive." They objected to the fact that the bill makes no distinction between willful misclassification and honest mistakes, holding all violations to the same expanded civil penalties. They noted that the OLA report acknowledged that genuine mistakes are made and asked that penalties be limited to willful violations.

ABCM also drew attention to a section which gives the Commissioner of Labor and Industry expanded authority to issue stop work orders.

"A single isolated violation at one jobsite could subject a contractor to the closure of all its jobsites, which could have broad negative consequences," they said.

Prohibitions against an

employer requesting that an individual register as a construction contractor and from entering into an agreement that treats an individual as an independent contractor run counter to standard practices contractors use to protect themselves and ensure that individuals are properly registered, ABCM said. Discouraging these actions could expose employers to penalties for being proactive, they contended.

A letter representing the views of 11 different business groups from the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce to hospitality, realtors, grocers, and contractors also weighed in with objections.

"Our members do not want more complex regulation in an area where clear and consistent guidance from regulators is often lacking," the group wrote. "Well-rounded laws should make it easier for good actors to legally participate in our economy and harder for bad actors to engage in violative behavior."

The group expressed the need for the bill address the issue of lack of inter-agency collaboration, asserting that the newly established partnership fails to focus on the core concern of consistent and uniform application of independent contractor regulations. They also expressed concern about the expanded violations and civil penalties, and reiterated most of ABCM's concerns.

HF 4444 has already made its way through four House committees and is awaiting consideration by the Ways and Means Committee. The Senate version, SF 4483, has also been through four committees and has been referred to a fifth, the Finance Committee.

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**Q: Who are the Providers at EBCH?**  
**A:** The main entrance point into the hospital is through the Emergency Department (ED). EBCH currently employs six Physicians who work in the ED. If we cannot ensure the 24/7 coverage required in the ED, EBCH utilizes additional Physicians through a contracted service. If you are an inpatient at the hospital, you may also see your Primary Care Provider. This group of doctors comprises our current medical staff, led by our chief medical officer, Dr. Brock Urie.

Healthcare can be confusing. As you navigate our healthcare system, please remember that three separate entities share our campus: Ely-Bloomenson Community Hospital, Essentia Health—Ely Clinic, and Boundary Waters Care Center.

**Q: Are there other Doctors available at EBCH?**  
**A:** Yes – EBCH works with visiting Providers to offer additional access to specialists on our campus. These Providers, experts in their respective fields, are available to consult and treat specific conditions, providing a convenient and comprehensive healthcare experience. They currently include:

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Hospital Connection is an ongoing feature of Ely-Bloomenson Community Hospital (EBCH). We are excited to share our most recent updates and information in a question-and-answer format featuring a new topic each week. We will share important information about healthcare at local, state, and national levels, along with exciting information about EBCH, our services, and how we are a partner in the communities we serve. You can also find more information about EBCH by visiting our website at [www.ebch.org](http://www.ebch.org). Like our Facebook page to keep up with current events and announcements.

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Ely-Bloomenson Community Hospital is committed to caring for and enhancing the health and well-being of the community it serves.



## LOCAL WRITERS

## Ely author's book features stories of our area

by CATIE CLARK  
Ely Editor

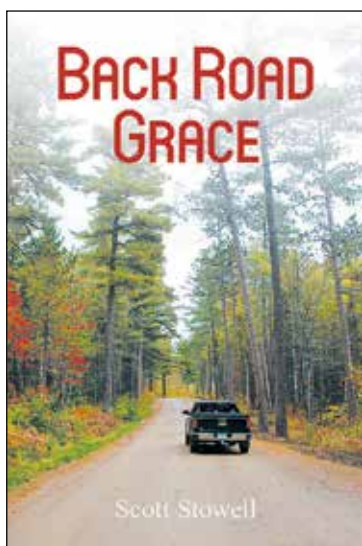
ELY- Ever since Scott Stowell moved to Ely, he's been collecting and telling stories. As someone with experience as a writer and news professional, telling those stories comes second nature and Stowell has now published many of those stories in his first book, "Back Road Grace," with help from grants from the Gardner Humanities Trust and the Arrowhead Regional Arts Council.

The book assembles 41 short stories or essays, some of which were previously published or aired on radio. The majority of the accounts, many whimsical, reflect the special flavor of living where the Iron Range ends and the Boundary Waters begin.

A handful of stories are about his younger years and his father who played pro baseball.

Several will leave the reader laughing, while others might invoke tears.

Some of the funniest stories are about the visitors Stowell



has met while working for Ely outfitters as he aptly captures the ambiance and occasional absurdity of working the summer hospitality trade. The tale of the first-time campers wanting to take ticks and leeches home is surely a case where the truth is stranger than fiction.

Many of the pieces are written versions of Stowell's broadcasts on the "Stay Human" segment he contributed to KAXE in Grand Rapids and their Bem-



Scott Stowell speaking at the April 16 Tuesday Group meeting at the Grand Ely Lodge.

dji-based affiliate KBXE. The oldest story was originally published in the *Timberjay* in 2007 when Stowell was the paper's Ely editor.

### Scott Stowell

Stowell was born in Philadelphia but spent most of his childhood in Elgin in the suburbs of Chicago. He graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point in 1980 and,

from there, he worked in TV news for a CBS station in La Crosse and an ABC station in Madison. After earning a teaching certificate, he worked ten years as a school teacher.

"I found that I was a doer rather than a teacher, so I got a job in radio," Stowell said. After that, he was a copywriter for radio and then a magazine editor. "Then, I was 'downsized.' My wife, DyAnne Korda, was unemployed at the same time. After we both went through long, unproductive job searches, we decided could be unemployed anywhere."

So, in 2006, without jobs or friends in the area, Scott and DyAnne packed their bags and moved to Ely. Once here, he and DyAnne put down solid roots. "We've been in the same house for 17 years now."

Stowell has worn several hats locally. He worked as a bartender and a cutter at Wintergreen. He spent five years as the Ely editor at the *Timberjay*. He then moved on to the morning show at WELY.

All this time, Stowell con-

tinued his career as a freelance writer with a specialty in nature and the outdoors. The Steger Wilderness Center is one of his major clients. He also drove shuttles for Ely Outfitting in the summer, a job he still does and enjoys. "It's a great job," Stowell related, "and it's even a better way to get story ideas for things to write."

### Publication

In Ely, "Back Road Grace" is available at Art & Soul Gallery, Piragis Northwoods, the Ely Folk School, and Zup's. In Duluth, copies are on sale at Zenith Bookstore and Barnes and Noble. Readers can also order the book online from the author's website, at [writingoutfitter.com/content/back-road-grace](http://writingoutfitter.com/content/back-road-grace).

Besides "Back Road Grace," samples of Stowell's other outdoor offerings can be found online at his website, along with several of his KAXE broadcasts.

## STATE LEGISLATURE

## \$980 million House bonding bill moves ahead

by DAVID COLBURN  
Cook-Orr Editor

## Challenges, cuts loom in conference committee

REGIONAL – House members in St. Paul were set to vote Wednesday on a \$980 million bonding bill that aligns with the priorities established by Gov. Tim Walz in January, but work on a final bill for the governor to sign is far from over as intense debate is expected to continue in conference committee with the Senate over the size and scope of the measure.

With state and local agencies requesting around \$7.6 billion for infrastructure improvements, a level of disappointment was a foregone conclusion for this session's bonding bill. Requests from local governments alone soared 102 percent this year over last, totaling \$2.92 billion, according to Management and Budget Commissioner Erin Campbell.

The largest single allocation in the bill is \$302.7 million currently parked under the heading of "Library Construction Grants" for the Department of Education that in actuality represents a

set-aside for an unfinalized list of local projects, with about half the money expected to go to projects supported by Republican lawmakers.

"For the librarians who think that they have hundreds of millions of dollars and are doing cartwheels — sorry, about that. Probably not going to happen," said Rep. Dean Urdahl, R-Grove City, in a Tuesday committee hearing.

Walz's proposal set preservation of state-owned assets as a major priority, and the House bill follows suit, with \$256.9 million allocated for these activities, representing about 25 percent of the total bill. The University of Minnesota and Minnesota State college system would each receive \$64 million that would go to facility improvements, and \$32 million would go to fund improvements at the state capitol complex.

### Clean water

Clean water is another area where the funding doesn't match the expressed need.

The bill calls for \$57 million for the Public Facilities Authority, of which \$39 million is a state match to acquire federal funds for clean water purposes, and \$10 million would be targeted at a grant program to mitigate the impact of contaminants such as manganese and a group of chemicals known as PFAs. However, even the governor didn't get what he wanted in the bill, as Walz had requested \$109 million for the agency.

Another \$4 million allocated to the Pollution Control Agency is earmarked for drinking water contamination mitigation. Six million dollars designated for the Board of Water and Soil Resources would indirectly impact water quality in the state through a program that would encourage landowners to retire environmentally sensitive land from agricultural production.

### Corrections

The bill proposes \$114 million for the Department of Corrections

to address critical needs in its crumbling infrastructure. Sixty million dollars is designated for asset preservation, while two DOC locations, Rush City and Lino Lakes, would receive a combined \$54 million to expand programming and space for the 2,000 inmates housed at those facilities.

### Local roads ignored

While the bill provides \$45.7 million from a combination of general-obligation bonding and trunk highway bonds for major local bridge replacement and port development, there's no allocation in the bill for the Local Road Improvement Program. Emily Murray, representing the Association of Minnesota Counties, warned committee members that localities are falling farther and farther behind addressing critical needs. Murray pointed out that local agencies have requested \$282 million in state money for 948 "priority" bridge replacement projects over the next five years with a combined

estimated construction cost of \$740 million. The remaining local bridge replacement program fund balance, Murray said, "is anticipated to run out by mid-summer, and replacement of local agency bridges will face a dramatic reduction."

According to Murray, MnDOT received \$417 million in requests for 378 local roads projects in 2023, but the Legislature's appropriation of \$103 million covered only 86 of those projects.

### Other items

Other proposed appropriations include:

- \$65.5 million for the Department of Natural Resources, including \$30 million for its Betterment of Buildings program;

- \$48 million to construct a Bureau of Criminal Apprehension office and lab in Mankato;

- \$32 million to rehabilitate public housing;

- \$31 million to the Metropolitan Council, with nearly half going toward inflow and infiltration projects;

- \$28.86 million to the Department of Veterans Affairs, including \$16.05 million to renovate

a building at the Minneapolis Veterans Home and \$12.8 million for asset preservation;

- \$20.27 million to the Department of Human Services including \$12.26 million for asset preservation and \$8 million to construct early childhood centers;

- \$15 million to construct a new animal hospital at the Minnesota Zoo;

- \$12 million to the Pollution Control Agency.

House Capital Investment Committee Chair Rep. Fue Lee, acknowledges that cuts to the bill are likely as the bonding process moves ahead.

"I think that there will be further disappointment as we continue to move in the process," Lee said at the hearing. "We have caucuses here in the Legislature who may not want to even work on a bill the size that we have in front of us."

With a bonding bill requiring a three-fifths majority vote to pass in both legislative chambers, the DFL will need to carry support from Republican legislators in order to craft a final version that can be sent on to Gov. Walz.

## New podcast focuses on Superior National Forest and Boundary Waters areas

by CATIE CLARK  
Ely Editor

ELY- Folks with the Superior National Forest and the Ely Tourism Bureau teamed up this past winter in a joint venture to create a series of podcasts that offer listeners in-depth looks at a wide

range of topics related to the national forest, including the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.

Hosted by Brett Ross, who also hosts the "My Ely Story," podcast, the new podcast, called "Forest North," which launched in January, just posted its eighth episode.

The episodes, so far, range from 42 minutes to a bit over an hour and cover everything from jobs on the forest to owls, to the impact of this past winter's limited snow cover. The most recent episode included an update on the progress of the multi-state North Country Trail, which now goes through Ely, Tower and Soudan.

"Forest North" is available on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, and the [ely.org/plan/podcast/](http://ely.org/plan/podcast/) webpage. For those who haven't installed podcast apps, [ely.org](http://ely.org) will play the episodes with your PC's browser software.



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# SPORTS

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## BASEBALL

# Grizzlies hang tough in 3-1 loss to Carlton

by DAVID COLBURN  
Cook-Orr Editor

CARLTON- The Carlton-Wrenshall Raptors baseball team may have picked up a home win against the North Woods Grizzlies on Tuesday, but the Grizzlies will see dividends from the boost in confidence that comes from giving their opponents all that they could handle in the 3-1 contest.

After Carlton manufactured a run in the first inning for a 1-0 lead, the Grizzlies put the hammer down defensively behind starting pitcher Levi Chauklin, holding the Raptors scoreless until the bottom of the

sixth inning.

The Grizzlies struggled at the plate with three-up, three-down turns in the first, third and fourth innings. Louie Panichi finally got North Woods on the board in the sixth, coming around to score after smacking a single to right center field.

Carlton pushed across two more runs in the bottom of the sixth, and the Grizzlies went down in order in the seventh for the 3-1 loss.

But North Woods Head Coach RJ Kruse had nothing but praise for his team's grit and effort.

"Levi pitched a great game, throwing only 68 pitches in six

**Right: North Woods catcher Louie Panichi has an anxious look on his face as he and umpire Mike Turnbull track the flight of a deep fly ball hit by a Mesabi East batter in an April 25 game at North Woods. The Grizzlies lost 11-0.**

photo by D. Colburn

innings," Kruse said. "He did an excellent job getting ahead in the count on batters all night. Our outfielders, Dawson Stavenger, Jett Lambert and Alex Burckhardt were fantastic, making all the plays that came to

See **BASEBALL**, pg. 2B



## BASEBALL

# Ely ten-runs Deer River

South Ridge game rained out

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

DEER RIVER— Ely's offense clicked here last Thursday as the Timberwolves ten-runned the Warriors 13-3 to improve to 4-3 on the young baseball season.

"This was the much-needed offensive explosion we were looking for," said Ely Head Coach Frank Ivancich. "The ball finally found some holes today at the plate for our hitters."

Indeed, the Wolves knocked out ten hits in the five-inning contest. Senior Elliott Levens led the way at the plate, notching four RBIs on two hits, while fellow senior Deegan Richards added three RBIs on the day.

Juniors Caid Chittum and Ben Leeson added two hits apiece for the Wolves to make their contribution to the win.

"Eighteen players saw action on the field and helped contribute to Thursday's win. It was great team effort," noted Ivancich.

Senior pitcher Drew Marolt did his part as well, allowing just three runs on four hits in the contest, while fanning nine in the full five innings pitched.

Monday's scheduled contest against South Ridge was postponed due to rain.

The Wolves were set to host Mt. Iron-Buhl on Thursday and they'll travel to Grand Marais on Saturday to take on Cook County. They'll be back home next Tuesday to host Mesabi East.

## GIRLS GOLF

# NER-Ely nabs first in East Range meet

by DAVID COLBURN  
Cook-Orr Editor

HOYT LAKES – The combined Northeast Range-Ely girls golf team scored a big win last week in the East Range Conference meet at Hoyt Lakes.

NER-E had three players place in the top five in the event, which featured four schools with full teams and two with solo entries. The team edged Rock Ridge

See **GOLF**, pg. 2B



## SOFTBALL

# Resilient Grizzlies top Mt. Iron-Buhl 12-9

by DAVID COLBURN  
Cook-Orr Editor

FIELD TWP- When the Mt. Iron-Buhl Rangers scored seven runs in two innings to take an 8-7 lead on the North Woods Grizzlies softball team going into the bottom of the sixth inning last Thursday at North Woods, the Grizzlies didn't panic. Instead, they launched an offensive explosion of their own that catapulted them to a 12-9 win.

MI-B and North Woods have developed a spirited rivalry in recent years, and Thursday's contest continued that trend. MI-B drew first blood in the first inning when Natlie Bergman singled and stole her way around the bases to

score, giving the Rangers the early 1-0 advantage.

North Woods responded in their half of the inning as Nevada Gauthier led off with a walk and Zoey Burckhardt slapped a single. The pair came home on a double by cleanup hitter River Cheney, giving North Woods a 2-1 lead.

Both teams went down quietly in the second, but North Woods roared to life again in the third, getting runs from Addison Burckhardt and Cheney to go up 4-1.

The Rangers revved up their offense in the fifth, starting with a leadoff homer by Kyle Renzaglia, and three more runners crossed the plate for a 5-4

See **GRIZZLIES**, pg. 2B



**Top: Grizzlies hurler Addison Burckhardt winds for a pitch with a group of North Woods defenders backing her up during last Thursday's game with Mt. Iron-Buhl.**

**Above: Third baseman Nevada Gauthier prepares to gun down an MI-B runner.**

photos by D. Colburn



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SOFTBALL

# Ely notches two more double-digit wins

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

ELY — The Timberwolves are suddenly dominating on the softball mound as they notched two more double-digit wins this week, against Two Harbors and Chisholm.

Playing at home last Friday, Wolves sophomore pitcher Zoe MacKenzie went the distance, allowing just one earned run on six hits, while fanning seven, as Ely outdistanced Two Harbors 12-2.

Ely freshman Amelia Penke had a huge day at the plate, going 3-d, including a double and a triple as she scored once and drove in two more runs. Junior Clare Thomas went 3-4, including a double, notching a run scored and an RBI in the effort. Sophomore Ella Perish also notched two RBIs and scored twice on two hits, while MacKenzie notched two RBIs on two hits. Senior Hannah Penke added an RBI and a run scored and junior Maija Mattson notched an RBI and a run scored on two hits.

MacKenzie dominated from the mound in Chisholm last Thursday as Ely came on late in the game to rout the Bluestreaks 15-0. MacKenzie allowed just three hits in seven innings pitched and notched 11 strikeouts, her most dominating performance of the season so far.

Hannah Penke led the way for the Wolves on offense, notching two RBIs and two runs scored on two hits, including a double and a triple. Thomas scored a run and drove in another on two hits, including a triple. Freshman

Peyton Huntington scored twice and drove in a run on two hits. She was joined by fellow freshman Grace Flynn, who notched an RBI and two runs scored on two hits. Amelia Penke scored three runs and notched on RBI on a single.

"I felt like both of these games had a similar feel," said Ely Head Coach Cory Lassi. "I felt like the final score didn't indicate how close the game was. In both games we jumped out to an early lead, but we had to battle defensively and make plays to keep those leads. We did a good job chipping away at

the plate and putting pressure on them on the bases. We eventually broke through with big innings. I have been very happy with how well we are playing defensively. I feel like we are a very tough team when we play defense like we have the last three games."

The Wolves were set to test their talents on Thursday, when they head to North Woods. They'll be back in action on Saturday at Grand Marais, when they take on Cook County. They'll be back home on Monday to host International Falls.

GOLF

# NER-Ely, Grizzlies golfers compete at Virginia

by DAVID COLBURN  
Cook-Orr Editor

VIRGINIA- The Northeast Range-Ely boys golf team placed fifth in the seven-team field at the East Range Conference meet

at the Virginia Golf Course on Thursday, April 25.

The team total of 188 was 27 strokes behind winner Rock Ridge, as NER-E golfer Thomas Homer took team honors with a round of 46 on the par-35 layout,

good enough for 17th in the 45-man field. Close behind in a five-way tie for 18th were teammates Wesley Sandy and Robert Towley. Lewis Powell rounded out the four-man scoring with a 48, finishing in a three-way tie

for 23rd.

Meanwhile, the North Woods foursome brought up the back of the pack, but eighth-grader Gage Aune put himself on the map as an up and coming contender with a solid 14th-place showing,

carding a ten-over-par 45. Ryder Gibson shot a 55 to finish 38th, Peyton Swanson came in with a 57 for 40th, and Sawyer Glass rounded out the scoring for the rebuilding Grizzlies by tallying a 63, placing 42nd.

TRACK

# Panthers track competes at Esko, Two Harbors

by DAVID COLBURN  
Cook-Orr Editor

REGIONAL- The South Ridge Panthers combined track team ran into stiff competition last week in the 11-team Esko Showcase meet in Esko on April 25, with the girls placing ninth and the boys finishing 11th.

North Woods tracksters who had top-20 finishes for the girls varsity included:

- 100 meters - Addy Hartway, 17th, 14.73.
- 200m - Izzy Pascuzzi, 15th, 21.4.
- 4x100m relay - Addy Hartway, Amber Sopoci, Anelise Brodeen, Grace Hennager, tenth, 62.15.
- 4x200m relay - Mya Kinsey, Izzy Pascuzzi, Grace Hennager, Tegan

Fordahl, tenth, 2:14.6.

4x400m relay - Corra Brodeen, Madison Ellefson, Scarlett Vanderscheuren, Violet Vanderscheuren, eighth, 4:49.86.

High Jump - Izzy Pascuzzi, ninth, 4'4"; Lauren Burnett, 12th, 4'.

Long Jump - Izzy Pascuzzi, 16th, 13'4.5".

North Woods boys who turned in top-20 varsity performances included:

- 100m - Aidan Hartway, 15th, 12.39.
- 400m - Aidan Hartway, 15th, 60.99.
- 800m - Jonah Burnett, sixth, 2:21.72.
- 3200m - Lincoln Antikainen, sixth, 11:41.03.
- 4x200m relay - Evan Kajala, Trajen Barto, Rilyn Cooper, Tyler Morse, tenth, 1:50.54.

4x400m relay - Jordan Burnett, Aidan Hartway, Quinn FierkeLepp, Sawyer FierkeLepp, sixth, 3:51.91.

High Jump - Jonah Burnett, seventh, 5'4".

Long jump - Trajen Barto, 17th, 16'9".

### Two Harbors

The Panthers were back on the track on Tuesday to compete in the Two Harbors Invitational at Two Harbors High School, with 11 teams competing. The Panthers fared better in this meet, with the boys placing fifth and the girls finishing eighth.

Top-20 North Woods performers on the boys side included: 100m - Trajen Barto, 14th, 13.24; Evan Kajala, 20th, 13.59. 200m - Aidan Hartway, sixth,

25.18; Evan Kajala, 20th, 28.06.

400m - Jonah Burnett, seventh, 58.51; Aidan Hartway, ninth, 58.63; Trajen Barto, 14th, 63.8.

800m - Lincoln Antikainen, sixth, 2:26.16.

1600m - Khalil Lightfeather-Spears, ninth, 5:18.11.

3200m - Khalil Lightfeather-Spears, second, 11:07.39; Lincoln Antikainen, sixth, 11:26.89.

4x100m relay - Evan Kajala, Marcus Israelson, Wyatt Ellefson, Jeffrey Moyle, seventh, 53.33.

4x400m relay - Jonah Burnett, Aidan Hartway, Quinn FierkeLepp, Sawyer FierkeLepp, second, 3:51.66.

High Jump - Jonah Burnett, third, 5'6".

Long jump - Trajen Barto, 11th, 15'7".

North Woods girls who came home with top-20 finishes

included:

- 100m - Izzy Pascuzzi, seventh, 14.61; Addy Hartway, eighth, 14.55.
- 200m - Corra Brodeen, 12th, 30.11; Addy Hartway, 14th, 30.75.
- 400m - Corra Brodeen, 11th, 68.68; Izzy Pascuzzi, 18th, 71.82.
- 800m - Brynn Chosa, 16th, 3:17.44; Grace Bundy, 18th, 3:21.04.
- 4x100m relay - Amber Sopoci, Mya Kinsey, Aria Benson, Grace Hennager, eighth, 63.61.
- 4x400m relay - Corra Brodeen, Madison Ellefson, Violet Vanderscheuren, Scarlett Vanderscheuren, fourth, 4:45.07.
- 4x800m relay - Grace Bundy, Tegan Fordahl, Aolani Hammack, Margaret McLaughlin, fourth, 13:12.91.
- Shot put - Amber Sopoci, 17th, 23'8".
- High jump - Izzy Pascuzzi,

## GRIZZLIES...Continued from page 1B

Rangers' lead.

Undaunted, the Grizzlies struck back in their half of the inning, plating Zoey Burckhardt, Addison Burckhardt, and Cheney to regain the lead 7-5.

The see saw battle flipped back to the Rangers in the top of the sixth, as

they capitalized on good discipline at the plate to get baserunners and pushed across three runs to go on top yet again, 8-7.

The stars were aligned well for the Grizzlies going into the bottom of the inning, as they were at the top of their batting order, and the battery did not

disappoint. Gauthier and Zoey Burckhardt led off with singles and Addison Burckhardt drew a walk. Cheney and Emarie Gibson added to the hit parade, and with aggressive baserunning and MI-B committing four infield errors, the Grizzlies had recorded five runs before the

Rangers recorded an out. Leading once again by a score of 12-8, the Grizzlies allowed one run in the top of the seventh but no more to close out the triple come-from-behind win 12-9.

The Grizzlies' defense came up big when they needed to, as MI-B hammered the ball for 16 hits

but stranded eight runners. Meanwhile, North Woods made the most of their opportunities, with all of their runs coming from the top five in the order. Zoey Burckhardt, Addison Burckhardt, and Cheney each scored three runs to lead the team.

The Grizzlies' Monday

and Tuesday games were rained out, but they were hoping for cooperative weather on Thursday for a scheduled home game against Ely. North Woods had another home game on the schedule for Friday against South Ridge before hitting the road for a Monday rematch at MI-B.

## BASEBALL...Continued from page 1B

them. Cedar Holman made some great plays at short and the infield as a whole played well. We put a lot of balls in play, but their defense was on point, too. Definitely a game to hold our heads high on, it was a fun game to be a part of.

Both teams played great."

The Grizzlies might want to pack their sleeping bags on the bus, as they're looking at an extended road run that won't have them playing at home again until May 16, when they host Cook County.


## GOLF...Continued from page 1B

for the title by one stroke, 191-182.

Abby Koivisto and Maizy Sunblad finished in the three-way tie for second place with scores of 46 on the par-36 nine at Hoyt Lakes Golf Course. Carena DeBelt slipped into a three-way tie for fifth with a 47. Danica Sunblad's 12th-place tie with a 52 was the final piece of the puzzle in NER-E's close win.

The North Woods Grizzlies finished fourth in the team competition, with veteran Tori Olson leading the way as the third member of the second-place trio, also shooting 46. Sophia Hoffman carded a 63 for 19th, Carsyn Burnett finished 21st with a 66, and Laurin Glass checked in at 24th with a 72.

A scheduled meet on Monday hosted by Rock Ridge at The Quarry was called off due to unfavorable course conditions.



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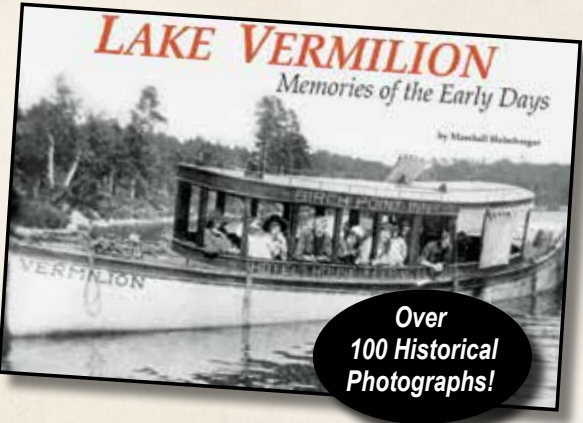
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Obituaries and Death Notices



**Carol A. Keister**

Carol Ann Karvala Keister, 66, of Cook, passed away peacefully at the Cook Care Center on Monday, April 29, 2024. A funeral service will be held at 1 p.m. on Friday, May 3 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Cook. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service at 12 noon. Arrangements are with Mlaker Funeral Home of Cook.

She is survived by her husband, Mike Keister; daughter, Melida Keister; son, Bruce (Danielle) Keister; grandchildren, Charlotte and Lane Keister; niece, Sarah (Kevin) Sheffer; great-nephews, Elias and Hudson Sheffer; nephew, Stewart (Lynda) Martinson; great-nephew, Nathan Martinson; nephew, Jason Martinson; and numerous other family members.

**Valerie S. Pearson**

Valerie Sue Riel Pearson, 65, of Cook, passed away on Tuesday, April 30, 2024. There will be no services per her wishes. Arrangements are with Mlaker Funeral Home of Cook.

She is survived by her husband, Randy; children, Vanessa (Orion) Shea, Emily (Tyler) Bartek and Steven Pearson; grandchildren, Nicole, Max, Miles and Kylah; and siblings, Patricia Mattingly, Barbara Fitzpatrick, Donna Merrow, Jeffrey Riel and Michael Riel.

**James W. Thierer**

James "Jimmy" Warren Thierer, 67, of Embarrass, passed away on Tuesday, April 23, 2024, at his home. No memorial service is planned at this time. Arrangements are with Range Funeral Home in Virginia.

Jimmy enjoyed fishing and hunting, and was a very good cook.

Jimmy is survived by his brother, John (Ronda) Thierer; former wife, Teri Thierer and her sons, Jeremy and Eli Hoover, to whom Jimmy was a father; and nieces, nephews, aunts and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his beloved son, Zachary, and is now peacefully at rest with him; his parents, Clifford Sr. and Muriel (Lamkin) Thierer; sisters, Penny Hiltunen and MaryAnn Crayne; and brother, Clifford Jr. "Duff" Thierer.

ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

LCP holds annual meeting, elections

COHASSET— A community of cooperative members gathered at the Merritt Elementary School in Mt. Iron, Minn., for the annual membership meeting on Thursday, April 25. More than 300 members and guests gathered to hear that despite the high cost of materials, Lake Country Power did not need to adjust rates in 2024, among other topics of interest.

Mark Bakk, Lake Country Power general manager, reported that material cost increases have stabilized but are still 70 percent higher than pre-pandemic levels. Lead times for materials are delayed by months or even years. Bakk also reported about the value additional crews are bringing to the cooperative during an era when it's hard to find contractors available to work, and those available are costly to hire. The in-house crews are helping Lake Country Power save

money on construction projects, age-related line replacements and right-of-way clearing.

Bakk concluded with remarks about the legislative and regulatory actions in the State of Minnesota. He said, "We take the affordability and reliability of your electric service very seriously and we will continue to advocate for you, our members, at the State Capital in St. Paul."

A presentation by Lake Country Power's wholesale energy provider, Great River Energy, highlighted power supply transition efforts to meet state mandates, regional transmission investments, and other accomplishments. 2023 was a remarkably successful financial year with \$25 million patronage capital returned among 27 member cooperatives.

Like Lake Country Power, Great River Energy is replacing equipment based on age and

condition. GRE replaces 55 miles of transmission every year with plans to increase that number. During the last five years, GRE has invested \$8.2 million in Lake Country Power's service area for age/condition and rebuilds, and in the next five years GRE will invest another \$40.5 million. GRE also informed members about its wildfire mitigation plan.

Director election results were announced in districts 1, 5 and 9, to fill three-year terms. The candidate in District 5 ran unopposed.

- District 1:  
David Cicmil, Cook, 174 votes
- Jason Long, Cook, 650 votes
- District 5:  
Robert Bruckbauer, Remer, 380 votes
- District 9:  
Larry Anderson, Esko, 448 votes
- Kevin Maki, Saginaw, 351 votes

PUBLIC NOTICE

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
COUNTY OF ST. LOUIS  
DISTRICT COURT-  
CIVIL DIVISION  
SIXTH JUDICIAL  
DISTRICT  
Court File No.  
69HI-CV-24-101  
Case Type: Other  
(Quiet Title)

Civil Summons  
To be tried in the city of  
Hibbing

Paul M. Byrd  
And Nancy J. Byrd  
Plaintiffs  
Vs.

Holly M. Perttu (aka Holly Skubic)  
The Estate of Verna M. Samich  
The Estate of Peter J. Samich  
And any others who claim an interest in the subject real property, also all of persons

unknown claiming any right, title, estate, interest, or lien in the real estate described in the Complaint herein, Defendants

This Summons is directed to Holly M. Perttu (aka Holly Skubic), by and through her attorney David Lutz, and to the Estate of Verna M. Samich (dod 9/5/2020), and the Estate of Peter J. Samich (dod 2/16/2021). The heirs of both Verna Samich and Peter Samich are believed to be: Gayle Samich, Paula Schweiger, Holly Skubic, Michael Samich, and Mark Samich, and no others.

1. You are being sued. The Plaintiff has started a lawsuit against you. The Complaint is attached to this Summons. Do not throw these papers away. They are official papers that start a lawsuit and affect your

legal rights, even if nothing has been filed with the court and even if there is not court file number on this Summons.

2. You must BOTH reply, in writing, AND get a copy of your reply to the person/business who is suing you within 21 days to protect your rights. Your reply is called an Answer. Getting your reply to the Plaintiff is called service. You must serve a copy of your Answer or Answer and Counterclaim (Answer) within 21 days from the date you received the Summons and Complaint.

ANSWER: You can find the Answer form and instructions on the MN Judicial Branch website at [www.mncourts.gov/forms](http://www.mncourts.gov/forms) under the "Civil" category. The instructions will explain in detail how to fill out the Answer form.

3 You must respond to each claim. The Answer is your written response to the Plaintiff's Complaints. In your Answer you must state whether you agree or disagree with each paragraph of the Complaint. If you think the Plaintiff should not be given everything they asked for in the Complaint, you must say that in your Answer.

4. SERVICE: You may lose your case if you do not send a written response to the Plaintiff. If you do not serve a written Answer within 21 days, you may lose this case by default. You will not get to tell your side of the story. If you choose not to respond, the Plaintiff may be awarded everything they asked for in their Complaint. If you agree with the claims stated in the Complaint, you don't need to

respond. A default judgement can then be entered again you for what the Plaintiff asked for in the Complaint.

To protect your rights, you must serve a copy of your Answer on the person who signed this Summons in person or by mail at this address: Sipila Law Office LLC, 412 1st St. S., Virginia, MN 55792, email: [ange@sipilaw.com](mailto:ange@sipilaw.com), fax: 218-741-5000.

5. Carefully read the Instructions (CIV301) for the Answer in your next steps.

6. Legal Assistance. You may wish to get legal help from an attorney. If you do not have an attorney and would like legal help:

• Visit [www.mncourts.gov/selfhelp](http://www.mncourts.gov/selfhelp) and click on the "Legal Advice Clinics" tab to

get more information about legal clinics in each Minnesota county.

• Court Administration may have information about places where you can get legal assistance.

NOTE: Even if you cannot get legal help, you must still serve a written Answer to protect your rights or you may lose the case.

7. Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR). The parties may agree to or be ordered to participate in an ADR process under Rule 114 of the Minnesota Rules of Practice. You must still serve your written Answer, even if you expect to use ADR.

8. This lawsuit involves interest in real estate legally described as: NW1/4 of

SW1/4, except the railway right of way, Section 5, Township 57, Range 19, in St. Louis County, Minnesota, together with all hereditaments and appurtenances thereto.

Dated: The 2nd day of May, 2023

Sipila Law Office LLC  
Angela E. Sipila  
Attorney for Plaintiffs  
412 1st Street South, Suite 1  
Virginia, MN 55792  
Attorney ID No 024501X  
[ange@sipilaw.com](mailto:ange@sipilaw.com)  
Phone and fax: (218) 741-5000

Published in the Timberjay,  
May 3, 10 & 17, 2024

Keep it Clean,  
ST. LOUIS COUNTY



<b>ASH RIVER TRAIL CANISTER SITE</b> 11391 Ash River Trail	<b>SUMMER HOURS</b> Wed: 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. Sat: 2:30 p.m. — 5:30 p.m.
<b>COOK TRANSFER STATION</b> 2134 S. Beatty Rd. Cook	<b>HOURS</b> Mon: 10 a.m.—6 p.m. Tues thru Sat: 9 a.m.—3:30 p.m.
<b>COUNTY 77 CANISTER SITE</b> 2038 County Rd. 77 Greenwood Twp	<b>SUMMER HOURS</b> Tue: 1 p.m. - 6 p.m. Thu: 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. Sat: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sun: Noon—6 p.m.
<b>KABETOGAMA LAKE CANISTER SITE</b> 10150 Gamma Rd	<b>SUMMER HOURS</b> Mon, Wed: 9 a.m. - Noon Sat: 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
<b>ORR CANISTER SITE</b> 4038 Hwy 53	<b>SUMMER HOURS</b> Tue: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Thu: 2 p.m.— 7 p.m. Sat: 8 a.m.—noon Sun: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
<b>PORTAGE CANISTER SITE</b> 6992 Crane Lake Rd, Buyck	<b>SUMMER HOURS</b> Tue: 2 p.m. - 6 p.m. Thu: 10 a.m.— 1 p.m. Sat: 1 p.m.—5 p.m. Sun: 3 p.m. - 6 p.m.
<b>REGIONAL LANDFILL</b> 5341 Regional Landfill Rd, Virginia	<b>HOURS</b> Mon-Fri: 8 a.m.—4:30 p.m. Sat: 8 a.m.—3:30 p.m.
<b>HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE FACILITIES</b>	
5345 Regional Landfill Rd, Virginia Tues and Sat: 8 a.m.—1 p.m.	3994 Landfill Rd, Hibbing Sat: 8 a.m.—1 p.m.

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# Outdoors

Our lives in the  
Northwoods

## Wildflower Watch



This week's featured flower  
**ROUND-LOBED HEPATICA**

The North Country's earliest wildflower can often be found in bloom in sunnier locations when there's still snow on the ground. **Round-lobed Hepatica**, *Anemone Americana*, sports a fragile, several-petaled flower that sits atop a thin, hairy, two-to-four-inch stem that grows up from the base of the tiny plant. The three rounded-lobed leaves, which this time of year are typically holdovers from last season, are the best way to distinguish this from the Sharp-lobed Hepatica which is typically found in central Minnesota and points south.

The hepaticas are members of the Buttercup family.

## NATURAL HISTORY



## The science behind the scent of rain

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

REGIONAL— Our recent April showers have not only set the stage for new growth this spring, they have reminded us of the wonderful scent that comes in the immediate aftermath of rain. That scent which we associate with rain is the smell of a chemical stew known as “petrichor.”

Petrichor is the term coined by Australian scientists in 1964 to describe the smell produced by rain. Petrichor isn't a substance by itself. Rather, it's a combination of certain chemical compounds contained within the rain or released by the rain that interact with each other to produce the smell we've dubbed petrichor.

Some of the compounds, like ozone, are normally located in the atmosphere, but the rain can absorb the ozone molecules as they fall through the air and bring them down to the ground. This effect can be even more pronounced if a rain event is accompanied by lightning, which creates more ozone as lightning impacts O<sub>2</sub> (oxygen) molecules in the atmosphere, converting some of them into O<sub>3</sub>, otherwise known as ozone.

Also contributing to the scent of petrichor is geosmin, a chemical produced in the soil by a variety of bacteria, known as Actinomycetes. These bacteria secrete geosmin, which is released into the air from the physical effect of the falling raindrops. Geosmin can be detected

See **PETRICHOR**, pg. 5B

## FOREST MANAGEMENT

# Fighting fire with fire

Forest Service working to reduce fire danger through prescribed burning

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

**SUPERIOR NATIONAL FOREST**— The wind was picking up by midday but that just made the fire “snappier” in the terminology of the fire officials here who were taking advantage of a dry window in the weather late last week to undertake one of dozens of prescribed fires planned across the forest this spring.

Last week's burn was along the northwest shore of Pfeiffer Lake, a popular campground, beach, and picnic area maintained by the forest service on the Superior's Laurentian District. This particular burn encompasses three different blocks, totaling about 32 acres, making it one of the smaller burns planned on the Superior this spring. The largest planned fire is nearly 1,900 acres, dubbed the Kawishiwi Lakes fire, located on the Tofte District.

The U.S. Forest Service, with help from the Nature Conservancy, hopes to complete just over 7,000 acres of burning in an effort to restore the use of fire in forest management in the region.

“The boreal forest is fire dependent,” notes Tim Engrav, who works in the Superior's LaCroix office and serves as public information officer during fire season. According to Engrav, the suppression of fire beginning a century ago in the U.S. upset that longstanding natural process and laid the groundwork for far more catastrophic wildfires.

“It's about using a lower intensity fire under the right conditions versus a wildfire that's most likely to occur when the conditions are the worst,” he said.

Wildfire, which is often driven by high winds when conditions are exceptionally dry, not only endangers public safety but can cause far greater damage to the forest, destroying far more trees, burning up dry soils, and killing significant amounts of wildlife. It can also threaten homes and cabins, as was the case with the Greenwood fire in 2021.



**Top: A firefighter uses a portable bladderpack to wet down birch bark as fire burns around him near the Pfeiffer Lake Campground.**

**Above: Another firefighter uses a one-inch hose line to extinguish a blaze that ran up the side of a birch tree. If such flare-ups are caught quickly, they can reduce the risk that the tree will be killed as a result of the burning bark.**

**Right: Firefighters pause to assess while standing in heavy smoke.**

photos by M. HelMBERGER

Prescribed fires are undertaken when conditions are expected to be less explosive and they're designed to function primarily as an “under-burn,” that reduces or kills brush and consumes dangerous forest fuels, like dead and dried balsam fir, without reaching the crowns of larger trees where the fire can quickly spread.

In the case of the Pfeiffer Lake burn, Engrav said a primary objective was to reduce the amount of balsam fir seeds in the leaf litter. Balsam fir is a particularly significant fire threat because it is abundant and grows well in the understory of larger trees, like pine, aspen, and birch. When alive, fir trees can quickly catch fire because of the vol-

See **FIRE**, pg. 5B





Outdoors briefly

### May 3 deadline to enter bear license lottery

REGIONAL— If you're planning to apply for this year's lottery for the fall bear hunt, and haven't done so already, you'd better get off the couch and apply today. Friday, May 3, is the deadline to apply for the 2024 hunt, which begins Sept. 1.

Applications for the 2024 season can be submitted online, at any license agent or by telephone at 888-665-4236.

A total of 4,030 licenses are available in 15 quota areas where licenses are limited for the 2024 season. Lottery winners will be notified by Saturday, June 1 and winners will have until Thursday, Aug. 1 to actually purchase their licenses. Any remaining unpurchased licenses will be available over the counter starting at noon on Tuesday, Aug. 6.

An unlimited number of bear licenses will be sold over the counter for the no-quota area that includes east-central and far northwestern Minnesota. No-quota licenses are valid only in the no-quota area.

### Moms can take part in fishing challenge

REGIONAL— Moms who live in Minnesota are invited to join a free virtual fishing challenge Saturday, May 11, through Sunday, May 12, during Take a Mom Fishing Weekend, a now annual event during

which all Minnesota moms can fish without a fishing license.

The DNR is partnering with the Student Angler Organization and Women Anglers of Minnesota to host the challenge.

To participate in the Mother's Day weekend fishing challenge, moms simply need to join the Facebook group called "Minnesota Moms Fishing Challenge 2024" and post one photo of each fish they catch.

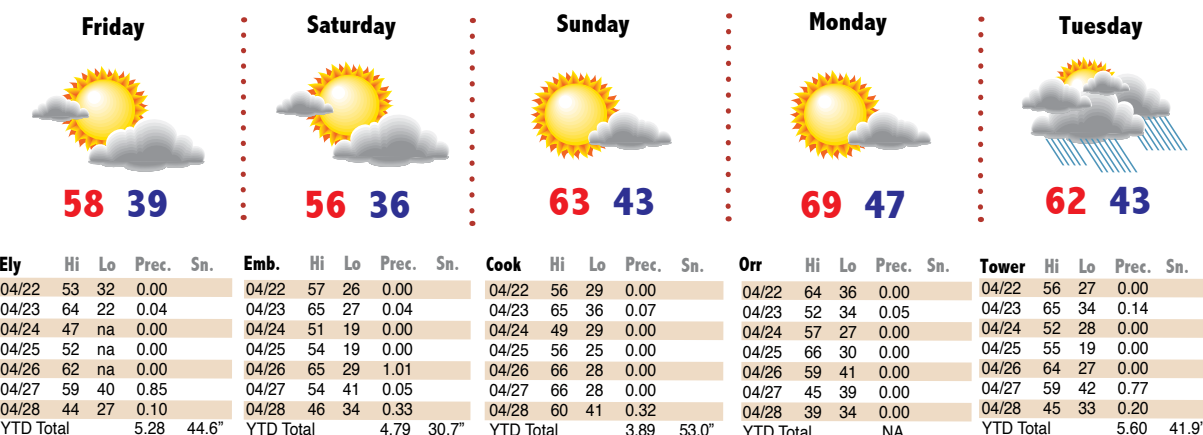
All participants who submit one or more fish photos will have their name entered in a random drawing for prizes provided by the Student Angler Organization and their partners, including gift cards for SCHEELS and Lund. Additionally, participants are invited to tune in for a pre-challenge virtual Fishing 101 class, hosted by Women Anglers of Minnesota in the challenge Facebook group (facebook.com/groups/967975514717550) on May 7.

Challenge details are available on the Minnesota DNR website (mndnr.gov/takemomfishing). All fish species and sizes are welcome in the challenge. Participants can snap a photo and let their fish go or keep it if it's in season.

"This year's event follows the successful inaugural Minnesota Moms Fishing Challenge in 2023. Last year, more than 2,400 moms joined the challenge," said Cara Hanson, DNR marketing coordinator. "This year, we hope even more people will join in the fun!"

## LAKE COUNTRY FORECAST

from NOAA weather



### FIRE...Continued from page 4B

atle oils in their needles and bark. Because of their dense branches and needles, whole trees can ignite or "candle" in a matter of seconds and send flames shooting skyward, where they can ignite the crowns of taller trees. That tendency is the reason balsam fir is considered the most dangerous "ladder fuel" in the North Country.

The danger posed by balsam fir has been even greater in recent years, due to a combination of spruce budworm and regular drought, which has killed millions of fir trees in the region, leaving many standing dead or fallen but suspended off the ground, where they can quickly dry and fuel catastrophic fires.

Engrav said the forest service has tried to suppress the growth of balsam fir around developed sites, such as Pfeiffer Lake, but that mechanical treatments they have used in the past have not been as effective as they would like. By using fire, officials are hopeful they can eliminate the seed source for balsam fir in and around the campground, which should prove a longer-lasting solution.

#### Planning for fire

While fire can be an effective forest management tool here in the North Country, it can also be a dangerous one. Engrav said that's why the forest service establishes "prescriptions" for each fire, which sets parameters, such as fuel moisture levels, relative humidity, and expected winds, in which they believe they can safely control the fire.

It's a careful balancing act since conditions also need to support sufficient fire activity to meet the forest management objective. When conditions get outside the parameters established for each burn, fire



Members of the burn crew fan out along the edge of last week's prescribed burn near the Pfeiffer Lake Campground.

photo by M. Helmberger

officials can quickly shut it down.

It has generally worked well on the Superior in recent years, although the Foss Lake fire west of Ely back in 2016 was an example of a prescribed burn that got away when conditions changed suddenly, although it resulted in no significant damage.

There were no such surprises during last week's burn, even as a strong south wind was up close to the limit set in the prescription. The fire burned easily in the dry conditions and stuck mostly to the ground, although it did occasionally flare up the side of a paper birch tree with plenty of loose, flaky bark.

The firefighters quickly completed a three-acre burn near the campground's beach and picnic area, then spent the afternoon on a 15-acre burn just north and west of

the campground. Despite the gusty wind, which occasionally swirled in the hilly terrain along the bigger burn, the roughly 30 people on the burn crew had little difficulty keeping the fire within the prescribed boundaries. The third burn block, about 14 acres in size, is scheduled for next fall, said Engrav.

Indeed, much of the forest service's ambitious burn plan will likely wait for fall as recent rains have made effective burning impossible. "It hasn't shut the door on some units," said Engrav. He noted that some wildlife openings tend to be grassy and fine fuels can dry quickly and support a hot fire with just a couple days without rain. "We'll definitely be watching for drier weather," said Engrav.

### PETRICHOR...Continued from page 4B

by the human nose at concentrations of less than five parts per trillion.

Finally, plants offer their own contribution to the complex chemical stew that makes up petrichor. During dry conditions, plants produce compounds that accumulate within small voids in the soil until rain falls. As the water fills those voids, it forces out the compounds, which include stearic and palmitic acid.

The scent of petrichor is further accentuated as the rain clears the air of dust particles and aerosols.

So, don't fret about a spring shower. Keep

in mind, the rain brings many benefits, including accelerating spring growth, reducing fire danger, and bathing our environment in the fresh and earthy smell of petrichor.

# CLEAN.DRAIN.DRY.

**CLEAN**

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

**DRAIN**

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

**DRY**

- Everything at least five days before going to other waters
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# EMPLOYMENT

## ELY PUBLIC SCHOOLS POSITION OPENING EC-12 Assistant Principal

Ely Public School District is looking for an Early Childhood – 12<sup>th</sup> grade Assistant Principal starting the 2024-2025 school year. We are an EC - Grade 12 district, seeking an energetic, self-starting, personable, and highly motivated individual. Background check required.

### Required Qualifications:

- Master's Degree in Education or Master's Degree in Education Administration;
- Licensed in Minnesota as K-12 Principal;
- Five years of successful teaching experience.

### Knowledge and Abilities:

- Knowledge of principles, techniques, strategies, goals, and objectives of public education; philosophical, economic, and legal aspects of public education; procedures, methods, and trends of organization and management of public education; curriculum development strategies, instructional delivery systems, and program evaluation processes; evaluation techniques for determining program activity and personnel effectiveness; human relations and conflict resolution strategies and team building principles and techniques.
- Ability to manage, lead, and direct the functions and activities of public education; demonstrate an effective instructional, organizational, and administrative mode; systematically analyze problems, determine alternate problem solutions, and make appropriate and effective decisions; communicate effectively in oral and written form; understand and carry out oral and written directions with minimal accountability controls; establish and maintain effective organizational, public, and community relations.

Application available at: [www.ely.k12.mn.us](http://www.ely.k12.mn.us)

A complete application must include the following:

- Cover letter
- District Licensed Application
- Resume
- Copy of official transcripts
- Current Minnesota teaching / K-12 Principal license
- 3 letters of recommendation

Return materials to: Ely Public Schools, Attn: Superintendent, 600 E. Harvey St., Ely, MN 55731 or email [lwestrick@ely.k12.mn.us](mailto:lwestrick@ely.k12.mn.us). Contact Superintendent Oelke at (218) 365-6166 ext. 1724 or [aoelke@ely.k12.mn.us](mailto:aoelke@ely.k12.mn.us) with any questions.

Application review to begin: 5/13/2024; open until filled.

*Published in the Timberjay, May 3 & 10, 2024*

## ELY PUBLIC SCHOOLS POSITION OPENING .80 FTE English Teacher

Ely Public School District is looking for a .80 FTE English Teacher starting the 2024-2025 school year. We are an EC - Grade 12 district, seeking an energetic, self-starting, personable, and highly motivated individual. Background check required.

### Qualifications include:

- Current Minnesota teaching license in 7-12 English/Language Arts or other applicable Minnesota teaching license.
- Preferred Master's Degree
- Preferred teaching experience with high school levels
- Excellent communication skills including verbal and written

### Responsibilities:

- Demonstrate knowledge of subject matter through effective teaching practices, with expectations of high student achievement.
- Assess student progress, modify instruction, and improve student learning.
- Communicate and collaborate with parents and the school community to foster individual student success and growth.
- Plan, organize, and teach competency-based English courses.
- Demonstrate effective classroom and equipment management.

Application available at: [www.ely.k12.mn.us](http://www.ely.k12.mn.us)

A complete application must include the following:

- Cover letter
- District Licensed Application
- Resume
- Copy of official transcripts
- Current Minnesota teaching license
- 3 letters of recommendation

Return materials to: Ely Public Schools, Attn: Superintendent, 600 E. Harvey St., Ely, MN 55731 or email [lwestrick@ely.k12.mn.us](mailto:lwestrick@ely.k12.mn.us). Contact Memorial MS/HS Principal Jeff Carey at (218) 365-6166 ext. 1726 or [jcarey@ely.k12.mn.us](mailto:jcarey@ely.k12.mn.us) with any questions.

Application review to begin: 5/13/2024; open until filled.

*Published in the Timberjay, May 3 & 10, 2024*



## Northern Tier High Adventure Looking for Summer Kitchen Staff starting as soon as possible.

Housing and meals available.  
\$19/ Hour no skills necessary.  
We will train or put you in a position that best suits your high skillset.  
Located on Moose Lake in Ely, MN  
Apply at [ntier.org/jobs](http://ntier.org/jobs) or call 218-365-4811

5/10

## CITY OF TOWER Job Posting Seasonal Maintenance Worker

**\$13-\$17/hr • Mowing, Snow Removal, Etc. • Must be able to lift 50 lbs**  
For full job description and to apply, visit [www.cityoftower.com/positions-available](http://www.cityoftower.com/positions-available)

*Published in the Timberjay, May 3 & 10, 2024*

## Tribal Police Officer Closes: 05/24/2024

**Position Purpose:** A Police Officer ensures safety, security, and the preservation of life and property by maintaining law and order and enforcing laws and ordinances. Solves community problems by fostering open and continuous communication and cooperation between the community and law enforcement. Maintains confidentiality of all privileged information.

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*Published in the Timberjay, May 3, 10, 17*

## PUBLIC NOTICE

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
COUNTY OF ST. LOUIS  
SIXTH JUDICIAL  
DISTRICT  
DISTRICT COURT  
PROBATE DIVISION  
Court File No. 69VI-PR-24-74

Estate of Darrell Ray Maki,  
Decedent

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

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on June 3, 2024, at 9:30 a.m., a hearing will be held in this Court at Virginia, Minnesota, for the adjudication of intestacy and determination of heirship of the Decedent, and for the appointment of Daniel Maki, whose address is 501 15<sup>th</sup> Ave. W, Eveleth, MN, 55734, as Personal Representative of the Estate of the Decedent in an UNSUPERVISED administration. Any objections to the petition must be filed with the Court prior to or raised at the hearing. If proper and if no objections are filed or raised, the Personal Representative will be appointed with full

power to administer the Estate, including the power to collect all assets, to pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, to sell real and personal property, and to do all necessary acts for the Estate. This hearing will be held remotely via Zoom Technology.

BY THE COURT  
Andrew Peterson  
Judge of District Court  
Jennifer Miller  
Court Administrator  
Chelsea Opdahl, Deputy

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

*Published in the Timberjay,  
May 3 & 10, 2024*

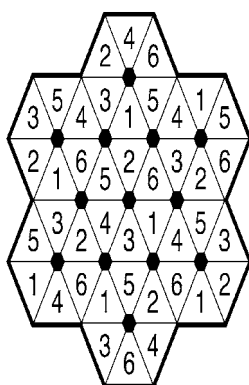
# Read us online at [timberjay.com](http://timberjay.com) 218-753-2950

## Super Crossword

### Answers

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

## SNOWFLAKES solution



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## OPENINGS

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



Vermilion Country is a project based learning school seeking to expand our staffing. We are adding new positions! Also interviewing for positions for the 2024/25 school year for other licensed teaching positions. Currently open for interview on a rolling basis - call 218-248-2485 or email [info@vermilioncountry.org](mailto:info@vermilioncountry.org) for more information:

### Licensed Teaching positions grades 7-12 (B.A. or teaching license required):

- Special Education Teacher (licensed)
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- Science and/or Math Interdisciplinary Teacher (licensed)
- Social Worker (skills and students services focus on individual and small group skills work. LSW, LGSW, LICSW, Licensed School Social Worker, or alternative certification considered LADC etc.)

### Student Support and Community positions (no education license required) Benefits Eligible

- Special Education Assistant /para(Special Education) (Hourly \$17.50 - 24.50/HR +)
  - Student Success Counselor (\$40,000 annual salary)
  - Student Success Program Specialist, (hourly \$24-\$30/hr+ DOE)
- Part Time:**
- Transportation Driver (Van) 5-20 hours per week. Hourly rate DOE
  - Transportation Driver (Class C School Bus) 5-20 hours per week. Hourly rate DOE

### For inquiries, contact

[info@vermilioncountry.org](mailto:info@vermilioncountry.org) and/or 218-248-2485

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Office of the Minnesota  
Secretary of State  
Certificate of Assumed  
Name  
Minnesota Statutes,  
Chapter 333

The filing of an assumed name does not provide a user with exclusive rights to that name. The filing is required for consumer protection in order to enable customers to be able to identify the true owner of a business.

ASSUMED NAME: Dahl's Sawmill and Lumber

PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS: 6930 HIGHWAY 169 VIRGINIA MN 55792 USA  
APPLICANT(S):  
Name/Address: Jesse C. Dahl, 6930 HIGHWAY 169, VIRGINIA, MN, 55792 USA  
By typing my name, I, the undersigned, certify that I am signing this document as the person whose signature is required, or as agent of the person(s) whose signature would be required who has authorized me to sign this document on his/her behalf, or in both capacities. I further certify that I have completed

all required fields, and that the information in this document is true and correct and in compliance with the applicable chapter of Minnesota Statutes. I understand that by signing this document I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Section 609.48 as if I had signed this document under oath.  
DATED: April 12, 2024  
SIGNED BY: Jesse Dahl

*Published in the Timberjay,  
April 26 & May 3, 2024*

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
COUNTY OF ST. LOUIS  
SIXTH JUDICIAL  
DISTRICT  
DISTRICT COURT  
PROBATE DIVISION  
Court File No. 69VI-PR-24-59

Notice and Order of Hearing on Petition for Summary Assignment or Distribution and For Formal Probate of Will Exempt Estate Notice to Creditors—Non-Exempt Estate

Estate of  
Charles Michael Johnson,  
Decedent

Notice is given that a petition has been filed requesting that the Estate assets be summarily assigned.

Any objections to the petition must be filed with the Court prior to or raised at the hearing. If proper, and if no objections or claims are filed or raised, the Court may issue a decree distributing or assigning the Estate's assets.

It is Ordered and Notice is now given that the Petition will be heard on May 20, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. by this Court at Virginia, Minnesota. \* This hearing will be held remotely via Zoom Technology.

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

BY THE COURT  
Andrew R. Peterson  
Judge of District Court

Jennifer Miller

Court Administrator  
Chelsea Opdahl, Deputy

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

*Published in the Timberjay,  
April 26 & May 3, 2024*

## 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: Y equals B

UCPX QCBW OIP YVLX QIPKG

IK KEC GOLCG VS SVWVG'

ECILG KEIK IPC GEIQCL WOMC

BEDTMG VS YIMCL YPCIL:

CIP WVIUCG.

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# Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

1			4		3		
	7		1			5	
		6			8		7
		7	2				8
8				9			2
	3				6	4	
	8			5			1
		2	9			5	
4					7		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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# TIMBERJAY CLASSIFIEDS

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

## AUTOMOTIVE

**Langevin Auto & Truck Repair**  
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## HAIR CARE

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

## HOSPICE

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

## PET CREMATION

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

## GARAGE SALE

Ely's City-wide Rummage, Business Crazy Day, Used Equipment & Watercraft Sale, and Shop Local promotion launch are all happening Saturday, May 18, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Many rummage sales and special deals at local retailers. Maps available on May 14 at the Ely Chamber of Commerce, 1600 E Sheridan St & online at Ely.org/citywide. 5/10

## GARAGE SALE

LARGE GARAGE SALE- 10989 Hwy 22, Angora, MN 55703. Friday, May 3 from 8-5, and Saturday, May 4 from 8-3. Household goods, antiques (2-man saws), yard tools, garden items, mechanic tools, axes, maple hutch, tires, clothing (womens small and mens XL), and much more! 5/3

## WANTED

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

## SUPPORT GROUPS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

AA MEN'S PRIMARY PURPOSE meeting, Tuesdays at 7 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 226 E Harvey St., Ely, 218-235-38191

## CryptoQuote answer

It pays to be obvious, especially if you have a reputation for subtlety.  
— Isaac Asimov

## CryptoQuip answer

Very peculiar body parts at the sides of folks' heads that are shaped like chunks of baked bread: ear leaves.

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kaxe.org

## Super Crossword

STEEP STAIRWAY

### ACROSS

- 1 Offer hush money to
- 6 Strip of gear, as a ship
- 11 Weight unit for a druggist
- 15 "I am at your — and call"
- 19 "Elementary" actor Quinn
- 20 Sonata, often
- 22 Many a cruise stopover
- 23 Unconcealed
- 24 Customized for
- 25 Lee of Marvel Comics
- 26 Like a swine
- 28 Also-rans
- 29 Like a diluted drink
- 31 Parceled out
- 33 "Haven't — before?"
- 34 Shout of discovery
- 35 Having two hues
- 37 "It could go either way"
- 39 Rival of Delta or United
- 41 Urgent
- 42 Fire residue
- 46 Taxpayer's ID
- 48 Dedicates
- 50 Fender guitar, for short
- 52 Ltd. cousin
- 53 Pot toppers
- 55 Edits for publication
- 57 Conflict
- 59 Sad paper notices
- 61 Say a different way
- 63 Michael who co-hosted "Live" with Kelly Ripa
- 64 Gets broader
- 66 "No outlet" street
- 68 Always, in music scores
- 69 Keyboard instrument
- 71 One of three womb-sharers
- 73 Florida's Key —
- 74 Charges for not paying on time
- 76 Decongestant brand
- 78 Legal claim on property
- 79 Broke a fast
- 80 Flimflam
- 82 Non-PC person?
- 84 Suffix with Taiwan
- 85 Bothersome types
- 87 Boring type
- 89 Relax after working hard
- 91 Red-tinged jewelry alloy
- 94 Removes hair from
- 97 Second-to-last king of Egypt
- 100 Greeting sent online
- 102 Emily Dickinson's "Much Madness is — Sense"
- 103 Tropical rabbit lookalike
- 104 Shrink back
- 106 Brings about
- 107 Finger-paint
- 108 The Northwest's "City of Trees"
- 111 Like many allergy sprays
- 112 Robbie Knieval's father
- 113 Remark from the sharp-eared
- 114 1950s-'70s baseballer Boyer
- 115 Actress Russo
- 116 Deck crew officer, in brief
- 117 Puts in order
- 118 City on the Ruhr
- 16 Lauder of fragrances
- 17 Lois' partner
- 18 Its capital is Nairobi
- 21 Aspiring doc's major
- 27 Person stashing stuff
- 30 In the buff
- 32 Cracked, as a cryptogram
- 36 Info group to be input
- 38 "Dagnabbit!"
- 40 Bee-luring fluids
- 43 Chief female officers in sacred rites
- 44 Gets bigger
- 45 First division of a 13-Down
- 46 Sparse start of some rounds of applause
- 47 Utter with a hissing sound
- 49 Arena relative
- 51 Crafts' counterparts
- 54 Apple's Jobs
- 56 Pop in a blended family
- 58 Egypt's Nasser
- 60 Detects like a dog
- 62 Intertwined
- 65 Crystal ball gazer, e.g.
- 67 Neutralized, as a bomb
- 70 "The Cloister and the Hearth" novelist Charles
- 72 Planes' first fliers, often
- 75 Operations
- 77 Infer (from)
- 81 Like a district bishop's jurisdiction
- 83 Faith
- 86 Difficulty
- 88 Finisher just under the winner
- 90 Beach footwear
- 92 Overalls for hitting the slopes
- 93 Sci-fi automatons
- 95 Grand home
- 96 Purloined
- 97 Soundboard control knob
- 98 Mojave plant
- 99 Northern French city
- 101 Inflicted upon
- 105 Actor Bert
- 109 "Well well!"
- 110 Fedora, e.g.

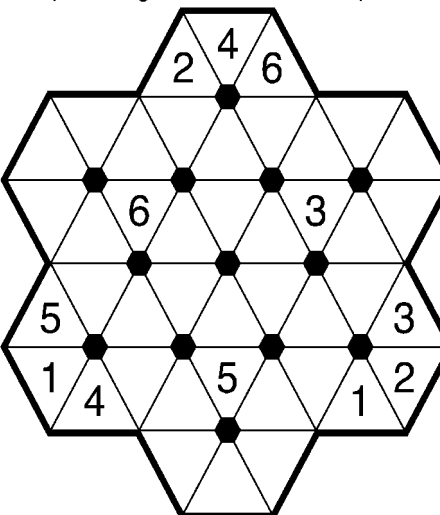
### DOWN

- 1 African tree with a very thick trunk
- 2 Italian municipality west of Turin
- 3 Perfect choices to fill positions
- 4 Stereotypical setting for a brawl
- 5 Having a right (to)
- 6 In prison, informally
- 7 Vardalos of "Connie and Carla"
- 8 Toddler bed attachment
- 9 Like a truck ascending a steep hill, gear-wise
- 10 Silly, like a honking bird
- 11 The two dots in "naïve" or "Brontë"
- 12 Fly-catching warblers
- 13 Shakespeare work part
- 14 Imitated a cat
- 15 Small restaurants

## SNOWFLAKES

by Japheth Light

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



**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK:**  
◆ Easy ◆◆ Medium ◆◆◆ Difficult

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## FUNERAL SERVICES

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## Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

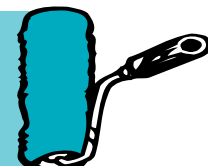
1	2	8	7	4	5	3	6	9
3	7	4	1	6	9	8	5	2
5	9	6	3	2	8	1	4	7
6	5	7	2	1	4	9	3	8
8	4	1	5	9	3	7	2	6
2	3	9	8	7	6	4	1	5
9	8	3	4	5	2	6	7	1
7	6	2	9	3	1	5	8	4
4	1	5	6	8	7	2	9	3

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





# HOME IMPROVEMENT GUIDE



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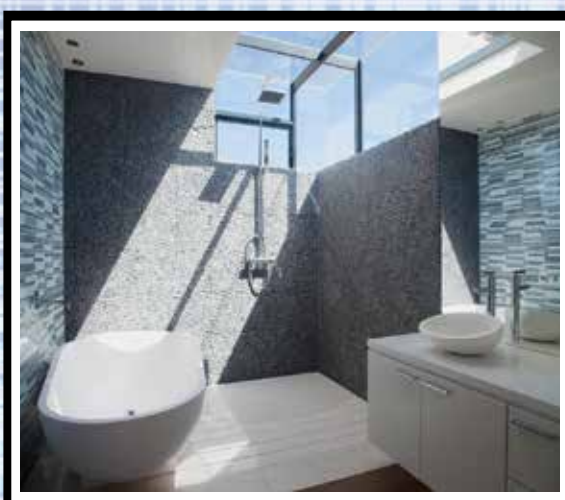
218-753-2101

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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.

OR YNET RJ DG JDXOJZT,

GTYGHONQQE OW EJZ

FNXG N AGYZRNROJK

WJA TZDRQGRE.

- OTNNH NTOIJX

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