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The **TIMBERJAY**



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RECOGNITION

A hero among a family of heroes

by DAVID COLBURN
Cook/Orr Editor

TOWER—Family members of Eugene Trucano, of Tower, recently gathered with a host of family, friends, military Veterans and community members at a ceremony in Virginia to recog-

Left: A young Eugene Trucano leans against the ambulance that he used in WWII to transport injured soldiers. submitted photo

Tower's Trucano family has amazing legacy of service

nize Trucano for his participation in D-Day and four other major campaigns of World War II.

Attached to the 463rd Medical Collecting Company, Trucano's journey took him from the beaches of Normandy all the way to the German homeland as he participated in critical battles to free France and bring the Nazi war machine to its knees.

Trucano's service was an enigma of sorts, a soldier dedicated to saving lives amidst the furious attempts of soldiers on both sides to take them.

The details of his service were certainly unique, but military service to the country was the norm for the family of his father, Charles Trucano, an Italian immigrant who came to the

U.S. around the turn of the 19th century. According to records on Ancestry.com, Charles lived in Illinois and South Dakota, working as a miner before moving to Ely around 1908 — his first three children with wife Catherine Bracco were born in Ely. The Trucanos moved to the

See...TRUCANO pg. 11



FUN on the 4th

The North Country celebrates our nation's birthday



A full day of activities in Ely

The Fourth of July festivities will get underway bright and early with a 7 a.m. flag raising ceremony at the Ely Veterans Memorial, which is next to the Trezona trailhead at the corner of Miners Drive and Central Ave.

That will be the starting point, as well, for the Ely Track Club's "4 on the 4th" four-mile run around Miners Lake, which starts at 8 a.m., with separate starts for runners, walkers, and kids. Runners start at 8 a.m., walkers at 8:10 a.m., and kids at 8:15 a.m. Race-day registration is from 6:40-7:40 a.m. The entry fee is \$25 through June 27 and \$35 afterward. Net profits support the Ely Track Club.

See...ELY FOURTH pg. 10

Plenty of fun on tap in Tower-Soudan

For the Tower-Soudan Lake Vermilion Events Board, the group behind the Tower-Soudan Fourth of July celebration, finding a way to make the celebration even better is one of their goals each year.

And this year, they have added a few new events to the holiday festivities, including a classic car show, at the Lamppa Civic Center, immediately following the parade. Classic car enthusiasts will be driving the parade route, and then circling back to the parking lot at the civic center, where cars will be on display. Anyone who wishes to participate should be at the civic center at 10 a.m. to get in the parade line-up, no pre-registration is necessary.

See...TOWER-SOUDAN pg. 10

Orr ready to rock July 3rd

The celebration of America's independence traditionally kicks off early on the shores of Pelican Lake with Orr's July 3rd Fun Day, and a dedicated crew of volunteers is carrying on that tradition with a full slate of activities to entertain young and old alike.

Pancakes and sausages will be flying off the Orr Community Center griddle beginning at 7 a.m., courtesy of the North Woods Travelers, who are raising funds for an upcoming trip. Adults can get all the pancakes they can eat for \$10, and kids 5-12 are \$5, with those under five eating for free. Breakfast will be served until 10 a.m.

See...ORR FUN DAY pg. 10



Above: Throwing candy during Orr's July 3rd Fun Day.

Left: The Rock Ridge marching band performed in Tower last year.

COOK FLOOD

Montana Café at risk of collapse

by DAVID COLBURN
Cook/Orr Editor

COOK—It's been one hit after another for Montana Café owner Megan Strong since the café was first flooded by the torrential rains of June 18 that spawned the subsequent flash flood. Strong's restaurant was inundated with a foot of water in the dining room and kitchen, but the most recent hit may be the cruelest of all.

Last Friday, as Strong was selling merchandise and frozen food items saved from the flood, the city closed her down after an inspection revealed that the 116-year-old building could be in imminent danger of collapse. They secured the building and blocked off River St. in front of the business to ensure public safety should the building fall down.

"We got most of our stuff out, but most of my equipment is still in the kitchen," Strong said. "They (the city) could not get an engineer because it was late afternoon Friday, so a residential

See...MONTANA pg. 10

ELY AMBULANCE

Joint powers board seeks more answers on EMS study

by CATIE CLARK
Ely Editor

ELY—Members of the Ely Area Ambulance Joint Powers Board expressed some skepticism when it came to the recent proposal for a regionalized ambulance service, presented publicly by SafeTech Solutions consultants last month.

The study, commissioned by Ely-Bloomenson Community Hospital, had suggested a three-way merger of Ely, Tower, and Babbitt's ambulance

See...STUDY pg. 9



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Community notices

Candidate Harley Droba to speak in Soudan on July 10

Soudan- Harley Droba will be the featured speaker at a meet and greet on Wednesday, July 10, from 6:30-8 p.m. at the Vermilion Park Inn at 30 Center St. Local hosts for the event are Mary Batinich, Marit and Orlyn Kringstad, Ellie Larmouth, and Alberta Whitenack.

Droba is the DFL endorsed candidate for State Representative from District 3A. A U.S. Army Veteran and former VFW Commander, Droba served on the International Falls City Council from 2015-2019, when he became the mayor of the city. He's been a champion for rural community business development, including revitalizing a closed-down bowling alley to assure activities for young people, working to assure residents have access to health care, and promoting development of housing and economic opportunity for those moving to the community or wanting to stay in the community and earn livable wages. He operates a coffee company and a coffee shop/restaurant that is a center of community activities in the Falls.

"Communities all over Minnesota are struggling with health care and need their voices heard," Droba said. "Sadly, rural folks in my District 3A do not have effective representation at this time. That is why I am running to provide quality effective leadership that listens to the constituents."

The meet and greet is open to the public. After a short talk by Harley Droba, there will be a question and answer period. Light refreshments will be served. For more information about this event, call Leah Rogne at 218-787-2212 or 612-570-0188 or email leah.rogne@gmail.com.

Visit with the Iron Range DFL Veterans

Hibbing- Join the Iron Range DFL Veterans for a Visit with the Veterans every Wednesday from noon-3 p.m. at 2600, First Ave. Enjoy great conversation and an "S on a Shingle" lunch served in the military style.



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LAKE VERMILION CULTURAL CENTER

Northern Lights Music Festival concert at cultural center in Tower on July 9

TOWER- The Northern Lights Music Festival will present a chamber music concert on Tuesday, July 9 at 7 p.m. at the Lake Vermilion Cultural Center, featuring the Finisterre String Quartet, classical guitarist Carlos Bedoya, and cellist Iosif Feigelson. Music by Borodin, Albeniz and others will be presented.

The Northern Lights Music Festival is one of Minnesota's largest music festivals. The NLMF offers lovers of classical music three weeks of live professional opera, chamber music and orchestra concerts presented by an international roster of guest artists, performing faculty and prize-winning young artists. The concert will be similar to last year's with performances by young artists and guest artists. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$5 for students under 18 years old and can be purchased at the door or at northernlightsmusic.org. Refreshments will be served after the concert. For more information on the Northern Lights Music Festival go to northernlightsmusic.org.



Bella Ng and Emily Qi performed at last year's concert.

Spiritwood Foundation's Under the Big Top concert set for July 13

ELY- The second Annual Spiritwood Foundation fundraiser concert is set for Saturday, July 13 starting at 5:30 p.m. at Veterans on the Lake, 161 Fernberg Rd. Music starts at 7 p.m. under the big tent, but come early starting at 5:30 p.m. for food. Ticket prices are VIP \$35 (first three rows reserved seating), \$25 for general seating. There are 200 VIP tickets available and 300 general seating tickets available. Purchase tickets at SpiritwoodBigTop.com. A free CD will be included with every ticket.

Proceeds will benefit Veterans On The Lake, and the Spiritwood Foundation's programs for seniors and Veterans.

Under The Big Top is all about building community. Organizers are buoyed by the support of the Ely community for this great night of music that honors our Veterans. Ely business owners sponsoring the event include: EBCH, Ely Area Credit Union, Ely Echo, Zups, Grand Ely Lodge, R&R Transfer (In Loving Memory Of Rod Loe), Frandsen Bank and Trust, Merhar's Ace Hardware, Ely Liquor, Lucky Boy Services, Ely Flower And Seed, Mitska's Market, Ely's Old Fashioned Candy Shoppe, and Bloomers.

"When a community comes together for a meaningful and impactful common goal, the life connection is palpable," said Donna Surface. "For our Veterans, for our seniors, for the forgotten and underserved, our neighbors shift their focus outward. So many have expressed excitement and appreciation that an actual Big Top will appear on the grounds of Veterans On The Lake - where joyful sounds will rise to honor our Veterans."

Last year's event sold out so this year's tent is even bigger, with seating for 500 people. The band Monroe Crossing and Pat and Donna Surface's band American Pie



Above: Members of Monroe Crossing.



Bottom (from left) Pat and Donna Surface, Butch Schmidt and Marina Whight.

featuring Marina Whight and Butch Schmidt return this year by popular demand. This year's lineup also includes LaPlant Road with Emily LaPlant (daughter of the MN State Fiddle Champion Mary LaPlant) and Liz Ashworth, blazing mandolin and fiddle, and they play everything else with strings. The evening will culminate in a show-stopping jam between American Pie, Monroe Crossing, and LaPlant Road.

"Last year the jam brought

down the house," said Donna Surface. "No one wanted it to stop."

If you cannot attend but want to support this event and our Veterans, consider buying a ticket for a Vet. Email Donna at SpiritwoodMusic@aol.com. For more information on the Foundation and SLN go to www.SpiritwoodFoundation.com.

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FLOOD RELIEF

FEMA assistance available for Cook flood damage

by DAVID COLBURN
Cook-Orr Editor

COOK- Much needed financial help will be on its way to Cook and other parts of St. Louis County soon as President Joe Biden approved a disaster declaration for the extensive Minnesota flooding on Friday, paving the way for the Federal Emergency Management Agency, or FEMA, to direct federal funds to the recovery effort.

Local citizens have been anxiously awaiting the development since Gov. Tim Walz visited Cook on Thursday, June 20 and promised support would be forthcoming.

"I've seen the damage across our state firsthand — it's going to take a united effort at every level of government to quickly rebuild and recover. This assistance is going to make all the difference in that recovery," said Walz in a news release



While the waters have receded in Cook, there is still much work to be done to get businesses reopened and homes repaired. photo by D. Colburn

announcing the declaration. "I'm grateful to our partners in the federal government for doing their part, just as Minnesotans have done theirs, filling tens of thousands of sandbags, checking in on their neighbors,

and volunteering their time."

Walz filed a request for an expedited declaration as flooding in the southern part of the state was continuing this past week, making the normally required damage estimate that

accompanies an application for disaster aid to be impossible to produce at the moment. Twenty-two of the 42 counties with flooding are covered by Biden's declaration, including St. Louis County. Damage assessments

are ongoing and more counties could be added in the future.

However, Biden's declaration applies only to federal funding is available to state, tribal,

See **FEMA**, pg. 5

TOWER-SOUDAN

Rains overwhelmed TS stormwater system

by JODI SUMMIT
Tower-Soudan Editor

TOWER-SOUDAN- The seven-plus inches of rain that fell in Tower and Soudan June 18 created headaches for many area residents, as the storm water system could not keep up with the hours of intense rainfall.

"It was too much of an influx," said Matt Tuchel, who oversees the joint water and wastewater systems.

Total flows through the wastewater system on June 18 and 19 totaled 1.5 million gallons. Normally, the system would handle about 200,000 gallons in two days, Tuchel said.

"So, 1.3 million gallons was rainwater."

"We are not designed to take in that much rain at one time," Tuchel said. "If this happens again, we will have to look at upgrading our system."

Flooding did the most damage on North Second and Third streets in Tower, where water flowing down the steep forested hill met up with storm sewers already overwhelmed.



One residence just north of the elementary school reported a substantial stream of water flowing right through their garage, which faced the North Third St. alley. Several homes in that area reported three-plus feet of water in basements, destroying water heaters, laundry machines, and furnaces, along with flooring and personal items. Flooding was also a problem for



The path to the start of the Ancient Cedars Trail was totally submerged (swimmable if you were a dog!). The waters did recede by early last week and the boardwalk was not damaged, but some of the support beams floated away and will need replacing. The trail is open, but please walk with care. East Two River was licking the bottom of the bridge by the old Iron Ore Bar and overflowed its banks into the mini-park picnic area.

photos by J. Summit

the apartments on the north side of Tower.

In Soudan, the worst damage was on South Street, but many other families reported flooding, including Tuchel, whose lower-level bedroom was flooded, with flooring and

furniture destroyed. The Vermilion Park Inn had floodwater in their lower level, damaging their laundry.

The East Two River overflowed its banks, and water reached the bottom of the new bridge by the old Iron Ore Bar

and overflowed into the park. The harbor overflowed its banks in places, and the new parking lot at the kayak landing was almost half under water. Flooding

See **STORM**, pg. 5

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OPINION

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The First Amendment of the United States Constitution

Editorial

Has it come to this?

How Biden could have responded
to Trump's endless falsehoods

It was difficult to watch last Thursday night's presidential debate without considering the obvious. Are these two individuals really the best that America can produce for the most powerful and important job in the world?

On the one hand, we had a fast-talking New York huckster who spewed little more than falsehoods and fantasies, while the sitting president struggled to respond coherently. Both had a primary mission in their 90-minute confrontation. Biden's was to show that he still has what it takes to defeat a man who is a clear and present danger to America and its institutions. Trump's was to appear as something other than himself—i.e. a crude and infantile individual who lies as easily as he breathes air.

In the end, both men failed in their mission.

Admittedly, Biden had the tougher task, since Trump would lob falsehoods far faster than Biden, or anyone, could hope to respond. Biden clearly wasn't up to the task and he missed numerous opportunities to make his case.

Here's some of what Biden should have said last Thursday night.

► On inflation: The COVID pandemic sparked a structural inflation globally, and that was further fueled by Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Despite those inflationary pressures, the U.S. has fared much better than almost any other country in containing inflation, which is now nearly back to the Federal Reserve's preferred two percent rate. We did so while sustaining a remarkably strong economy that is currently outpacing anything we saw during the Trump years. That strong economy has allowed the growth in wages in the U.S. to outpace the rise in prices for most American families.

What's more, virtually every economic proposal offered by Trump is wildly inflationary. Foreign countries don't pay tariffs on their exports to the U.S. That's just another Trump fallacy. U.S. importers, like Target or Walmart, pay those costs and they inevitably pass them on to consumers through higher prices. Trump has also proposed weakening the dollar, which will again make imported goods more expensive. What's more, Trump wants to end the independence of the Federal Reserve and lower interest rates, which were raised specifically to fight inflation. In short, Trump has no actual plan to fight higher prices. His policies would do exactly the opposite.

► On the economy in general: Economic growth and job creation have both been stronger and faster under Biden than under Trump. Biden has seen

over 15 million new jobs created during his administration (and less than half were bounce-back jobs from COVID) and since we emerged from COVID, we've experienced historically strong economic growth in GDP. The stock market is at record highs and wages have climbed faster under Biden than under Trump, particularly for lower-income workers.

► On immigration: Despite their rhetoric, the last thing Republicans ever want to do is solve a decades-long problem that motivates their voter base year after year. Trump ran in 2016 largely on the border crisis. Yet, despite total control of Congress and the White House in the wake of the 2016 election, did the Republicans pass any change in the law to stem the flow? Of course not.

Biden, meanwhile, agreed to sign major bipartisan reforms that, among other things, would have helped to address the backlog in asylum claims and allowed for the shutdown of border crossings when migrant flows reached a certain threshold, but Trump pressured Republicans to block it out of fear it would rob him of a potent campaign issue. That's certainly not putting America first.

► On Social Security: Contrary to Trump's false claim, undocumented immigrants aren't weakening Social Security. Undocumented retirees aren't coming to this country and even if they did they wouldn't qualify for Social Security because they haven't paid in and wouldn't have an actual Social Security account. In either case, it is young people and families making the dangerous passage into the U.S. and when those people are employed in the legal economy, they pay into Social Security, in most cases without the hope of ever drawing benefits.

The biggest threat to Social Security is the declining ratio of workers to beneficiaries. Allowing more immigration and making it easier for them to work legally in the U.S. is the best way to extend the financial viability of Social Security. That's well understood. Trump is outright lying on this issue, as he is on so many other things.

Biden actually has a strong case to make, but it was painfully obvious last week that he is not the best person to make it. That should prompt some real soul-searching on the part of Democrats. While it's been largely verboten within the party to raise the possibility of replacing Biden on the ticket, last Thursday's performance put that discussion front and center. It needs to be taken seriously. The danger posed by Trump is too great to let someone's ego hand him the keys to the White House.



Letters from Readers

Time to stand up for the rights of Palestinians

America continues to kill Palestinians — 36,000 to date while making life unbearable for the people of Gaza and the West Bank against the wishes of the majority of the American people. And if the press would be more honest, 80 percent of Americans would be shocked to see what the U.S. government has done to them. Palestinians have been prisoners in their own land having their land and homes and freedom stolen from them daily since 1948, the year of what the Palestinians call their Nakba, the tragedy. Hamas and other political parties and the Palestinian people are struggling for their very existence.

I have worked in Palestine on four separate occasions and have seen what is done to them. Currently it's Biden doing the dirty work but throughout recent history it's been all of them. Biden and the Senate and House are not in it for the promotion of democracy but are in it for their own selfish selves. If this is democracy, I don't want any part of it. Shame on the Senate and House and the President who support the rich corporate interests, especially the arms industry. America is nothing but a joke and I'd be laughing if it wasn't committing genocide one more time again—don't forget Vietnam and Iraq to name just two of all the places in the world that America has destroyed.

I am glad the American people and many people in the world are standing up for the rights of the people of Palestine.

Steve Johnson
Ely

Trump is unintelligible as well as unethical

On a June 3, 2024, weekend Fox News program, convicted felon Donald Trump said the following:

“Religion is such a great thing. It's so it keep you know, there's something to be good about. You want to be good, you wanna' it's so important. I don't know if it's explained right. I don't know if I am explaining it right. You know, you want to be good. You want to go to heaven when you have something like that. You wanna' go to heaven. OK? So, you want to go to heaven. So, if we don't have heaven, OK? You almost say what's the reason? Why do I have to be good? Let's not be good? What difference does it make?”

I provided editing to help make sense of Trump's statement. Video can be viewed online: Trump On Evangelical Support: Religion is Such a Great Thing (mediaite.com.)

Nowhere does Trump express any love or acceptance of God or mention Jesus “love your neighbor” teaching. It seems like religion for him is only to keep people under control. Trump ends with no serious attempt to understand God or Jesus and only says is that people tell him they “have prayed for me” and “you're gonna' be okay.”

Maybe it's just my opinion, but Trump is a loser as well as personally doesn't understand much.

Trump has lost in the courts. First, he lost in court for defaming a highly respected news writer, E. Jean Carroll, after he raped (sexually assaulted) her in a department store changing room and then later defamed her about it, first losing for \$10 million damages, then again losing another \$83 million in another court

for punitive damages when he kept on defaming her.

Then Trump lost in the courts again. As a businessman, his business cheated other taxpayers by not paying his fair share of business taxes. Trump now must repay New York State over \$450 million with interest accruing until it's all paid.

Again, Trump lost another case involving sex with a porn star by using fraudulent business transactions to hide it from public knowledge. This would have affected the 2016 election outcome against Hillary Clinton in key swing states to gain enough electoral votes to defeat the popular vote. This case also had facts supporting other chargeable crimes for tax fraud for false business expenses deductions, again cheating other taxpayers, and crimes for hiding 2016 campaign support payments not declared that are required by Federal Elections Laws.

I know current politics is a contest of representing the best interests of working status people, like I am, against the privilege and prestige of a small group of power status people. Biden is a strong leader with a lot of intelligent experience to manage all these competing interests in our constitutional law-based democracy.

Trump is only interested in a transactional relationship. Simply stated it is just what can Trump get out of any deal.

Trump is a loser as a democratic leader. He is a loser as a businessman. He is a loser as a role model. He is a non-believer in God and Jesus. He is certainly not someone to be given any role in leading the most powerful country in the world. Yet 65 percent of us rural people are still going to vote for him? Hard to respect that!

Erwin R. Rud
Fosston

COMMENTARY

Based on my personal experience, mosquitos suck

My first memories of Minnesota are populated by the swarms of mosquitos along the Blue Earth River. When I was a child, my family made many trips to visit the relatives in Minnesota, where almost all of my relatives



CATIE
CLARK

lived when I was growing up. We would pile into the family station wagon and my parents would drive

edge of a corn field, the walk to the town swimming pool with my cousins, and, of course, the

from the Connecticut coast to Blue Earth with regularity.

My memories of Blue Earth are still vivid: my uncle's home on the edge of a corn field, the walk to the town swimming pool with my cousins, and, of course, the

Green Giant statue by the pea packing plant on the edge of town.

The Blue Earth River wound its slow way to Mankato on the other side of the corn field from my uncle's house. I can remember running inside from the backyard when I was four, crying because I was being eaten alive by the vampire bugs. They were big, too, bigger than any mosquitos I ever saw in Connecticut. They were giant-sized flying blood-

suckers matched only in size by the Green Giant himself.

I was recently reminded of my experiences with the mosquitos along the Blue Earth River while taking photos of the flooding along the South Kashiwi River. The local branch of the Minnesota Mosquito Garden Club and Terrorist Society was out in force, looking for hapless humans and small bears to carry off and devour. My walk down an

ATV trail to get to the river left me looking like I was having an attack of hives or was coming down with chicken pox.

Once I managed to regain the safety of my truck, the pain of being bitten every half second tapered off, but I was left weak from the ordeal when I got home. My husband took one look at my pale face and staggering gait and rushed me to the emergency room for a desperately needed blood

transfusion to prevent hypovolemic shock. As I sit here and write, I can feel the congestion and fever coming on from what I am sure is Dengue Fever.

Everyone I've spoken to agrees that this is a bad year for humans and a great year for the vampire bugs. I've lived in places with more active mosquito abatement programs, but not with more ac-

See BITES...pg. 5

Letters from Readers

The real dictator wannabe

In his rambling, semi-coherent letter “Biden dismisses prospect of armed takeover”, in last week’s *Timberjay*, the writer from Ely apparently insists on twisting Joe Biden’s take on the Second Amendment into an attack on gun rights. He insists that Biden is “mocking” Second Amendment advocates in the process, when, in fact, Biden just points out the obvious: that in any theoretical armed confrontation, the government could bring to bear weaponry light years beyond what the average citizen would have access to.

As for the Jefferson quote, which our Ely writer insists Biden “botched”, Biden, in fact, got one phrase wrong (‘blood of liberty’ instead of ‘tree of liberty’) which he instantly corrected. The rest of Jefferson’s quote was basically spot-on. And here again, the president was only pointing out the obvious, that 18th century weapons were just a tad less sophisticated than now.

And as to the elephant in the room — Biden’s shaky performance during Thursday night’s debate — it doesn’t change the narrative. It still comes down to a clear choice: an aging man who occasionally stumbles over his words but has done remarkably well as president. Joe Biden is a thoroughly decent man with all the qualities — experience, fortitude, compassion, empathy, strength of spirit, etc., exactly what we

should expect in a commander-in-chief. The alternative is an aging man who regularly butchers the English language with his constant re-hashing of the same outrageous, well-documented lies and grievances. Donald Trump is a lifelong conman — in effect, a mob boss, with mob boss mentality — who is a complete stranger to Biden’s leadership qualities — a textbook sociopath who thinks being a narcissistic bully makes him a strong leader, instead of the pathetic loser he really is. Has Trump ever, EVEN ONCE, taken responsibility for anything that went wrong, as real leaders do, or has he ever, EVEN ONCE, admitted to making a mistake?

But, as usual, the MAGA fanatics, in their delusion, have everything ass-backwards — there’s only one candidate in this race acting and sounding like a ‘fascist dictator’, and it sure as hell ain’t Joe Biden.

**Lynn Scott
Soudan**

Trump would worsen the threat of climate change

What are the political issues that you are considering in voting for a Presidential candidate? No matter what those issues may be, they are trivial by comparison to the deadly issue of climate heat waves. No issue will impact you personally or the nation as much as the prospects of climate change.

If unchecked, climate

change will impact us with the ever-increasing rise of the Earth’s temperature. This phenomenon will generate drought, floods, forest fires, and damage infrastructure, homes, factories, office buildings, hospitals, schools, churches, plus generate tornados and hurricanes.

An example of one instance of the impact from changing climate was described by the *New York Times*, “In a matter of minutes, winds of up to 100 miles per hour blew out office building windows, uprooted trees and toppled electric poles and transmission towers. Nearly a million households lost power. Not only was there no light; there was no air-conditioning. The damage from the storm was so extensive that, five days later, more than 100,000 homes and businesses were still marooned in the heat and darkness.”

The yearly heat waves are global (126 degrees in New Delhi) resulting in many reported and unreported heat-related deaths. In Europe, 61,672 reported deaths from record temperatures, 900 in the Pacific Northwest, and 56,000 Russians.

This year billions of people around the globe felt climate change that generated more than a 1,000 high temperature records around the globe. “We now have got the highest greenhouse gas concentrations in the last three million years. Carbon dioxide traps heat, so the temperature of the planet is rising. It’s real simple physics,” according to a senior scientist at the National Oceanic and

Atmospheric Administration.

The burning of fossil fuels by humans is the primary cause of global warming. Climate change is a real catastrophic threat to Earth’s environment, not a hoax. Trump will not address this issue. Appallingly, he is encouraging oil drilling expansion and the continuing use of carbon generating coal creating still higher temperatures.

His presidency will cause more harm than good.

**Gerry Snyder
Ely**

What is fascism?

In last week’s *Timberjay*, a letter writer said President Joe Biden was acting like “a fascist dictator.” I thought it best just to lay out the 14 points of fascism.

1. Near fanaticism with nationalism.
2. Disdain for individuals human rights.
3. Identification of ethnic enemies.
4. Supremacy of the military.
5. Rampant sexism.
6. Attempted control of mass media.
7. Obsession with security, i.e. walls.
8. Church and state co-mingled.
9. Protection of corporations and the very wealthy.
10. Suppression of labor unions.
11. No respect for art and intellectuals.
12. Obsession with crime and punishment.
13. Widespread corruption and cronyism.
14. Fraudulent elections and claims.

Does this resonate to one of the current people running for President of the United States of America to you? It should. And by the way, Putin’s version of our Air Force One jet plane was seen Friday parked next to Donald Trump’s plane, after Trump’s Friday speech. Coincidence?

**Barry Tungseth
Ely**

Vote Biden to protect our rights

Steve Bannon, Speaker Johnson, Margorie Taylor Greene, the Supreme Court, the ex-President, unabashedly lying at the debate on TV repeatedly. How can the baloney they are peddling — threats, lies, takeovers — appeal to any citizen appreciative of their rights in this country? How can any true American vote to encourage this? For them, “A more perfect Union,” translates to autocracy!?

Even if President Biden is not your favorite, we need to vote for him in November. Your Biden vote is an act to protect our rights as citizens. For women, it is a vote to protect the rights we have finally claimed as equal human beings.

Ugh, this whole thing is nuts! We are on the verge of fascism! Questions such as can a President kill an opponent, be free to order a Jan. 6 attack on the nation’s Capitol, can a felon run for and serve as President, is it okay for Supreme Court Justices to accept bribes, manipulation of elections, control of women’s rights?

The list is long. If you don’t want your grandchildren to grow up under the influence of the former president and his disgusting cronies, if you believe in our republic, our privileged life — vote freedom, vote blue. If you still plan a vote for the right, help us out here — please take time to explain why these above-mentioned items are okay with you. Without complicating your explanation with attacks at the left, which will evade a clear answer, tell us in a letter here, how all this can be overlooked. Please detail how illegal acts can be justified. This question is in the minds of all liberals.

**Cecilia Rolando
Ely**



Your letters

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

We ask that letters be limited to 300 words.

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

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

FEMA...Cont. from page 3

and eligible local governments and certain private nonprofit organizations. Such funding is provided on a cost-sharing basis for

emergency work and the repair or replacement of facilities. Federal funding is also available on a cost-sharing basis for haz-

ard mitigation measures statewide.

The *Timberjay* communicated with the governor’s office on Monday

and learned that the state has to submit a separate application for FEMA individual assistance programs. Additional dam-

age assessments need to be completed before Walz can make the request for individual assistance, but the state is still collecting

and validating the necessary data.

STORM...Cont. from page 3

at Hoodoo Point Campground damaged docks.

The newly-repaved section of the Mesabi Trail in Tower appeared to be in good condition, with only some minor gravel damage where the East Two River had washed over the trail by the large culverts where the river flows underneath the trail.

The bridge on the end of South Third Street, which provides access to the Zollar residence, was underwater for at least three days. The trail to

the Ancient Cedars Trail was actually swimmable, and the boardwalk may need some minor repairs, but was reported to be in mostly decent condition.

While some flooding was due to the overloaded stormwater and sewer system, most was simply rainwater, Tuchel said.

“We fared better than I expected,” said Tuchel, noting there was no damage to the overall infrastructure system. “I know this isn’t a relief for those whose homes had flood-

ing. But it could have been worse.”

On a positive note, Tuchel met with contractors for the water filtration plant project on June 17, and the main contractor, Lakehead Construction, is able to move up the planned rehabilitation project on the water wells. The main well’s pumping system had failed a couple of weeks ago. This means the repairs will be covered under the planned project. The project did include replacing the aging pumps

and electrical components in the well and back up well. Work on the main part of the project will begin in July and will take about a year to complete. “Lakehead has been very accommodating,” Tuchel said.

The backup well, which has been supplying water since the main well broke down, is continuing to meet the need, Tuchel said.

BITES...Cont. from page 4

tive mosquitos. The loon should get dumped as the state bird and replaced by the mosquito, though it will be difficult to pick which species of mosquito to use. Over 50 reside in Minnesota.

I’m not too keen on bug repellent. Pesticides are bad for the environment and ours up here is worth all the protection we can give it. The problem is the trade-off between protecting the local ecosystem or self-preservation. What good is protecting the Boundary Waters if the mosquitos have killed off all the people wanting to visit?

Many of the so-called natural bug repellents are derived from plants. Most of them have less of an impact on fragile environments than the nasty stuff made from industrial chemicals. Some of them even work, like clove oil and geraniol. Others, like

peppermint oil or garlic juice, do not. Garlic especially has been the subject of studies showing no demonstrable repellent effect. The PubMed database of medical research hosted by the United States National Library of Medicine is full of studies on natural bug repellents. PubMed is also full of studies showing that mosquitos like people who drink beer. No, really. The science is firm on this point.

What I want to know is why more numerous and bigger mosquitos live in Minnesota than Wisconsin? With all the breweries along Lake Michigan, I would think the bugs would have moved to Milwaukee by now to chase all those beer drinkers. The answer to that question may be because of the Boundary Waters. It may be that the number of beer-drinking anglers

coming here to fish is drawing more mosquitos to the local area.

Even though Prohibition was repealed 91 years ago, you could make a good case for bringing it back as an effective mosquito abatement program.

It might sober up all those mosquitos drunk on anglers and convince them to move somewhere with more beer — like Canada.

FREE ESTATE PLANNING CLASS

Thursday, July 11, Noon-1:00 pm
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Ensure your health care wishes are honored, your assets are protected, and your loved ones are taken care of.

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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 July 8

Monday
Embarrass Al-Anon Family Group- Hope Lutheran Church, 5088 Hwy. 21, 6 p.m.
Tower City Council- 5:30 p.m. on July 8

Tuesday
Tower Area Food Shelf- Open on the third Tuesday of every month from 2:30-5 p.m. New location in the old St. James Church building. Next food shelf day is July 16.
Greenwood Fire Dept.- Training meetings on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m.
Greenwood Town Board- 6:30 p.m. on July 9

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.



TSHS weekly winner
TOWER- The Charlemagne's 52 Club winner of a \$250 cash prize for week 49 is Patty Dahl of Virginia.

History Tidbit: The "James Tippet" steam fire engine was delivered in 1892 and continuously served Tower and surrounding areas until the installation of the city water system in 1928. Tippet weighs around 8,000 pounds and was pulled by a team of two horses which were hired on-call along with a teamster driver from a local livery stable.

Residents of Tower and the surrounding area have fond memories of the old Tippet. After its retirement, it became the venerated main attraction in the Tower Fourth of July parade for many decades. Currently in cold storage in a city garage, it will return back to its home and become the featured centerpiece when the 1895 Fire Hall is fully restored in 2025.

Its last Fourth of July parade appearance was in 2007. Pulled by a John Deere tractor, folks lining the parade route cheered as the once-mighty engine once again rolled down Tower's Main Street with signs proclaiming all to "Get Fired Up About History."



FAMILY FUN

All aboard...train tales storytelling on July 10

TOWER- Area children and their families are invited to Train Tales, a storytelling event hosted by the Tower-Soudan Historical Society. This month's storytelling is set for Wednesday, July 10 from 3:15-3:45 p.m. in Coach Car 81 at the Tower Train Depot.

Kathy Siskar will be reading a story she wrote, "Hannah Takes a Hike."

This is about Hannah's adventure hiking a trail close to her home in Tower and what happens as she walks on the path through the woods.

Children of all ages are welcome to come, listen, and participate in this "Choose your own Adventure" type of story.

Children not yet in school

must be accompanied by an adult.

After the story time, children will be treated to cookies and lemonade.

Something new will be a special feature of Train Tales— children will be able to choose a book from a selection of almost 100 excellent children's books. The reading levels of the books span from infant to 12 years old. These beautiful "gently used" books have been donated by members of our Tower/Soudan and Lake Vermilion community to the children who attend Train Tales and will be available at each Train Tales gathering this summer.

"Children's literacy is so

important, and this is a way to encourage kids to read during the summer and also enjoy stories read to them during the Train Tales experience," said Louise Gately, Train Tales coordinator. "Our committee has done an excellent job of finding super storytellers, making treats for the kids, and collecting books to give away. The kids and their parents can also visit the St. Louis County Bookmobile, which will arrive outside Train Car 81 right when Train Tales is finished at 3:45 p.m.

Upcoming Train Tales: Wednesday, July 31 from 3:15-3:45 p.m. Former elementary schoolteachers Becky Peterson and Laurie Leonard will read en-

tertaining stories about "Insects and Bugs" and feature Eric Carle's books— "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" and "The Very Quiet Cricket" and sing the song the "Eensy Weensy Spider." Bookmobile will be in the adjacent parking lot at 3:45 p.m.

Wednesday, August 21 from 3:15-3:45 p.m. Karel Winkelaar, a tour guide from the Soudan Iron Mine, will gather the children in the "Man Car" of the train and entertain the children with stories about the miners, where they came from and how they lived and worked. Bookmobile at 3:45 p.m.

TOWER FARMERS MARKET



The Tower Farmers Market is open for the summer season, Fridays from 4 - 6 p.m., rain or shine, at the Tower Depot, by the train. Stop by for fresh garden produce, homemade canned goods, baked goods, and handmade crafts and gifts. Above: Clair Jonas is taking charge of her family's sourdough bread sales at the market this summer. Right: Katie Larson, with helper Raven Rettke, is selling tickets for the Embarrass Fair. Katie is running for the Little Miss Embarrass crown this year. photos by J. Summit

Farmers market season



PUBLIC SAFETY



Tower Fire Department members got a chance to battle big flames while completing a training on fighting propane tank fires last Thursday. Como Gas was on site to help with the drill, using a tank that simulates an actual propane fire or explosion. photo by T. Trucano

Fourth of July donations are still needed

TOWER-SOUDAN- The Tower-Soudan Lake Vermilion Events Board would like to thank the

following donors for their contributions to the Tower-Soudan Fourth of July festivities:

- Kugler Township
- The Vermilion Club
- Frandsen Bank & Trust
- Roger & Susan Harju
- Barbara Thiede
- Alex Betley & Suparna Malia
- Dominick & Faye Tekautz
- Paul Pishler

- Peter & Colette Johnson
- Zup's Food Market
- Lee Branwall
- Adeline & Harlan Broten
- James & Carol Chiabotti
- Aronson Boat Works
- William & Karen Majerle
- Richard & Kay Hanson
- Barbara & Timothy Ilse
- Ida Rukavina
- Jim & Cathy Wright
- Lelu & Steve Zaudtke
- Elaine & Peter McGillivray
- Moccasin Point Marine

- Jeremiah & Pamela Kearney
- Nancy & Tim Kotzian

These contributions will help fund the parade, children's parade, and kids' races. We strive each year to add something new to the events; this year parade-goers can expect to enjoy multiple food vendors up and down Main Street, classic children's races and saw-

dust scramble. Children participating in the kiddie parade will receive a goody bag with \$5 to spend in town, and we are hopeful that we will have some fun new parade participants!

Donations can be mailed to: Tower-Soudan Fourth of July, PO Box 461, Tower, MN 55790.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

St. Martin's summer luncheon on July 10

TOWER- St. Martin's Catholic Church in Tower is hosting a summer luncheon and silent auction on Wednesday, July 10. Doors open at 11 a.m. with lunch served from 11:30 - 12:45 p.m. Auction winners will be announced at 12:30 p.m. Cost is \$10, with children five and under free. Tupperware, Norwex,

and Pampered Chef will be at the luncheon. Proceeds go to youth activities and the charity fund.

TS Class of '74 Reunion July 4-5

TOWER- The Tower-Soudan Class of 1974 will celebrate their 50th class reunion on July 4 and 5. Classmates are invited to support our float in the July 4 parade by ei-

ther riding or walking along the parade route. On July 5 there will be a social hour from 5 - 6 p.m. at Tavern in the Bay, 2077 Cty. Rd. 77, with dinner at 6 p.m. and a social hour following. For more information, please visit the Facebook group "Tower Soudan Class of '74." We welcome any TSHS alumni to join us for social hour before or after dinner.

Tower-Soudan Historical Society

Charlemagne's 52 Club

49 Weeks of \$100 Cash Prizes
3 Weeks of \$250 Cash Prizes

DRAWING • 1 PM
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2024
Tower Train Depot Museum • 404 Pine Street - Tower, MN

Gambling Permit X-92046-24-003
Not to be present to win - Must be 18 and older to purchase ticket or win prize - Winner is responsible for applicable fees or taxes

Each prize awarded weekly through September 3, 2025
Purchase from a TSHS Board Member or at the Train Depot Museum or contact Nancy at 218-750-7514. Your purchase supports the Historic Fire Hall Restoration Project.

Raffle Draw
On September 11, 2024, all 52 winning raffle tickets will be drawn, one for each week of the year, but the winners will not be immediately announced. There will be one announcement per week, each week, through September 3, 2025.

Holders of raffle tickets have the opportunity to win multiple times. Each time their ticket is drawn it is then returned to the ticket bin for subsequent drawings!!!

AROUND TOWN



June was quite a month. Here are some of the things we didn't have room to run with all the coverage we devoted to the June 18 storm and its aftermath.

Top left: Conductor Karl Kubiak leads the Ely City Band on June 25 at the first concert of its 135th season. photo by Northern Lakes Arts Association

Center left: The Ely Friends of the Library held its first book sale since the COVID-19 pandemic on June 20-22 at the Ely Senior Center. photo by C. Clark

Bottom left: The musical "Bright Star" played over the last two weekends of June at the Vermilion Fine Arts Theater. photo by Northern Lakes Arts Association



ELY ALL CLASS REUNION

Rock the Park kicks off All Class Reunion Week

ELY- The first big event of the eight-day long Ely Memorial High School All Class Reunion was the Rock the Park concert on Saturday, June 29. The event got off to a slow start due to the buckets of rain that started before 4 p.m., the concert's official start time.

The rain didn't deter accordion player Hank Thunander and his

band. A few stalwart concert goers were already set up and soggy at 4 p.m. but appeared to be enjoying the music despite the damp.

When the rain let up, Whiteside Park became packed. At 6:30 p.m., Willy Martin and his band, the Honkytonks and Hangovers, took the stage, followed by the Northwoods Band at 9 p.m.



Rock the Park got off to a wet start (top right) but quickly filled out when the rain stopped (center right) with people dancing in front of Willy Martin and his band (bottom right). photos by S. Clark



In Brief

Tuesday Group schedule

ELY – The Tuesday Group community educational lunch gathering meets every Tuesday at noon at the Grand Ely Lodge. Participants have an opportunity to order lunch. For those interested in being a host, or who have a speaker suggestion, contact Lacey Squier by email at ElyTuesdayGroup@gmail.com or call her at 218-216-9141.

Upcoming Tuesday Group speakers:

► July 9: Save the Boundary Waters Updates with Becky Rom

► July 16: Research at the Soudan Mine with Professor Brandy Toner

► July 23: Info session about the McKnight Artist Fellowship Program

Breathing Out

by Cecilia Rolando © 2024



red, white, added blue
the flag waving so proudly

holiday parade

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	closed

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

Boundary Waters BBQ

ELY- Boundary Waters Connect will host its third annual Fourth of July BBQ on Friday, July 5, starting at 4 p.m. The event is open to everyone. Boundary Waters Connect will provide the BBQ complete with classic sides and beverages. The Northern Lakes Arts Association will provide the free entertainment. The location is the Chapman Street Commons mini-park in the 100 block of E. Chapman St.

Free Live Music

ELY- Ely's Historic State Theater, at the corner of Third and Sheridan, will host free live music on Friday, July 5, at 5:30 p.m. with the Christopher David Hanson Band.

Rock the Park

ELY- The second Rock the Park music event is this Saturday, July 6, with seven hours of live music in Whiteside Park and the usual array of food trucks. The event will be from 4-11 p.m. Bring your chairs, blankets, kids, grandma's, bug spray and cash. No coolers please. This event will mark the end of the Ely All Class Reunion. Admission to the event is included with the reunion registration. Non-reunion concert goers can buy admission with the purchase of a Rock the Park button for \$10, available at KJ's

True Value Hardware and at the event.

Pancake Breakfast

ELY- The Knights of Columbus will hold a pancake breakfast at St. Anthony of Padua Church, 231 E. Camp St., on Saturday, July 6, from 8-11 a.m. Use the downstairs door into the parish hall on Third Ave. Adult admission is \$10. Ages 5-12 are \$8. Kids 5 and under are free.

Ely City Band

ELY- It's never too late to join the Ely City Band for the summer. Band rehearsals are on Monday and Tuesday nights from 6-8 p.m., excluding Tuesday concert nights, through the end of July in the Washinton Auditorium, 600 E. Harvey St. All are welcome to come play regardless of experience, level, or how many years it's been since you last played in high school or college. Some loaner instruments may be available; contact Karl Kubiak at karlkubiak1@gmail.com for more detail. The next band concert will be on Tuesday, July 9 at 6 p.m.

Vets on the Lake Benefit

FALL LAKE- The Veterans on the Lake Resort will hold its second annual Spiritwood Foundation Concert, on Saturday, July 13. Musical acts for \$10, available at KJ's

will go to the nonprofit resort and to the Spiritwood Foundation's programs for Veterans. This year, the resort will have a bigger tent with 500 seats. The first three rows of seats are VIP seating at \$35. General seating is \$25. At 5:30 p.m., the American Legion and VFW will serve pulled pork sandwiches, hot dogs, and beverages. For more information and to buy tickets, go to SpiritwoodBigtop.com or call 218-349-7908.

Fundraiser for Chris DeJoode

BABBITT- Chris DeJoode fell 60 feet when his rappel line broke while trimming trees. It will be a year before he can start physical therapy and he may never be able to work again. His family in Babbitt is hosting a fundraiser for DeJoode to help him and his family meet expenses while he is recovering. The event is on July 20, at the Babbitt Senior Center from noon to 4 p.m. and will include a spaghetti dinner, silent auction, and bake sale. Admission will be \$10 for adults and \$5 for kids. Children five and under are free. For questions or more information, call Anna at 218-410-1230. Those wishing to donate baked goods or items for the silent auction should contact Mariah DeJoode 218-827-2561. The Go Fund Me account is online at gofund.me/f17a9972.

Portageland Music Festival

ELY- Tickets are now on sale for the Portageland Music Festival. The festival will be on Sept. 6-7 in Whiteside Park and Ely's Historic State Theater and features acts by local and regional favorites like Ely's Chick-A-Dee-Dee-Dees and the Duluth Transit Authority. Full-festival passes are \$90. Individual act tickets are also available. Kids are free with a pass holder. Get tickets and passes at northernlakesarts.org/portageland-music-festival.

Babbitt Public Library

BABBITT- Preschool story time is every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. All library events are at the Babbitt Public Library, 71 South Dr., unless otherwise noted.

Ely Public Library

ELY- The Friends of the Library Book Club will meet on Monday, July 8, from 3-4 p.m. The book for discussion is "Born Standing Up," by Steve Martin.

The Friends of the Library monthly board meeting will be on Tuesday, July 9, 1-2 p.m.

The library will hold an online Kahoot trivia game for all adults on books 1-3 of the Chronicles of St. Mary's by Jodi Taylor. The Kahoot will start at 3 p.m. on Thursday, July 11, and end at 8

a.m. on Wednesday, July 17. Participants must pre-register for the Kahoot so the library can email the link for the game.

The Curiosity Cohort Group will host retired librarian Diana Sandberg for a basic introduction to researching genealogy on Friday, July 12, from 2-3:30 p.m. This program is for teens and adults.

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.

Local Ely Candidates

ELY- All the candidates for local office in Ely have submitted their paperwork for the November election: one for mayor and five for city council. The mayoral candidate is incumbent Heidi Omerza. She has no opposition. The five city council candidates are incumbents Paul Kess and Jerome Debeltz, and new candidates John Lahtonen, Frederica Musgrave, and Emily Roose.

List your event

Do you have an upcoming Babbitt, Ely, or Winton event? Email event details, location, time, place and event cost to catie.timberjay@gmail.com by close-of business on the Tuesday the week before the event takes place for a free notice.

A NEW PRESCRIPTION FOR RELIEF

Lions Club creates new relief distribution center

Former pharmacy will house free supplies and donated home furnishings

by DAVID COLBURN
Cook-Orr Editor

COOK- Cook fire engines have been parked on city streets the past two weeks as the Cook Fire Hall became the center for flood relief operations, but the trucks will be back in their bays after the Cook Lions Club opened a new location for supplies and equipment on Monday in the former Franks Pharmacy building on River St.

"I had heard that Franks was not going to come back to this building, because they were planning to open in their new location in late July or early August," said Lions Club President Steve Kajala. "I said, 'Hey, would you be interested in letting us use the building.' We chatted about it, they slept on it, and we came to terms on a month-to-month lease with a very, very reasonable rate."

Volunteers spent last week taking care of the extensive damage inside the building, which was inundated with four feet of water at the height of the flood. Kajala called the half-dozen volunteers who showed up to help "miracle workers" as they

carted out ruined shelves, ripped up carpet, disinfected the building and deployed fans and dehumidifiers to dry things out so that they could occupy the building.

Along with being a location for the free cleaning supplies and loaner shop vacs, power washers, and dehumidifiers the club has purchased with donated funds, the site will be a place where those affected by the flood will be able to get donated household items, Kajala said.

"We've had a lot of people offer stuff, and I've asked them to please hold off until we give an all-call," Kajala said. "We'll have chairs, couches, tables, working appliances, anything that people drop off."

All the items will be free to those in need. Kajala noted that they would not accept mattresses, however.

Financial donations continue to pour into the club's account at North Star Credit Union, and Kajala has reached out to Lions Club International with its worldwide experience in disaster relief for guidelines on how to responsibly and equitably use the donations. The in-

ternational organization donated \$10,000 to aid in Cook's recovery.

"We don't write a check to somebody, but we will help them with the things they need," Kajala said.

The flood has also given rise among Lions Club members as to what they might do locally to help the fire department. Kajala said they will be working with Shane Johnson to evaluate what the department needs to augment their disaster response equipment and will consider how to provide additional funding to get it.

"We are going to take a serious look at that when the dust has settled," Kajala said. "Hopefully we'll never have a flood this bad again, but it could happen tomorrow. We want to come out of this as a stronger community, stronger and more prepared."

Right: Bruce Garbisch disinfects the floor in the former Franks Pharmacy building in preparation for its use by the Cook Lions Club as a new site to meet flood relief needs. D. Colburn photo



COOK CITY COUNCIL

Flood tops city council agenda on Thursday

by DAVID COLBURN
Cook-Orr Editor

COOK- In its first regular meeting on Thursday since the flood, Mayor Harold Johnston opened the proceedings with the obvious.

"We're going to talk about to begin with, obviously, the elephant in the room, which is our flood," he said.

St. Louis County Emergency Operations Manager Josh Brinkman led off the discussion by recapping the non-profit-based resources that have been providing assistance, including the Red Cross, Salvation Army, and Southern Baptist Disaster Relief.

"They can't do everything, but they do have a lot of tools in their toolboxes to help out in little ways that often make a big difference," Brinkman said.

Brinkman said the assessment process is underway to determine who may qualify for a county property tax abatement because of the disaster. People could qualify for up to two years of tax abatement, depending on the extent of damage to their property, Brinkman

said.

Damage assessment remains an ongoing priority for the county, Brinkman said.

When referencing pending FEMA disaster assistance (which was approved the next day on Friday), Brinkman had encouraging news for city infrastructure damage, which would include the Cook Public Library.

"What the city might be eligible for is reimbursement for debris removal, actions for repairs of roads, repairs to utilities, sewers, and waterways, water control facilities, and reimbursement for reconstruction or remodeling of buildings, such as the public library. If approved, that will be at 100 percent reimbursement."

The picture for homeowners and businesses, however, was more cloudy.

"A lot of the language is very confusing," Brinkman said. "It's confusing to me who does this day in and day out. Historically, essentially since Hurricane Katrina, FEMA no longer issues grants for private property, they no longer issue grant money for businesses. All of the

money expended is expected to be returned and repaid in the form of a loan."

"One thing we need to mention is getting our businesses back," Johnston added. "We've been in touch with the IRRRB, the county and the state and there are funds you might be able to tap. We're working on that right now."

Johnston acknowledged volunteer Missy Bakker Roach for stepping up to coordinate the overall volunteer effort in town, and gave thanks to the various organizations that have supported the recovery effort.

"I'd also like to thank our ambulance and the fire department, particularly Shane Johnson, who has spent many sleepless nights in service," Johnston said.

Council members also reaffirmed a previously approved disaster declaration for the city, a symbolic gesture given that the city was already automatically covered by St. Louis County's declaration made to facilitate the FEMA process.

The city's engineer, John Jamnick, reported that the North River St. road construction proj-

ect did not experience any significant problems from the flooding. He did ask for the approval of a change order to put in an additional culvert between Second St. and Second Ave. to facilitate drainage of stormwater runoff.

Johnston, council member Liza Root, and City Administrator Theresa Martinson all stressed the need for a timely and thorough assessment of the city's flood response. Martinson said a lot of information has been collected already, and that the city would be conducting a survey for public input.

Timber Days fireworks

Colette Huisenga spoke with the council about the potential fire hazard creates by hot fireworks debris from the Timber Days fireworks show raining down on residences along nearby Lund Rd.

"I feel a little silly standing up here talking about fireworks tonight with all this water that we've been experiencing, but I did have this on the agenda before the flood," Huisenga said.

"What happens is that each year those fire-

works are caught up in the wind and they come into our residential area," she continued. "The first year I lived in that house was in 2020, and I had fireworks coming down hot in my yard. I am concerned that I will have damage to my property and my neighbor's property. And if these woods catch on fire, people that live at the end of this road have no way to get out." Huisenga said she's approached the Timber Days committee about the problem for four years, but nothing has been done.

"They just kind of threw their hands up, so at this point I'm bringing it to the city council. As this is city property, I think we need to address this issue," Huisenga said.

Huisenga noted that the area is too small for fireworks, saying that if the fireworks were directed away from Lund Dr. they would fall on spectators watching the show on Gopher Dr.

"It's just not big enough," she said.

Huisenga suggested a lighted drone show as an alternative to fireworks, noting that many big cities have switched to synchronized drone shows.

Council members appeared receptive to Huisenga's concerns and suggested the possibility of a committee to look into the matter and come up with a solution. No formal action was taken.

Baseball field

Tammy Palmer, representing both Friends of the Parks and Cook Youth Baseball, asked the council to approve holding a Saturday, Aug. 24 fundraiser to be called "Dan Swanson Day" that would be used for repairs to the ball diamonds next to the community center. Palmer said their were issues with flooding and damaged fences. The day long event would have a variety of activities for community members to enjoy. Palmer also asked the council for permission to apply for grants from the Minnesota Twins and other organizations to support upgrades at the diamonds. Approval was granted.

Cook-Orr Calendar

New NWFA exhibit opens on July 3

COOK- Come enjoy the work of ten different artists in the Northwoods Friends of the Arts exhibit for July, "Summertime," featuring works by the Lyric Art Colony.

Opening to the public on Wednesday, July 3 at the NWFA Gallery, a formal opening reception for the exhibit will be held on Saturday July 6 from noon-2 p.m.

Don't miss this exciting exhibit featuring works by Pat Brascugli, Margie Kent, Sandra Markovich, Tracey Mattson, Kathy Merkel, Mary Pe-

liska, Dianna Sainio, Pamela Schultz, Jane Wertenen and Tim Young.

The exhibit can be viewed at the gallery at 210 S. River St. on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and on Saturdays from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. through Saturday, July 27.

Farmers market is Saturday in Cook

COOK- As fresh produce is good for you, so is a trip to the Cook Area Farmers Market this Saturday, July 6 from 8 a.m.-noon in the city park on River St.

The market offers

a wide variety of fresh locally grown produce, baked goods, arts and crafts. Like years past, the market is sure to create a festive atmosphere in downtown Cook for folks who live in our area as well as summer visitors.

Participating vendors offer fresh produce to SNAP recipients who will receive Market Bucks to extend their buying power. Every week, a SNAP recipient can spend \$10 at the market with a SNAP vendor and receive \$20 additionally to spend on eligible products. The limit is ten SNAP dollars per week. The Power of

Produce, or PoP, is also available this year, providing free tokens to buy produce to kids and older adults.

Park series guest is "BitterSweet" for July 3 concert

COOK- Popular Virginia duo BitterSweet, featuring Jay Hoiland on vocals and Guiland and Mary Jo Grizzard-Menke, on keyboard will be performing in the gazebo at Cook City Park on Wednesday, July 3 for the Music in the Park series. They perform blues and classic rock songs. Recently they have appeared at The Sawmill,

The Vermilion Club, and The Wooden Table.

The concert will be from 6-8 p.m. St. Paul's (Alango) Lutheran Church will provide concessions. In case of rain the concert will be moved to the Cook VFW near the park.

Music In The Park is made possible by the Cook Lions Club, Cook VFW Post and Auxiliary 1757, Northwoods Friends of the Arts, the Cook Chamber of Commerce, the Cook Timberwolves Snowmobile Club and free will community donations during the concert.

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GIVING BACK

Togo CIP crew lends grateful hands to flood relief

by DAVID COLBURN
Cook/Orr Editor

COOK- Some would say that relief efforts in Cook didn't begin after the June 19 flash flood, but actually began four years ago when a group of concerned Cook citizens took action in a completely unrelated area crisis.

In August 2020, the Minnesota Department of Corrections threatened to close the Togo Correctional Facility and its innovative Challenge Incarceration Program (CIP) for inmate rehabilitation. As former St. Louis County deputy sheriff and Morcom Township supervisor Dirk Davis said at the time, the impact on the region would have been devastating. "The damage that the closure of these camps would cause to our local community is far out of proportion to the money that it will supposedly save the state of Minnesota, far out of proportion. The damage is just going to be tremendous," Davis said.

But citizens in Cook and throughout the region hopped



Left: Participants in the Challenge Incarceration Program at the Togo Correctional Facility sweep away the accumulated silt left behind from the flood from in front of the Cook Public Library. The men made several trips to Cook last week to pick up sand bags, debris, and appliances, and helped to clean out many buildings where their extra muscle was needed. photo by D. Colburn

on the advocacy bandwagon, contacting legislators and other key state personnel in an effort to save Togo. The Legislature came through in a special session with \$7.5 million to keep the Togo and Willow River facilities open.

Last week, participants in the CIP program, identifiable from the bright orange vests they wore, were in Cook for several days helping the community deal with

the aftermath of the flood.

Sergeant Brenden Johnson, a restorative justice worker supervising the crew, said the CIP crew was eager to help.

"The community came out strong for us when we were facing those difficulties, and we're proud to still be here and doing what we do to help out. These guys love coming out and giving back to the community and doing what they

can to show that they're making a change and becoming a better person," Johnson said. "We've been out helping with cleanup and providing manpower to the community to help get all this stuff loaded in dumpsters, clean up the parks, and I've got a crew sweeping up the sidewalks now."

The CIP crew was instrumental in providing the heavy lifting needed to collect and dispose of used sandbags and appliances that had been piled alongside curbs, and they also helped clean out numerous damaged buildings, including the new relief distribution center established by the

Cook Lions Club in the former Franks Pharmacy building and the Cook Public Library.

The relief efforts were part of a much broader program of public service conducted by the CIP restorative justice program. This summer, participants have been engaged in house building for Habitat for Humanity, building accessibility ramps for Access North, and cleaning up parks, campgrounds, and cemeteries throughout the region.

Cook resident Carrolle Wood was among those expressing gratitude for the CIP's help, referring to Togo by the name it had when it was first established, Thistledeew Camp.

"This is so awesome," she said. "Who knew the letters we all wrote and calls to our representatives to save Thistledeew Camp would come back to bless this small town tenfold. They have been an amazing group of very hard workers. It's true what they say - what goes around comes around. Thank you, Thistledeew CIP crew."

Tragedy

Scuba diver dies in Crane Lake salvage effort

CRANE LAKE- A 50-year-old male scuba diver from Embarrass drowned on Sunday while attempting to salvage a piece of heavy equipment in Crane Lake.

In an item posted to social media on Saturday, Bill Congdon requested assistance from a diver to recover a skid steer that sank in 70 feet of water. The diver who responded was not affiliated with any recovery or salvage company. He was assisting the recovery effort from a barge that would have been used to transport the skid steer back to shore.

The group working the

recovery became concerned when the diver failed to surface after a period of time underwater and began rescue efforts at the scene, assisted by first responders who arrived to help. The St. Louis County Sheriff's Office was notified about the emergency at 12:13 p.m.

The press statement issued by the sheriff's office does not say how the diver was brought to

the surface, but he was immediately transported to shore where emergency responders worked to revive him. Their efforts were unsuccessful, and the man was pronounced dead at the scene.

The incident and cause of death are under investigation by the sheriff's office, with assistance from the Midwest Medical Examiner's Office.

The sheriff's office was

assisted on scene by Voyageurs National Park Service rangers, Orr Ambulance, Orr Fire Department, Crane Lake Fire Department, St. Louis County Rescue Squad, the DNR, and North Memorial air medical.

The victim's name was being withheld Sunday pending notification of family members and will be released by the sheriff's office at a later time.

STUDY...Continued from page 1

services, but the consultant's request that financial estimates and assumptions not be released, at least for now, had prompted some skepticism among board members.

"How come nobody got the report?" asked Bob Berrini, a Morse represen-

tative on the joint powers board. Berrini noted that the report's findings were initially slated for completion in January and that the June 13 informational session was less revealing than he would have liked.

Board member Al Forsman requested that

the hospital share the slide stack from the SafeTech presentation. Banks replied that the hospital board had approved sharing the presentation and that she would send it by email. The hospital shared the presentation slides with the new media on the afternoon of

June 19, after the Timberjay went to press with the June 21 edition.

Ely Bloomenson CEO Patti Banks explained that the hospital didn't have copies yet of the complete report, and that the meeting was to introduce the study results so that people in the

local communities could begin to discuss them. "Now the conversation really is, are we going to move forward and look at some type of original approach or are we going to remain with the status quo?" Banks said.

City officials in

Tower have expressed a willingness to explore the SafeTech proposal, but have also expressed concern about the lack of financial data and the assumptions that the consultants used to determine the economic viability of their proposal.

Keep it Clean, ST. LOUIS COUNTY

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COOK TRANSFER STATION 2134 S. Beatty Rd. Cook	HOURS Mon: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Tues thru Sat: 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
COUNTY 77 CANISTER SITE 2038 County Rd. 77 Greenwood Twp	SUMMER HOURS 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.
KABETOGAMA LAKE CANISTER SITE 10150 Gamma Rd	SUMMER HOURS Mon, Wed: 9 a.m. - Noon Sat: 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
ORR CANISTER SITE 4038 Hwy 53	SUMMER HOURS 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.
PORTAGE CANISTER SITE 6992 Crane Lake Rd, Buyck	SUMMER HOURS 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.
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 FACILITIES	
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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Summer hours effective April 15 - September 30



MONTANA...Continued from page 1

home inspector came and said that it was in fact unsafe. Shane Johnson, a Cook firefighter who is heading up the city's flood response, said he couldn't send volunteers to help get the very expensive kitchen equipment out because he believes that's the only thing holding the kitchen down. The city disconnected the power, water, and gas from the building as well."

A structural engineer was scheduled to evaluate the building on Monday.

Strong's nightmare ordeal began like so many others on the night of June 18 when the café's basement flooded from the excessive rain.

"Our basement filled up, but we were able to pump everything out and dry things completely," Strong said. "All of our equipment worked, so we were going to open again on Thursday, but Wednesday, we flooded again."

It was difficult for Strong to fathom that the water would rise so high.



Krystal Brodeen, left, and Megan Brodeen sell Montana Café merchandise on Friday from a tent outside the building. The site was shut down and the building closed that afternoon after an inspection indicated the building could possibly collapse.

Above right: The café reflected in recent floodwaters.
photos by D. Colburn

"We thought that should be all, that should be all, it's shouldn't get any higher than that," she said. "We would just move things up on shelves, but around four or five o'clock that afternoon we decided we just needed to get as much out as we could

because there was no saving everything."

The next big blow came when Strong met with her insurance adjuster.

"We didn't have a flood policy, so they aren't willing to cover anything," she said.

And Strong is feeling



the impact as much for her employees and the community as she is for herself.

"I had around six or seven employees, and now they're all without work, or they have to work more at their second jobs that they had," she said. "And we don't know when we'll be able to open again, so everything's kind of up in the air for them at this point."

The Montana Café has been more than just a place to get a good meal. For decades, it's been one of Cook's main social gathering places for friends and families to meet and spend

time together while sharing a cup of coffee or a meal.

"I think people are just heartbroken," Strong said. "We're just such a tight community. People come and visit us and we update them on how our lives are going. We see people all summer that come in every year, and now we'll miss those people who come up for that one week during the summer. And it's just as important to all the locals that come in throughout the year. You just feel disconnected."

Strong had already given some thought to the possibility of tearing the building down and building a new café, given the extensive damage and the anticipated cost of making repairs.

"We don't know if we would be able to fix what's happened," she said. "The building is just so old. It was completed in 1908, and the kitchen was added on in 1996. I think this is the oldest building in Cook - I don't know what the other

really old buildings would be in town. This has held a lot of different businesses. It would hurt quite a bit to watch it go."

Depending on the outcome of the structural assessment, there may be no choice to make. "To get back to having people come back in and see the community is the most important part to us," Strong said. "The building is sentimental, but at the end of the day it's just a building."

Strong's pop-up was back in operation on Saturday at the Cook Area Farmers Market, and she's also set up an online store on Shopify at <https://montanacafecookmn.store>. A GoFundMe campaign organized by Krystal Brodeen, Strong's sister, has raised over \$19,000 so far to help with the recovery. Those wishing to make a donation can find the campaign at <https://gofund.me/4dbf7247>.

ELY FOURTH...Continued from page 1

Ely's Fourth of July Parade begins at 1 p.m., with the parade route starting at Fourth Ave. and Harvey, heading west to Second Ave. E., where it turns right to Sheridan St., and then proceeds east on Sheridan to Whiteside Park.

The Ely City Band will play a short concert immediately after the parade in the band shelter at Whiteside Park.

Ely Young Life will hold events for kids and families in

Whiteside Park from 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

The fireworks will start at 10 p.m. over the east end of Miners Lake.

The city of Ely and the Ely Events Committee need donations to support the cost of the Fourth of July activities, which are enjoyed by hundreds of families and visitors every year. Donations can be mailed to the Ely Events Committee, P.O. Box 231, Ely, MN., 55731

The city also needs volunteers to assist with the Fourth of July activities. If anyone is interested, please call the city clerk's office for more information at 218-365-3224, extension 1, or email deputyclerk@ely.mn.us.

Right: A bagpiper marches in last year's 4th of July parade in Ely.

file photo



ORR FUN DAY...Continued from page 1

For those who need to work off some of those extra syrup calories from breakfast, and anyone else who doesn't, the annual 5K run, sponsored by the Orr Lions Club, will start at 9 a.m. Those who preregistered by June 23 are assured of receiving this year's race t-shirt, and organizers say extras will be in short supply. Shirts from prior years may be available for late and on-site registrants. Advance registration fees this year are \$25 for adults and \$20 for kids 13 and under. Race-day registration is \$5 more for both age groups. All racers should check in prior to the race beginning at 8 a.m.

Registration forms can be picked up at and returned to REMAX Lake Country in Orr. For questions, call 218-410-3532.

Festivities get underway in earnest at 11 a.m. when vendors will begin peddling their varied wares at the craft fair at the Community Center. That's also the time that Luke's Antique Tractor, Truck and Car Show, welcoming anything cool with wheels, gets started near the boat ramp. If you think what you have is unique or cool, they want to see it at the show, which ends at 3 p.m., the same time that vendors will close up shop.

Also with an 11 a.m.

start, the North Woods Travelers will be back in action serving fry bread with your choice of honey butter or cinnamon sugar for \$5 and fry bread tacos for \$10.

Additional craft and food vendors were being lined up by organizers to set up outside of the Community Center.

The most colorful and festive event of the day is the Kiddie Parade at noon. The parade always draws a large crowd of participants and spectators - be sure to get there early for the best seats on the street.

A popular new attraction last year, an outdoor booth offering bicycle

maintenance and minor repair, staffed by Tom Kennebeck and friends will be back again. Stop on by with your bikes and trikes for a tune-up.

After the parade, be sure the kiddos hang around for the sawdust dig for silver dollars at 3 p.m. and saddle up for pony rides or play in the Orr Fire Bounce House.

Adults can catch a breath in the late afternoon before heading over to the Orr Muni at 5:30 p.m. to put their bean bag toss skills to the test. Following the bean bag contest will be a street dance featuring Deep Tracks.

Folks will want to stake

out a prime viewing spot along the shoreline for the day's spectacular finale, one of the biggest and best fireworks displays in the North Country reflected

in the shimmering lake waters, courtesy once again of the Orr-Pelican Lake Resort Association. The fireworks begin at dusk.

TOWER-SOUDAN...Continued from page 1

In addition, a team of Ghostbusters, based on the Iron Range, will be marching in the parade, making sure the route is ghost and monster free. This group raises funds for the Ronald McDonald House of the Upper Midwest and has participated in many other parades and events in the Northland in recent years. These fans of the 1984 supernatural comedy franchise do their best to blur the lines of reality and Hollywood movie magic by use of uniforms, props, vehicles, and plenty of charisma, and are sure to charm both young and old during Thursday's parade.

Events

Pancake breakfast at the Lamppa Civic Center from 8-10:30 a.m. on July 4. This event is sponsored by the Tower-Soudan Civic Club.

The Vermilion 5K/10K/Fun Run starts at 8 a.m. Race-day registration from 6:45-7:45 a.m. by the Lake Vermilion Cultural Center. The starting/finish line is on North Second Street by the old football field. The race is sponsored by the events board and Friends of Vermilion Country School.

Flag raising at Tower City Hall at 10:15 a.m.

The Kiddie Parade is at 10:45 a.m. All area children are invited to participate. All children who march in the parade will receive \$5, a flag, and a gift bag. Registration and gift bags will be available at 10:30 a.m.

The Parade starts at 11 a.m. Anyone bringing a float who has not already registered needs to contact the events board at 218-255-2131 or email tseventsboard@gmail.com. There are cash prizes for the best floats.

Family fun after the parade at the Tower football field. The sawdust scramble begins at 12:30 p.m., with games for children of all ages starting immediately afterwards.

There are specials at area restaurants all day, food trucks and vendors out on Main Street as well. The Tower Fire Department's beer tent will be set up on Main St., next to the Timberjay building. Money raised helps fund community events.

Fireworks will be on the east end (Big Bay) of Lake Vermilion at dusk on July 3, and west end (Niles

Bay) on July 6.

The weekend of fun concludes with a free Community Picnic in Soudan, at the skating rink/recreation area, on Saturday, July 6, from 12-3 p.m. There will be free food including hot dogs and chips, root beer floats and ice cream cones, along with games and water play for children, and a dunk tank featuring Police Chief Dan Reing, Ambulance Supervisor Dena Suihkonen, and other local officials.

You can find the full schedule of events on page 12 of this week's paper.

Grand Marshals

This year's committee is honoring Chuck and Nancy Tekautz for their service to the Tower-Soudan community, and they will be leading the parade as this year's Grand Marshals.

Volunteers needed

The committee is still seeking help running the children's games in the afternoon at the Tower School football field. Adults and teens are needed to help out can contact Jolene at 218-255-2131 or email tseventsboard@gmail.com.

www.zupnorth.com
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Are you ready to make this dream estate your legacy? Whether watching trout swim upstream, observing eagles dive for fish, or enjoying the serenity of the woodland surroundings, you'll find countless reasons to stay and call this place home. Welcome to an unparalleled living experience in Ely, MN. This one-of-a-kind custom 5 BR, 6 BA home is being offered for the very first time. Whisper quiet elevator with a window, 4-season room with windows that fold back and screens that come down to listen to the soothing sounds of the river going over the falls into the rapids, secret tunnel to walk underground to the garage so you don't have to go out in the elements, pole bldg, guest quarters, two double-sided green soapstone fireplaces, office, workout room, rec room with wet bar, and so much more!

Nestled on a sprawling 20-acre estate, this property boasts 1,155 ft of pristine shoreline along Burntside Lake's Outlet Bay and the Burntside River. Boat house to keep the outdoor fun tucked away with a sprawling patio above to enjoy more of the views. Surrounded by the beauty of nature, this estate is designed for those who seek both luxury and adventure. Watch the otters play, the eagle take flight, or just catch tonight's dinner right outside your door, the bay is TEEMING with brook trout! **MLS# 146940 \$4,500,000**

MLS

TRUCANO...Continued from page 1

Tower area around 1915, where Charles went into farming, and they had 12 children together before Catherine died of pneumonia in 1934 at the age of 43.

Charles was prepared to serve in World War I, registering for the draft in September 1918, but was not called up for duty. His brother Eugene, who emigrated to the U.S. from Italy in 1914, became a naturalized U.S. citizen while at an Illinois Army training camp in 1918. His unit did go to war, and Eugene died in France in 1919.

All seven of the sons of Charles Trucano would sign up for military service, but among them Eugene's service was the most extraordinary of them all.

Eugene Trucano

Eugene Trucano was just five days short of his 21st birthday when he signed up for the draft in February 1942. While it's unclear how Trucano ended up as an ambulance driver and field medic in the 463rd Medical Collecting Company, on June 6, 1944, his company was on a ship anchored off Utah Beach on the coast of Normandy as Operation Overlord, the code name for D-Day, commenced.

Utah Beach invaders encountered the least resistance of any of the invasion forces – out of 23,000 men, only 197 were killed or wounded, according to Department of Defense records. Trucano's unit was held in reserve at the start of the invasion, and by the time they came ashore on June 11 the beachfront fighting was over.

But light combat on the beach was immediately replaced by unexpectedly heavy resistance as the invasion force tried to gain ground beyond Utah Beach. German soldiers were hunkered down in hedge-row-topped earthen structures built by the region's farmers, and the advancing Allied Forces were funneled into narrow columns that made them easier targets for enemy machine gun fire. Trucano's ambulance would have been retrieving the wounded from the frontline aid stations in conditions made treacherous by the worst weather to hit Normandy in four decades.

After being stalled for weeks, the Allies launched the Northern France campaign. Overrunning the German lines, forces moved rapidly eastward, encountering mostly light skirmishes as they liberated villages and cities. Trucano would have been in the midst of both urban and rural combat as he carried out his duties. The Allies achieved their objective by September, and awaiting Trucano's unit after that was the largest and bloodiest battle of the war, the



Left: Linda Trucano (l) and Andrea Alto accept six medals earned by their father Eugene Trucano for his service in WWII.

Above: Charles Trucano fathered seven boys, all of whom registered for service in WWII and six of whom served in active duty. Charles served in WWI.

photo by D. Colburn from the Quilts of Valor organization.

Trucano's honor

The awards Trucano received included the American Campaign medal, World War II Victory medal, the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign medal, the Silver Star for participating in five major battles, the Driver and Medical Badge and Driver with Bar, the Good Conduct medal, and the Honorable Service lapel button for WWII.

"I'm so glad we got to recover these medals," Andrea Alto said. "We never really knew about them. He was such a humble, unassuming man, very selfless and very compassionate. He would be very humbled and appreciative."

Linda Trucano said that they decided to engage the public at the awards ceremony so that others could share in her father's honors.

"There are a lot of people who do great things," she said. "I'm so delighted that he was recognized because others will share in that. There's a lot of people out there who will understand that."

And among those who did great things were Trucano's brothers. Six of Charles Trucano's seven sons served in the military, four in WWII. The seventh, James, registered for the draft for WWII but was not called up. A brief summary of the family's service beyond Eugene includes:

➤ Joseph Trucano – Joe was the first to serve in the military as a member of the U.S. 4th Cavalry from 1933 to 1938. That hitch took him to Alaska, where he met his wife and eventually settled for life. Joe was 26 and married when he registered for WWII but was not called to active duty.

➤ Charles Norman Trucano – Charles was

Battle of the Bulge.

Beginning in December in the densely forested Ardennes region of Wallonia in Belgium, Luxembourg, and eastern France, the Battle of the Bulge started as a surprise German counteroffensive designed to split the Allied ranks, creating the "bulge" in the skirmish line from which the battle got its name. Conditions were beyond miserable with eight inches of snow on the ground and average temperatures of 20 degrees. Again, Trucano would have been in the thick of things, collecting wounded from infantry aid stations and moving them to intermediary collecting stations, then transporting those who needed more care to better equipped division clearing stations and field hospitals. At any moment, Trucano could be called on to use his skills as a medic to treat wounded soldiers, many who made it and many who did not.

In five weeks, the Allies turned back the German assault and brought an end to the last major Nazi offensive of the war. It was time to begin closing in on Germany, and Trucano would have a role in two more major campaigns that would hand victory in Europe to the Allies.

The first step was to establish a foothold inside of Germany, and they did so in the Rhineland campaign, which commenced in February 1945, a month after the Battle of the Bulge. Still facing harsh winter conditions, the Allies nonetheless were successful in pushing a depleted and demoralized German army back beyond the eastern banks of the Rhine River, claiming all of west-central Germany and part of Belgium. Once again Trucano would have seen a mix of urban and rural action as the Allies sought to conquer key industrial centers during the offensive.

With the Rhine secured by the end of March, the Allies were poised for the offensive that would end the war in Europe, dubbed the

Central Europe campaign. Seizing the advantage, the Allies, with Trucano in support, transitioned quickly from the Rhineland offensive to the Central Europe campaign, taking Frankfurt, Nuremberg, Munich, Dresden and other major cities as they marched toward Berlin from the west while the Russians moved in on the east. While the Allies did not reach Berlin, the devastating offensive, combined with the Russian's capture of Berlin, directly led to Germany's unconditional surrender on May 8. His wartime exploits were now close to completion, and Trucano received an honorable discharge on Nov. 1, 1945.

D-Day ceremony

Eugene Trucano died in 1981, and like so many WWII Veterans he didn't talk much at all about the war. His daughters, Andrea Alto and Linda Trucano only learned the extent of his service much later through some research, an investigation that also revealed Trucano was in line for numerous commendations and medals for his service.

"He wouldn't talk about it," said daughter Linda Trucano. "He might have to my mother, but I was just so young I wouldn't have been in on it. All I remember is that it took a very long time for him to become whole. It was like months and years. My mom, Mary Trucano, was very strong – she kept him on his feet and kept him going."

U.S. Eighth District Representative Pete Stauber's office facilitated the necessary steps to get Trucano's honors, and they were presented to his daughters at the June 6 D-Day ceremony at the Elks Club in Virginia.

Stauber addressed the gathering via recorded video, and field representative John Eloranta and veterans liaison Jacob Warkentin made the presentation of the medals and a flag flown over the U.S. Capitol. The sisters also received a handmade quilt

24 and working on his father's farm when he registered in July 1941. He married his wife Mildred in 1943, apparently before being shipped overseas as an Army rifleman. He fought in the Rhineland and Central Europe campaigns, and was wounded in action, receiving a Purple Heart. He was discharged in 1945.

➤ Lawrence Trucano – Lawrence was a single lad of 19 working at the Minnesota Box Manufacturing Company in Tower when he registered in June 1942. He became an Army engineer who served in the South Pacific and saw action in the Philippines and New Guinea campaigns.

➤ Albert Trucano – Albert was just 18 when he registered in October 1943; and was a selective volunteer who served in the U.S. Navy. Like his brother Lawrence, he saw action in the South Pacific and participated in the Philippines campaign. He was awarded the Pacific Theater ribbon and was discharged in October 1945.

➤ John Trucano – John was just nine years old

when President Franklin Roosevelt declared war in 1941, so he was not destined for WWII service. But when he was old enough, he, too, answered the nation's call, serving in the Army during the Korean Conflict.

Also signing up for WWII service was 63-year-old patriarch Charles Trucano. He was part of what become known as the "old man's draft." These draftees were not actually liable for military service, but instead were seen to have useful skills to replace younger or more fit men who could then be conscripted to fight.

Alto said the awards ceremony was a chance to recognize not only her father's service, but also the family's entire legacy of military service, as well as that of their fellow soldiers.

"It's made it deeper in a different sort of way," Alto said. "This whole thing kind of comes to life even more. We need to honor this history. I'm just so very proud and honored."

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The WC Heiam Foundation in Cook is announcing their...

**ANNUAL
Fundraiser Event
Saturday, August 3**

The event will be at the Lake Vermilion Fire Brigade Hall. All are welcome to attend for a fabulous evening of music, dinner (catered by Boomtown), libations and silent / live auctions. Please visit their website (Heiamfoundation.org) or (heiambenefit.cbo.io) for more information and to purchase tickets/sponsorships.

This is a fabulous event to help support the Heiam's mission: Through continued growth of the endowment, is to support programs, services and facilities that serve the medical needs of Cook Health care area residents. To date the WC Heiam Foundation has given over \$840,000 to support the Cook Hospital.

We hope to see you at the event!

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Spend 4th of July in Tower-Soudan

Celebrate our Nation's Birthday in Tower-Soudan This Year

Parade – July 4th

*Judging begins at 10 a.m.
at Tower Civic Center parking lot*

Parade Marshals
Chuck & Nancy Tekautz

Flag Raising at 10:15 a.m.
at Tower City Hall.

Come join us and sing along as the Star Spangled Banner is played by a local musician LuAnn Zaudtke

Kiddie Parade at 10:45 a.m.

Kiddie Parade lines up between UBetcha and the Birch & Main Bldg (across from City Hall.)

All participating children will receive \$5, a lanyard, vinyl sticker & flag. All children welcome to come march in the parade.

Decorations welcome but not required!

Kiddie Parade Gift Bags & Registration starts at 10:30 a.m.

Parade starts at 11 a.m.

Adult Parade Prizes

*Best of Show \$450
1st \$350 • 2nd \$250 • 3rd \$150
Best Family Float \$100 • Most Patriotic Float \$100 • Best Business/Commercial \$100*

Please Pre-Register Parade Floats/ Entries with Jolene Mroszak (218) 255-2131 or tseventsboard@gmail.com

PLEASE: Do not throw candy from floats, but walkers allowed alongside floats to hand out candy. No silly string or confetti poppers, these get into our water supply!

Thursday, July 4

Pancake Breakfast

Tower Civic Center
8 - 10:30 a.m. • \$10 adults, \$5 kids 12 & under
Pancakes, sausage, juice, coffee
Sponsored by the Tower-Soudan Civic Club

July 4th

FOOD, FOOD, FOOD...and more!

Benchwarmer Grille

*Cheeseburgers & Fries, (Full Menu Indoors)
Green Machines, Special Drink Prices.*

D'Erick's Beer Garden

*Pulled Pork and Chicken Sandwiches,
Hot Dogs, Green Machines, Beer, Pop & Water.
Bloody Mary Garden, Beanbags all weekend.*

Sulu's Espresso Cafe

*9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Coffee drinks,
baked good & scones inside*

Good Ol' Days

*Frozen Margaritas, Turkey Legs, Fresh
Hamburger Patties, Hot dogs, Karaoke & Mini-Bar*

Vermilion Club

Live music from 8 pm - midnight on June 29 with the Lake Vermilion All-Stars & on July 6 with Ranger Things.

Tavern in the Bay

*Check out our Facebook page for
holiday weekend music and specials.*

Food, Merchandise & Specialty Items welcome.

We welcome all vendors.

City vendor permits are required.

Thursday, July 4th

41st Vermilion Walk & Run Starts on Main Street • 8 a.m. (Lake Vermilion Cultural Center lawn)

*10K Run- 8:00 a.m. • 5K Run/Walk 8:05 a.m.
1-Mile Kids Fun Run- 8:15 a.m.*

Race shirts for sale and Vermilion Run stickers for all participants. Race courses are the same as in 2023. Race will start/end at same spot!

Pre-register:

Pick up a registration form at the Timberjay office or email jsummit@vermilioncountry.org Questions, Call Jodi Summit at (218) 753-2950

Register on race day from 6:45-7:45 a.m.

*10K or 5K \$15 (\$20 on race day)
Kids Fun Run is FREE • 5K Family Rate is \$40.
Kids 12 & under race free (5K or 10K) with paid adult.
Sponsored by Friends of Vermilion Country School and the Tower-Soudan Lake Vermilion Events Board.*

July 4th Children's Sawdust Scramble & Races

12:30 p.m. – Sawdust Scramble at the football field (west end)

*Children's Races at the school field – following the Sawdust Scramble
Be sure to thank the race volunteers!*

- 6-yard dash ages 2-3 (boys & girls races)
- 10-yard dash ages 4-5 (boys & girls races)
- 20-yard dash ages 6-7 (boys & girls races)
- 50-yard dash ages 8-9, 10-11, 12-13, 14-15 (boys & girls races)
- Backwards Race (boys & girls races) ages 2-3, 4-5, 6
- Wheelbarrow Race (boys & girls races) ages 7-8, 9-10, 11-12, 13-14
- Sack Race (boys & girls races) ages 7-8, 9-10, 11-12, 13-14
- **Adult Races:** Prizes for 1st, 2nd, ages 15-25 and 26 & up
- He/She Race, Water Balloon Toss

Actual races subject to change & new races may be added!

NEW: Car Show at the Civic Center following the parade

FIREWORKS ON

JULY 3 & 6

At dusk on Big Bay (east end) on July 3 and Niles Bay (west end) on July 6. Please stay 150 ft. from barge launching the fireworks!

Fireworks sponsored by Lake Vermilion Resort & Tourism Assn.

Saturday, July 6

from 12 - 3 p.m. Community Picnic Breitung Recreation Area in Soudan

*Sponsored by Breitung Township
Free community picnic, hot dogs, popcorn, root beer floats, games and fun for all ages.
Dunk tank with Police Chief Dan Reing & others.*

- This Tower-Soudan Fourth of July schedule of events has been brought to you by these community-minded businesses:**
- Aronson Boat Works
 - Bauman's Vermilion Funeral Home
 - Benchwarmer Grille
 - Bob's Service & Towing
 - Breitung Township
 - Broten Construction
 - Como Oil & Propane
 - D'Erick's Tower Liquors
 - Docks on Wheels
 - Embarrass-Vermilion Federal Credit Union
 - Fortune Bay Resort Casino
 - Frandsen Bank - Tower
 - Friends of Vermilion Country School
 - Glenmore Resort
 - Good Ol' Days
 - Gruben's Marina & Village
 - Harbor View Spa & Wellness
 - Janisch Realty
 - Lake Vermilion Houseboats
 - Lake Vermilion Cultural Center
 - Lamppa Mfg.
 - Leanne's Beauty Salon
 - Little Green Pantry & Flexspace
 - Marjo Motel
 - Nordic Home North
 - Northern Lights Salon
 - Northwoods True Value- Tower
 - Pier 77 Mini-Golf
 - Pike Bay Lodge
 - Pike River Products
 - Rolando Noyes Construction
 - St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Soudan
 - Sulu's Espresso Cafe
 - The Timberjay Tower-Soudan Agency
 - Tower Cafe
 - Ubetcha Antiques & Uffda Thrift
 - Vermilion Classic Boatworks
 - Vermilion Club
 - Vermilion Design Co.
 - Vermilion Fuel & Food/ Soudan Store
 - Vermilion Land Office
 - Vermilion Park Inn
 - Vermilion Senior Living
 - Vermilion Storage
 - Vermilion Roofing
 - Y Store
 - Your Boat Club
 - Zup's Grocery - Tower



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COMMUNITY SERVICE

Small move, big opportunities for Tower food shelf

by **SETH ROESER**
Staff Writer

TOWER- After more than 25 years of serving the community from the basement of the *Timberjay* building, the Tower Area Food Shelf has moved its operations to the old St. James Presbyterian Church building. It's only a two minute walk from their old location, but food shelf orga-

nizers are hoping the new space will be more accessible to patrons and allow the volunteer operation to offer more food options.

"It's better parking there for more cars, it's handicap accessible. There's no stairs, easy for wheelchairs to get in," Tower Area Food Shelf Director Hugh Wood said. "It's twice as big as [the old space]. We're going to be able to offer more food choices."

The food shelf started looking for a more spacious property last July, and when the St. James Presbyterian Church – first organized in Tower in 1884 – hit

the market one month later, Wood informed the Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency and, after an inspection, the AEOA recommended buying the property. The AEOA oversees the Tower Area Food Shelf as well as ones in Babbitt, Ely, and Aurora among others.

The food shelf purchased and renovated the building using saved funds, as well as grant money for a new HVAC system. Volunteers with carpentry experience spent a little over six months on flooring,

See **FOOD SHELF**, pg. 2B

Left: A moving crew hauls supplies into Tower's former Presbyterian church, now the home of the Tower food shelf.

photo by S. Roeser



LAKE VERMILION TRADITIONAL POWWOW

A TIME FOR FAMILIES



Top left: A shawl dancer performs during the powwow.

Above: Male dancers in their regalia.

Far left: Lily Redday hugs her father for a little warmth on a chilly and windy day.

Left: Carrie Strong, Denise Pieratos, Dani Pieratos and Nick Contreres-Pieratos took a moment from the dancing to pose for a photo.

photos by J. Summit

BOUNDARY WATERS

Storm challenges canoe campers

by **CATIE CLARK**
Ely Editor

ELY- The torrential rains that struck the region on June 18 washed out roads and caused major flooding. But for those caught out in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness, the storm presented even greater challenges.

"The storm that rolled in was truly crazy," said Ryan Stewart, who is family resources coordinator

for Ely Community Resource, or ECR, which works primarily with youth. Stewart was one of two adults leading a five-day ECR canoe trip with seven young people, mostly teenagers. They were on Knife Lake when the storm hit.

"I've spent over 300 days leading trips in the BW," Stewart added, "and I've seen a lot of storms. That storm came on so much quicker than any storm I've experienced.

Right: Some of the members of the ECR camping group at a BWCAW portage. submitted

By the time it was evident that the storm would have intense winds, students were already having a hard time steering their boats to shore, despite being relatively close to the shoreline. It was also more intense in terms of rainfall and wind.

See **CAMPERS**, pg. 2B



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PUBLIC SAFETY

Hwy. 169 crash sends four to hospital, one with serious injuries



by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

VERMILION LAKE TWP— A two-vehicle accident on Hwy. 169 last Friday, just east of the Y Store, sent four people to the hospital, one with life-threatening injuries.

Ninety-one-year-old former Bois Forte tribal chairman Gary Donald took the brunt of the early afternoon crash, suffering severe injuries and he remained in hospital as of this week's early press time.

According to the state patrol, Donald was the passenger in a northbound Ford Escape, driven by

77-year-old Elaine Tibbetts, when the vehicle rear-ended a Lincoln Aviator driven by 64-year-old Michael Rosenberg of Eagan. Rosenberg was stopped on the highway while waiting to make a left turn onto Pike Bay Drive.

Tibbetts was transported to the Virginia hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

All parties were reportedly wearing their seatbelts and alcohol was not a factor in the crash, which blocked traffic for a time. The roadway was wet at the time of the accident.

CAMPERS...Continued from page 1B

Fortunately, there were not close lightning strikes at that time."

The group's four canoes managed to reach shore, though three landed on an island and the fourth nearby. The temporary separation didn't stop the ECR paddlers from performing their lightning strikes drill.

tice their lightning drill several times that day," said Stewart. Before heading into the Boundary Waters, the ECR paddlers learned how to minimize their chance of being struck by lightning by spreading out and avoiding high places and trees, especially isolated ones.

gear soaked through, but the group opted to continue their trip, then in its second day. But the storm did change their plans in one respect, and made it a far greater challenge than anticipated. The storm forced the trip to change its route by about forty miles. "Our old route had three portages ... we ended up

making 22 portages in four days. That's a lot for a group with kids as young as 12."

How did the young ECR paddlers cope with the storm and the changes it made to their trip? "The kids were really positive," Stewart remarked. "It was a really good challenge for them, and they handled it great. These were kids of

different ages and from backgrounds who might otherwise never get to know each other. The experience put them on an equal footing. They pulled together and helped one another get through it. It was the best trip."

The canoe trip was one of two that the nonprofit hosts every year. ECR also

hosts a sled dog trip in the winter and a backpacking trip in the fall. The canoe trips are outfitted by Spirit of the Wilderness. The cost of the trips is donated by the Friends of the Boundary Waters.

FOOD SHELF...Continued from page 1B

woodworking, and painting to ready the space for use.

"Myself and four other guys that volunteered, we probably put close to 200-man-hours in there, taking out the carpet and everything," Wood said. "You know, you can't have carpet in a grocery store."

Shelves stocked with food are now in the spaces once occupied with pews. Where the pastor's lectern once stood, an office desk now sits. In the now empty basement, food shelf organizers are considering a small retail outlet.

"We're thinking of turning it into a thrift shop to help with expenses, util-

ities and all that in the future," Wood said. "That's something that we're kicking around, the board of directors, they're all thinking about it. Basically, right now we're focusing on getting moved into the new building and getting it set up. Then when we get up and running, that's when we'll probably start doing some planning."

The basement has a small kitchen area which Wood said may be used to host cooking classes in the future.

"We have a lady that volunteers and she is thinking about doing cooking classes there and showing people what can be made with the

food that we give out," Wood said.

Now moved into their new space, food shelf volunteers are rearranging their floor plan for a more organized layout.

"We're going to organize it kind of like a grocery store," Wood said. "Have baking goods in this area, canned vegetables in this area. You know, try to make it convenient, like a grocery store."

The Timberjay has no current plans for the basement space. The Tower Area Food Shelf is open the third Tuesday of each month from 2:30-5 p.m.



Food cans were filling up the shelves inside the former church.



Memories of the Early Days

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

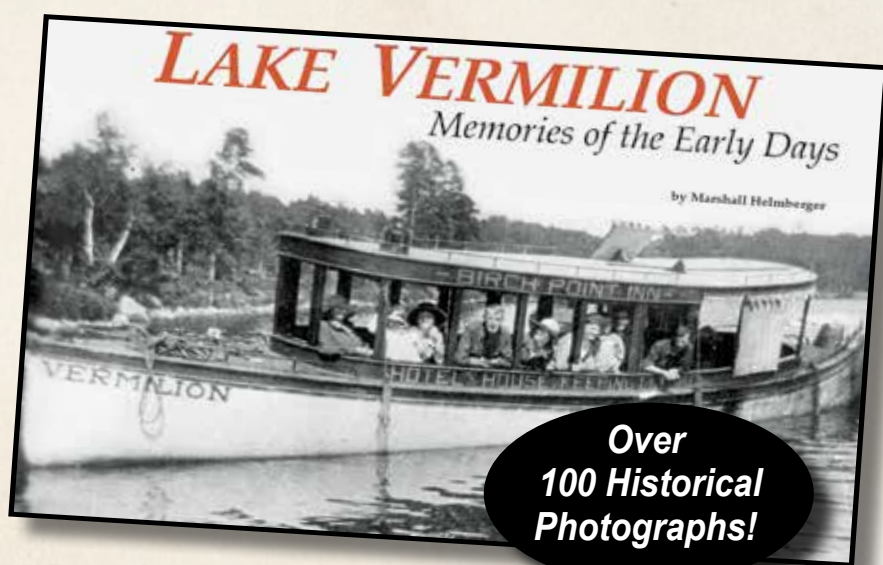
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Fourth of July food safety tips

REGIONAL- On July Fourth, the aroma of barbecue will fill the air as the festivities bring together family and friends to celebrate with quintessential American cooking pastimes: grilling and smoking. Food is the biggest staple when it comes to celebrating Independence Day, aside from the fireworks. Whether you're sizzling burgers on the grill or slow-cooking ribs in the smoker, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service is urging everyone to take food safety precautions during food preparations.

Here are grilling and smoking food safety tips to keep in mind during your celebratory cookout:

- ▶ Thaw meat or poultry first. Smoking uses low temperatures to cook food, and frozen food would take too long to reach a safe internal temperature before bacteria can start to multiply.
- ▶ Frozen foods can be grilled safely, but they will take longer and may cook unevenly.
- ▶ Marinate in the refrigerator. Marinating tenderizes and flavors meat and poultry before grilling and smoking. If basting meat and poultry during grilling or smoking, and you want to use some of

the marinade as a sauce, you should put aside a portion of the marinade that has not been in contact with the raw meat or poultry. If using a marinade that has already been used on raw meat or poultry, boil first to destroy harmful bacteria.

- ▶ Keep raw meat and poultry separate. Use different cutting boards and utensils for raw meats and poultry and food that is fully cooked or is ready to eat to avoid cross-contamination with bacteria.
- ▶ Keep the smoker and grill at a safe temperature. If you are using a smoker or grill to smoke meats, you will need two types of thermometers: one for the food to determine safe internal temperature and an oven-safe thermometer to monitor that the air temperature in the smoker or grill stays between 225 and 300 F throughout the cooking process.
- ▶ Cook all raw beef, pork, lamb and veal steaks, chops, and roasts to a minimum



internal temperature of 145 F before removing meat from the heat source. For safety and quality, allow meat to rest for at least three minutes before carving or consuming.

- ▶ Cook all raw ground beef, pork, lamb, and veal to an internal temperature of 160 F.
 - ▶ Cook all poultry to a safe minimum internal temperature of 165 F.
- If you have food safety questions, call the USDA Meat and Poultry Hotline at 1-888-MPHotline (1-888-674-6854), email MPHonline@usda.gov or chat live at www.ask.usda.gov from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday.

OUR COMMUNITIES

Operation Round Up Electric Trust Board approves \$59,047 in community grants

COHASSET- Through the contributions of Lake Country Power's participating members, the Operation Round Up Electric Trust Board recently approved \$59,047 in assistance to local community programs during its quarterly meeting.

The cooperative's trust board reviewed and considered 46 grant applications and distributed funds to 41 projects and programs this past quarter.

All funds generated through Operation Round Up are set aside in a trust fund administered by a voluntary trust board of nine co-op members. All of the funds collected through the program are distributed to charitable organizations through an application and selection process. Since the program's inception, more than \$3.3 million in contributions have been given.

United Way of 1000 Lakes received \$2,000 toward their "stuff the bus" initiative, which is a program they've operated since 2019.

"Support from Lake Country Power's Operation Round Up program ensures that more local students will have access to the tools they need to succeed, including backpacks, headphones, binders, pens, and pencils," said Executive Director Kim Brink Smith. "The program is just one of the ways United Way is working to address equity in our community."

Most Recent Recipients in our area include:

- ▶ Northern Lights Clubhouse, Ely
- ▶ Washington Elementary School, Ely
- ▶ Buyck Community Fire Protection Association, Buyck
- ▶ St. Louis County Rescue Squad, Duluth
- ▶ Independent School District 696, Ely
- ▶ Vermilion Dream Quilters, Cook
- ▶ Trinity Lutheran Church, Cook
- ▶ North St. Louis County 4-H, Virginia
- ▶ Ely Area Senior Citizens, Ely
- ▶ Northern Lights Music Festival, Gilbert
- ▶ Babbitt Lion's Club, Babbitt
- ▶ Mesabi Humane Society, Virginia.

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

Interested members can opt into the Operation Round Up program by calling the cooperative at 800-421-9959. Applications are available online at www.lakecountypower.coop. The next application deadline is August 15.

Obituaries and Death Notices



Gretchen T. Green

Gretchen Teal Green, 89, of Omaha, Neb., and Lake Vermilion-Tower, passed away on Saturday, June 1, 2024. A celebration of life was held on Sunday, June 9 at the Montessori Children's Room in Omaha. Memorial contributions can be made to the International Wolf Center in Ely or Fontenelle Forest in Bellevue, Neb. Cards can be sent to Karlyn Svoboda, 12791 Grover St., Omaha, NE 68144.

Gretchen was born on Sept. 29, 1934, in Lincoln, Neb., to Dr. Frederick "Fritz" and Elinore Teal. Throughout her life she was best known for her dedication to teaching young children, spending summers at her beloved family cabin on Lake Vermilion in northern Minnesota, and her great love for any time she shared with her family.

Gretchen pursued higher education at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln where she obtained her teaching degree, and met and married Ronald Green. Together they raised their three children, Laura, Karlyn and John, in the great "Kingdom of Drazi" in Omaha. Gretchen taught young children everywhere from Dundee Presbyterian Church preschool to special education pre-K classrooms in the Bellevue Public School system, before retiring at age 70.

Gretchen and family spent summers at their summer cottage on Birch Point on Lake Vermilion. Her love for the north woods and lake life impacted her ambitions to volunteer at the Bear Center and enjoy many other activities at the lake. She spent many years dedicated to making Birch Point a better place for families

and conservationists, and remained active serving on committees to ensure lake life would continue for those who followed in her footsteps.

Gretchen is survived by her three children, Laura Green (Stan), Karlyn Svoboda (Mike) and John Green (Jenny); four grandchildren, Ed O'Neill, Shayna Bueckers (Tyler), Malesha Campbell (Devin) and Dominic Campbell (Bree); two step-grandchildren, Ali Svoboda and Andrew Svoboda; three great-grandchildren, Ava Campbell Bueckers, Elanora "Nora" Swanson and Ashton Syslo; sister, Linda Hebert of Traverse City, Mich.; and brother, Dr. Fred Teal of Aurora, Colo.

Lorraine R. O'Leary

Lorraine Ruth Krause O'Leary, 77, of Tower, and formerly a longtime resident of Duluth, died on Monday, June 24, 2024, surrounded by her family. A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Tuesday, July 2 at St. Martin's Catholic Church in Tower. Reverend Father Beau Braun was the celebrant. Private interment will take place at the Bois Forte Cemetery at a later date. Memorials are preferred and may be directed to St. Martin's Catholic Church. The family would like to sincerely thank Lorraine's hospice caregivers, Madeline, Sara and Stefanie for their compassionate care. Family services were provided by Bauman-Vermilion, a Bauman Family Funeral Home in Tower.

She is survived by her children, Michelle O'Leary (John Holmes) and Kelsey (Teresa) O'Leary, both of Duluth, and David O'Leary (Jessyca Bardzel) of Sidney, Mont.; six grandchildren; siblings, Kathy (Roger) Vanderscheuren of Hoyt Lakes, Candace Peterson of Eveleth and Georganne Krause of Minneapolis; brothers-in-law, Roger (Paula) O'Leary and Willia "Pete" O'Leary; numerous nieces, nephews and great-grandchildren; extended family and friends.

Wayne E. Cheney

Wayne Edward Cheney, 81, of Cook, loving husband, devoted father, cherished grandfather, and passionate hunter, passed away on Monday, June 24, 2024. A celebration of life will be held at 11 a.m. on Thursday, July 11 at the Cook Community Center. Visitation will be held one

hour prior. Burial will be at the Hillside Cemetery in Angora immediately following the service. Lunch will be provided at the Cook Community Center directly after the burial. Arrangements are with Mlaker Funeral Home of Cook.

He is survived by his children, Wayne (Barb) Cheney of Angora, Tina

(Brian) Sklors of St. Michael, Kim (Greg) Dertinger of Gilbert, Kenneth Cheney of Virginia and Jillene (Herb Jr.) Clapsaddle of Gilbert; special brother-in-law, Pete Miller of Virginia; grandchildren, Wayne (Breann), Lisa (Mike), James, Ryan (Brittany), Nicole (David), Breanne, Mykell (Jesse), Alexandria

(Kyle), Christian (Melinda), Noel (Jesse), Cory (Christie) and Isaac; 16 great-grandchildren; one great-great grandchild and another on the way; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

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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

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Summer hours effective April 15 - September 30





Outdoors

Our lives in the
Northwoods

LOCAL MANUFACTURING

Forest Service bear order creates new market for Tower bag maker

by SETH ROESER
Staff Writer

TOWER— A new requirement that campers in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness either hang their food packs or use bear-proof containers has opened a potential new market for local bag maker Terry Sundahl, based in Tower.

The U.S. Forest Service order, known as Forest Order 09-09-24-02, took effect in April as the federal agency seeks to reduce the number of nuisance bear incidents for overnight visitors in the boundary waters.

It requires that campers hang their food packs at least 12 feet above the ground and at least six feet out from the trunk (a challenging feat for many), or store their food in any of a number of bear-proof containers that have been certified by the Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee.

Sundahl heard a rumor from a friend last year that bear-proof containers may become required for BWCAW camping in the future, so he got to work designing a means to carry them comfortably.

Sundahl has owned Pike River Products for about four years and has

operated a retail outlet on Tower's Main Street for three years, where he currently sells 24 different styles of bags, including backpacks, purses, and his two newest designs, a horizontal and a vertical bear bag.

"I got it in my head that I should work on making those," Sundahl said.

The new bags were created to carry bear canisters, specifically four sizes of BearVault Journey Bear Canisters which Sundahl sells in his shop, though other containers with similar dimensions will fit. The

See **BEAR BAGS...**pg. 5B



MEMORIES

The sound of summer

The lazy song of the indigo bunting takes me back to my youth

I was walking the other day near the Junction Road between Tower and Soudan when the languid song of an uncommon bird in our area, brought me back to my younger days. It was the song of an indigo bunting, which speaks to its world through a series of paired notes, sung in no particular hurry. I've seen various mnemonics, which typically describe the song as "what-what, where-where, see-it-see-it." It's a little raspy and a little musical but typically sung with confidence.

It was drilled into my memory banks during my teenage years on so many summer treks down along Nine Mile Creek, which flows through the center of Bloomington on its way to the Minnesota River. We lived on the edge of the creek valley, which was heavily wooded and mostly undeveloped public park. I had a few rarely traveled trails that dropped from the street by our house into the creek valley, but I often made my way down on the winding driveway that connected a house seemingly ripped from a fairy tale with the outside world. It was an older home, two-story but relatively small inside. It was the home of the Bugensteins, family friends so they never minded when I cut through their property during my nearly daily ventures into the woods. They were holdouts against the city, which had wanted to acquire their property to consolidate their ownership of the park. I absolutely understood the Bugenstein's tenacity. Their small home and their surrounding acre were perched along the creek, at the site of an old mill that was long



MARSHALL
HELMBERGER



gone by the 1970s. It was down in a steep hollow and with heavily wooded hills all around them, the noises of the surrounding suburbia virtually disappeared, save for the occasional Northwest 707 coming in or taking off from MSP's southwest runway.

The hills around them were alive in the summer with the songs of any number of species of birds, but the indigo buntings were among the most memorable for me. Their lazy song epitomized summer in my young mind and their return to "my" woods year after year was a constant in my life.

When I heard those familiar notes the other day, they instantly had my attention. I had ventured out with my camera in search of butterflies for an upcoming Outdoors page, but one of the best things about nature photography is you never know what you're going to find on any given day. Most of the time, it isn't what you expected. An indigo bunting was the furthest thing from my mind that afternoon.

While I've run into indigo buntings a number of times over the years here in

Top and above: A male indigo bunting near the Junction Rd. in Tower.

photos by M. Helmberger

the North Country, we're on the northern fringe of their breeding range, which is why I would classify them as uncommon here. The males are easy to identify on sight, since they're the only entirely blue bird you're likely to find in Minnesota. The eastern bluebird is roughly the same size, (they're both the size of a large sparrow), but they have rusty orange breasts and a white belly. The male mountain bluebird is almost entirely blue but it's a lighter shade and it's typically found in the Rockies, not in our region.

While the male indigo bunting is a visual standout, the female is one of the most non-descript birds found in Minnesota, a drab brown with no distinctive markings. It's easy to mistake it for

See **BUNTINGS...**pg. 5B

Wildflower Watch



This week's featured flower
YELLOW POND LILY

The **Yellow Pond Lily**, *Nuphar variegata*, is one of our most common aquatic plants and can be found growing in shallow water in ponds or quiet bays of almost any lake in Minnesota.

It's a native plant that is readily identified by its yellow, orb-shaped flower that typically sits atop a thick stem about one-to-three inches above the water. It's invariably accompanied by its oval "lily pad" leaves.

You can usually find them in bloom from late June well into August.

SEARCH & RESCUE

Elderly lost hiker found

by CATIE CLARK
Ely Editor

ELY- When Richard White didn't come home from his day hike last Wednesday evening, his relatives here started to worry. The next morning, June 27, White's daughter notified the Lake County Sheriff's Office, and the search was on for the 77-year-old birder and wildflower enthusiast. White, an experienced hiker and naturalist, was in the area visiting family.

Family and friends soon got the word out on social media. "Richard White has been missing for about 24 hours. He likely went hiking in the area but that is not known. Please check parking lots for his black Subaru Impreza with Georgia plates."

A friend soon found White's car at the parking area for the Secret/Blackstone trail system near the end of the Fernberg Road. A Lake County Sheriff's deputy, a DNR conservation officer, Lake County Search and Rescue, and a handful of volunteers familiar with the local trails combed the area. The Morse-Fall Lake Fire Department also responded to the trailhead with EMS and rescue equipment to help with the search.

"His family realized he had been out since the previous morning," conservation officer Sean Williams

See **RESCUE...**pg. 5B

BEAR BAGS...Continued from page 4B

vertical bear bags are cylindrical in shape and carry canisters upright, whereas the horizontal packs carry them resting on their sides.

The National Park Service defines a bear resistant container as a securable container made from a solid, non-pliable material and that is certified to, among other qualities, withstand at least 300 foot-pounds of energy when secured. The Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee uses captive grizzly bears in their testing procedures and has a list of nearly 500 certified bear resistant products available on its website.

Finding a convenient way to carry a bear-proof container could easily prompt shoppers to look online. Instead, Sundahl has a sturdy, top-quality solution manufactured and sold locally.



Two of Sundahl's bear bags with a bear-proof food canister also for sale. photo by S. Roeser

"Most people are surprised we're here, a bag manufacturing business in Tower," Sundahl said.

A hobbyist seamster since around 2015, Sundahl started making

his packs when he realized the camping bags he owned weren't sufficient for carrying all the things he wanted to bring on his trips.

"It started out when we needed bags for camping,"

Sundahl said. "When we were living in California, we'd pick the grandkids up to go camping, but we didn't have bags we could put all of our junk in."

"It was just a hobby that kind of got away from me," he said.

Sundahl drew inspiration for the vertical bear bags from his six years in the Navy. The standard issue seabags are also cylindrical, though Sundahl decided to size his bear bags down accordingly. Using a sewing machine designed to sew boat sails, he sometimes spends up to 18 hours on a single bag. The packs are made from waxed canvas and leather, making them water resistant, and since they're made with double layer bottoms and double stitch seams, Sundahl says the bags are durable enough to carry whatever is stored in them.

"You could probably fill them with rocks and carry them," Sundahl said. "It's a heavy duty 14 ounce wax canvas, it's not going to fall apart on you. If you can put it on your back, it can carry it."

Sundahl and his wife Dianna own a cabin on the Pike River Flowage, a fact they paid homage to with their business's name. Sundahl is a lifelong camper, though he admits to not having as much time for camping since opening up his shop.

"I grew up using backpacks camping, and it used to be a mile and a half walk to our hunting shack," Sundahl said. "So I know what I like in bags and people tend to like what I come up with."

Each of his designs are liable to be tinkered with, adjusted to add and improve features until Sundahl is

satisfied.

"Some people give me pointers. 'This would be nice, that would be nice.' And if possible, I incorporate that into things I make, too."

Sundahl said people are glad to buy things they know will last them a long time, and said customers are satisfied with his products. He shared the story of a woman who bought a purse from him and couldn't stop smiling as she left with her new purchase.

"How neat is it for people to get that excited over what you make?" Sundahl said.

Sundahl's bear bags and other goods can be seen online at pikeriverproducts.com or in person at his shop at 515 Main Street in Tower. More information about Forest Order 09-09-24-02 can be found on the forest service's website.

RESCUE...Continued from page 4B

told the *Timberjay*. "He was out for a single night, but it was cold."

The low temperature overnight at the Ely Municipal Airport was 46 degrees.

"White was out looking for wildflowers and birds," Williams added. "He got off the trail. It was overcast so it was easy to become disoriented."

The U.S. Forest Service sent one of its De Havilland Beaver planes to help with the search. The plane, on its way back from a mission to Grand Marais, picked up an extra pair of eyes from the Morse-Fall Lake Fire Department according to Williams.

"The Forest Service aircraft performed a miracle," Williams added.

"Jeremy (Harmon) and the spotter spotted White at the last minute."

The plane was on its last search pass because it was low on fuel. "The Beaver advised rescuers that they observed a male waving his arms, at which time they were able to land and due to the high-water (and) taxi to where the male party was located," stated

a Lake County Sheriff's Office news release.

Lacking the fuel to take off with three people and get back to base, the Beaver taxied on the water to a trail where the Morse-Fall Lake rescue squad met the plane. Morse-Fall Lake took White on its ATV equipped with a stretcher trailer back to the trailhead. White was then transported

by an Ely Area Ambulance which took him to Ely-Bloomenson Community Hospital for evaluation.

"White was bug-bitten and dehydrated," William said, "but alert and happy that we found him."

Friend of the family Jennifer Freking told the *Timberjay* that White was home from the hospital on Sunday "and doing much

better."

In its news release, the Lake County Sheriff's Office thanked the Morse-Fall Lake Fire Department, St. Louis County Search and Rescue Squad, U.S. Forest Service, Minnesota DNR, and Lake County Search and Rescue. The Northern Tier Boy Scouts provided meals to the search and rescue effort.

BUNTINGS...Continued from page 4B

a sparrow, although even sparrows are typically more colorful. In fact, it's so drab that that in itself is its most reliable field mark.

Indigo buntings typically inhabit brushy areas, particularly on the edges of fields, or other edges. The edge of a weedy, abandoned field is their favored habitat, which is exactly where I

found the bird pictured here. It was this weedy field, covered in oxeye daisies, hawkweed, and buttercups, where I had hoped to find the butterflies I'd been planning to photograph. In the end, there was an indigo bunting and swarms of mosquitoes but not a butterfly to be seen. Call it a successful outing, nonetheless.

LAKE COUNTRY FORECAST

from NOAA weather

Friday					Saturday					Sunday					Monday					Tuesday				
68 50					63 42					71 48					65 53					72 57				
Ely	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Emb.	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Cook	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Orr	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Tower	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.
06/17	62	40	0.00		06/17	77	46	0.00		06/17	72	52	0.01		06/17	72	52	0.00		06/17	77	46	0.00	
06/18	71	55	0.29		06/18	73	49	0.53		06/18	71	52	0.12		06/18	66	57	0.64		06/18	71	51	0.25	
06/19	70	54	2.68		06/19	74	58	4.33		06/19	67	57	5.10		06/19	66	48	3.00		06/19	73	57	4.60	
06/20	58	50	0.00		06/20	67	48	0.00		06/20	69	51	0.00		06/20	70	46	0.00		06/20	66	51	0.00	
06/21	67	na	0.00		06/21	68	47	0.00		06/21	72	49	0.00		06/21	75	48	0.00		06/21	70	46	0.00	
06/22	74	na	0.00		06/22	76	51	0.00		06/22	79	45	0.00		06/22	70	55	0.00		06/22	75	53	0.00	
06/23	71	53	0.00		06/23	74	52	0.01		06/23	69	52	0.06		06/23	73	55	0.00		06/23	72	50	0.09	
YTD Total	15.71				YTD Total	18.35				YTD Total	17.68				YTD Total	NA				YTD Total	18.05			

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- Boats, trailers, and gear
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DRAIN

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

DRY

- Everything at least five days before going to other waters
- (Or) Decontaminate with high pressure water (120°F or warmer)

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EMPLOYMENT

Office Manager for Grace Lutheran Church, Ely

This is a part-time, 20 hours per week, position with a flexible work schedule. Your presence in the office is expected. The pay range is \$15-\$20/hour. Paid holidays, PTO, and sick time are available. A background check is required.

Grace Lutheran is seeking a reliable and detail-oriented person with people skills, office management skills, and the ability to represent Grace Lutheran as a welcoming church.

If interested in applying, please send or drop off a cover letter and resume to Pastor Eric Thiele, Grace Lutheran Church, 301 East Conan St, Ely, MN 55731 or gracelutheranelymn@gmail.com

For further information, please contact Pastor Eric Thiele at 218-365-5605. 7/5

JOB OPENING – CITY OF ORR FULL-TIME BARTENDER

The City of Orr is accepting applications for a full-time Bartender at the Orr Municipal Liquor Store. This is a salaried position that includes a competitive benefit package with health insurance, life insurance, vacation, sick leave and retirement. Looking for individuals who can interact with customers in a professional, friendly manner. Must pass background check. The City of Orr is a drug-free workplace and Equal Opportunity Employer. Applications may be picked up at the Orr City Hall, 4429 Hwy 53, Orr, MN, M-F, 8:00 AM-4:00 PM, or by contacting orrmn@centurytel.net. Please call City Hall at 218-757-3288 with any questions.

Published in the Timberjay, June 28 & July 5, 2024

PUBLIC NOTICE

STATE OF MINNESOTA
ST. LOUIS COUNTY
DISTRICT COURT
SIXTH DISTRICT
Court File No:
69DU-PR-24-182
Case Type: Formal
Unsupervised

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.

Notice is also given that (subject of Minn. Stat. 524.3-801) all creditors having claims against the Estate are required to present the claims to the personal representative or to the Court Administrator within four months after the date of this Notice or the claims will be barred.

BY THE COURT:
Leslie Beiers
District Court Judge
June 3, 2024

Attorney for Personal Representative
Tracey M. Kayoum
3150 W 264th St.
Northfield, MN 55057
Telephone: 507-301-8333

Published in the Timberjay, June 28 and July 5, 2024

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

In re the Estate of KELLY ANN JAKUBEK, Deceased

It is ordered and notice is given that on July 16, 2024, at 1:45 p.m., a hearing will be held at Duluth, Minnesota, for the formal adjudication of intestacy and determination of heirship of the Decedent, and for the appointment of: Name: Tracey M. Kayoum Address: 3150 264th St. W, Northfield, MN 55057 As Personal Representative of the Estate of Decedent in an unsupervised administration.

Any objections to the petition should be filed with the



Paid Public Notice

Each year the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources' Division of Forestry reforests thousands of acres of forestland. We use a variety of techniques and treatments to establish trees and ensure they survive, grow, and remain healthy. A small percentage of the sites we manage each year are treated with herbicides to control competing vegetation, either to prepare sites for subsequent tree planting or seeding, or to release young seedlings from overtopping trees and brush.

The Tower Area will be applying herbicide on 7 sites comprising 150 acres to prepare for planting and release trees from competing vegetation between the 7/20/2024 and 9/15/2024. The treatment will be done using the following equipment: ground/aerial. All sites treated with herbicides will be signed so that the public will know when they are on a treated site.

Published in the Timberjay, July 5, 2024

Legal notices are online each week at timberjay.com
www.mnpublicnotice.com/

CryptoQuip

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

Clue: Z equals S

TQJP ZQHSSL RBMJRHP MJHZRZ
SJR RCSJRQJE HPF RHDG
PCPZRCV, B TCWDF ZHL
RQJL'EJ LHGGBPS BR WV.

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Super Crossword

Answers

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

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! Now 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 for more information:

Positions and job descriptions are online. Still interviewing/hiring for Special Education Teacher, Dean of Students, School Social Worker (2 openings), paraprofessional, PT Office Assistant, Van Driver. Most positions are benefits-eligible.

<https://vermilioncountry.org/employment>

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

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Old Italian money
- 5 Profs' degrees
- 9 "The Matrix" role
- 12 Caspian Sea feeder
- 13 Mine, in Montreal
- 14 Cleric's garment
- 15 When sports events start
- 17 Avril follower
- 18 Whine
- 19 Representative
- 21 Chicago transport
- 22 Sanctioned by Islamic law
- 24 Pottery oven
- 27 Nourished
- 28 Hotel furniture
- 31 JFK info
- 32 Genetic letters
- 33 "Mayday!"
- 34 Jewels
- 36 Weaponize
- 37 D-Day carriers
- 38 Boredom
- 40 Little — Peep neighbor
- 41 Move laterally
- 43 Least possible
- 47 Actor Ferrigno

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		

- 48 Followed
- 51 Catchall abbr.
- 52 Actress Sedgwick
- 53 Bailiwick
- 54 Cowboys quarterback Prescott
- 55 Peevish fit
- 56 School session
- 5 Sandbox toy
- 6 "Let me think ..."
- 7 Female hare
- 8 Twine fiber
- 9 Anonymous
- 10 Flair
- 11 Life story?
- 16 Website contact no.
- 20 Talk on and on
- 22 Artist Matisse
- 23 Eden evictee
- 24 Beer barrel
- 25 Mineral suffix
- 26 Politico with limited power
- 27 Lady of the haus
- 29 Speck
- 30 Sound from a hot wok
- 35 NBC show since 1975
- 37 Yogurt variety
- 39 Violin parts
- 40 "Don't — stranger!"
- 41 "Citizen Kane" prop
- 42 Greek vowel
- 43 Accomplishment
- 44 French 101 verb
- 45 Crystal gazer
- 46 Streetcar
- 49 Writer Rand
- 50 Hosp. scan

DOWN

- 1 Schleps
- 2 Pakistan
- 3 "Bohemian Rhapsody" star Malek
- 4 Football team

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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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HOUSING AND REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF ELY, MN JOB POSTING

Title: Accounting Manager
Number in position: 1
Immediate supervisor: Executive Director

SCOPE: Providing administrative and technical support for the Housing and Redevelopment Authority of Ely, MN. To disseminate information and apply appropriate regulations and procedures to determine accurate rent assistance to eligible individuals and families. Assists in the development and administration of the Public Housing Program and other programs within the Housing Authority. To promote a favorable image for the Ely HRA and the City of Ely.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

- Ability to multi-task in performing the essential function of the position.
- Knowledge of computers and office equipment.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills.
- Experience in a supervisory capacity in emergency situations.
- Possess a valid driver's license.
- Ability to read, analyze and complete documentation required by City, County, State or Federal agencies.
- Ability to communicate through speaking, listening and writing effectively with residents and outside agencies.
- Possess the ability to make intelligent decisions in emergency situations

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:

2 or 4 year post secondary degree

NORMAL WORKING HOURS:

Normal work week of 40 hours on a regular schedule

APPLY:

Resumes must be submitted by July 12, 2024
Mail: Klun Law Firm, 1 E. Chapman St., PO Box 240, Ely, MN 55731
Email: alison.richards@klunlaw.com

Read us online at timberjay.com
218-753-2950

CryptoQuote

AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

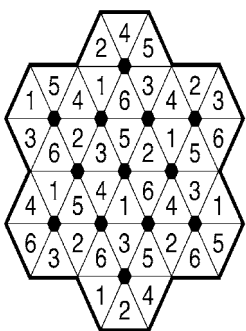
One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each week the code letters are different.

IX L R Y S U G L S D Z D F J Z C
H U R G I G U Z R O G K G V —
U S G L F Y Z C H X T S U R U Z V
C Y T Z G W G S X R O U Z V R O J R
V Y G L Y Z C D S U Z V R O G H U R G .
— S J X H S J C H D S X

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PET CREMATION

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

Try out the Timberjay classifieds

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

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SUPPORT GROUPS

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

MS SUPPORT GROUP- meets the second Friday of the month at 1 p.m. at the Babbitt Municipal Building, senior room. Open to all. 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

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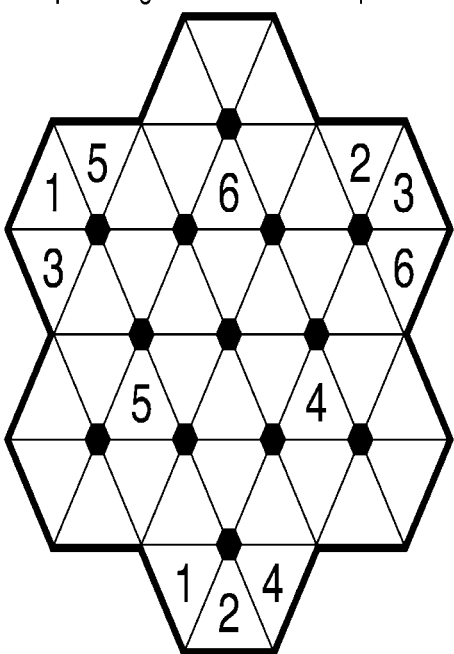
LOST

BROWN CAMO BAG W/ CLOTHES lost between Soudan and south on Hwy. 169. Reward. Call 218-741-0972. 7/5nc

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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Super Crossword TV REPLACEMENT

- ACROSS**
- 1 Small order of greens
 - 10 Weighing devices
 - 16 Hostility halter
 - 20 Preach from place to place, perhaps
 - 21 Arm bones
 - 22 Nights before
 - 23 People who yearn to take part in a lunar landing?
 - 25 "Tall" story
 - 26 Wd. division
 - 27 Scratch, e.g.
 - 28 Give help to
 - 29 Divvy up
 - 30 An award-winning new device?
 - 38 With little space in between
 - 40 Crosswalk user, in brief
 - 41 "Hear, hear!"
 - 42 "I refuse to repeatedly forgo this rule for you"?
 - 48 Scratch (out)
 - 49 Cartoon "Explorer"
 - 50 Ruby-colored
 - 51 Notes after sol
 - 55 Boxing weapons
 - 58 Wild, irrational talk of the highest quality?
 - 64 Be a suitor of
 - 66 Great delight
 - 67 New Delhi-based flag carrier
 - 68 Greek city near Athens
 - 72 Traffic tangle
 - 74 Symbolize
 - 75 Plan to pay later, as for bar drinks
 - 77 Go very fast
 - 79 Gaming cube
 - 80 Vacillate about building a hydroelectric structure?
 - 83 Spandex brand
 - 87 Polar vehicle
 - 88 Age
 - 89 Couples
 - 91 "Inferno" director Howard
 - 92 Venue for a large conference?
 - 99 1987 Hoffman-Beatty film
 - 103 Mex. matron
 - 104 Gofers' tasks
 - 105 Football passer who hasn't eaten all day?
 - 111 Swing's Shaw
 - 112 Liquid in un lac
 - 113 Wee bit
 - 114 4G — (cellphone standard)
 - 117 Wee bit
 - 118 Booking to stay at a humble hut?
 - 125 Sacked out
 - 126 Tot's bodysuit
 - 127 Entered surreptitiously
 - 128 That gal's metalworking grooves
 - 130 Alienates
 - DOWN**
 - 1 Unleashes (on)
 - 2 "That's my goal"
 - 3 Telephone sounds
 - 4 Stamped thing: Abbr.
 - 5 Look at
 - 6 Part of ETA: Abbr.
 - 7 "Leaving — Vegas"
 - 8 Wee particles
 - 9 Make lean, as meat
 - 10 "Quiet down!"
 - 11 Actor's nudge of relief
 - 12 Jordan's capital
 - 13 Pope before Benedict III
 - 14 Eat away at
 - 15 Ungodliness
 - 16 Oinker kept at home
 - 17 "Elena of —" (Disney series)
 - 18 Pop diva Dion
 - 19 Fearsome fly
 - 24 Common motif
 - 29 Antlered male
 - 31 Pres. after FDR
 - 32 Comics cry colors
 - 33 Ran, as in the — the beholder"
 - 35 Not many
 - 36 Lupino of old Hollywood
 - 37 Writer Anais
 - 38 B-G linkup
 - 39 Trickster god
 - 43 Stiffly formal
 - 44 R&B singer Staples
 - 45 Writer Levin
 - 46 Aloe —
 - 47 Actor Elba
 - 51 Actress Laura
 - 52 Me, myself —
 - 53 9-to-5er's cry
 - 54 "Oho, old chap!"
 - 56 Interwoven
 - 57 Sub tracker
 - 59 Painter Max
 - 60 Pathogenic bacterium, for short
 - 61 Factor of nine
 - 62 Rainless
 - 63 Night watch
 - 65 Filmmaker Preminger
 - 68 Dairy animals
 - 69 Iridescent gemstone
 - 70 Dream, in French
 - 71 "— got a deal for you!"
 - 73 Caused
 - 76 Swiss capital
 - 78 Sunup
 - 81 Maze-running rodent
 - 82 U-Haul renter like a potato chip bag
 - 85 Big crucifix
 - 86 Writers Rule and Radcliffe
 - 90 Belgrade native
 - 92 Cover with tar
 - 93 "... — quit!" (threat ender)
 - 94 Columbus sch.
 - 95 Monkly title
 - 96 — blanche
 - 97 Gun rights org.
 - 98 Tic-toe linkup
 - 99 Book before Jeremiah
 - 100 Disco flasher
 - 101 "Mad" man of Wonderland
 - 102 Basic chords
 - 106 Some garish lights
 - 107 Judicial mallet
 - 108 Spanish for "cheese"
 - 109 French for "cup"
 - 110 Paradieses
 - 115 Carry along
 - 116 Baseball Hall of Famer Slaughter
 - 118 Peppery
 - 119 Eng. course
 - 120 Apt., e.g.
 - 121 Road furrow
 - 122 Outmoded RCA product
 - 123 Alias lead-in
 - 124 Element #50

CryptoQuip answer

When shaggy Tibetan beasts get together and talk nonstop, I would say they're yakking it up.

CryptoQuote answer

My stories run up and bite me in the leg — I respond by writing down everything that goes on during the bite. — Ray Bradbury

SELL It HERE

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 25 mins.

LIRE PHOS NEO
URAL AMOI ALB
GAMETIMES MAI
SNIVEL AGENT
EL HALAL
KILN FED BEDS
ETA RNA SOS
GEMS ARM LSTS
ENNUI BO
SIDLE FEWEST
LOU CAMEAFTER
ETC KYRA AREA
DAK SNIT TERM

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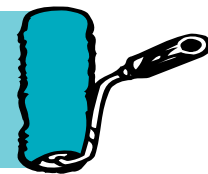
Answer

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

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19		
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26							27			28					29					
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99	100	101	102						103					104						
105							106	107	108				109	110						
111								112					113					114	115	116
117									118			119	120			121	122	123	124	
125									126						127					
128									129						130					



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