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# The **TIMBERJAY**



Serving the communities of northern St. Louis County since 1989 VOL. 35, ISSUE 27 July 12, 2024 \$1<sup>50</sup>

## RIVERFRONT PROJECT

# Laying the foundation for major development

Marjo RE breaks ground on project that may eventually include 50 residential units

by **MARSHALL HELMBERGER**  
 Managing Editor

**TOWER**— One of the potentially most impactful residential developments in decades in Tower has finally broken ground, marking the first significant private investment associated with the city's harbor and riverfront project.

An initial access road

is now in place next to the Marjo Motel and the sites are prepared for the first three units in a project that could eventually include as many as 50 residential units, some for sale with others planned for short-term rentals. The investment is being undertaken by business partners Luke Kujawa and Michael Jellish, operating as Marjo RE, LLC.

The two are also partners in Your Boat Club, which maintains dozens of marinas across the U.S., including the former Standing Bear Marina, located adjacent to the Marjo RE property.

Project manager Orlyn Kringstad said he expects the first three units to arrive at the port of Duluth on July 15, with three more units to be ordered and on their way

**Right: Contractor Shawn Webster adjusts a piece of rebar before setting the next foundation form in place for the first unit now under construction in Tower.**

photo by M. Helmberger

during the current construction season.

The residential units

See...**MARJORE** pg. 11



**Left: During a visit to Cook last week, Sen. Amy Klobuchar uses the moose in front of the library to show the height of the floodwaters as Mayor Harold Johnston looks on.**

photo by D. Colburn

## AFTERMATH OF THE FLOOD

# Klobuchar reviews damage in Cook

by **DAVID COLBURN**  
 Cook/Orr Editor

**COOK**-U.S. Senator Amy Klobuchar was in Cook on Wednesday, July 3, to view damage from the recent flood and to lend her encouragement and support for recovery efforts.

Joined by Cook City Council members, Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Commissioner Ida Rukavina,

Senator emphasizes the importance of rebuilding assistance

relief agency representatives and others, Klobuchar took a walking tour of the damage in the downtown area, stopping at the Cook Public Library, the Montana Café, and the Comet Theater.

Klobuchar was clearly moved as she learned how the flood has not only damaged businesses but has also affected

the social fabric of the community.

"They're kind of missing and lost without us," library director Crystal Whitney told Klobuchar.

The senator heard a similar message from Megan and Corey Strong at the Montana Café, where they stood between upheaved ripples in the old

wooden floor. And while the building was cleared for re-entry after an engineer's inspection earlier in the week, the extent of the damage could be far too costly to repair without significant support, the Strongs said.

"I was just stunned by

See...**VISIT** pg. 11

## BOIS FORTE

# Chavers, Drift sworn in at Nett Lake



by **DAVID COLBURN**  
 Cook/Orr Editor

**NETT LAKE**- In a celebration blending tried and true and bold and new, re-elected Bois Forte Band Chairwoman Cathy Chavers and newly elected District 1 Council Representative Perry Drift were sworn in to office on Tuesday at

**Left: Bois Forte Chairwoman Cathy Chavers, left, and new District 1 Tribal Council Representative Perry Drift were sworn into office on Tuesday during a ceremony at Nett Lake.**

photo by D. Colburn

Nett Lake.

Both candidates survived razor-thin races decided by single-digit margins in June balloting to win election to four-year terms.

Winning a third term as chairwoman gives Chavers the opportunity to build on the experiences and relationships she's formed with local, state, and federal leaders over the past eight years, and while progress has been made there is still much to be done, she said.

"This isn't a glory job," Chavers said. "It's about the tribe, it's about Bois Forte and our sovereignty. We

See... **BOIS FORTE** pg. 9

## CITY OF ELY

# Council OKs new cannabis moratorium

by **CATIE CLARK**  
 Ely Editor

**ELY**- At its July 2 meeting, the Ely City Council once again dug into the weeds of Minnesota's evolving rules on legal cannabinoid products, passing a moratorium on any new "adult-use cannabis business." The moratorium specifically mentions not just sales, but also the testing, manufacturing, cultivation, and distribution of THC products.

The moratorium has been in the pipeline since the June 18 council meeting. That's when the planning and zoning commission recommended the city restrict cannabis cultivation to industrial (I) and commercial (C) zoning districts, a recommendation that caught the city council by surprise. The council tabled the suggestion and asked the city attorney to draw up a draft moratorium for later

See...**MORATORIUM** pg. 9

## CITY OF BABBITT

# Regional EMS proposal gets cool reception

by **MARSHALL HELMBERGER**  
 Managing Editor

**BABBITT**— A proposal to form a regional ambulance service based out of the Ely-Bloomenson Community Hospital is getting a cool reception from city officials here, and that could leave the proposal on life-support.

The plan, outlined in brief by representatives of the consulting firm SafeTech Solutions at a public presentation in Ely last month, suggested merging the Ely, Tower, and Babbitt ambulance services in an effort to stem financial losses being experienced by the services in Ely and Tower. The representatives of the consulting group now hope to bring their presentation to

See...**EMS** pg. 9



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Community notices

**Meet a live peregrine falcon on July 13 and 14 at Vermilion and Bear Head**

REGIONAL- MN DNR is hosting two opportunities for visitors to meet a live peregrine falcon. The events will be at the Armstrong Bay Day Use area at Lake Vermilion-Soudan Underground Mine State Park from 6-8 p.m. on Saturday, July 13, and at the Trail Center at Bear Head Lake State Park on Sunday, July 14, from 10 a.m. to noon.

Jackie Fallon, VP of field operations and MN state coordinator for the Midwest Peregrine Society, will help visitors understand the past, present, and future of peregrine falcons in Minnesota and the region.

Come and discover the wonder of raptors, why they are important and what you can do to help them survive.

Make sure to bring a camera to get a special photo of your experience during your visit. More info at [mndnr.gov/events](http://mndnr.gov/events).

**County expands hours/collection events for disposal of household hazardous waste following flood**

REGIONAL- St. Louis County Environmental Services is expanding its collection services for household hazardous waste to make it easier for residents to dispose of paints, stains and other HHW materials that often are stored in basements and garages that may have flooded.

Effective now through the end of July, the HHW Facility in Hibbing will be adding a day to its normal operations. People can drop off household hazardous waste on Fridays and Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The HHW at the Regional Landfill in Virginia will operate on its normal schedule of Tuesdays and Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. but is also offering off-hour drop offs by appointment. Call the facility at 218-741-8831 to schedule a drop off time.

Additionally, four HHW Community Collections have been added to the schedule. Each is from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the dates and locations listed:

- Thursday July 18, at the Northwoods (Ely) Transfer Station
- Wednesday July 24, at the Cook Transfer Station
- Wednesday July 31, at the Northwoods (Ely) Transfer Station.

As a reminder, for other flood related debris, the County is waiving disposal fees for residents and businesses of the County Solid Waste Management Area at the following locations through the end of July:

- St. Louis County Regional Landfill; 5341 Regional Landfill Rd. Virginia
- Aurora Transfer Station; 5910 Highway 135 North, Aurora
- Brookston Transfer Station; 8609 Highway 2, Brookston
- Cook Transfer Station; 2134 South Beatty Road, Cook
- Hibbing Transfer Station; 3994 Landfill Road, Hibbing
- Northwoods Transfer Station; 9384 Highway 21 North, Ely
- County 77 Canister Site; 2038 County Road. 77, Tower
- French Township Canister Site; 7150 Greenrock Road, Side Lake
- Balkan Township Canister Site; 11489 Vlasich Road, Chisholm
- Soudan Canister Site; 5160 Highway 169, Soudan

For additional information, visit [stlouiscountymn.gov/waste](http://stlouiscountymn.gov/waste) or call 218-741-8831.

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CEREMONY

# Bois Forte breaks ground for new food shelf building



VERMILION RESERVATION- The Bois Forte Tribal Council held a groundbreaking ceremony on July 2 for its planned Vermilion Public Works Maintenance/Food Shelf/Head Start Building. Speakers in attendance included Commissioner of Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Ida Rukavina and Eastern/Woodlands Office of Native American Programs Administrator Neil

Whitegull. The new building was bid on by Grand Rapids company HAWK Construction and will include a food shelf open to surrounding communities as well as a garage for Head Start vehicles. Funding sources include the Indian Community Development Grant Program, the Bureau of Indian Affairs American Rescue Plan, as well as an IRRR grant,

among others. Bois Forte Band Planning and Community Development Director Carol Burr said the event went well and hopes the new building will provide a better safety network for community members who may need it. Construction is set to be finished by December 31, 2024.

# Ely Watercolor Club art show runs July 17-21 at Miner's Dry building

ELY- Members of the Ely Watercolor Club will present hundreds of their paintings, gift bags, and greeting cards this summer at the Miner's Dry building on Wednesday, July 17, through Sunday, July 21, from 10 a.m to 5:30 p.m. Their paintings include a great variety of subjects and techniques and have held the interest of the public over the years. The 2023 show had over 1,200 guests perusing nearly 1,000 works of varied subjects and techniques.



Current members of the club include Claire Taylor, John Weidemann, Sandy Brandley, Holly Rom, Diane Levar, Scott King, and Cecilia Rolando; new members include

Nadine Long and Karl Everett. Several of these artists participate in the Ely Art Walk, have had NLAA art shows at the State The-

ater, and individual showings at various regional art galleries.

The artists paint individually but then come together for this annual showing at the Dry. They meet monthly at Fransden Bank to share recent work and plan the big exhibit and sale.

Members busily paint all year long in anticipation of the Ely Watercolor Club Show and Sale and ask that you mark your calendar to attend next week's show.

GIANTS RIDGE

# Mountain unicycling event on July 17

BIWABIK- Giants Ridge is thrilled to announce its role as the host venue for the mountain discipline of the 21st Unicycle World Championships in Biwabik on July 17.

Known for its breathtaking Northwoods scenery and challenging terrain, Giants Ridge provides an exceptional backdrop for the championship mountain discipline event, scheduled for July 17 with practices on July 15. Competitors will tackle the lift served mountain bike trails featuring steep descents, jumps, rollers, and rock gardens, designed to embrace the rugged shape and terrain of the Minnesota mountain.

Downhill participants will showcase their athleticism and precision with a test of speed and ability to handle rugged terrain while riding downhill. The cross country portion of the event features an off-road distance race that challenges a rider's fitness and ability to ride fast on rough terrain.

"We are honored to host such a unique event at Giants Ridge," said Benji Neff, director of mountain



sports at Giants Ridge. "Unicon21 will be an exciting showcase of unicycling talent from around the world, and we look forward to welcoming participants and spectators alike."

This year the prestigious Unicon21 event is based in Bemidji with its mountain discipline portion taking place in Biwabik. More than 1,500 unicyclists from across the globe will gather to compete in various disciplines, highlighting the diversity and skill within the sport. For more information on Unicon21, including event schedules, tickets, and accommodations, visit



**Dance Workshop**  
July 17 @ 6-8 pm  
Ely Senior Center - ages 12+  
Suggested donation - \$10



**Dance Performances**  
July 16 @ 6 pm  
Whiteside Park FREE!  
July 19 @ 7 pm  
Tofte Lake Center  
Suggested donation - \$10

Amanda Sachs and Elena Hollenhorst present *Searching for Giants*, a contemporary dance duet. They premiered this work at MN Orchestra's International Day of Music and have since performed it at Dances at the Lake Festival and the Tek Box in Minneapolis.



The workshop will inform participants about the creative process, and incorporate improv as well as phrase work. Participants of all ability levels are welcome! Amanda Sachs and Elena Hollenhorst are fiscal year 2024 recipients of a Creative Individuals grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board.

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This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Minnesota Arts Board, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.



TOO MUCH WATER

# Minor flooding occurring in Rainy River basin

by DAVID COLBURN  
Cook-Orr Editor

**REGIONAL-** The runoff from a series of storms across the Rainy River Basin continues to swell lakes and streams, causing minor flooding to docks, boathouses, and shoreline buildings and roads.

An update from the Duluth National Weather Service office on Tuesday indicated that a flood advisory for areas from Lac la Croix to Rainy Lake would remain in effect through Friday, but could be extended. Lac la Croix crested on Monday, while crests for Crane Lake, Namakan, and Kabetogama were expected later in the week and into the weekend after estimated additional rises of between three and eight inches.

Voyageurs National Park reported that many docks for campsites on Kabetogama, Na-

amakan, Sand Point, and Crane lakes were covered by several inches of water and more were likely to be flooded, although no campsites have been closed.

The release noted that current levels on Namakan and Kabetogama are two-and-a-half to three feet below the historic flooding in 2022 and are in line with the flooding that occurred in 2014.

June's rainfall amounts ran well ahead of historical averages for the region. The NWS reported 7.57 inches of rain in the eastern end of the basin at Seagull Lake, 2.91 inches above normal. Year-to-date amounts of precipitation in International

**The submerged dock at Ellsworth Rock Gardens in Voyageurs National Park.**  
photo courtesy of VNP

See **FLOODING**, pg. 5



GREENWOOD

# Board agrees on standard financial operating guidelines

by JODI SUMMIT  
Tower-Soudan Editor

**GREENWOOD TWP-** The Greenwood Town Board got down to business at their meeting Tuesday, but first listened to over a half hour of public input. The professionalism that the board was trying project was somewhat hampered by a t-shirt worn by clerk Debby Spicer that read "I have neither the time, nor the crayons, to explain this to you."

The board did come to consensus on most issues relating to financial procedures that have been plaguing the township since the March election, specifically what financial duties are the responsibility of each officer.

The board unanimously passed an internal control policy drafted by supervisor John Bassing, with some additional details added by board chair Lois Roskoski. The two-page document details procedures for the handling of township receipts and expenses, who is responsible in what order, and how payroll is verified. It details

how the clerk and treasurer both maintain independent records of township finances, verifying their balances at the end of each month, as well as doing a bank reconciliation. The town board then reviews all claims for payment.

Roskoski told the board that Spicer has been trained to do payroll and has added more detail into the monthly payroll report. Fire department payroll is verified by the department captains, to make sure totals are correct.

During Jeff Maus's treasurers report, he publicly asked why the clerk had inserted a blank page into the emailed packet stating, "as of 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 3, 2024, the treasurer did not submit any information." Maus told the board he had sent an email to the clerk the morning of July 3 saying he did not have all the financial information required for an accurate and complete report.

"She could have noted that I was working on it," he said.

"I will not put out documents until I feel, to the best of my ability, they are accurate,"

Maus said. Maus said there was incomplete information on the Frandsen bank statement, because the newly-formed road account was not yet included, and the LPL Financial statement had some contradictory information which he was not able to get resolved by July 3. Maus said he was able to get the correct data from both Frandsen and LPL by the day of the meeting and had copies of the treasurer's report for the board and meeting attendees.

The board also passed a motion, at the request of Roskoski, to allow the clerk to have access to all financial files held by the treasurer. The vote was 3-2 with Bassing and Stoehr voting against. Roskoski noted the clerk is the official custodian of all township files.

**Arsenic**

Roskoski told the board that according to the Minnesota Department of Health, the requirements of the federal drinking water standard for arsenic are not enforceable at a "transient noncommunity public water system," which is how the out-

door spigot at the town hall is classified. This water supply must meet standards for contaminants such as bacteria and nitrate, which can have health impacts from acute exposure.

The township will continue monthly testing of the water and post the results by the spigot. The township is also tracking when water filters and the filter system substrate are changed, and this information will be posted in the clerk's office.

Arsenic is a naturally-occurring mineral in the ledgerrock in the area, and arsenic levels in water can vary widely. The high arsenic levels were noted a couple of years ago, and the township installed a special filtration system which after a few hiccups did remove almost all the arsenic from the water, but test results this spring showed levels rising again.

**Township Rd. 4136**

Roskoski told the board she had sent a large packet of information, with nearly 60 exhibits, to the township attorney, who will review them and give advice on whether or not the road

is officially the township's responsibility.

**Fire department**

Chief Maus reported the fire department had nine fire calls and 15 EMS calls in June. The EMS calls had an average of 3.9 personnel responding (58 responders for 15 calls).

"That is very high for our area," Maus said. "Hats off to our EMRs for serving so well."

Maus said he had been in contact with the Minnesota Department of Transportation over the status of the parking lot helicopter landing zone.

"We have no license or waiver for it currently," he said "If they can't issue a license or waiver, it opens up the township for liability."

Maus said they have not inspected the site in person, but looking at images online show problems with the power lines and tree cover in the area.

"It's not because of pickleball," he said. "It was a revelation to me."

The landing zone used at

See **GREENWOOD**, pg. 5

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# OPINION

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

The First Amendment of the United States Constitution

## Editorial

### The court decides

Who gave the Supreme Court the authority to override the Constitution?

The Constitution of the United States clearly lays out the process for its amendment, and that process does not include an arbitrary decision by the U.S. Supreme Court. But that is what Americans witnessed on July 1, when the radical 6-3 majority on the high court added language to the Constitution that did not exist for the first 248 years of this country's history.

It's as if we had a new Constitutional Convention, made up of six members of the right-wing Federalists Society, who overruled the considered opinion of our nation's founders and placed themselves in the unprecedented role of revising the language of the Constitution to meet their political objective of helping the most dangerous candidate in American history to achieve the power of a quasi-emperor.

The decision in *Trump vs. the United States*, was astonishing in its utter dishonesty. Let's remember that this is a court majority that for years has touted their supposed fealty to the original text of the Constitution. Yet, their July 1 ruling granting Donald Trump broad immunity against criminal prosecution for official acts has no basis whatsoever in the language of the Constitution, in the historical record of the original Constitutional Convention, in the writings of the Federalist Papers, in previous court decisions, or in federal statute.

Indeed, the language of the Constitution makes it clear that the founders specifically intended its words to bind the President to the rule of law. It establishes impeachment as the process for removing a corrupt President, specifically for crimes such as treason, bribery, or other “high crimes and misdemeanors,” crimes which will no longer be crimes at all for the President as long as they are undertaken as part of his Article II duties. What's more, the Constitution specifically states that should a President be removed through impeachment, he or she could still be subject to criminal prosecution, clearly spelling out the intent of the founders. Further, the Constitution specifically provides immunity to members of Congress for their statements on the floor of their respective bodies, but offers no mention of immunity of any kind for the President.

The high court ignored all of that, resting their decision entirely on their partisan motivations and their stated desire to see a future president, unencumbered by fealty to the law, take “bold and decisive action,” a statement that peppers John Roberts' majority decision. It reads like a clarion call to their would-be dictator, Donald Trump, to do exactly what he has promised to do should he regain the White House: kill or prosecute his perceived enemies in politics

and the media, replace thousands of qualified and experienced federal workers with political hacks, overturn legal, environmental, and workplace safety protections that Americans have long taken for granted, and erect vast internment camps for residents and workers in this country who lack legal documentation.

Donald Trump makes no bones about it. He is running to seek revenge and the Supreme Court has made it clear they intend to be there to facilitate his rampage.

What's worse, this court has made it clear that the immunity they granted Trump is for Trump or future Republican presidents alone. The recklessly partisan court majority gave itself the sole authority to determine if any illegal act by a future President enjoys the immunity they have just invented from whole cloth. Only a fool would believe that the current court would not play politics with its immunity protection.

What this decision makes clear is that the American people can rely only on the integrity and the humility of the individuals they elect to the presidency to ensure that we don't fall into strongman rule, like Russia under Vladimir Putin. This makes the current candidacy of Donald Trump all the more fraught, since we know he was willing to violate the law the last time, both to exercise power and to hold onto it even after his election defeat. As we have learned from many former Trump staffers, the former president, who hopes to be president again, had to be repeatedly restrained by White House legal counsel who advised that many of his impulses were illegal and could subject him to future prosecution.

With a Supreme Court that has now signaled it is standing by to cover him, it is very easy to believe that Trump would be emboldened to take even more extreme action than during his first term, to violate the rights of Americans and, ultimately, to hold onto power. While the Constitution currently limits a President to two terms, those are just words on parchment, which the high court has now shown unequivocally, it feels free to ignore or invent at their pleasure.

During his 2005 confirmation hearings, John Roberts told members of the Senate that he believed in judicial modesty, that justices were simply umpires, there to call balls and strikes — to interpret the laws and the Constitution, not rewrite them. He's clearly changed his mind. The radical court majority no longer see themselves as umpires. On July 1, 2024, they declared themselves American king-makers.



## Letters from Readers

### Time to end the either-or of polarized politics

Seeing reality as right or wrong, good or bad, all or nothing, is an example of binary or dichotomous thinking. Either-or propositions recognize only two opposing possibilities without anything in between. A black or white binary world leaves no room for increments of gray from one extreme to another to form a tyranny of opposites.

If the thesis says it's black, a proposition; antithesis says it's white, in direct opposition; then synthesis proposes a gray area in between. Without synthesis we're stuck in a dichotomy. Synthesis, an alternative, moves us to solve the conflict by finding what the thesis and antithesis have in common. Black and white are colors, as are shades of gray.

Private ownership in capitalism or state-owned socialism presents a false dichotomy by limiting options. Synthesis offers worker-owned industry as an option. Instead of master/slave or lord/serf, an employer/employee relationship is a dichotomy of powerful owners and powerless workers. As an alternative, worker cooperatives allow employees to be their own bosses.

Religious dichotomy is formed when theism is the thesis and atheism is the antithesis. Common ground is found in that both deal with questions of creation and being. Synthesis resolves the contradiction through a third consideration, called spirituality, not to be defined by nor confused with religious dogma. Spirituality,

inner directed, not authority driven is a quest to explain the mystery of the outer world and our relationship to it.

Dichotomous thinking is found in our current polarized political climate. Boundaries and walls keep matters separate and simple by closing out complexity. “Us against them,” dichotomous worldview locks us into a tyranny of opposites. Oversimplifying removes doubt, difficulty and uncertainty about who is friend or foe. In tyranny it's the ruler and the ruled, in democracy there is only us!

**Harold Honkola  
Stillwater**

### Biden is past his prime, aiding a dangerous autocrat

According to a *New York Times* article that quoted prominent people's opinion of whether President Biden should run for office again, one responsive theme was, “The President has a great record to run on,” implying that he can establish another great record. It was evident in the recent debate and subsequent interview that he has started the “aging process.” The length, severity, and timing of the process varies among individuals. But he will not be able to function as well now as his previous period in which he had major accomplishments.

The office of Presidency is an extremely demanding position for important unscheduled policy decisions and confrontations with world leaders' actions. As President Truman said, “the buck stops here.” The world is not stat-

ic, it is constantly changing and adjusting to a variety of issues that must be addressed.

Biden should be recognized as one of the world's leaders who took decisive action to begin to lower man-made global temperatures. He devised ways and means to curtail the use of carbon products that contribute to rising temperatures. It took Herculean efforts to implement the legislation while Trump sat on the sidelines shouting climate change is a “hoax.”

Biden's response to the question of how he would feel if he lost to Trump was disturbing. He responded that if he gave the campaign “his all,” he would be at peace. This thought seemed unmindful of the millions of supporters who would be left to the whims of an autocrat.

**Gerry Snyder  
Ely**

## We welcome your letters

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

We ask that letters be limited to 300 words.

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

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

## COMMENTARY

### Some questions have no good answers

One night in my backyard, I saw some unusual lights that seemed to be intensifying. I had not heard any forecast of Northern Lights, so I was puzzled. The lights were heading straight at me, morphing into a



**BETTY FIRTH**

silently about 20 feet above the ground, and I had no idea whether I should be running away, calling the NSA, or breaking out a welcoming bottle of wine. As it happened, the

decision wasn't up to me because I was in the thrall of the purple atmosphere and couldn't move if I'd tried.

After many minutes of it hovering while I was just motionless and stupefied, some ethereal music floated around me. It sounded vaguely classical but indefinable, as if every sound I'd ever loved was woven together to please me. As I luxuriated in the delicious cocoon of color and sound, thinking, “This must be like a really good drug trip,” some musical phrases separated from the milieu into distinctly different “voices,” which I could understand, even though they were musical

notes, not words, and there were no bodies. Voice #1, sounding like a Mozart sonata, said, “Don't be afraid. We're not here to hurt you. We are friendly thought-forms and very curious about life on this blue planet, so we'd like to ask you some questions. Are you representative of lifeforms here?” Not sure that I felt representative of even humans, much less crocodiles or Venus fly traps, I said, “Sort of.”

Thought-form #2, vaguely reminiscent of Beethoven's music, said,

“We've been monitoring your activities for a few million years and are very puzzled by a very recent phenomenon.” “What's that?” I asked. #2 answered, “It seems to have a lot of names, but some call the whole kit and caboodle ‘social media.’” Surprised, I asked, “You use the phrase ‘kit and caboodle?’” It responded, “It's quite complicated to explain, but we can absorb everything about you humans: your thoughts, perceptions, experiences, and words as well as your col-

or and music preferences, in order to communicate with you in a way that you can understand.”

“Ah, that explains the purple and the classical music, my favorites. Do you mind if I just call you Mozart and Beethoven, just to ground you thought-forms a bit? Wow, I have longed my whole life to have someone who really gets me, and what are the odds you would land in my backyard?”

See **BITES...pg. 5**



## FLOODING...Cont. from page 3

Falls and Ely are around 30 percent higher than average.

The welcome news in the NWS update came in the rain forecasts, which indicated light to scattered showers through the

week, moderate rainfall over the weekend, and normal rainfall amounts for July 14-18 that will hasten the decline of flows from the headwaters area that has up to now been exceeding outflows

from the basin. The International Rainy-Lake of the Woods Watershed Board reported that all logs were pulled from the Squirrel Falls and Kettle Falls dams on June 21, and that gates

at the International Falls dam are being adjusted for maximum outflow.

Boaters are cautioned to expect potentially hidden underwater hazards, including

submerged docks, and strong currents. Boaters should slow down near shorelines to avoid creating wakes that could damage submerged structures.

## GREENWOOD...Cont. from page 3

the Y Store also has issues with powerlines, Maus noted.

"The helicopters need a glide path with certain ratios."

The township will ask someone from MnDOT to attend the next township meeting, either virtually or in person, to discuss the issue.

### Public input

Lee Peterson asked the board to form a committee to contact Ely-Bloomenson Hospital to give township input on the hospital's ambulance plan, but no action was taken by the board.

Peterson also complained about a new sign posted for the Greenwood walking trail, saying he didn't care for it. "It kind of surprised me. It's a red hot trail, blazing sun, and dead tree. It is not going over big." Bev Peterson said the old sign blended in better.

JoAnn Bassing asked the board members if they understood the CTAS Schedule 1 financial forms, and asked if the board could receive some training so they understand the reporting. JoAnn Bassing also commented on the minutes from the special meeting that detailed reasons for not following the state data practices act, asking why following this act would have a negative impact on the township's insurance coverage through the Minnesota Association of Townships. John Bassing said the township does not receive errors and omissions coverage through MAT, so this wouldn't make a difference. Clerk Spicer said the township was still hoping to get this coverage through MAT in the future, so it would impact that coverage being reinstated. Currently, the township has to purchase errors and omissions

coverage through a different carrier at a higher cost, due to past litigation against the township.

Sue Drobac asked why more information from the meeting packet was not available for the public at the meeting. "The public needs to be able to follow along during the meeting," she said. Roskoski said the packet information is emailed to anyone who requests being on the mailing list. A motion to have copies of information for the meeting, including minutes, financials, important documents, and payroll available at each meeting was approved unanimously.

One copy of all the information is available for the public to review, to comply with the open meeting law, but this must remain on the counter.

Steve Lenertz asked the township to reconstitute a local board of appeal and equalization so that

local residents can have board members present, who have a better view of the local area. He said some county assessing policies are overstating the amount of shoreline on lakeshore properties.

Jet Galonski commented on past board action regarding the fire department and its lack of transparency, and complimented Roskoski on being more transparent.

Mike Ralston, former board chair, again asked Jeff Maus for a full fire department roster along with training status. He also criticized the behavior of Bassing and Stoehr at the special board meeting.

### Other business

In other business, the board:

➤ Rescheduled the August board meeting to Wednesday, Aug. 14 at 6:30 p.m. due to the primary election set for Aug. 13. It will need to be post-

ed as a special meeting, which means no changes can be made to the agenda once it is posted.

➤ Removed the agenda item on brushing Township Rd. 4136 until they receive more information on the status of the road from the township attorney.

➤ Discussed what rules the board follows in their meeting, since it was noted the board does not follow Robert's Rules of Order. "MAT training says not to adopt formal rules," said Roskoski, "it will get ourselves in trouble." Bassing asked if the board would be following rules that follow state laws, such as conflict of interest and laws regarding financial matters. "There are laws, and there are rules of order," Roskoski said.

➤ The board thanked Linda Smith for the new hand-painted Greenwood Trail sign she had generously donated and in-

stalled.

➤ Will look at creating a mission statement for the township.

➤ Will hire former treasurer, and CPA, Pam Rodgers on an hourly basis at a rate of \$25/hour to get the CTAS accounting program fully functional on the clerk's computer.

➤ Discussed creating a process for annual employee evaluations, as specified in the township's personnel policy. Such evaluations have not been done to anyone's knowledge.

➤ Will advertise for a cleaning person for the town hall.

➤ Heard the parking lot paving project will begin shortly. The pad for the pickleball courts will be installed at the same time.

## QUESTIONS...Cont. from page 4

Mozart, sounding a little discordant, said, "Excuse me, 'gets you?' As brilliant as we are, some of your utterances just don't make sense." I responded, "You know, when someone who really understands everything about you without a lot of explanation or misinterpretation."

"Got it," it said, "so please return the favor and enlighten us about some of these strange behaviors we've been observing." I answered, "OK, shoot... no no NO! I mean, go ahead, ask away. I love curiosity and really good questions."

Beethoven queried, "So, on this social media thing, why are all these people putting photos of themselves out into the biosphere? In our cosmic experiences, beings are often safer if they are camouflaged and stay out of sight. Are they selling themselves, to be hired as models or travel agents or food tasters? Or are they just letting an extraordinary number of people know where they are at all times, in case they get lost or kidnapped?"

Laughing, a scenario popped into my mind with a police officer asking about my neighbors: "Well, I haven't seen them personally for about three years, but I know they were overlooking the Grand Canyon at 9:38 a.m. on Tuesday and then having breakfast at the Deep Ditch Diner at 10:24 a.m., where she had waffles with strawberries and whipped cream, and he had pigs in a blanket and a large orange juice. It really did look delicious. Oh, and they both had coffee."

Beethoven continued, "And why are there so many pictures of food? Do humans - or at least the humans who use this

social media thing - have such short attention spans that they forget what food looks like? Do they need to be reminded and have their taste buds titillated in case they forget to eat and wander around in a low blood sugar daze? Or are they just bragging like we've seen your miniature beings do, 'Na-na-na-na-na, My food's better than your food?'"

Mozart chimed in, "It's very confusing. This 'social media' talks about faces, which we understood to be the textured details on the top of your bodies that you use to tell each other apart. Others are tweeting like birds, but they can't fly, or ticking like insects or what you call 'clocks.' Sometimes they 'follow' a bunch of people without really going anywhere. Is this a tele-transport or time travel thing you've figured out how to do? We have no evidence of any of you time-traveling to previous centuries or exploring farther away than your little moon.

"We're also wondering if these people doing all this 'posting' have figured out how to use your Einstein's ideas about relativity to manipulate time to their advantage. They seem to spend an extraordinary amount of time on liking and sharing and boosting and following and chirping and re-chirping. They must have some trick up their arms, or how would they get anything else done in their lives? How do they have time to see real embodied people and share actual food with them...or don't people do that anymore? Are all the photos just movie sets?"

Shaking my head, I apologized, "I'm sorry, I've been wondering the same thing for years and really don't have any an-

swers for you. And, by the way, it's 'up their sleeves' not 'arms,' but generally you're doing a bang-up job with the communication thing."

"Bang-up?" Beethoven thought at me. "Oh, never mind," I sighed. So much for being completely understood.

"We're having a hard time figuring out if you humans are incredibly advanced or seriously delayed in your development." I responded, "Yeah, I get that, too. It's really too close to call."

"OK, well, we are also completely confused about what you call politics and elections."

"Oh, boy," I moaned, "Here we go." Why was I the one chosen to explain our political craziness to aliens? Mozart crooned, "We have noticed your species have had some brilliant leaders and others who could only be what we call 'empty.' The word 'empty' came across feeling like a dark vacuum of nothingness. I agreed, "Yes, that's true."

"And in your country, people get to choose those leaders."

"Well, yes," I waffled,

"sort of, aside from the electoral college, corruption, and restrictive voting laws."


Beethoven persisted: "Isn't it true that people have easier access to factual information about these people and everything else in the known universe than ever before in the history of your planet?"

"Mmm, yes."

"So, why would anyone choose to vote for a person who appears to be empty of intelligence, compassion, common sense, and sanity, who seems to hate everyone, who is a convicted criminal in your justice system, and who surrounds himself with many other empty people who were also convicted of multiple crimes?"

"Well, beautiful purple thought form, you have asked the million dollar...make that trillion dollar (what with inflation) question. Why indeed? Could we talk about something easier to understand, like how the universe operates?"

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**6:00 PM - 8:00 PM**

**Eagles Nest Town Hall**  
**1552 Bear Head State Park Rd**

For more information visit  
**ENFEA.ORG**



**the**  
**TIMBERJAY**

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Week of July 15

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

**Tuesday**  
Tower Area Food Shelf- Open on the third Tuesday of every month from 2:30-5 p.m. 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.

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

Breitung Town Board- 6 p.m. on July 158 Vermilion Country School Board- Meetings posted online at [vermilioncountry.org](http://vermilioncountry.org).



**TSHS weekly winner**  
TOWER- The Week 50 \$100 cash winner of the Charlemagne's 52 Club is Jennifer Aeshli-man of Rogers, Minn.

**History Tidbit:** The Soudan mine began as a series of seven open pits. Each pit represented a separate finger of iron ore exposed at the surface which dipped downward to still larger deposits of rich iron ore. After several cave ins in the pits, it was decided to work the mines by underground methods. By the early 1890s, the entire operation was underground.

**Lunch Bunch to meet July 18**

VERMILION RESERVATION- The Lunch Bunch luncheon will meet on Thursday, July 18 at 12:30 p.m. at The Wilderness at Fortune Bay. RSVP to Kathy at 218-753-2530. Everyone is welcome to join the group for lunch and conversation.

**Free community meal at Immanuel**

TOWER- Immanuel Lutheran Church is hosting a free community meal on Wednesday, July 24 from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m., or until the food is gone. The meal this month is shredded pork, coleslaw, and buns. Dine-in or carry-outs available. All are welcome to attend.

**Fridays 4-6 PM**  
at the Train Depot

EGGS, SALSA, HAND PIES, JELLY, JAM SOAP & MITTENS!

TRADITION

# Old Settlers Picnic set for Saturday, July 20

BREITUNG TWP- The annual Vermilion Range Old Settlers Reunion and Picnic will be held on Saturday, July 20, at McKinley Park Campground. Booyah served at 12 noon sharp. Booyah is a beef, pork, and vegetable stew, cooked outdoors over a wood fire in huge cast iron pots that are over 100 years old. Booyah is served until it runs out, so don't be late.

Volunteers assemble the afternoon before the picnic to chop up the hundreds of pounds of potatoes, cabbage, carrots, celery, onions, and green peppers that go into the pots.

Memberships are \$10 paid in advance or can be purchased the day of the picnic. Each membership gets you and your family the best booyah one can imagine, along with bread and butter and coffee. Families round out the meal with their own picnic fixings and desserts. Attendees need to bring a pot to put their steaming hot booyah in, and their own bowls and dinnerware. Families are welcome to bring their own folding table and chairs, but there is also plenty of picnic style seating available under shaded pavilions.

Take-outs are available, but the fun of the day is staying for the picnic, live music, and raffles.



Membership in Old Settlers is open to anyone born or living on the Vermilion Iron Range. Guests are also welcome at \$10 per person. Old Settlers is an annual tradition, started back in the day when the mining company put on a day-long event for the mine employees and their families.

Campground store. Children will be able to try out the brand-new playground equipment. McKinley Park also has a swimming beach, changing rooms, and showers.

Please make checks payable to: Vermilion Range Old Settlers, PO Box 56, Soudan, MN 55782 (note new address).

Cold drinks can be purchased at the

FOURTH OF JULY



**Tower Parade float winners**

- Best of Show: Class of 1974 (see photo on page 1B)
- 1st Place: One Pine Flower Farm (above)
- 2nd Place: Vermilion Club
- 3rd Place: Vermilion Dock & Lift (top right)
- Best Family Float: Joe Moryn
- Most Patriotic: Embarrass-Vermillion Federal Credit Union (at right)
- Best Business/Commercial: KBCO Photography



More Fourth of July photos and race results in next week's Timberjay.



## Thanks for Fourth of July donations and volunteers

Thank you to the following individuals and businesses for their contribution to this year's Fourth of July Celebration:

- Vince Vesel
- In Memory of Alhert & Elsie Dahl
- Linda Korhonen-Brula
- Chuck & Nancy Tekautz
- John & Betsy Bystrom
- Thomas & Monica Pustovar
- Vermilion Fuel & Food/ Vermilion Wilderness Fuel/ Soudan Store
- Thompson Gas
- Sondra & Jim Rowe
- James Galonski
- Allen & Patricia Dahl
- Kern & Mary Walker
- Virginia Elks Lodge #1003
- Nancy Larson & Thomas Larson

- Pat Schmid of Pat's Hair It Is
- Rod & Judy Politano
- Al & Mary Beth Reller
- Sara & Bernie Pelstring
- Cheryl & Daryl Lamppa
- Dennis Passi
- David Joki
- Greenwood Township
- John Myre
- Amy Banks & Family

**Other thanks**

In addition to our fantastic donors, the TSLVAEB would like to extend thank you's to individuals and businesses that had a hand in making the 4th of July happen through their time, energy, and talents. These amazing contributors include:  
Jodi Summit, *Timberjay Newspaper*

- Your Boat Club - a HUGE "Thank you" for help keeping our events SAFE!
- Breitung Police Department - again, thank you for keeping our events SAFE!
- City of Tower
- Breitung Township
- Tower-Soudan Civic Club
- Della Mroszak
- Carissa Raj and Lance Kappes
- Brent Peterson
- Ivette Reing
- Corky Eloranta
- Dusty Dostert
- Riley Pecha
- Jason (the 1st place race judge)
- Bryan "Mac" McIntyre
- Kayla Dougherty
- Nate Dostert
- Gavin Bialke

- Brian Zak
  - Phillip Tomsich
  - Jen McDonough
  - Dena Suihkonen - dunk tank participant
  - Dan Reing - dunk tank participant
  - Paige Olson - dunk tank participant
- Please know that the Tower-Soudan Lake Vermilion Events Board realizes that there are a vast number of people who make our community events happen. If you did not receive a thank you, we apologize and want you to know that we appreciate your time, support, energy, talent, monetary, and any other contribution you may have given to our community's celebration.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

**Come see the all-new Tower Food Shelf on July 16**  
TOWER- The Tower Food Shelf is hosting a grand opening on Tuesday, July 16 from 1 - 4 p.m. The public is invited to tour the new facility at

the former St. James Presbyterian Church building, at the intersection of Spruce and North Second St. (kitty-corner from the elementary school building). The regular July food shelf day is also on July 16, from 2:30 - 5 p.m.

**Natalie Nelmark graduates from Central Lakes College**

REGIONAL- Natalie Nelmark, of Embarrass, has graduated from Central Lakes College, Brainerd and Staples, with an Associate of Science in Nursing. She graduated with Honors, with a GPA between 3.25-3.74.

Central Lakes College is a comprehensive community and technical college in the Minnesota State System. The college serves about 5,5000 students annually in liberal arts and career education programs.

Donations for the food shelf can still be dropped off at the *Timberjay* office.  
The Tower Food

Shelf is open on the third Tuesday of the month from 2:30-5 p.m.

**Ice cream social in Embarrass on July 21**

EMBARRASS- The Embarrass Fair Association is hosting a free ice cream social on Sunday, July 21 from 1-3 p.m. at Timber Hall. Join friends and neighbors for some ice cream, games, and great conversation. There will also be a blood drive from 12 noon - 3 p.m., with the Memorial Blood Center bloodmobile at the Timber Hall parking lot. Schedule your appointment online at [www.mbc.org/searchdrives](http://www.mbc.org/searchdrives) with sponsor code 5046.

### TOWER CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

*Please Donate:*  
Tower Cemetery Assn.

PO Box 874, Tower, MN 55790

THANK YOU!



## ARTS IN THE PARK

## Dance events in Ely next week

by CATIE CLARK  
Ely Editor

ELY- Big city professional dance is coming to Ely with a free performance and a workshop. As part of its free Arts in the Park program, the Northern Lakes Arts Association Arts will present "Searching for Giants," a contemporary dance duet featuring dance artists Amanda Sachs and Elena Hollenhorst.

"Searching for Giants" premiered at the Minnesota Orchestra's International Day of Music and was featured at Dances at the Lake Festival and the Tek Box in Minneapolis. It was part of a larger work, and Sachs and Hollenhorst condensed it down to take it on the road. On Tuesday, July 16, the performance will start at 6 p.m. at Whiteside Park.

"Sachs and Hollenhorst wanted to bring dance performance that's usually only available in metropolitan centers to the rural communities of Minnesota," said Molly Olson, the board chair for NLAA.



Amanda Sach (left) and Elena Hollenhorst (right) will perform the dance duet "Searching for Giants" next Tuesday at Whiteside Park. submitted photo

"They reached out to us in March, after they received a grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board to do this."

#### Workshop

On the following evening of Wednesday, July 17, Sachs and Hollenhorst

will teach a dance workshop at the Ely Senior Center, from 6-8 p.m. The event has a suggested donation of \$10. The program is for adults and teens aged 12 and older.

The program will teach participants of all

ability levels about the creative process and how to incorporate improvisation and phase work into dance.

"The workshop is geared so that anyone of any ability can get something valuable out of it," Olson said.

Olson also told the *Timberjay* that Sachs and Hollenhorst are developing a special dance number for the Reflections Dance Company, which is part of the NLAA. The piece will be included as part of the dance company's summer show, "Constant Changes."

"Constant Changes" will be staged on Aug. 16-18 at Ely's Historic State Theater

#### The dancers

Sachs and Hollenhorst began their collaboration in 2021 and have been working together ever since.

Both dance professionals are artists-in-residence at the Tofte Lake Center for the week of July 15-21. They will perform "Searching for Giants" at Tofte at 7 p.m. on July 19.

Amanda Sachs and Elena Hollenhorst are recipients of a fiscal year 2024 Creative Individuals Grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board. Their visit to Ely is sponsored by NLAA and Save the Boundary Waters.

## 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 16: Research at the Soudan Mine with Professor Brandy Toner

► July 23: Info session about the McKnight Artist Fellowship Program with Dana Kassel and Melanie Pankau

#### Breathing Out

by Cecilia Rolando © 2024



celebrations done  
watching summer gardens grow

soaking in all green

## ARTS AROUND TOWN



Upper left: The Timberjay snuck into rehearsal on Tuesday for the upcoming Northern Lakes Arts Association production of Stephen Sondheim's Tony Award-winning Broadway musical "Into the Woods" while the Broadway in the Boundary Waters Theater Company was blocking the finale of the show. "Into the Woods" opens at the Vermilion Fine Arts Theater on Thursday, July 18 and runs through July 25. photo by C. Clark

Lower left: The Ely Memorial High School Band marches past Ely City Hall during the city's Fourth of July Parade. photo by S. Roeser

Below: The participants of this year's Northern Lakes Arts Association summer theater camp presented a matinee and an evening performance of the musical version of "Disney's Finding Nemo" last Saturday at the Vermilion Fine Arts Theater. submitted photo



## COMMUNITY EVENTS AND NOTICES

#### Free Live Music

ELY- Ely's Historic State Theater, at the corner of Third and Sheridan, will continue its series of free live music events throughout July. All events will start at 5:30 p.m. On Thursday, July 11, the theater will host the Northern Lakes Arts Association cast of the Broadway in the Boundary Waters theater company. Pat and Donna Surface plus Emily LaPlant will perform on Friday, July 12, and Finn Hill will perform on Saturday, July 13. On Friday, July 19, the theater will host Marshmallow Chaos.

#### Vets on the Lake Benefit

FALL LAKE- The Veterans on the Lake Resort will hold its second annual Spiritwood Foundation Concert, on Satur-

day, July 13. Musical acts begin at 7 p.m. Proceeds 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.

#### The Hub Open House

ELY- The Ely Area Community Foundation will host an open house for its new community building, The Hub, located at 760 Miners Dr., on July 31, beginning at 4 p.m.

The event will include music, food trucks, and a formal ribbon cutting at 5:15 p.m.

#### Ely Public Library

ELY- The spice for July is turmeric. Pick up a spice sample and recipes, available while supplies last.

The July take-and-make project is a paper lantern, available while supplies last.

The Get Crafty group will meet on Tuesday, July 16, from 11 a.m.-noon. This month's activity will be crafting with a diamond dots kit, for adults, teens, and kids ages eight and older. Register in advance so the library can order enough supplies for all participants.

The library will host a "Kids for Kids Concert" on Wednesday, July 17,

from 11 a.m.-noon. Come listen to a small group performance of some very talented young musicians taking part in this year's Northern Lights Music Festival. The concert is for all ages.

The library will host an afternoon of board games for all ages on Friday, July 19, from 1-3 p.m. Bring a game you love to play or try something different with games provided by the library.

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.

#### 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.

#### Open Mic Nights

ELY- Ely's Historic State Theater, 238 E. Sheridan, holds an open mic night every Tuesday evening from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Come bring your stuff and perform. This event runs through August 27.

#### 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.

## 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.



## ORR CITY COUNCIL

# Orr council does double duty to conduct business

## Annual audit, donations, blight and more compete for attention on agenda

by DAVID COLBURN  
Cook-Orr Editor

ORR- The Orr City Council put in some extra hours this past week, holding a special meeting to review the city's latest audit report in addition to Monday's regular meeting.

### Monday

The first and perhaps best item of Monday's agenda was a resolution accepting almost \$12,500 in donations for the fire and ambulance departments and July 3rd Fun Day. Appropriately, the lion's share of the total was donated by the Orr Lions Community Foundation, \$8,366.99 for the ambulance department and \$3,009.43 for the fire department. Additional donations for the fire department for picnic tables were made by Park State Bank, Scott Wright, John

and Karen Barto, and Gregory and Lorrie Anderson, and Bollig Engineering gave \$300 for the July 3rd celebration.

Council member Hannah Manick noted that the picnic tables were a fine addition to the July 3rd event.

"Thank you to everyone who donated for the picnic tables," she said. "There were a lot of comments about having them. I think we had about 15 tables in total and it was nice to see everybody sitting and relaxing."

Council members reviewed yet another blight complaint letter about the property at 4720 Pine Drive, still listed in county records as being owned by Jeremy Morris, who is currently incarcerated at the Federal Bureau of Prisons' Rochester medical center. A longstanding irritant to neighbors, the

complainant (who was not identified in the meeting) took the city to task for a lack of follow-up on previous complaints.

"It is obvious to everyone, except you apparently, that the owner has no intention of repairing or maintaining it," the letter stated. "I am demanding that this situation come to a conclusion and the property owner be forced to do what all of us around it would do ... maintain the property or pay to have it done through the blight ordinance."

After council member Bruce Black said that he would work with maintenance supervisor Paul Koch on the issue, the council took no formal action on the complaint.

In other business, the council:

► Approved a resolution to apply to the Iron Range Resources and Re-

habilitation department for funds for crack seal and lighting projects at the airport.

► Approved a building permit for Greg and Ellen Little for an addition to a previously approved deck at 10627 King Rd.

► Tabled a request from the Orr Lions Club for a donation for painting the Billy the Bluegill sign in order to determine the appropriate budget line item and amount for the request.

► Approved the hiring of Michelle Whitcomb as part-time office assistant/visitor information specialist at the rate of \$14 an hour. Whitcomb started in the position on July 2 and is approved to work through Aug. 30.

► Appointed Marilyn Grilley as an election judge.

► Approved a bid from Braun Northwest for

a new ambulance in the amount of \$295,000. The replacement for the department's second unit is estimated to take 550 days for delivery, due to extensive order backlogs.

### Audit meeting

Auditor Bonnie Sterle met with council members Robert Antikainen, Melissa Wright, and John Jirik on Tuesday, July 2 to discuss the findings of the 2023 audit report.

The city got good marks overall, receiving a clean, unmodified audit.

Sterle noted a longstanding deficiency common to smaller towns and organizations with limited staff, that of a lack of segregation of duties in dealing with financial receipts. Auditors typically recommend having one person receive payments, another record them, and a third who makes deposits. Sterle recommended that

the council request certain reports of activity to review on a regular basis to provide the appropriate oversight.

Sterle also noted that there were numerous journal entry, deposit, and bank reconciliation adjustments that were necessary. Sterle explained the errors as a reasonable side effect of staff turnover in the city office in 2023 and the complexity of the coding system used to assign each transaction to a budget line item.

Despite the tight budget pressures the city has, Sterle reported that the city is in good shape as far as covering budgeted expenses, with about five months of operating cash on hand. She encouraged the council to make more adjustments to the budget in the future to reflect necessary transfers between funds and line items.

## THE PARTY ALWAYS STARTS EARLY IN ORR



Orr rolled out the welcome mat on July 3 for its annual jump start on Independence Day, and volunteer organizers put on another jim-dandy patriotic event. From the early morning pancake feed to fireworks at dusk, good crowds were there to enjoy the day's events. These are images from the always festive, always popular kiddie parade. photos by D. Colburn



## Donation center opens in Cook

COOK- The Cook Lions Flood Recovery Donation Center in the former Franks Pharmacy building is open for business with limited hours daily.

Staffed by volunteers and open from 10 a.m.-noon and 5-7 p.m., the center offers free cleaning supplies, loaner cleaning equipment, and donated household items for those affected by the flood.

Those who come to the center will be asked to provide proof of residency in the 55723 or 55703

zip codes to ensure donations are being directed to Cook-related flood relief. The Lions Club asks that people take only what they need. Items are available on a first come, first served basis, and no holds are allowed. Individuals must load claimed items themselves due to liability issues. Please refrain from asking volunteers for loading assistance.

The center is accepting donations of clean and fully functional used household items, including the following:

household appliances, kitchen furniture, dining furniture, living room furniture, and bedroom furniture; kitchen items; boxed dish sets and flatware; and linens and towels. Those making donations must unload items themselves, again due to liability concerns.

Questions about availability of items or suitability of an item you wish to donate can be directed to Colette at 612-213-7603 or Caroline at 218-348-1844.

## Library offers limited services

COOK- The Cook Public Library is back in operating on a limited basis, with some services having resumed on Monday.

Patrons can now pick up and check out books, use the printing, copying and fax services, get information and reference service, use the book drop, and access a Wi-Fi connection outside the building.

No timeline has yet been set for when the library will again provide

patrons with access to seating areas, public computers, public restrooms, the meeting room, newspapers, puzzles, and story time.

Cook Community Center will serve as the site for two upcoming library programs. Will Hale and the Tadpole Parade will be on Monday, July 22 at 10:30 a.m., while Peregrine Falcons and Other Raptors will be on Wednesday, July 31 at 10 a.m.

The hours for limited

services are Monday - Thursday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

If you have questions, please email crystal.whitney@alslib.info.

The city learned last week that the cost to repair the library's flood damage will be covered 75 percent by FEMA infrastructure funding. Additional money will likely be forthcoming from the state's disaster assistance fund. No date has been set for when the library is expected to be fully open.

## Cook-Orr Calendar

### Duo to perform for Music in the Park

COOK-Dan Boyer and Sharon Rowbottom will be in concert performing a mix of popular rhythm and blues tunes and hidden gems for the next edition of Cook's Music in the Park on Wednesday, July 17 from 6-8 p.m.

Every Wednesday this summer grab a blanket or a lawn chair or sit in your car to hear a variety of music performed in the gazebo adjacent to city hall and the library on River Street. Concessions including burgers, brats, hot dogs, sodas, chips, and cotton candy are available from St. Paul's (Alango) Lutheran Church stand.

In case of rain, the concert will be moved to the Cook VFW.

Cook's Music in the Park is made possible by the Cook Lions Club, Cook VFW Post 1757, the Cook Chamber of Com-

merce, the Cook Timberwolves Snowmobile Club, Northwoods Friends of the Arts, and free will community donations.

### Hoop weaving class is July 19 at NWFA

COOK- Create your own unique hoop weaving using several different types of yarn and wool roving at a one-day class at the Northwoods Friends of the Arts Gallery in Cook on Friday, July 19 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Taught by Kathy Lovgren, students will learn four different yarn manipulations, making a design in a 12-inch wooden hoop. The cotton warp threads will already be strung. There will be many colors of yarn and charms to use. Students may bring their own yarn if they have favorites. Supplies are included for the class.

Registration for art classes is required, so drop

in at the gallery at 210 S River St. on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. or call Alberta at 218-666-2153. Membership is not required to take a class.

Complete information about classes and upcoming events is available online at nwfamn.org.

### Cook High classes to hold annual luncheon on Aug. 3

COOK- The Cook High School Classes of 1964-1965 will meet for their annual luncheon on Saturday, Aug. 3, at 11 a.m., at The Landing. Please plan to join us. The Class of 64 will be bringing a 60th anniversary cake.

### Arts organization is selling raffle tickets

COOK- Northwoods Friends of the Arts is sell-

ing tickets for its annual 50/50 raffle for a chance to win half of the funds collected or the painting "Bluebell Woods" by Priscilla Hiipakka. The drawing will take place at NWFA's annual concert on Sunday, Aug. 18, and you need not be present to win.

Tickets are available from NWFA members or at the gallery at 210 S River St.

### NWFA concert and dance coming up on Aug. 18

COOK- It's not too early to dust off your dancing shoes and practice your steps for the annual Northwoods Friends of the Arts fundraising concert on Sunday, Aug. 18 at the Cook Community Center.

This year's headliner is "The 4 Blue Teardrops," playing authentic oldies' rock and roll vocals and instrumentals from the '50s and early '60s.

The evening begins at 5 p.m. and Eric Pederson and the Beefeater Brothers will take the spotlight at 5:30 p.m. to warm revelers up for the main event. The evening will also feature silent auctions, bag raffles, food and beverages.

Tickets are on sale by NWFA members and at the NWFA Gallery, 210 S. River St. on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Advance tickets and raffle tickets are also available by calling Shawna Kishel at 218-780-6510 or Lauren Nelson at 218-750-1989.

### Sun printing class coming up July 17

COOK- Five lucky students will get the chance to learn the art of cyanotype printmaking from artist Jeanne O'Melia in a class at the Northwoods Friends of the Arts

Gallery on July 17 from 1-3:30 p.m.

Cyanotype prints are ones using specialized treated paper covered with opaque items that are exposed to sunlight for 15 minutes. Participants should bring latex or Nitrile gloves and a smock to wear.

Students should also bring items they would like to use to create their print designs, including such things as pieces of lace, pressed flowers, ferns, flat evergreens, doilies, old photo negatives or x-rays, and anything else that is opaque.

Because space is limited, pre-registration is required - call Alberta at 218-666-2153 or drop by the gallery during open hours.

Because the process depends on sun there is a rain-out date of July 24.



## STORM AFTERMATH

## County encourages reporting of flood damage

REGIONAL— Those who experienced damage to their homes or businesses due to flooding from the June 18 storm can now report that on the St. Louis County website or can call the county assessor's office.

People can access the damage reporting online at [stlouiscountymn.gov/flood](http://stlouiscountymn.gov/flood) or can call the

assessor's department at 218-726-2304 and a staff member can assist with completing and submitting the form. The form typically takes just a few minutes to complete, and property owners are encouraged to include descriptive photos showing the damage.

Depending on the extent of the damage to the buildings, there

is the potential for some property tax relief, such as a credit or future abatement. Damage to driveways, landscaping, culverts and personal property such as vehicles and docks unfortunately would not qualify for relief.

People who have already completed a damage report with their city must still complete

the county's form in order for assessor staff to visit. Appraisers are making plans to tour more communities next week and need this information as soon as possible for scheduling purposes. Due to the large number of properties needing to be inspected, appraisers are trying to schedule visits by geographic area for best

efficiency.

People do not need to wait for an inspection from the assessor before beginning clean up and repair. Photos showing the damage are sufficient for documentation.

## MORATORIUM...Continued from page 1

consideration.

The ban on new cannabis businesses will remain in effect until Jan. 1, 2025, or until the effective date of a new city ordinance products containing "cannabis containing THC."

"This moratorium does not restrict the current sales that are occurring within the community under the licenses provided," explained city attorney Kelly Klun. "It does restrict new sales and in particular it does restrict the cultivation, manufacturing or distribution of any THC products until the council can further study this and we get direction from the Minnesota Office of Cannabis Management."

## Trail grants

In other business, clerk-treasurer Harold Langowski reported that Ely area groups received three grants for local trail development and maintenance. The funds are from the Federal Highway Administration and their award is managed through the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. The city of Ely will be the fiscal agent for the grants. The Ely Nordic Bike and Ski Club is

receiving the largest of the grants, a total of \$200,000 for the development of more mountain biking trails in the community.

The Ely Igloo Snowmobile Club received \$75,000 to purchase new trail grooming equipment, while the Prospector Loop ATV Club will receive \$75,000 as well for trail maintenance equipment.

In other action, the council

► Voted to discontinue its cable TV service provided by Midco, which currently serves the city garage and city hall. "We used to get our cable at no charge," Langowski told the council. "Now there's a new Federal Communications Commission rule that we either have to pay or have the service deducted from our franchise payment." The city receives a franchise payment from Midco which is funded through a fee included in consumer TV bills. The fee supports the city's broadcasts of government meetings and other telecommunication needs.

Midco had previously provided service to the city garage and city hall at no

charge, but that would have increased to \$165/month at each location due to the change.

"It was an expense that we hadn't budgeted," Langowski added. "We asked Midco if they would come down on that price and they were unwilling to do so."

► Heard an update from Langowski on the Ely trailhead facility on the west edge of town, where construction started during the last week of June. "They will be pouring footings tomorrow," he commented. "We will be scheduling groundbreaking on that facility at some point, with a date yet to be determined."

When completed, the facility will be a 3,400 square-foot, four season building with cultural heritage displays, regional business and tourism attraction information, ADA restrooms, interpretive kiosks, vending machines, trail maps, and changing areas. It will connect the 145-mile Mesabi Trail, the 165-mile Taconite Trail, and the 130-mile Prospectors Loop.

► Approved the purchase of ten dark sky-com-

pliant decorative light fixtures for Sheridan Street from WESCO for \$8,490. This purchase is part of Ely's ongoing rolling upgrades of the city's lighting to support the federal dark sky designation for the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness and local tourism dark sky initiatives.

► Approved the hiring of Ryan Puzel, A.J. Walker, Mike Muhvich, and Kenzie Peterson as probationary firefighters, pending pre-employment physicals, drug tests, and background checks. "With the approval to hire these four," said Fire Chief David Marshall, "the fire department will have a full roster of 35 for the first time in I don't know how many years."

► Approved a recommendation from the budget committee to purchase propane from Ferrellgas for \$1.399/gallon.

► Approved the purchase of gasoline and diesel provided by St. Louis County at the joint city/county public works garage.

► Approved contracting with Custom Theatres of Ely to replace the city hall door lock system for

the quoted price of \$27,485.

► Approved the payment of the \$16,200 invoice from H&S Electric for work at the Ely Arts and Heritage Foundation for \$8,100. The invoice was for electric work at the Miners Dry Building in preparation for the activities of the Ely All Class Reunion last week.

► Approved the payment of the following: \$464,955 for the Ely Utilities Commission May bills; \$500 to Mick Shusta for "A Operator" services; and \$1,979 payment to Frontier Energy for residential rebates.

► Approved a payment of \$6,697 to Dave Berg Consulting for an electrical rate study. The council also approved a recommendation from the Ely Utilities Commission for the rates subcommittee to use the new study to create an updated rates policy.

► Approved the following claims for payment: \$410,670 from the city and the Ely Utilities Commission through July 2; \$4,182 from SEH for work on the Prospector ATV trails; and \$11,341 from AE2S, for three invoices for

general consulting services and work on the wastewater treatment improvements project,

► Appointed Hudson Kingston to the library board.

► Approved Resolution 2024-025 appointing election judges for the 2024 primary elections.

► Approved the hire of Andy Luthens for the city's open building engineer position.

► Approved Resolutions 2024-026, -027, and -028, authorizing the city to apply and accept funds from the Minnesota Commercial Redevelopment grant program, and the Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board's regional trails and public works grant programs for fiscal year 2025.

► Approved the request from the Dutchman Tree Service to hold a climbing event at Whiteside Park in cooperation with Young Life for the Fourth of July afternoon events for youth.

## EMS...Continued from page 1

the Babbitt City Council at an upcoming meeting.

SafeTech Solutions was hired by the Ely hospital last year to develop options for sustaining ambulance service in the area. While SafeTech has yet to release their financial projections, the company's representatives indicated that an ambulance merger could allow the Ely hospital to obtain a higher level of Medicare reimbursement from ambulance transports than area services currently receive. But that higher reimbursement level is only available to ambulance services operated by a critical access hospital that is located more than 35 miles from the nearest other ambulance service.

While Ely's hospital is designated as critical access, both the Tower and Babbitt ambulance services are significantly closer than that 35-mile limit, which would seem to preclude the higher reimbursements unless both services agree to the merger.

While some officials in Babbitt sound willing to listen to SafeTech's proposal, comments from the city council's July 2 meeting suggest that the consultants might have their work cut out for them.

"It would be foolish to join with them at this point in time," said council member Joe White. "We're probably one of the only departments in the area in the black, budget-wise."

Council member Glenn Anderson sounded a similar note and questioned the proposal's suggestion to post just one ambulance in Babbitt. "None of us on the council was ever contacted about this," said Anderson. "When I read about it in the paper, I was like 'no,' but apparently they want to come in and explain it all."

Council member Jim Lassi sounded the most optimistic about the proposal. "It looks really good on the surface," he said. "I think it would behoove us to sit down and listen."

But long-time ambulance director Mike Rhein expressed skepticism. "I don't see anything good coming from this, for us," he said.

The council set no date for a sit-down with the SafeTech consultants, although they agreed it would best be done as part of a study session, rather than a council meeting.

## Financial figures sketchy

During last month's presentation, the SafeTech consultants said their proposal would leave area ambulance services largely in the black, although some level of local financial support might still be needed. Yet the consultants never released a detailed spreadsheet that outlined the costs and anticipated revenues of their proposal, although a summary put the cost of maintaining

four ambulances with a paramedic and an EMT at \$4.06 million. The revenue projections were less clear based on their presentation.

The *Timberjay* has requested detailed financial projections from the hospital, but hospital CEO Patti Banks indicated that data privacy and HIPAA regulations prevent her from releasing the projections. "Any financial assumptions were gathered by SafeTech and based on national statistical averages," said Banks.

While the SafeTech proposal cited higher Medicare reimbursement as key to the financial success of their model, Banks said she was unable to specify how much more revenue

might be generated from the higher reimbursement, which would be based on 101-percent of the cost of providing the service. "Cost-based reimbursement is complex, so I am unable to approximate the difference," said Banks.

While city officials in both Babbitt and Tower have expressed a willingness to hear more about the proposal, Banks said there isn't more information to share than what has already been provided. "Conversations will be to decide if the communities are willing to move forward with a regional approach," she said. "Then next steps will be determined."

## BOIS FORTE...Continued from page 1

have a big job ahead of us, we made great strides, but we have a lot of work to do. I found that out when I was testifying at the state Legislature last year. We know we need to have our voices heard, and heard forever, because we were here first."

Chavers acknowledged the 32-year-old Drift in her remarks as she made an appeal to younger Band members to get involved in tribal leadership.

"I'm really excited to work with Perry for the next four years," she said. "He's very young and he's willing to learn the culture and the language. We need young people to stand up and come be involved in our government. Those of us who have been around for a long time as elders, we have experience, we have knowledge, and we can help you."

Drift expressed thanks

to all those who voted, and gratitude for the opportunity to serve.

"Before the primary, I thought I had no chance in the world," he said, "but I just threw my name in there, and things started going a certain way. I just really appreciate the whole experience."

A central theme of Drift's campaign was to bring more tribal support to the Band's language and traditional culture, and that was carried out as he took the oath of office by speaking in Anishinaabemowin, led by his grandmother, elder Karen Drift.

"A long time ago the elders told me you should always remember, and I remember today why I'm supposed to be here," Drift said. "My knowledge actually comes from people who aren't here anymore, there's a long list of them, about 12 of them,

all fluent-speaking elders. That's where my knowledge comes from. Now I'm speaking for them."

When asked about the close election, Chavers acknowledged that the need for change was a message she found in the outcome.

"A lot of people sometimes feel that there needs to be a change in leadership at certain times," she said. "People voice their concerns and their opinions through the election process. I think it shows that the people are really trying to have their voices heard, and we have to really look at that."

Drift believes his election also reflects a desire for change.

"I feel like they wanted a fresher perspective," he said. "A lot of people were kind of surprised and amazed to see a younger person step up into the spotlight."

Chavers responded to a question about what she sees as a top priority for the tribal council in upcoming months by referencing the Band's rights under the 1854 Treaty.

"I think the 1854 Treaty, protecting that while ensuring that Bois Forte is compensated fairly for giving up our hunting and fishing rights, for entering that state agreement," she said. "Protecting our natural resources is number one."

Drift emphasized the importance of addressing the needs of Band members who live off the Bois Forte Reservation.

"For myself as the District 1 representative, and I'm speaking just for myself and not the tribal council, I feel like the number one priority is helping our band members off the reservation," he said. "Our resources are very precious to us, so finding a way to equitably help out all of the Band is what I want

to see as our number one priority."

Drift also emphasized the need to get more Band members engaged in the electoral process.

"We hope to see more people vote in the future," he said. "I think it was only a little over 300 out of 3,500 who actually cast a vote. I want to boost those numbers in the future, get more opinions, more voices involved. Votes do matter in every election."

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CITY OF TOWER

# Council acts on wastewater treatment expansion

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

TOWER— The city council here, on Monday, took steps to move forward with a plan that could potentially double the wastewater treatment capacity of the joint wastewater treatment system they share with Breitung township.

The council authorized seeking a logger to harvest a ten-acre site located just west of the three wastewater ponds managed by the Tower-Breitung Waste Water Board. Mayor Dave Setterberg said Breitung is expected to do the same on a ten-acre parcel the township owns that's directly adjacent to the city property. Once cleared, soil borings will help determine whether the site is acceptable for what's known as a Rapid Infiltration Basin, or RIB, system that could treat as much as 25 million gallons of wastewater annually, possibly more depending on the soil conditions at the site.

"Depending on the soil, it's very feasible that we could double the capacity of our [wastewater treatment] system," said council member Josh Zika, who has a background in wastewater management. Under a RIB system, a portion of the wastewater that would otherwise be discharged from the treatment ponds into the East Two River system would be land discharged within the RIB.

The RIB system could potentially be built for much less than adding a fourth treatment pond. Initial estimates suggest a cost of about \$1.7 million, or less than half the cost of adding another pond. The RIB system would also potentially reduce the wastewater board's surface water discharges, which are



**Tower Mayor Dave Setterberg explains plans for clearing for a potential rapid infiltration basin system, or RIBS, which could substantially expand wastewater treatment capacity for the Tower-Soudan area.** photo by M. Helmberger

subject to much stricter regulation than land discharge. "That would certainly be the intent," said Matt Tuchel, who manages the wastewater and drinking water systems for Tower and Breitung. "My ultimate goal would be to get rid of surface water discharges altogether."

The wastewater board has already been allotted \$1 million in federal funding toward expansion of its treatment capacity, which is needed to accommodate anticipated residential and commercial expansion in Tower over the next several years.

The city is currently exploring other options to cover the additional funding that would be needed to construct the RIB system. City officials are hoping that stumpage fees from logging the site will help to cover at least a portion of the cost of the soil borings, which will help determine the feasibility of the RIB system on the site.

In related news, clerk-treasurer Michael

Schultz informed the council that the pre-construction meeting was held for the new drinking water treatment facility, with actual construction expected to start as of July 15. He said the contractors, Lakehead Constructors, had begun some work already but it was focused on repairs to the communities' primary well, which has been out of commission for the past few weeks. The communities are currently relying on a backup well.

In other business, the council discussed but took no formal action on the draft ordinance to regulate short-term rentals in the city. The council heard again from Rachel Lockett and Brenda Broten, both of whom own and manage short-term rentals in town. Lockett cited steps she and her husband had taken, such as the installation of several security cameras, to prevent future problems at her rental, located in Northstar Addition. The planning and zoning commission had made some changes

to the draft ordinance that allowed more short-term rental units, but that didn't necessarily sit well with council member Bob Anderson, who said he'd like to see more limits on the use of the city's housing stock for visitors. "I want people to live here," he said.

Broten asked to get a copy of the draft ordinance, which prompted a brief discussion about whether the document was public. City attorney Mitch Brunfelt, who was present at the meeting, noted that because the document was being reviewed at a council meeting, it was public, even though it was still a draft.

Council member Joe Morin, who has been working on the ordinance, emphasized that the ordinance was a work in progress and that he hoped release of the draft wouldn't lead to the spread of inaccurate information. Morin said he would take the latest input back to the planning and zoning commission and possibly have a version ready for a first reading in August.

In other action, the council:

- Passed a motion authorizing the hiring of an administrative assistant on a contract basis once final duties are set, with financial outlay limited to \$8,500. Based on initial discussion, the assistant would most likely work about six hours a week and handle payroll and invoice processing. Setterberg said the intent is to free up Schultz to focus more on grant and project management. Setterberg said he hoped to be able to hire a contractor for the job in the next couple weeks.

- Heard that the city had received a \$35,000 grant from the Blandin Foundation to construct a handicapped accessible dock at the city's kayak and

canoe landing on the East Two River.

- Heard from Schultz that the closing on the county building was delayed due to the flood damage from the June 18 storm followed by the July 4 holiday. He said he would reach out again this week.

- Approved a resolution to apply for IRRR funds to cover the cost of soil borings on the vacant lots between the *Timberjay* and The Car Wash, which are being considered for an apartment development. The site is the former home of the DNR trails division office and, prior to that, a county public works garage, so there are concerns about possibly contaminated soils on the site.

- Announced that recent advertising had recruited a few additional election judges for the upcoming primary and general balloting. Based on Schultz's recommendation, the council approved increasing the pay for election judges from \$12 an hour to \$15 an hour. Schultz noted that two council seats will be up for election this year. Filings for the offices close Aug. 13.

- Encouraged city residents who experienced flood damage from the June 18 storm to report the damage on the St. Louis County website. The county is hoping that documentation of the damage to individual property owners could pave the way for some federal dollars to be allocated for damage to private property. Typically, federal funding in the wake of disasters goes for the restoration of public infrastructure, but exceptions have been made in some circumstances.

- Discussed but took no action on options for enhancing the city's ability to communicate with residents, such as through automated texts. The issue is expected to be back on the council agenda next month.
- Briefly discussed

the June 13 presentation in Ely by SafeTech Solutions, which proposed a regionalized ambulance service for Ely, Tower, and Babbitt, to be operated by the Ely Bloomenson Community Hospital. The council determined that proposal is in an early stage and that it is up to the hospital board to determine whether to try to advance the proposal. "They're not even to hard numbers, yet," said council member Anderson. "They're just seeing if we're willing to get more information."

- Approved the first reading of a revision to the city's forestry board ordinance.

- Authorized an already-submitted application for a grant to cover 95 percent of the cost of purchasing up to 45 new 800 megahertz radios to cover the needs of the city's fire and ambulance services. Schultz said the one-time state allocation for a number of small town ambulance services, including Tower's, could help pay for the city's match on the purchase. The city has received a quote of just over \$198,000 for the purchase of the new radios.

- Approved the transfer of a hangar lease at the Tower Airport from Brian and Lori Schanche to Dan and Pam Beihoffer. The Schanches have operated Adventure Air Seaplanes from the city's airport for more than a decade.

- Approved submitting a \$45,000 grant request to MnDOT for upgrades to the fueling system at the airport. Funding from the IRRR is expected to cover the 25 percent local match.

- Approved a motion to advertise for a member of the public to represent the city on the Lake Vermilion Trail joint powers board.

- Canceled a closed meeting that had been scheduled to discuss disciplinary proceedings against an unnamed city employee.

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**MARJO RE...**Continued from page 1

will range from small cabins to larger two and three-bedroom homes and will be spread across a 23-acre parcel, including a five-acre piece the partners recently bought from the Tower Economic Development Authority. They purchased the 18-acre parcel that includes the Marjo Motel last year.

The residential units are on order from Tinde-Hytter, a Norwegian firm that manufactures smaller homes primarily for the seasonal recreational market in Norway. The units coming to Tower represent the company's first entry into the U.S. market. They're an initial test to determine the market viability of opening a new manufacturing plant in Minnesota, most likely in Tower.

The project has been on a fast track, as city officials have tried to smooth the way for a project that could add several million dollars to the city's tax base. Per the city's zoning ordinances, the owners of a property subject to a conditional use permit, or CUP, are allowed to expand their operation by up to six units without revising their CUP or conducting environmental review.

The city itself used that same interpretation



**Contractor Shawn Webster slides another piece of pre-made insulating foundation form into place above the foundation footing. The forms, imported from Norway, are manufactured by Vartdal Plast, a company which is looking to enter the U.S. market. The forms interlock perfectly and come with a prefinished composite exterior requiring no further finishing. Once the forms are in place, concrete is poured and the foundation is complete once cured.**

photo by M. Helmberger

of the ordinance back in 2018, when it added six RV lots at Hoodoo Point Campground, without environmental review or an updated CUP.

It's not clear whether the Marjo Motel, which was built in 1957, ever had

a CUP, since the facility pre-dated most of the city's current zoning ordinance. City officials have been unable to locate any record of permitting for the Marjo Motel. Nonetheless, city officials are interpreting the ordinance to allow

for some expansion of a commercial development without having to engage in a lengthy permitting process, that could involve environmental review and public hearings.

Tower Clerk-Treasurer Michael Schultz acknowledges that the permitting process for the project is unclear given inconsistencies between Ordinance 82, the city's primary zoning ordinance, and Ordinance 80, which governs shoreland areas. City officials note that the two ordinances appear to be in conflict, and that's made even more complicated by the fact that only a portion of the Marjo RE project is within the shoreland zone covered by Ordinance 80.

City officials have tried to merge the two ordinances in the recent past but the effort lost momentum as the scale of the necessary revisions became clear.

Schultz acknowledges it's a "gray area," but that city officials have determined they don't have a good case to block the development from proceeding, even if they wanted to. "Do we really have the grounds to say no?" asked Schultz. "At the same time, we want development. We want homes. We're

not interested in shutting everyone down."

Under the city's current zoning for the Harbor North district, it appears that the Marjo Motel could be built today with a standard building permit, without requiring a CUP. And the council recently revised that ordinance to allow for the construction of single-family homes within the harbor district.

According to Schultz, the city has issued building permits for the first three units and has indicated the developers can add three more ahead of platting of the site.

The city is allowing the project to take initial steps even as work is underway for the necessary platting. While such development typically waits until final platting is complete, city officials have indicated the developers can move forward with the initial six units, at their own risk. While the pending plat will presumably take the location of the new units into account, there is always some risk that one or more of them may need to be relocated.

The initial units, however, are being placed consistent with the project design developed by

Duluth-based architect Ryan Arola so a final plat consistent with that plan should not require any relocation of units.

The development is fully consistent with the city's longstanding vision of the harbor as a walkable community that will provide direct access to Lake Vermilion as well as a walkable mixed commercial and residential neighborhood. The Marjo RE site is already connected to the harbor via a walking trail and will eventually be connected by an extension of that trail to Your Boat Club, which will provide dockage and boat rental for residents or short-term clients staying at the Marjo RE development.

**Correction**

In the July 5 edition story about the Trucano family's military service, a picture of World War II Army veteran Charles Norman Trucano was incorrectly identified as being his father, Charles Trucano. The elder Trucano registered for the draft for World War I but was not called to active duty.

**VISIT...**Continued from page 1

how much damage there is and how much this really is the heart of the community," Klobuchar told the *Timberjay*.

Throughout her visit, Klobuchar emphasized that a full recovery effort would take the combined resources of federal, state, and local resources. She described how the recent federal disaster declaration would aid the City of Cook in dealing with damage to publicly owned facilities.

"(The disaster assistance) has been declared for 22 counties, including St. Louis, and that's for public infrastructure," she said. "It makes it easier because no one has to go pass a bill or anything. Once you meet the threshold, that means that 75 percent of federal money is used and then 25 percent of state (to cover the costs). The library will get repaired because that is public infrastructure, so that's great."

The path to getting assistance for homeowners and businesses is more complex, she said.

"The next thing we're going to look at is the individuals, and then there are small business loans," Klobuchar said. "We're telling everyone don't forget the basements, make a report to the county and get all that information in so we can show that an inordinate number of people's homes were affected.

That helps us to get the funding to help with that. If we can't show that, the federal government, except for massive destruction, normally doesn't give the grants on individual homes that the state does sometimes. We've got to show massive, massive damage in one place."

"What I'm most worried about is that we've got to bring these businesses back," Klobuchar continued. "It's not just loans,

we've got to look for grants and other things. We've seen Madelia come back in southern Minnesota, we've seen places come back. That takes a combination of loans, grants, nonprofits, state, local, and federal and it's complex. I'm glad Ida Rukavina was here from the IRRRB because we're going to have to put together everything we can to keep these businesses running."

Klobuchar praised the

community's response to the flood so far as she commented on the way forward.

"The volunteers, the community has just been tremendous," she said. "Now we've basically quilt-stitched together this funding. We will save the public infrastructure. Homes will get redone and recover, of course with a lot of personal angst. But if we don't have some of these businesses, that's the heart of Cook."

**Briefly**

**Overheated RV likely total loss**

GREENWOOD TWP— The lone occupant of a 30-foot RV escaped injury when his vehicle caught fire here in the early morning hours of July

3. The St. Louis County Sheriff's Office did not release the name of the individual involved but did note he was a Cook area resident.

The driver was turning his vehicle onto the Lake Vermilion Reservation Rd. when the engine overheated and stopped running.

The driver then reported flames coming from the vehicle's engine bay. The Greenwood and Tower fire departments responded to assist in extinguishing the blaze, which soon engulfed most of the vehicle, leaving it a total loss. There was minimal damage to surrounding property.

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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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COMMUNICATION

# Ely amateur radio club members test skills during Field Day 2024

Club meets weekly, new members welcome

ELY- The Vermilion Range Amateur Radio Club joined thousands of amateur radio operators (hams) across the United States using their skills and equipment as part of Field Day 2024 on June 22 and 23. Field Day is an annual event allowing hams to communicate with one another via various radio systems. This year, the VRARC set up its operations in the parking lot of the Mike Forsman Public Works Facility in Ely.

“One of the goals of Field Day is to make as many radio contacts as possible with other hams,” said VRARC President Pete Makowski. “It’s a competition of sorts, but it also tests our ability

to quickly set up radio systems as if there was an emergency and other forms of communication (cell phone, conventional phones, etc.) aren’t available. One of the rules is that the equipment must be powered by either batteries or generators, just like a real emergency. We conduct our operations in field or remote-like conditions, therefore it’s called Field Day.

“Amateur radio really has a lot to offer and you don’t have to be an electronics guru to get involved,” Makowski said. “Our club welcomes anyone who has an interest and Field Day gives us a great opportunity to promote amateur radio.”

The Vermilion Range Amateur Radio Club was awarded points for each contact made during Field Day. Points were also awarded if elected officials or community leaders stopped in. This year, former Ely Fire Chief Tom Erchull and Ely Mayor Heidi Omerza visited the club’s operations. And, it’s not unusual that hams touring the Ely area will make a stop and make a few radio contacts. “We’re still reviewing our contacts, but it looks like we exceeded 1,000 points,” Makowski said.

The Vermilion Range Amateur Radio Club meets every Saturday at 9 a.m. at the Grand Ely Lodge. If you’re interest-



Radio club members Lee and Barb. submitted

ed in becoming part of this hobby, you’re encouraged to call VRARC President

Pete Makowski at 218-749-7600 or drop him an email at Resq535@yahoo.com.

## Will Hale and the Tadpole Parade march to Arrowhead libraries in July

REGIONAL- The Arrowhead Library System will host children’s musician Will Hale and the Tadpole Parade at select libraries throughout July. Will Hale and the Tadpole Parade create a fun atmosphere filled with plenty of audience participation, excitement, and dynamic learning. Hale’s concerts are kid-tested and parent approved. The free events are 45 minutes long and geared towards families with children 2-10 years old. The program is offered at the following locations:

Monday, July 15, at 3 p.m.  
Babbitt Public Library

Tuesday, July 16, at 3:30 p.m.  
International Falls Public Library

Thursday, July 18, at 10:30 a.m.  
Aurora Public Library

Thursday, July 18, at 2 p.m.  
Hoyt Lakes Public Library

Monday, July 22, at 10:30 a.m.  
Cook Public Library

Monday, July 22, at 3 p.m.  
Ely Public Library

This program, sponsored by Arrowhead Library System, was funded in part or in whole with money from Minnesota’s Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund. Visit the calendar at [www.alslib.info](http://www.alslib.info) or like them on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/alslibinfo](http://www.facebook.com/alslibinfo).



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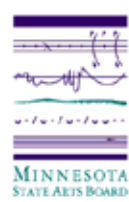
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## PUBLIC NOTICE

### Kabetogama Township St. Louis County • State of Minnesota Resolution To Establish Subordinate Service Districts Resolution No. 2024 – 02

WHEREAS, a Petition requesting the addition of properties to the South Shore Subordinate Sanitary Sewer District for Wastewater and Management Services in Kabetogama Township, St. Louis County, Minnesota, was filed with the Kabetogama Township Clerk and was declared signed by the owners of the properties affected and described herein;

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on the 27th day of June, 2024, at 7:00 P.M. at the Kabetogama Town Hall, to consider the inclusion of the petitioning properties to the South Shore Subordinate Sanitary Sewer District for properties herein described below; and

WHEREAS, all legal requirements regarding giving notice have been satisfied; and

WHEREAS, the Kabetogama Township Board of Supervisors determine that the inclusion of these properties to be in the best interests of the landowners of the South Shore Subordinate Sanitary Sewer District;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the Kabetogama Township Board of Supervisors, St. Louis County, Minnesota, do hereby approve the inclusion of the properties listed below, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 365A with the following stipulations and conditions.

A. The following properties are to be added to the established South Shore Subordinate Sewer District legally described below and graphically depicted on the map attached hereto as Exhibit A:

402-0010-00040	402-0010-01982	402-0010-02110	402-0010-01622
402-0010-00060	402-0010-01999	402-0010-02097	402-0010-02287
402-0010-01993	402-0010-02000	402-0010-02095	402-0010-02315
402-0010-01996	402-0010-02001	402-0010-01713	402-0010-02310
402-0010-01991	402-0010-01992	402-0010-01680	402-0010-02290
402-0010-01989	402-0010-01990	402-0010-01621	402-0010-02337
402-0010-01988	402-0010-01994	402-0010-01640	402-0010-01590
402-0010-01980	402-0010-01995	402-0010-01630	
402-0010-01983	402-0010-02140	402-0010-01660	
402-0010-01997	402-0010-02144	402-0010-02165	

B. The purpose of the Subordinate Service Districts is for the planning, design, construction, financing operations, management, repair, replacement, renovation and other necessary functions related to the establishment of the wastewater treatment and collection systems for the benefit of all property owners in the District.

C. The Subordinate Service District will be financed as follows: Through Grants, Bonds and Loans which will be repaid through assessments and/or service fee charges on property taxes against the benefited property owners.

D. The Kabetogama Township Board of Supervisors shall establish rules and regulations for the operation and maintenance of the Subordinate Service District.

E. The addition of the described properties to the South Shore Subordinate Sanitary Sewer District shall become effective upon passage of sixty days (60 days) from the publication of this resolution.

F. The Township Clerk shall cause this resolution to be published and shall give mailed notice as required by law.

Date: 7/2/24  
Larry Kec, Chair, Kabetogama Township Board  
D. Timothy Tomczak, Supervisor, Kabetogama Township  
Larry Warrington, Supervisor, Kabetogama Township

Attest:  
Mary Manninen, Clerk, Kabetogama Township

Published in the Timberjay, July 12, 2024

### Exhibit A



Above:  
Gappa/  
Burma  
Road  
Additions

At left:  
Gappa  
Road  
Additions





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INDEPENDENCE DAY

## WAVING THE FLAG

The North Country celebrates the 4th



Top row: At the Tower parade, a young parade spectator smiles big as she waves the flag; Jim "Chimpy" Tuominen gets a high-five from a young parade watcher.

Above and left: In Ely, the Studio North float made an impression, winning for most patriotic float; while members of the Mesabi East marching band wave flags.

Below: (clockwise from upper right) Butch Toivola, from the American Legion marches with the color guard at the July 3 festivities; Tower-Soudan's Class of '74 marches with their 50th anniversary float, which won best of show; young people in Ely wait for candy; George Mihelich stood with the color guard in Tower; a marcher in Ely makes a statement.

photos by Timberjay staff



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## ELY SCHOOLS

# ISD 696 proposes new cell phone policy

by CATIE CLARK  
Ely Editor

ELY- The Ely school district unveiled its proposed cell phone policy at last Monday's school board meeting, and it will likely make students who like to text in class unhappy.

"In our conversations with the faculty (for the Ely Memorial High School), cell phones are a nuisance, a distraction, and not good for kids in the education environment," Superintendent Anne Oelke told the board.

A cell phone policy is now a state requirement, explained Oelke, and must be approved by March 15 of next year. She said the Legislature directed the state's school administrator organizations to provide guidance to the districts on cell phones, but noted that the groups "haven't come out with anything yet."

Lacking that guidance, Oelke said her administration queried the faculty on cell phones so a policy could be included in the revised student and parent handbook for the upcoming school year. Oelke distributed a draft of the new handbook to the school board at the Monday meeting. "We'll see how it goes," she said. "At the elementary school, we've always had (cell phones) put away in lockers. For grades six through eight, we will have phones in lockers and students can't use them during the day at all. Then, for grades nine through 12, phones must be out of sight completely."

The revised handbook is a departure for the district. The administration took the former Ely Memorial High School and Washington Elementary School handbooks, and combined them

into one, according to Oelke.

"We wanted to get (the new handbook) into your hands so that you would have two full meetings to look at it — this meeting and the study session (on July 22). We can talk a little bit more about it at the study session before we do the approval at the August board meeting."

## School board election

The Ely School Board set dates to file for candidacy in the upcoming fall election. Those wishing to run for a seat on the ISD 696 school board can file their affidavit of candidacy between July 30 and Aug. 13 at 5 p.m. Three seats with four-year terms will be up for election.

The school district clerk will have the affidavit of candidacy forms available at the district office at 600 E. Harvey St. The filing fee is \$2. A candidate must

be an eligible voter, 21 years or older on assuming office, and a resident of the school district for at least 30 days.

In other business, the school board:

➤ Approved the financial report, receipts of \$865,665, and disbursements of \$308,431 for June.

➤ Approved a "purchase of service agreement" for the transportation of students in foster care with St. Louis County, effective July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2026. Federal law requires the district to work with the relevant child welfare agency, which for ISD 696 is administered by St. Louis County, to provide transportation for foster care students. According to the agreement, the county and ISD 696 will split the costs.

➤ Approved the district's

long-term facilities maintenance plan. State law requires every school district to create and update such a plan annually.

➤ Hired Peter Schamber for the 0.80 full-time equivalent English teacher position for the 2024-25 school year.

➤ Hired Nicole Roy for the sixth-grade teacher position for the 2024-25 school year.

➤ Approved an agreement with Short Elliott Hendrickson Inc. to conduct a sports facilities assessment, effective July 3.

➤ Accepted a \$6,000 donation from the Ely Educational Foundation to pay for items on the district's 2024-25 wish list, an \$800 donation from Morse Township for community education, and a \$200 donation from the Ely Womens' Golf Association for the girls' golf program.

## GAS DEPOSIT

# Pulsar Helium reports encouraging seismic results

by CATIE CLARK  
Ely Editor

BABBITT- The firm exploring the helium discovery southeast of Babbitt continues to report promising results from its testing. This week, the company announced a new seismic result hinting at more gas even deeper than the helium zone they tapped into earlier this year. Pulsar

Helium announced on Tuesday that its latest seismic survey identified a "seismic reflector at the same depth as gas intersection in the Jetstream No. 1 appraisal well."

Seismic surveys work by bouncing acoustic waves off "reflectors" underground. The reflected waves are then recorded on geophones at the surface.

Physically, reflectors are surfaces between zones of different density — like solid rock and a gas-filled pocket.

The seismic survey used a short, north-south line of geophones just over two-thirds of a mile long. Instead of using explosives, Pulsar utilized heavy trucks that vibrate to send acoustic energy into the ground. The

seismic data was collected just before the firm collected its gas flow data in May.

Pulsar plans to conduct a longer, east-west seismic survey later this month. The drilling and geophysical results to date have encouraged the firm to expand its exploration plans.

"We are delighted to receive this 2D seismic data, which

demonstrates that the helium-bearing zone encountered in the Jetstream No. 1 appraisal well is identifiable and that additional gas-bearing zones are likely at depth," said Pulsar CEO, Thomas Abraham-James. "This new data ... sets the stage for our upcoming drilling program where we plan to deepen Jetstream No. 1 and drill additional step-out wells."

## WATER QUALITY

# Testing offers mostly good news for White Iron chain

by CATIE CLARK  
Ely Editor

REGIONAL- A local nonprofit has updated their water quality assessment of the White Iron chain of lakes, reporting mostly good news on overall lake health, some unsurprising bad news about sulfate, and one cautionary caveat regarding invasive species.

The White Iron Chain of Lakes Association — or WICOLA — evaluates water quality every five years for five interconnected lakes, including Birch, White Iron, Farm, Garden, and Fall. The group has been collecting water data since 1993. WICOLA issued its last water quality report in 2019 and the new report on June 17.

According to the latest report, "the water quality on our chain of lakes has remained stable since our last water quality report issued in April 2019." Houston Engineering of Maple Grove, which prepared the report, reviewed the last ten years of trophic data for the five lakes and found no change in four of the lakes, while Fall Lake saw an improvement in its trophic state. The trophic state is a measure of the abundance of carbon, mostly algae, within a lake. Lakes with excessive trophic activity are characterized by green water due to algal growth, dense aquatic plants, a loss of deep oxygen, and in the worst cases, summertime fish die-offs.

Many lakes become naturally more trophic with time, a process called

eutrophication. This is a slow process in nature. However, human activities like fertilizing lawns can greatly speed up the process of eutrophication by introducing excess phosphorus and other nutrients.

The improving water quality in Fall Lake is a good sign of the continuing progress from the clean-up of Shagawa Lake, which discharges into Fall Lake. Shagawa has long been the receiving water for Ely's wastewater, which used to contain high amounts of phosphorus, and the lake is continuing to experience the effects of that discharge, although conditions continue to improve.

The latest report also included a review of historic trends in dissolved metals for the three of the lakes: Birch, Garden, and White Iron. For these lakes, all the dissolved metals analysis results were below the maximum allowed by Minnesota's water quality standards.

## The bad news

Sulfate, a byproduct of taconite processing, remains a point of concern in the lake chain, especially in Birch Lake, which is closest to the major sources of sulfate. In November 2023, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency declared Birch Lake and its tributary, the Dunka River, as impaired.

Lakes and rivers with productive wild rice stands can only thrive when sulfate concentrations are less than 10 milligrams per liter. When sulfate concentrations exceed this amount, as

they do in the Dunka River and the south half of Birch Lake, the state considers the affected surface water to be impaired.

Besides impact to wild rice, higher sulfate levels are also known to promote conditions favorable to the creation of methylmercury, a toxic form of mercury that readily bioaccumulates in fish tissue.

Like many other lakes in northern Minnesota, the five lakes covered in the WICOLA report already

have advisories on the consumption of fish contaminated by methylmercury. While the source of the mercury is atmospheric pollution, increasing the sulfate concentrations in the lake water can lead to higher levels of methylmercury. For this reason, the report recommended that mercury levels should be tracked in the five lakes.

The fish consumption advisories for mercury for the five lakes in the White Iron chain are online


through the Department of Natural Resources lake finder tool at [dnr.state.mn.us/lakefind/index.html](http://dnr.state.mn.us/lakefind/index.html).


## The caveat

"Aquatic invasive species are a looming threat" for the five lakes covered in the WICOLA report. The only invaders currently present are the spiny water flea in Fall Lake and the rusty crayfish in all the lakes. However, other invasive species remain a threat to the five lakes,

including the curly-leaf pondweed, which is an unwelcome invader in other lakes regionally. The report also cautions that "The risk also remains high for zebra mussels."

Because of the invasive species threat, the water quality report made a strong recommendation for all lakeside residents and visitors to be vigilant in practicing "clean, drain, dry" practices for their watercraft.





## Hospital Connection

### Ultrasound Guided Carpal Tunnel Surgery now offered at EBCH

**Q: What is carpal tunnel syndrome?**  
**A:** Carpal Tunnel Syndrome is when pressure on the nerve in your wrist can cause numbness, tingling, and pain in your arm and hand.

**Q: How does the procedure work?**  
**A:** Typically, local anesthesia is used to numb the wrist area, and sedation may be used to help a patient relax. Before the surgery begins, the surgeon will use an ultrasound machine to create detailed images of the structures inside your wrist. This helps them see exactly where the nerve and other important tissues are located. With the guidance of the ultrasound images, the surgeon will make a small incision (cut) in your wrist, just enough to allow specialized surgical tools to be inserted. The main goal of the surgery is to relieve pressure on the nerve. Using the ultrasound for guidance, the surgeon will carefully cut the ligament that forms the roof of the carpal tunnel. This releases the pressure on the nerve and allows it to function correctly again. After the ligament is cut, the surgeon will close the incision with stitches or adhesive strips and cover it with a bandage. You'll typically be able to go home the same day after a short observation period. Recovery time varies, but many people can resume light activities within a few days and full activities within a few weeks.

**Q: What are the benefits of the ultrasound-guided surgery?**  
**A:** The incision is very precise because the surgeon can see structures clearly using ultrasound imaging. This reduces the risk of damaging tissue around the area. The minimally invasive procedure means less pain and faster recovery times than traditional open surgery. As with any surgery, not everyone may be a candidate for this procedure, so it is important to talk to your primary provider and the surgeon to see what is right for you. For more information, contact our fantastic surgery team at 218-365-8724 to see if ultrasound-guided carpal tunnel surgery is right for you.

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

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## Obituaries and Death Notices

**Trudi Johnson Shaw**

Trudi Johnson Shaw, 80, of Soudan, passed away on Tuesday, June 18, 2024, at St. Luke's Hospital in Duluth. A small gathering of family and friends will be held to celebrate Trudi's life from 2-6 p.m. on Saturday, August 3 at 5874 Echo Point Rd. in Tower. A private graveside service will be held at a later date. Arrangements are with Landmark Funeral Home in Virginia.

Trudi was born on May 23, 1944, in Virginia, to Vernon W. and Dorothy Hanson Johnson; she graduated from Roosevelt High School in the class of 1962. Trudi was hired at Minntac in the early 1970s when the iron mines first started hiring women. During a layoff from Minntac, she also held jobs at the Soudan Store, Tower Bakery and the Y Store. She returned to Minntac and retired in the early 2000's.

Trudi enjoyed fishing, gardening, flowers, and keeping the birds fed. Her favorite memories were of time spent with family and friends at the place on Armstrong Lake. Her family will greatly miss her great sense of humor, positive attitude, and desire to live life to the fullest. We will never forget her reminding us that "This too shall pass."

Survivors include her daughters, Leslie (Brad) Kleeb of Bemidji, Lisa Shaw (Drew Schleicher) and Jody Lilya (Daren Refsdal), both of Lake Vermilion-Tower; son, Travis Shaw (Amy Carr) of Gilbert; grandchildren, Katie Lempola, Megan

Lee, Rachel Gjovik, Lindsay Sikora, Eric Sikora, Keelie Lilya, Hayley Lilya, Olivia Lilya, Justine Shaw, Rhawnie Keller, Raleigh Kleeb and Britton Kleeb; great-grandchildren, Audrey, Emmett, Demi, Draven, Travis, Sawyer, Anthony, Kymani, Aubree, Gage, Reeve and a baby boy due in July; sister, Jill (Thomas) Matkovich of Mt. Iron; brother-in-law, Carroll Day; several nieces and a nephew.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Vernon and Dorothy Johnson; sister, Randi Day; twin brothers in infancy; and her dog, Sassy.

**Sheila A. Wallin**

Sheila Ann Wallin, 50, went missing on July 27, 2023, and sadly was found on Friday, May 3, 2024, in North St. Paul. A celebration of life will be held at 11 a.m. on Monday, July 29 at Gethsemane Evangelical Lutheran Church in Virginia. A gathering time for family and friends will begin one hour prior to the service. Interment will follow at Greenwood Cemetery in Virginia.

Memorials are preferred, to go into a dedicated account to help support her children during this difficult time. Family services are provided by Bauman-Cron, a Bauman Family Funeral Home in Virginia.

Sheila was born on June 10, 1973, in Minneapolis, to David and Renay Wallin. She grew up in Virginia, where she attended Virginia High School, graduating in 1991. After high school

she attended the LPN course at Mesabi Range College, graduating in 1995.

Growing up, Sheila enjoyed snowboarding, spending time on Lake Vermilion swimming, boating, and fishing. She loved spending time with her friends and family. She was an extremely creative and talented artist who drew amazing portraits. She had a huge contagious smile, boisterous laugh, and a big heart as she was always willing to help anyone out.

Sheila is survived by her children, Skyler and Payton Widseth, and their father, Daniel Widseth, of Wyoming, Minn., parents, David (Sandy) Wallin of Lake Vermilion and The Villages of Florida, and Renay Wallin of Hopkins; sisters, Sara (Keith) Altobelli of Mt. Iron and Sandra (Jose) Barrios of Monument, Colo.; step-sister, Katie (Jeremy) Lockwood, and stepbrother, Nicholas Richards, of Virginia; nieces and nephews, Logan and Ashlyn Bevan, Vivian Barrios, Kaylynn Richards, Zach Lockwood, Michaela LeDoux, and Tyler and Noah Richards; aunt, Marjorie Wallin of Tower; uncles, Peter (Susan) Sentieri of Shoreview and Paul (Dionne) Sentieri of Idaho; step-uncles, Les (Cheryl) Pernu of Washington, Gary (Carolyn) Pernu of Gilbert and Wayne Pernu of Oregon.

Sheila was preceded in death by her paternal grandparents, Raymond and Lorraine Wallin; maternal grandparents, Peter and Albina Sentieri; step-grandmother, Mildred Mitzi Brehmer; uncles, Mark and Glenn Wallin; and special great-aunt, Marge Skarp.

**William V. Rebarich**

William Vincent "Bill" Rebarich, 50, of Embarrass, died on Sunday, June 30, 2024, in an unexpected scuba diving accident on Crane Lake.

Funeral services were held on Tuesday, July 9 at the Evangelical Free

Church in Embarrass with Pastors Marlin Bjornrud and Sean Scarbrough officiating. A private family burial followed at the Embarrass Cemetery.

Memorials are preferred. Family services were provided by Bauman-Cron, a Bauman Family Funeral Home in Virginia.

He is survived by his wife, Nancy Niloff Rebarich; children, Colton and Kaitlyn, both of Embarrass; sibling, Thea (Bill) Ray of Embarrass; father, William Rebarich of Embarrass; niece and nephew, Lindsey (Michael) Irelan and Jeremy (Samantha Kyger) Ray; great-niece and great-nephew, Cameron and Aleah Irelan; several close cousins, extended family and friends.

**Marvel N. Prahl**

Marvel Nota Prahl, 79, of Winton, passed away peacefully at her home with her loving family by her side on Friday, June 21, 2024. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, July 13 at Grace Lutheran Church in Ely, with visitation at 10 a.m. Lunch will be served at the church immediately following the service. Memorials are preferred.

She is survived by her brother, Mark; daughters, Debbie and Rhonda (Scott); grandchildren, Amanda (John) and Ryan (Samantha); great-grandsons, Maddux and Beau; nieces, Candy (Jason) and Carrie (Jason); nephews, Darin and Kevin; son of her heart, Gary Jerich; special friends, Nancy Gaither, Mike Meskill, Joe and Mary Schwinghamer; and numerous other cherished friends.

**Carol A. Lindbeck**

Carol Ann Lesar Lindbeck, 77, passed away in her home on Shagawa Lake in Ely on Sunday, Feb. 25, 2024. A celebration of life will be held from 2-4 p.m. on Saturday, July 13 at Semer's Park. The family does not expect flowers or condolences. Donations may be

made to the Ely Volunteer Fire Department.

She is survived by her sister, Barb (John) Erickson; brother, Jim; granddaughter, Carlie (Chris) Schneider; nieces and nephews; and an anticipated great-granddaughter in September.

**Benjamin Rentschler**

Benjamin "Ben" Rentschler, 89, former longtime resident of Babbitt, passed away on Wednesday, June 26, 2024, at the Southfield Wellness Community in Webster City, Iowa, surrounded by family. Burial services were held on Monday, July 8 at the Babbitt Argo Cemetery.

He is survived by his sons, Thomas and Dennis; seven siblings; six grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

**Eunice M. Korpi**

Eunice Marlene Harju Korpi, 84, of Mt. Iron, went home to the Lord in grace and peace on Friday, June 28, 2024. A funeral service is planned for 2 p.m. on Friday, July 26 at First Apostolic Lutheran Church in Virginia.

She is survived by her sister, Judy (Arlin) Harju Hogenson; sister-in-law, June Harju; children, Tim Korpi of Soudan, Scott Korpi (Sherry) of Land O Lakes, Fla., Rhonda McConnell of St. Petersburg, Fla., Douglas Korpi of Mt. Iron; Amy Curfman (Kevin) of Palo, Melanie Korpi of St. Petersburg, Fla., Lyle Korpi (Rosemie) of Tampa, Fla., Alan Korpi (Barbara) of Beaver Dam, Wis., and Ryan Korpi of Mt. Iron; grandchildren, David Tedman (Harmony), Steven Solkela, Kirsten McConnell, Nicholas Korpi, Noah Korpi, Nolan Korpi, Olivia Korpi, Audrey Curfman (Guy) and Zach Curfman; great-grandchildren, John Tedman, Layla Tedman, Ellie Curfman and Violet LeTourneau; and numerous other grandchildren who needed a grandma to love, including nieces and

nephews, Jonathan, Jason and others.

**Judith C. Hall**

Judith C. Hall, 86, of Ely, passed away on Thursday, June 27, 2024, at the Boundary Waters Care Center. Her family and friends would like to thank the staff at Boundary Waters Care Center for their kind care. A celebration of life will be held at a later date. Please consider a donation to her favorite charity, Contented Critters in Ely. Arrangements have been entrusted to Kertz Funeral Home of Ely.

She is survived by a sister, Maryann Tilley; nephews, Michael and Jeff; and will be dearly missed by all who knew her, especially Rita Grose, her friend of 58 years, Amy and Vic Modjeski, Mary Ann and John Lekatz.

**Bruce F. Markwardt**

Bruce Fred "Pinkey" Markwardt, 75, of Orr, passed away on Sunday, July 7, 2024, at St. Mary's Hospital in Duluth. A celebration of life will be held at 1 p.m. on Friday, July 12 at the American Legion Hall in Orr. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service.

Bruce is survived by his siblings, Judy (Tom) Long, Linda (Mike) Vidmar, Paul (Heather) Markwardt, Danny (Carol) Markwardt and Dean Markwardt; sisters-in-law, Patti Markwardt, Sharon Markwardt and Kathy Markwardt; and many nieces and nephews.

**Matthew G. Gogleye**

Matthew Gerald Gogleye, 18, of Nett Lake, passed away on Sunday, July 7, 2024, at his residence. Arrangements are pending with Range Funeral Home in Virginia.

## CRIME

**Cook man convicted on attempted murder charges**

by DAVID COLBURN  
Cook-Orr Editor

COOK- A St. Louis County jury has found Gary Duane Egolf Jensen, 56, of Cook, guilty on two counts of attempted murder in the second degree for his actions in a December 2022 domestic violence incident. The jury rendered its verdict on June 17.

According to information provided by the St. Louis County Attorney's Office, the incident unfolded when Jensen's ex-fiancé arrived at his house on Dec. 19 with three people to remove her personal items. In an altercation with one of the

**Gary Jensen**

individuals Jensen pointed a gun at the individual's head, then subsequently shot a rear tire of one of the trucks driven to the scene. As the four individuals were leaving the scene in two trucks, Jen-

sen continued firing his gun, striking one of the trucks multiple times and shattering its rear window. The St. Louis County Sheriff's Office and Bois Forte Police were involved in the response and investigation.

Jensen was also convicted of four counts of assault in the second degree and one count of domestic assault.

"The jury's verdict not only holds Mr. Jensen accountable but also sends the message that gun violence will not be tolerated in our communities," County Attorney Kim Maki said.

A sentencing hearing was scheduled for

July 22. Defense attorney Christopher Nguyen filed a motion on July 1 asking for acquittal or a new trial for Jensen based on allegations that the county's opening and closing remarks and cross-examination, as well as numerous other procedural issues, improperly prejudiced Jensen's right to a fair trial. Assistant County Attorney Aaron Welch argued in a letter responding to the motion that Nguyen had failed to comply with state requirements for filing a motion for acquittal and that it should be denied.

## STAY INFORMED

**Star Tribune offers free digital subscriptions to HS seniors**

REGIONAL- The Star Tribune Media Company, the largest news organization in the Midwest, is offering free one-year digital subscriptions to all graduating high school seniors across the state of Minnesota. Go to this link to register, no payment or credit card is required, <https://stcirc1pages.com/startribunegraduationsubscription/>.

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# Outdoors

Our lives in the  
Northwoods

## LIFE IN THE NORTH COUNTRY

### Nuisance bear reports up sharply

#### Area wildlife manager offers tips to prevent problems

by **MARSHALL HELMBERGER**  
Managing Editor

**REGIONAL** — The abundant rain that has fallen over the past several weeks has left the area poised for a good berry crop later this summer. In the meantime, however, the wild food supply is somewhat limited

**Left: Bird feeders are a common attractant for bears this time of year.**

photo by M. HelMBERger

and that's bringing unusual numbers of bears to town or to rural residences looking for something to eat.

"All Iron Range towns are getting inundated with bears looking for food right now," said Jessica Holmes, the DNR's Tower area wildlife manager. "While we wait for natural foods to produce, homeowners and visitors must remain vigilant to remove attractants such as garbage, bird feeders, barbecue grills, or dog food," said Holmes.

While the anticipated strong berry crop should eventually alleviate the current influx of nuisance bears, until that happens, Holmes recommends that homeowners or visitors take the following steps:

➤ **Never feed or approach bears**

Intentionally feeding bears or allowing them to find anything that smells or tastes like food teaches bears to approach homes and people looking for more. Bears will defend

themselves if a person gets too close, so don't risk your safety or theirs.

➤ **Secure food, garbage and recycling**

Food and food odors attract bears, so don't reward them with easily available food, liquids or garbage.

➤ **Remove bird feeders when bears are active**

Birdseed and grains have lots of calories, so they're very attractive to

See **BEARS...**pg. 5B



## WILDLIFE POPULATIONS

### Survey: Grouse numbers stay strong

#### Northeastern Minnesota survey routes show exceptionally high population

by **MARSHALL HELMBERGER**  
Managing Editor

**REGIONAL** — Minnesota's ruffed grouse spring population counts remained similar to last year, which suggests the summer began with grouse numbers at peak levels, particularly in northeastern Minnesota. That could bode well for the fall grouse harvest, although the link between spring counts and hunter harvest isn't always direct. Grouse reproductive success is another important factor in determining harvest levels when the fall grouse season opens on Saturday, Sept. 14.

The Minnesota DNR and its partners use spring drumming counts to help monitor the ruffed grouse breeding population over time. Drumming is a low sound produced by males as they beat their wings rapidly and in increasing frequency

to signal the location of their territory. Drumming displays also attract females that are ready to begin nesting.

The spring surveys are conducted by listening for drumming grouse at a series of pre-determined stops along established routes during an allotted time period. In recent years, the survey has indicated higher grouse numbers than long-term averages based on nearly 75 years of survey work. The most recent low point in the roughly ten-year population cycle was in 2021, although numbers never fell as far as most previous low points historically. Based on this year's spring count, grouse numbers appear to be the highest since 1972, although the counts varied significantly by region. Northeastern Minnesota routes saw an average of 2.7 drumming grouse per stop, an exceptionally high number. This year's statewide average

drum count was 2.3 drums per stop, which is above the 2.1 drums heard during the two most recent previous peaks in the cycle.

Only northwestern Minnesota saw a decline in grouse numbers this year, based on the survey.

Warm temperatures and dry conditions that favor high nest success and chick survival the last few years may partly explain the historically high drumming counts, according to the DNR. Snow conditions were also favorable for roosting throughout much of the core of grouse range during the winters of 2021-2022 and 2022-2023, followed by an unusually warm winter during 2023-2024. Minnesota's climate is getting warmer and wetter with more heavy, intense rainfalls occurring.

"While ruffed grouse drumming counts are high in the core of ruffed grouse range,

indicating a strong breeding population this spring, drumming counts are not an accurate way to predict the birds that will be present during the fall hunting season," said Charlotte Roy, DNR grouse project leader. "Nesting success and chick survival during the spring and summer are among the factors that influence the number of birds present in the fall. These factors can be reduced by heavy rain during June when nests are hatching and chicks are young."

This past June saw exceptionally heavy rain, although the rain was generally not accompanied by chilly weather, which tends to exacerbate the mortality of young grouse when combined with rain.

The ruffed grouse survey report can be found on the grouse management webpage of the DNR website at [mndnr.gov/wildlife/grouse.html](http://mndnr.gov/wildlife/grouse.html).

## Wildflower Watch



This week's featured flower

### FRINGED LOOSESTRIFE

The **Fringed Loosestrife**, *Lysimachia ciliata*, is a fairly common midsummer wildflower, found typically in wetter locations.

These are native flowers, with five-petaled blooms that are slightly larger and somewhat nodding, which helps to distinguish them from the non-native tall buttercups, also in bloom now. They can also be distinguished by their untoothed, opposite leaves, which are much different than the deeply divided leaves of the buttercup.

## LAKE VERMILION



The National Weather Service posted this image of the waterspout taken Sunday by a member of the public.

photo by Alex Jacobs

### Waterspout sparks attention, little apparent damage

by **MARSHALL HELMBERGER**  
Managing Editor

**LAKE VERMILION** — The National Weather Service reported a funnel cloud that touched down here this past Sunday afternoon, creating a large waterspout that was reported, photographed and video recorded by numerous individuals who were on the lake at the time.

According to the weather service, the waterspout developed about a half

See **WATERSPOUT...**pg. 5B

## Outdoors briefly

### Anglers set more new state records

**REGIONAL** — After making changes to the record fish program, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has seen steady interest by anglers in documenting their largest catches, as evidenced by the nine new state record fish the DNR has certified since March.

"Seeing all these new records is fantastic and we're really pleased with how

anglers have participated in the program so far," said Mandy Erickson, fisheries program consultant.

In March, the DNR expanded the catch-and-release record category to add additional species, and also made more space for records in the certified weight category by creating a separate category for records established before a certified scale was required to document a fish's weight.

Among the new records reported by the DNR since

March 1 are these:

**Certified weight category**

Coho salmon — 12 pounds, 5 ounces; June 1, Lake Superior, St. Louis County; caught by Austin Stoltenburg of Iron

Black crappie — 3 pounds, 9 ounces; May 9, Cedar Lake, Rice County; caught by Nolan Sprengeler of Plymouth

**Catch-and-release category**

Brown trout — 30 inches; April 15, Lake Superior, St. Louis County; caught by Dan Zeleznikar of Duluth

Lake trout — 42 1/2 inches;

April 21, Lake Superior, St. Louis County; caught by Kelsey Vanderheyden of Stanchfield

Smallmouth bass — 22 3/4 inches; June 25, Basswood Lake, Lake County; caught by Xavier Bradley-Rael of Omaha, Neb.

Complete record information, and instructions for how to certify a state record fish, are available on the Minnesota DNR state record fish webpage ([mndnr.gov/recordfish](http://mndnr.gov/recordfish)).



ISLAND LIVING

# Keeping up with the island's newest residents

It probably doesn't take an ornithologist to figure out I have birds on the island. Fact is, I have lots of birds on the island. I resist naming them but sometimes that's hard. Some come back year after year and they are my friends. Others are relative newcomers and I hope they stick around to become my friends. Case in point, the Robin family, who have recently moved in above the electrical box.



**APRIL WAMHOFF**

I'm like the nosy neighbor with my eyes in between the curtains watching them. Really. I closed the curtains so that I don't bother them. Bad neighbor relations, you know. But I just can't resist taking a peek. Just to check on them, you know...

The Robins moved in, very quietly, a few months ago. Just the two of them with very

little baggage. Just a few twigs and brushy stuff it seems. Quietly they built what was to be their new home on the electrical box. They picked a good location, I think, for a robin home. It is very sheltered from the elements. Almost no wind can reach them and it is under the eaves of the house so no rain either.

There must have been some sense of urgency to get that house built as very shortly, or so it seemed to me, they had quite the family in there. At first I saw 2 little, featherless heads peeking up over the edge of the nest.

How cute! Twins! It wasn't but a short time later I saw another head. Well, I'll be: triplets. Only as the babies got bigger and the nest obviously got more crowded, did I realize there are actually four babies. Oh, my goodness!

And now those babies, probably teenagers in bird-y terms, are always hungry. Very early in the mornings they are up with their mouths pointed skyward so mom and dad can drop some chow in. And those mouths are positioned, at the ready, all day it seems. It has been mentioned to me that maybe I should get them some worms and help out with the feeding. I'm not necessarily opposed to that idea but with all the drowned worms and bugs from the rains, I think that the wild pickin' should be fairly easy.

It is getting to the time now that I'm starting to really worry about the teenagers. The nest is really crowded and according to the internet they are going to leave, called fledging, very soon. At about 9-16 days of age they will start to leave and they will all be gone in about 24 hours. So much for long good-byes.

The bad part about the location is they will land on a cement pad when they go. Well, they



The young robins in their nest.

would have. I put a very cushy blanket under the nest so I hope that helps. I'm not quite sure how much of a thud those little guys would have made, really. Just saying...

I will miss them when they go but the adult Robins could stay and have up to two more broods this season. I don't know if my heart can stand the stress. I worry about the whole family. Still, they

are great neighbors, the Robins. I hope they stay and come back next year.

*Update: The evening after I wrote this the robin babies were gone. Fly straight and be safe little fellers. Thank you for staying while you did. I'm gonna miss you.*

## WATERSPOUT...Continued from page 4B

mile west of the western-most tip of Ely Island and slowly made its way to the north-northeast across Big Bay before dissipating near Spider Island. "It may have passed near or over Spider Island," noted the weather service in a Facebook post. "It also passed through the vicinity of Taylor and Stonich islands. As of this time, no damage reports have been received from these islands which do have structures on them, so the waterspout may have remained over the

water. Based on photos and videos, the waterspout was about 30 yards wide and was on the water for about two miles."

The weather service rated the waterspout, which is technically a tornado over water, as an EF0, which is the weakest rating for a tornado. It was first reported at 2:17 p.m. on Sunday afternoon and appears to have maintained its contact with the water's surface for approximately five minutes.

## BEARS...Continued from page 4B

bears. Removing feeders when bears are active is the best way to avoid creating conflicts.

► **Never leave pet food outdoors**

Feed pets indoors when possible. If you must feed pets outside, feed in single portions and remove food and bowls after feeding. Store pet food where bears can't see or smell it.

► **Clean and store grills**

Clean grills after each use and make sure that all grease, fat and food particles are removed. Store

clean grills and smokers in a secure area that keeps bears out.

► **Alert neighbors to bear activity**

See bears in the area or evidence of bear activity? Tell your neighbors and share information on how to avoid bear conflicts. Bears have adapted to living near people. Now it's up to us to adapt to living near bears.

**Bear preparedness and response**

Bears and people meet under a variety of circumstances and in

many cases encountering a bear can be a positive, memorable experience. Black bears, by nature, are wary of people and not normally aggressive, according to the DNR. They are, however, large, powerful and surprisingly fast-moving animals. Anyone who encounters a bear should have healthy respect for it but at the same time, do not feel that it is an inherent threat.

## LAKE COUNTRY FORECAST

from NOAA weather

Friday					Saturday					Sunday					Monday					Tuesday				
<b>85 63</b>					<b>86 62</b>					<b>85 60</b>					<b>83 58</b>					<b>79 54</b>				
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.
07/01	68	na	0.00		07/01	72	39	0.00		07/01	74	45	0.00		07/01	72	46	0.40		07/01	71	40	0.00	
07/02	72	53	0.26		07/02	74	44	0.15		07/02	74	48	0.95		07/02	73	55	1.45		07/02	74	52	0.22	
07/03	69	55	0.06		07/03	73	55	0.53		07/03	74	54	0.06		07/03	75	57	0.10		07/03	73	55	0.35	
07/04	75	na	0.00		07/04	77	48	0.02		07/04	77	55	0.01		07/04	77	52	0.00		07/04	75	55	0.00	
07/05	75	55	0.00		07/05	77	48	0.00		07/05	75	55	0.01		07/05	79	50	0.00		07/05	77	50	0.25	
07/06	75	52	0.09		07/06	75	47	0.10		07/06	77	54	0.07		07/06	79	54	0.00		07/06	76	47	0.20	
07/07	76	52	0.14		07/07	76	50	0.17		07/07	78	55	0.02		07/07	70	55	0.00		07/07	77	53	0.25	
YTD Total	17.19				YTD Total	20.07				YTD Total	19.81				YTD Total	NA				YTD Total	20.41			

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### NOTICE OF VACANCY ST. LOUIS COUNTY CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

The St. Louis County Board of Commissioners will be appointing a member to a three-year term on the St. Louis County Civil Service Commission. The Civil Service Commission oversees the administration of the County's merit system of employment by approving and enforcing rules, hearing appeals and complaints. Applicants cannot hold or be a candidate for public office, may not hold any public employment, or hold a position in a political party within two years immediately preceding appointment, and must be a resident of St. Louis County. There are usually two (2) meetings scheduled per month (1:30 pm - 2:00 pm on Mondays). At least four meetings per year are scheduled in range cities. Periodic hearings may be significantly longer. For additional information, please contact James R. Gottschald, Director of Human Resources and Administration for St. Louis County at 218-725-5066 or gottschaldj@stlouiscountymn.gov.

Persons interested in serving on this commission should submit an application to: Phil Chapman, Deputy County Auditor, St. Louis County Courthouse, Room 214, 100 North 5th Avenue West, Duluth, MN 55802. Applications will be accepted until July 19, 2024. To apply online, go to [www.stlouiscountymn.gov/clerk](http://www.stlouiscountymn.gov/clerk) and click "Application for Citizen Advisory Committee."

Applications are also available in the County Auditor's Office in the Duluth Courthouse and the Government Services Center in Virginia, and in the Ely Government Services Building, or by emailing [chapmanp@stlouiscountymn.gov](mailto:chapmanp@stlouiscountymn.gov) or calling 218-726-2385.

**NANCY J. NILSEN, COUNTY AUDITOR-TREASURER**  
By: Phil Chapman, Deputy Auditor

*Published in the Timberjay, July 12, 2024*

### Notice to the Voters of Bearville Township

The following offices are open for election at the November 5, 2024 General Election: Affidavits of Candidacy may be filed with the Town Clerk at the Bearville Town Hall between the hours of 4:15pm and 9:00pm beginning Tuesday, July 30, 2024 and ending Tuesday August 13, 2024 from 1:00pm to 5:00pm for the offices of:

- One (1) Supervisor B - (4) Four-year term
- One (1) Supervisor C - (4) Four-year term
- One (1) Treasurer - (4) Four-year term

Filing Fee: \$2.00

Please phone the Clerk in advance at 218-376-4495 or 218-966-3941

Kathy Cressy - Bearville Township Clerk

*Published in the Timberjay, July 12, 2024*

### Notice to the Voters of KUGLER TOWNSHIP

The following offices are open for election at the November 5, 2024 General Election.

Affidavits of Candidacy may be filed with the Town Clerk by calling 218-248-0606. Filings are open beginning Tuesday, July 30 and ending on Tuesday, August 13, 2024. Hours on Tuesday, August 13 are between 1:00 pm and 5:00 pm, for the offices of:

- One Supervisor A - (4) Four-year term
- One Supervisor B - (4) Four-year term
- One Clerk - (4) Four-year term

Filing fee: \$2.00

Election hours will be 7 a.m. - 8 p.m. at Kugler Town Hall, 9072 Hwy. 135, Tower, MN 55790.

Chris Suihkonen, Town Clerk

*Published in the Timberjay, July 12 & 19, 2024*

### CITY OF TOWER CANDIDATE FILING PERIOD

Notice is hereby given that the City of Tower will be accepting affidavits of candidacy at Tower City Hall during the filing period of July 30, 2024, to August 13, 2024, during normal business hours, Monday - Friday, 8:00 am to 4:30 pm. On the last day of the filing period, August 13, 2024, we will be open until 5:00 pm. The following seats are open for candidacy this election:

#### GENERAL ELECTION

- CITY COUNCILOR 4 Year Term
- CITY COUNCILOR 4 Year Term

The election for these positions will be held Tuesday, November 5, 2024.

*Published in the Timberjay, July 12, 2024*

### KUGLER TOWNSHIP NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING

The Kugler Town Board will hold their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, July 23, 2024, at 5 p.m. at the Kugler Town Hall.

Christopher Suihkonen, Town Clerk

*Published in the Timberjay, July 12, 2024*

### OWENS TOWNSHIP FILING NOTICE

#### For November 2024 Township Elections

Affidavits of candidacy may be filed with the Town Clerk or Deputy Clerk on Tuesday, July 30, 2024, through 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 13, 2024 for the offices of:

- ONE SUPERVISOR (Seat 3)- 6-year term**
- ONE SUPERVISOR (Seat 1)- 2 years remaining of a 6-year term**
- ONE TREASURER- 4-year term**
- ONE CLERK- 2 years remaining of a 4-year term**

Filing fee: \$2.00 for each office

Please call to receive and fill out an Affidavit of Candidacy

Cindy Caroon, Town Clerk, (218) 966-1135  
Rick Deatherage, Deputy Clerk, (909) 800-0520.

*Published in the Timberjay, July 12, 2024*

### EAGLES NEST TOWNSHIP FILING NOTICE

In the November 5, 2024 General Election, Eagles Nest Township will have the following offices on the ballot:

- Sup C will be a 4-year term
- Sup B will be a 4-year term
- Sup E will be a 2-year term special election
- Clerk will be a 4-year term

The filing period for these offices will be July 30, 2024 through August 13, 2024. Filing office hours will be on August 9, 2024 from 8 AM to 12 PM. Appointments for filing are also available. The candidate withdrawal period will be August 13, 2024 and August 15, 2024, 12 PM to 5 PM.

Any person elected to the office of supervisor or clerk must, upon assuming the office, be an eligible voter, be 21 years of age, and have maintained residence in the town for at least 30 days. Please contact the Clerk at [clerk@eaglesnest.com](mailto:clerk@eaglesnest.com) or call 218-365-4573 with questions or to make an appointment to file.

*Published in the Timberjay, July 12, 19 & 26, 2024*

### Bearville Township Change of Meeting Notice

The Bearville Township Board of Supervisors August meeting has been rescheduled to August 6 at 6:30 pm at the Bearville Town Hall.

Kathy Cressy, Bearville Township Clerk

*Published in the Timberjay, July 12, 2024*

### Town of Embarrass Notice of Primary Election and Notice of Candidate Filing

Notice is hereby given to all qualified voters of the Town of Embarrass, County of St. Louis, State of Minnesota.

Primary election will be held Tuesday, August 13, 2024. Polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Embarrass Town Hall.

Affidavits of candidacy may be filed with the Town Clerk at the Clerk's Office located at the Embarrass Town Hall, 7503 Levander Road. Filing dates are from July 30, 2024, to August 13, 2024. The Clerk's Office hours are from 10:00 am - 3:00 pm Monday-Thursday.

The following Township Offices are to be filled in the November 5, 2024 Election:

- Supervisor Seat 2 & 3 - positions are four-year terms
- Town Clerk- position is a four-year term

A two-dollar fee is required with each filing.

Filing for offices closes on Tuesday, August 13, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. (The Clerk's Office will remain open until 5:00 p.m. on August 13.)

Jennifer Boese, Town Clerk

*Published in the Timberjay, July 12, 2024*

## EMPLOYMENT

### Now Hiring McCarthy Beach State Park Building and Grounds Positions

Create unforgettable park, trail, and water recreation experiences that inspire people's love for the outdoors.

Visit <https://mn.gov/mmb/careers/> Search Job ID 72990; during application process choose McCarthy Beach as your desired work location.



### EAGLES NEST TOWNSHIP

#### Notice of State Primary Election, August 13, 2024

Voters residing in Eagles Nest Township, St. Louis County will vote by mail in statewide elections as authorized by the township/city under MN Statute 204B.45.

All persons **registered** to vote as of June 28, 2024, in MAIL BALLOT precincts will automatically be sent a ballot at least 14 days prior to the election. If you are registered to vote and do not receive a ballot by July 30, 2024, please contact the St. Louis County Auditor's Office at one of the locations listed below or for more information or questions email: [elections@stlouiscountymn.gov](mailto:elections@stlouiscountymn.gov)

Voted ballots may be returned by mail (stamped return envelopes are included with each MAIL BALLOT packet) or in person at one of the below listed locations. All returned ballots **MUST BE RECEIVED by 8:00 p.m.** on Election Day at one of the below listed Auditor's Office locations. Assistive voting equipment and witnessing of signatures is also available at the Auditor's Offices.

NOTE: If you live in one of the mail ballot areas and are eligible to vote but are not currently registered, you may apply to the Auditor's Office in person or by mail for ballots and registration materials.

Auditor, St. Louis County Courthouse OR Virginia Government Services Building  
100 North 5th Avenue West, Room 214 201 South 3rd Ave West  
Duluth, MN 55802 Virginia, MN 55792  
(218) 726-2385 (218) 749-7104  
FAX: (218) 725-5060

*Published in the Timberjay, July 12, 19 & 26, 2024*

## King Crossword

#### ACROSS

- 1 Balm target
- 4 Baseball's Ty
- 8 Get wind of
- 12 Have bills
- 13 "Beetle Bailey" dog
- 14 Sax range
- 15 Pasadena arena
- 17 Texter's "As I see it"
- 18 Complete
- 19 Newt
- 21 Ozone, for one
- 22 Elevated
- 26 Weary sounds
- 29 Watch chain
- 30 Sardonic
- 31 Slightly
- 32 In medias —
- 33 Harvard rival
- 34 Baseball's Hodges
- 35 Singer Scaggs
- 36 Avid
- 37 Proverbs
- 39 eBay offer
- 40 Haw preceder
- 41 Draw forth
- 45 Corporate symbol
- 48 Brisk tempos
- 50 Sacred bird of Egypt
- 51 Yarn
- 52 — loss
- 53 Shade

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	

- 54 Genesis garden
- 55 Rail
- 8 Part of Hispaniola
- 9 Stately tree
- 10 Sports fig.
- 11 Aussie hopper
- 16 Octet count
- 20 "Terriff!"
- 23 Booty
- 24 Perry's creator
- 25 Color worker
- 26 Long story
- 27 Footnote abbr.
- 28 Arizona river
- 29 Shriner's cha-peau
- 32 Optimistic
- 33 "Get what I'm sayin'?"
- 35 Garden buzzer
- 36 Actress Brennan
- 38 Specter
- 39 Ball VIP
- 42 Grouch
- 43 Speck
- 44 Russian ruler
- 45 Ignited
- 46 Kimono sash
- 47 Martini liquor
- 49 Young bloke

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## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

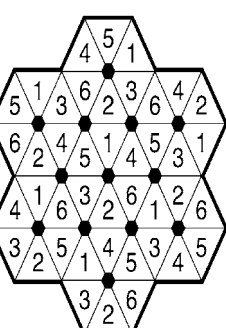
Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

### DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

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

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### SNOWFLAKES solution



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Timberjay!**





# TIMBERJAY CLASSIFIEDS

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

### AUTOMOTIVE

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

### HAIR CARE

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

### 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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Sun: 9 AM-4 PM  
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218-753-2950

### 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

### WANTED

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

### CHIMNEY REPAIR

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### MOCCASIN POINT MARINE

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Mechanic on Duty  
moccasinpointmarine.com



### SEWING

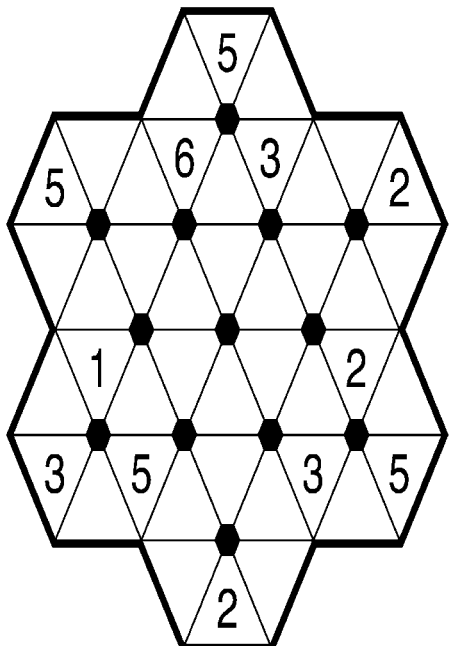
ALTERATION & CREATION- "I Fix Everything!" 25 years experience. Call 218-404-9488. 10/11

## SELL It HERE

## 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

POSTPRANDIAL

- ACROSS 1 Male cats 5 "Unto the Sons" author Gay 11 Perp's place 15 Overwhelm, as with humor 19 Getting the task done 20 Region next to Catalonia 21 Minnesota ex-governor Carlson 22 Something to belt out 23 "Save As," "Print" or "Select All" 25 Name as a source 26 Liturgical act 27 "Alas, it wasn't to be" 28 Africa's Amin 29 Destitute 30 Sponsorship 31 Small telescope 34 Diner classic 37 Ancient Celtic priest 39 Join together in a labor group 40 Message on a protective book cover 45 Breastbone 49 Holds fast (to) 50 Makes sure the task gets done 54 Kong or Koko 55 6/6/1944 56 Extracts via udders 58 Small gift for shindig guests 61 Purported psychic skill 62 — job on (messed up) 63 They propel paramacia 65 Actress Dunne 66 Spot in a hotel to book a room 70 Happen next 73 South African grassland 74 — -edged pages 75 Positive vote 78 Certain fruit bar 81 Sheriff's aides 83 U.S. fort holding gold 84 Scarfed down 85 More restless 87 Miserly sort 89 Stationery store product 92 Ping-Pong 94 Sweet snacks on sticks 98 Cry to an attack dog 99 Source of music to accompany silent films 103 Big name in concert pianos 108 Drizzles or sprinkles 109 Dog botherer 110 Cereal grain 112 Guileless 113 Verdi opera heroine 114 Fish's respiratory structure 115 Where the starts of eight answers in this puzzle might appear 118 Street — (rep in the city) 119 War god 120 Senator Sanders 121 Low — diet 122 Model Banks 123 Heredity unit 124 See 95-Down 125 Kett of old comics 3 Like many toothpastes 4 Attacked like a bee 5 Confucian "way" 6 Upper limb 7 Antifungal brand 8 "Good grief!" 9 Part of SST 10 Put a stop to 11 British actor Derek 12 Melodic passage 13 While being shipped 14 Film's Spike or Ang 15 Person scattering seeds, say 16 Brother of Nintendo's Mario 17 Shenanigan 18 "Good grief!" 24 More chilly 29 Play on words 30 Wood-dressing tool 32 Twin of Apollo 33 Diminish 35 Engine oil, for short 36 — gritty 38 Twilight time 40 Precious green stone 41 Tosses in 42 British fellow 43 Lock unlocker 44 Alters in size, as a photo 46 Church area with pews 47 Resting atop 48 Nothing more than 51 Cut and dried soup veggie 52 "Dynamite" singer Cruz 53 Chimps' cousins 57 Future pupae 59 Clenched hand 60 Genesis boat 62 Low grades 64 "— be a shame if ..." 66 Really regret 67 Wang of dress design 68 Examine minutely 69 Person voted in to a seat 70 Cheese from Holland 71 Statistics expert Silver 72 Goblet part 75 Auth. unknown 76 Bear or Berra 77 Past partners 79 Seismic occurrence 80 Being harshly criticized 82 Balls 83 "— -Tik!" 86 "— deal!" 88 Actress Leah 90 Quebecois' national anthem 91 Butter bits 93 Takes heed 95 With 124-Across, dreaded time of the year for many allergy sufferers 96 Last words of a threat 97 Links org. 99 Land parcel 100 Fur-covered 101 Duck variety 102 Charge-free 104 "Twin Peaks" actor Jack 105 Be the champion of 106 Ward off 107 — Buena Island 111 Gillette razor 114 Choke 115 Crunchable muscles 116 — de Janeiro 117 Lion locale

### FUNERAL SERVICES

## Range Funeral Home



Virginia 741-1481 Hibbing 263-3276  
"Friends Helping Friends"

### Answer

4	2	8	7	5	1	3	9	6
1	9	7	3	4	6	2	8	5
3	6	5	2	9	8	7	1	4
9	4	6	5	1	7	8	2	3
8	7	2	9	6	3	4	5	1
5	3	1	4	8	2	6	7	9
7	5	3	6	2	9	1	4	8
6	1	4	8	7	5	9	3	2
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99	100	101											102		103				104	105	106	107
108									109					110	111				112			
113										114					115			116	117			
118																						121
122																						125

Get Results!  
Advertise in the Timberjay!

- Even Exchange answers
- 1. Crust, Cruet
  - 2. Strong, String
  - 3. Appear, Appeal
  - 4. Lingo, Bingo
  - 5. Powder, Ponder
  - 6. After, Alter
  - 7. Finale, Finals
  - 8. Blank, Blink
  - 9. Place, Peace
  - 10. Lodger, Logger

### King Crossword

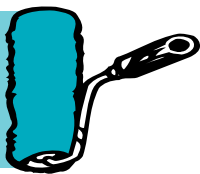
Solution time: 26 mins.

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





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Until August 10

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16x12 Deck Platform \$849 + Sales Tax  
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**TOWER-SOUDAN CITYWIDE-SALE**

“Heard the Buzz?”

**SATURDAY JULY 27 • 8-3**

Get Address On List 218-235-1377 - Scarlet Stone -

Maps Will Be Available July 25....  
Pick up at Tower Zup's or Soudan Store

**Super Crossword**

Answers

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

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## Even Exchange by Donna Pettman

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

- |                      |             |                      |             |
|----------------------|-------------|----------------------|-------------|
| 1. Pie shell         | ___ _ _ S _ | Olive oil vessel     | ___ _ _ E _ |
| 2. Robust            | ___ _ _ O _ | Kite cord            | ___ _ _ I _ |
| 3. Seem to be        | ___ _ _ _ R | Court room request   | ___ _ _ _ L |
| 4. Vernacular        | L _ _ _ _   | Granny's parlor game | B _ _ _ _   |
| 5. Face cosmetic     | ___ _ W _ _ | Contemplate          | ___ _ N _ _ |
| 6. Subsequently      | ___ F _ _ _ | Modify               | ___ L _ _ _ |
| 7. Closing moment    | ___ _ _ _ E | Last class exams     | ___ _ _ _ S |
| 8. Empty space       | ___ _ A _ _ | Eye movement         | ___ _ I _ _ |
| 9. Take second place | ___ L _ _ _ | Tranquility          | ___ E _ _ _ |
| 10. Inn's guest      | ___ _ D _ _ | Forest worker        | ___ _ G _ _ |