



Inside:
Ely Schools seeking levy... See /3
Barn restoration in Cook... See /1B
New campground construction... See /2B
Embarrass Fair preview... See /8B

The **TIMBERJAY**



Serving the communities of northern St. Louis County since 1989 VOL. 35, ISSUE 32 August 16, 2024 \$1⁵⁰

LAKE COUNTY DEVELOPMENT

Silver Rapids applications tabled for a second time

by **CATIE CLARK**
Ely Editor

FALL LAKE- A two-hour Lake County Planning Commission meeting on Thursday ended with the commissioners tabling two zoning applications for the Silver Rapids Resort for a second time. The planning commission tabled the applications the first time on July 18 after a grueling three-hour,

standing-room-only meeting, which was covered in the July 29 *Timberjay*. None of the groups involved at the Aug. 8 meeting, the planning commission, the resort developers, and the area's residents, left the meeting happy. After tabling action on the two zoning applications, the planning commission scheduled a third meeting

regarding the resort's applications for Monday, Aug. 19, at 7 p.m. at the Law Enforcement Center in Two Harbors. Those unable to travel to Two Harbors can email planningandzoning@co.lake.mn.us to request a Zoom link for the meeting. **Contested applications** The issues involving the proposed resort conversion hinge on two zoning applica-

Right: Engineer Bob Whitmyer (standing), in charge of the design of the Silver Rapids Resort's septic system, answers questions from the Lake County Planning Commission last week. photo by C. Clark
 tions: a conditional use permit application for the operation of the reconfigured resort in *See...RESORT pg. 10*



DEVELOPMENT IN TOWER

Marjo project now official

Ribbon-cutting celebrates start of construction on major residential development

by **MARSHALL HELMBERGER**
Managing Editor

TOWER—The sound of construction echoed along the East Two River this week as what may well be the largest single development project in Tower's history got underway on property just behind the Marjo Motel.

After addressing a permitting hiccup last week, a crew from the local area worked alongside workers from Norway this week as the walls and roofs

Above: Tuesday's ribbon-cutting in Tower was cause for celebration. Pictured are (l-r) Lars Hanstad, Audun Skattebo, Luke Kujawa, Michael Jellish, and Orlyn Kringstad.

Right: Members of the public check out one of the units, now under construction. photos by M. HelMBERGER

on the first two homes quickly went up. The walls for the initial three units had arrived in *See...MARJO pg. 12*



CRANE LAKE



The new Crane Lake Visitor Center hosted an open house last week for community members to get a look at the facility. photo by D. Colburn

New Voyageurs visitor center makes its debut

Opens to the public next spring

by **DAVID COLBURN**
Cook/Orr Editor

CRANELAKE-The National Night Out celebration in Crane Lake on Aug. 6 was also a coming out party of sorts for the new Crane Lake Visitor Center, which held an open house to let people tour the newest gateway to Voyageurs National Park.

Park records indicate that a multi-agency visitor center for Crane Lake had been in the park's plans at least since 2002, when then Superintendent Barbara West included it in a visitor use and facilities plan. But the project languished, and it wasn't until years later when the Crane Lake community took the bull by the horns to make the center a reality.

"This whole process started back in 2018— that was the year the town

See...CENTER pg. 11

INVESTIGATION FINDINGS

Sale of trust lands would yield far more than an exchange

by **MARSHALL HELMBERGER**
Managing Editor

For decades, state officials have argued over the relative merits of whether to sell or exchange the roughly 80,000 acres of state school trust lands located within the Boundary

Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. A *Timberjay* investigation has found that a sale of the lands in question would almost certainly generate many times more revenue for the school trust than an exchange.

Under the Minnesota

Constitution, school trust lands are supposed to be managed to generate revenue for the state's permanent school trust, designed as a perpetual source of funding to help pay for operating public schools. But that hasn't been possible on those lands located inside

the wilderness since 1978, when the Boundary Waters Wilderness Act prohibited road building, logging, and mining within the 1.1-million-acre wilderness area, effectively cutting off the state's access to its school trust lands. Those lands were granted to the

state of Minnesota by the federal government at the time of statehood and the state's constitution requires that the lands be managed to produce revenue for the state's school trust fund.

See...FINDINGS pg. 9



Men's & Women's Clothing, Shoes 40% OFF
PIRAGIS OUTLET STORE
 Fantastic new 2024 Inventory including accessories, gear, more.
 Save 40% on everything, every day.
DON'T FORGET OUR EXCELLENT INDEPENDENT BOOKSTORE
 piragis.com 218-365-6745 boundarywaterscatalog.com

Contact The Timberjay
 218-753-2950
 editor@timberjay.com

Community notices

Lake Vermilion Weiner Cruiser sets sail Aug. 17 for cancer fundraising

LAKE VERMILION- The Lake Vermilion Weiner Cruiser and Care Partners are teaming up on Saturday, Aug. 17, from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. to raise funds for Iron Rangers facing cancer. Care Partners will be onboard the cruiser accepting free-will donations; stop by to support a good cause and enjoy some hot dogs.

For more information about this event, call Care Partners at 218-404-1411. To stay up to date on the Weiner Cruiser, follow the Lake Vermilion Weiner Cruiser page on Facebook.

Motorcycle ride and raffles for ALS on Aug. 17 starting at Embarrass Town Hall

EMBARRASS- The 9th annual Ride, Raffle ‘n Roll for ALS will be held on Saturday, Aug. 17, at the Embarrass Town Hall. Stop by for lunch, games, 50/50, and quilt and rider raffles. A motorcycle ride will also commence at the town hall at 10:30 a.m., in an approximately 110-mile loop that will take riders through Tower and Ely and end at the Britt Lounge. Registration is from 8:30-10 a.m. Proceeds benefit Never Surrender Inc., an organization dedicated to fundraising for those living with ALS.

Registration costs \$20 per person and a breakfast for purchase will be available from 8-10 a.m. To learn more about Never Surrender Inc., visit www.NeverSurrenderInc.org. For more information about the Ride, Raffle ‘n Roll, contact Travis Erickson at 218-780-8944 or Aaron Wright at 218-780-4286.

Down Syndrome Association to host two walks, Sept. 15 and 22

REGIONAL- The Down Syndrome Association of Minnesota is very excited to host two walks again this year. Step Up North will take place on Sunday, Sept. 15 at Wade Stadium in Duluth and starts at 3 p.m. Step Up Minnesota will take place on Sunday, Sept. 22 at Como Park in St. Paul, event starting at 10 a.m. This year’s fundraising goal is \$600,000.

The Down Syndrome Association of Minnesota is a statewide nonprofit organization with the mission to empower individuals and families, create community, and celebrate the abilities of people with Down syndrome. Their vision is for all people with Down syndrome to have the opportunity and access to live their best life in an accepting and inclusive society. Membership is free and open to all.

The association provides programming to serve individuals with Down syndrome, their families, their educators, providers and supporters across the state and in border communities in neighboring states. Programs and services include:

- Information for new and expectant parents, medical professionals, early intervention teams, and the broader community to better understand Down syndrome.
- Conferences, webinars, and educational programming for individuals with Down syndrome, their parents, grandparents, and caregivers.
- Webinars, workshops, and resources for educators.
- Outreach and support to educators, potential employers, and the medical community to provide accurate information and resources.

For more information about Step Up North, visit their website, www.ds-stride.org/stepupnorth. More information about Step Up Minnesota can be found at www.ds-stride.org/stepupminnesota.



Atticus Wilk of Atticus’ A-Team. submitted photo

CONCERT IN COOK
Chamber Music concert at Trinity Lutheran



A group of talented young musicians will be performing chamber music in Cook on Aug. 20. file photo

COOK- A wonderful free summer concert by the Northern Lights Chamber Music Institute will be held on Tuesday, Aug. 20 at 7 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church in Cook. The program will include trios, quartets, quintets, sextets, octets and a full string orchestra.

The concert is free-of-charge, but you may make a donation if you wish.

Please join the NLCMI for an evening of beautiful chamber music performed by 33 outstanding young artists, many from the region but also this year from as far away as China, Taiwan, and several

US states. The NLCMI is an annual summer institute where ten days of intense chamber music studies take place at Camp Vermilion on pristine Lake Vermilion outside of Cook. Gifted young musicians of college and high school age, along with internationally-acclaimed faculty will participate in this concert.

The NLCMI faculty are Ariana Kim, GRAMMY-nominated violin professor at Cornell University, Young-Nam Kim, founding Artistic Director of the Chamber Music Society of Minnesota, Sally Chisholm, viola professor at the University of Wisconsin at Madison, Daniel Kim,

violinist of the Boston Symphony Orchestra and Anthony Arnone, cello professor at the University of Iowa. The program will consist of engrossing works by Mozart, Mendelssohn, Brahms, Shostakovich, and more. At the conclusion of the concert, all participants play together in a full string orchestra.

The Northern Lights Chamber Music Institute is the premiere educational wing of the Chamber Music Society of Minnesota, Young-Nam Kim and Arian Kim, Co-Artistic Directors.

ELY'S ROOT BEER LADY

Dorothy Molter Museum open house on Sunday

ELY- The Dorothy Molter Museum will host its annual Supporter Appreciation Day and open house on Sunday, Aug. 18 to show its appreciation of museum supporters through a full day of free admission, hourly door prizes and light refreshments.

Museum director Jess Edberg said, “Dorothy had what we may call an ‘open door policy’ at the Isle of Pines where during she welcomed upwards of 7,000 visitors annually. Folks knew they could help themselves to a root beer by making donation on their honor or start a fire and warm their bodies or dry their clothing in a cabin. The community she built through her generous spirit, kind heart and wisdom often returned the favor, helping her wheth-

er they were asked or not.”

The Dorothy Molter Museum is grateful for this network of support that Dorothy had, as it is members of that community that had the forethought and means to establish and build the museum to preserve Dorothy’s legacy and keep her amazing story alive.

This Sunday, the museum will express its thanks to the continued network of supporters who stay connected with Dorothy’s legacy and support the work it does to keep her story alive for future generations.

The public is invited to this open house from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday to explore exhibits, enter to win door prizes drawn hourly, and enjoy light refreshments. Returning visitors will see the museum’s new

Sensory Garden and Quiet Area that was supported through a Department of Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation matching grant and can take part in a new exhibit scavenger hunt with a wildlife theme.

The Dorothy Molter Museum strives to inspire the next generation of Northwoods stewards to make a significant contribution toward a better world through Dorothy’s legacy of perseverance, integrity, and generosity. It has been preserving and interpreting Northwoods wilderness heritage through learning opportunities inspired by Dorothy Molter, the last non-Indigenous resident of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness for over 30 years.

SAVE THE DATE

30th annual Harvest Moon Festival set for Sept. 6 – 8

ELY- The Harvest Moon Festival will celebrate its 30th year on Sept. 6 - 8 in Ely’s Whiteside Park. The festival will feature over 120 booths filled with arts, crafts, makers, marketplace, and food vendors. Festival hours are Friday and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Harvest Days, a storefront shopping event, runs from Thursday, Sept. 5, through Sunday, Sept. 8.

A Harvest Day map, business

list, and festival map with vendor list will be available starting on Friday, Aug. 30, at Ely.org/events/harvest-moon. *USA Today* has the Harvest Moon Festival on their Best Fall Festival poll. *USA Today* selects the top twenty fall festivals, and the public narrows it down to ten. Winners get bragging rights until next year’s poll comes out.

Ely Chamber of Commerce staff are ready to get the vote out on their Facebook pages, including the Ely Chamber of Commerce, Har-

vest Moon Festival, Blueberry/Art Festival, and Ely MN Events page. Voting started at 1 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 12, and runs through Monday, Sept. 9, at 1 p.m. Winners are announced on Wednesday, Sept. 18, at 1 p.m.

Please help spread the word and get one of our incredible area events recognized. For more information, contact Eva Sebesta at 218-365-6123 or email her at director@ely.org.

RED HOT BUYS

Great Buys Storewide!

SALE \$8.49 - \$1 ACE REWARDS EXCLUSIVE
\$7.49 each

Raid Max® Liquid Ant Bait 4/Pk., Wasp & Hornet Killer or Foaming Wasp & Hornet Killer™

7018832, 75255, 7033612
Limit 3 each at this price.

YOUR CHOICE
SALE **\$1.29** each

Ace® Bird Suet, 11 Oz.
Assorted varieties.
8039376, 8039378, 8039379, 8039377

BUY THREE GET ONE FREE

Ace® Basic Pleated Furnace Air Filter
Assorted sizes available.
NO LIMIT.
Free item must be of equal or lesser value.

12 x 20 x 1 BASIC PLEATED AIR FILTER ACE
12 x 20 x 1 BASIC PLEATED AIR FILTER ACE
16 x 25 x 1 HIGH EFFICIENCY AIR FILTER ACE
8 MFT. HIGH EFFICIENCY AIR FILTER ACE

Prices Good Through August 27, 2024
SEE YOUR HELPFUL HARDWARE FOLKS

ACE Merhar’s Ace Hardware
48 E. Chapman St., Ely
218-365-3129

The Luck Band

sponsored by Lake Vermilion

Concert is ONLY ACCESSIBLE from water
www.theluckband.com

70's • 80's • Country • Classic Rock • Dance

FREE CONCERT
AUG 31
5:00-8:30pm

DOCKS OF
Lake Vermilion HOUSEBOATS

PROPERTY, DOCKS, & HOUSEBOATS
of Lake Vermilion Houseboats are **COMPLETELY OFF LIMITS!!!**

ELY SCHOOLS

ISD 696 to ask voters to approve \$350,000 levy

by CATIE CLARK
Ely Editor

ELY- The ISD 696 school board voted Monday to place a \$350,000 per year capital project levy on the ballot for the November election. If approved by voters, the levy will help the district's ongoing efforts to mitigate its budget shortfall for the 2024-25 school year. Minnesota requires that school board resolutions to place new levies for the November ballot must be approved by Aug. 13.

The school board's resolution was the second of two steps required by the Minnesota Department of Education to place a levy on the ballot. The school board took the first step when it held a special meeting on Aug. 5, to approve sending the capital project levy proposal to the Minnesota Commissioner of Education for review before the state's deadline of Aug. 7.

As previously reported, ISD 696 had a half-million-dollar shortfall when creating the budget for the 2024-25 school year. To address the gap, the school board opted to spread the shortfall across the next two fiscal years to lessen the impact on students. The district also found ways to cut expenses and increase revenues to slice the shortfall in half before approving its budget for this year.



The Ely School Board met on Monday, and the board members voted to put a \$350,000 capital project levy on the November ballot. From left: Superintendent Anne Oelke, board chair Ray Marsnik, board members Rochelle Sjoberg, Tony Colarich and Tom Omerza. photo by C. Clark

ISD 696 must now find another half million dollars in cuts and/or revenue increases for the 2025-26 budget, which a capital project levy would help by shifting technology and building-related expenses out of the general fund, allowing more general fund dollars to be used for operations. The district would use the funds from the capital projects levy for student transportation, textbooks, curriculum materials, staff and student computers and devices, software, and furnishings.

This budget crunch is not restricted to Ely's public schools. Minnesota school districts, especially in rural areas,

are resorting to new operations and capital project levies to close the funding gap in state funds.

Before last year, Minnesota's school funding formula did not have any indexing for inflation. In an analysis presented at the school board's July 22 study session, had Minnesota's school funding increased at the rate of inflation since 2003, state pupil aid would be \$8,645, or \$1,365 more than the current standard pupil aid of \$7,281.

"If Minnesota had adjusted the general education formula allowance for inflation, we would be getting around \$680,000 more per year in revenue that we currently receive," Superintendent Anne Oelke told the board.

If a \$350,000 capital project levy passes, it would add \$22 to the property taxes on a \$100,000 home, \$42 on a \$150,000 home, and \$61 on a \$200,000 home.

Without additional revenue, the school district will need to make significant cuts in the 2025-26 budget.

"We still need to make up the remaining quarter million of the budget gap," school board member Tony Colarich told the *Timberjay* before Monday's board meeting. "If voters don't give us this levy, I don't know what we can do. We've already

made as many cuts as we could that don't affect the students. We don't want to make cuts that will affect the quality of their education."

Cell phones

The school board approved the 2024-25 Ely Public Schools Student and Family Handbook, which has updated the sections on daily schedules, the high school graduation ceremony, extra-curricular activities, field trips, and cell phone usage.

The most significant change is the new cell phone policy. "For grades K through eight, cell phones have to be in lockers. And then, for nine through 12, phones have to be out of sight and can't be heard during any kind of instruction," said Oelke. "[High school students] can have them on their person before school, at passing times, and at lunchtime, but the moment a phone is seen or heard [during instruction], they will be confiscated," she added.

Other business

In other matters of business, the school board:

► Approved the financial report, with \$1,178,975 in receipts, and \$1,043,925 in disbursements for the month of July.

See LEVY...pg. 5

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Eagles Nest Township wants to be ready in case of a wildfire

by JODI SUMMIT
Tower-Soudan Editor

Residents, volunteers, and emergency workers participate in annual drill

EAGLES NEST TWP- Eagles Nest Township once again held an evacuation drill, this time on Saturday, Aug. 10. The drills, which have become an annual event in Eagles Nest, provide training to facilitate evacuation of portions of the township in the event of a major disaster, like wildfire.

The township has 23 dead-end roads, which can pose considerable risk in the event of an emergency.

"The goal of Saturday's exercise was to provide training for our road



Some of the Eagles Nest ENCEP, ENFD and SLC EM that helped out Saturday. Standing: Alex Jaye (St. Louis County EM), Dick Flesvig, Eric Jokela, Terry Mattson, Josh Brinkman (St. Louis County EM Director), JoAnn Bird, Lisa Hutchinson, Mary Beth Monte, Matt Olson (St. Louis County EM), John Kappenman, Sarah Willis (Morse-Fall Lake FD), Ria Leonard, Austin VanScoy, Mark Pratt. Kneeling: Steve Voiles, Cliff Koski, Mike Ostlund (Eagles Nest EM Director), Anna Krueger (Morse-Fall Lake FD), Keely Drange. submitted photo

See DRILL...pg. 5

REAL ESTATE

Making DREAMS a REALITY!

MEET SOME OF OUR AGENTS!

Joe Rasmussen (651) 270-8911	Sara Powell (218) 780-7737	Andrea Zupancich (218) 749-0159	Chesica Reichert-Olson (763) 257-5080
---------------------------------	-------------------------------	------------------------------------	--

BABBITT - RESTAURANT & BAR

Long standing, successful bar and restaurant tucked in the woods off Highway 21 in Babbitt! Many snowmobile and ATV trails for 4 seasons of fun and business! Gorgeous log building with over 4,000 sq ft of space on a 1-acre lot. Restaurant can seat over 60 people, bar seats another 60 for a total of over 120 people capacity. In addition to the full-service bar, there is also an Off Sale liquor store with coolers. Currently serving dinner and known for their Pizza's! Owner says SELL so come look and make an offer!
MLS#147226 | \$399,900

Ely (218) 365-8822
Babbitt (218) 827-2288
Aurora (218) 229-8888
Tower (218) 696-2008
Virginia (218) 288-5028
info@zupnorth.com
www.zupnorth.com

VERMILION LAND OFFICE
Real Estate • Appraisals

Looking To Buy Or Sell? Give Us A Call!

vermilionland.com
info@vermilionland.com
1-866-753-8985
Cook • Tower • Virginia

WE NEED LISTINGS!
Contact us for a free property valuation

218-666-5352
info@bicreality.com bicreality.com

NEW PRICE 3 BR, 1 BA home at the edge of Tower just minutes from Lake Vermilion. Features open KIT/DR w/patio door, LR has wood T&G paneling and patio door. Large yard and detached 2-car garage. **\$99,000 MLS# 146879**

LITTLE BEAR LAKE Pine studded 2.49 acre lot w/ 2 BR cabin, pole bldg, RV hookup and gradual elevation to lake and dock. Cabin features new 3-season porch, newer roof, wiring and siding. Many acres of public land in the area for hunting and recreation. **\$280,000 MLS# 146862**

NEXT TIME COME HOME!

JANISCH REALTY

218-780-6644

OPINION

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

The First Amendment of the United States Constitution

e-mail: editor@timberjay.com

Editorial

Project 2025

Trump said the manifesto lays the groundwork “for exactly what our movement will do.”

We’re likely to hear a lot more about Project 2025 beginning next Monday, when the four-day Democratic national convention gets underway. The nearly 900-page document, assembled by the right-wing Heritage Foundation, is billed as the blueprint for a new Trump presidency. Or, as Heritage president Kevin Roberts calls it— a second American revolution, which he said, “will be bloodless if the left goes along.”

To call the document extreme is an understatement. But don’t take our word for it.

“They are extreme, they’re seriously extreme,” said Donald Trump during a recent rally in Michigan while talking about Project 2025 and those behind it.

Trump, whose words can never be taken at face value, was desperately trying to distance himself from a document that Democrats have justifiably highlighted to bolster their claims about the radical agenda those behind the Trump campaign are expecting to implement should he make it back to the White House.

Keep in mind, Trump doesn’t really have set views on policy. He’s about advancing his own interests and will generally take at least three sides on any issue simply to create deniability and confusion. He lets others do the heavy lifting when it comes to the specifics of policy, just as he previously allowed the conservative Federalist Society to handpick his Supreme Court nominees.

And those likely to be doing the heavy lifting in another Trump White House are the very same people behind Project 2025, because it was written by more than a dozen of the most hardcore policy makers who served within the previous Trump administration. It’s backed, as well, by top Trump allies like Steve Bannon, Michael Flynn, and his own vice-presidential pick, JD Vance, who just wrote the forward to a new book written by Heritage Foundation president Kevin Roberts, one of the principal architects of Project 2025. The release of that book, which had been scheduled for September, has been delayed, and it now won’t come out until the week after the election. Clearly, the Trump campaign doesn’t want voters learning what might well be in store for them in a new Trump administration.

What we do know is that Project 2025 calls for a sharp turn away from the principles of governance that have guided the United States for generations, calling instead for an unprecedented consolidation of power in the hands of the pres-

ident by eliminating civil service protections and replacing independent experts at federal agencies with political hacks beholden to the president. It calls for turning the Justice Department into a kind of SWAT team for the president, to deploy at will against political enemies. If there’s one thing Trump has been consistent about, it’s his promise to use a politicized Justice Department to exact revenge. While Trump accuses the Justice Department of operating that way today, that’s just his usual evidence-free noise.

Project 2025, among many other things, calls for the elimination of the Affordable Care Act, which would deny health care access to tens of millions of Americans who have been able to obtain affordable insurance coverage for the first time through the ACA marketplace or through the expansion of Medicaid.

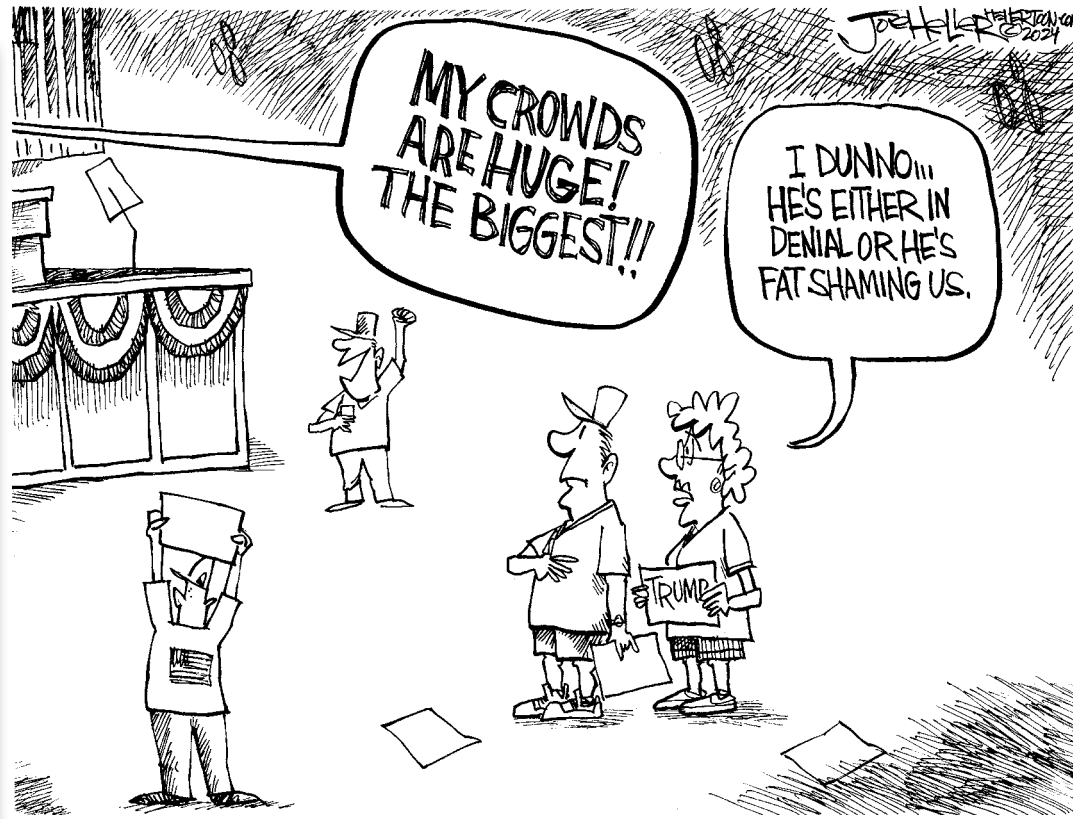
Project 2025 also calls for the elimination of much of the fairness in the current income tax structure, by reducing the number of tax brackets from the current seven to just two, a change that would significantly raise taxes for just about any household earning less than \$100,000 a year, while giving those with the highest incomes staggering tax cuts.

Project 2025 calls for a prohibition on the use of mifepristone, the drug that currently provides for about two-thirds of the abortions in the country and calls for the enforcement of an 1873 law, known as the Comstock Act, that would make it a crime to mail any future drug that could be used to cause abortions. That would effectively limit abortions even in states where it’s legal.

It also calls for governance based on biblical principles, implementing a kind of Christian nationalist theocracy. Women, minorities, and LGBTQ members of society would once again become second-class citizens. That’s what Democrats mean when they say, “We’re not going back.”

There’s much, much more, of course, than what could possibly be listed here, but we hope to provide more details as the November election nears. Democrats are likely to continue to highlight the specifics, even as Trump seeks to run away from the radical manifesto.

Of course, here’s what Trump had to say about Project 2025 in 2022, while speaking at a Heritage Foundation conference: “They’re going to lay the groundwork and detail plans for exactly what our movement will do,” he said. The only question is, was he lying then, or is he lying now?



Letters from Readers

We can no longer pretend our troubles away

With all that’s going on as the elections approach in November, opinions are rampant. I have been giving mine here for some time, but know that I have little influence on anyone, yet still attempt to express a way of looking at things.

For instance, let me say, I am not opposed to mining – all the materials the Earth has needed so far, it has provided along with the ingenuity of mankind. I just wish the kind proposed locally could be done where it won’t affect the other resource we humans require – water. Here are where opinions come into play.

Some still aren’t thrilled about the restrictions the BW-CAW has imposed. Personally, I appreciate that an area of the world was set aside for its natural wonders, still useable by people, yet not in the way others would prefer. Again, differing opinions.

Then there is the political situation. We have a two-party system, basically a way to give folks a choice as to who should lead decision-making for the people. I just hope those selected are sincere in their desire to serve our best interests. The right is suggesting some things lately that are frightening and self-serving. Here again are different leanings from both sides.

The world has gone through a major pandemic. Although the number of dead is great, and COVID remains a real threat, some say it wasn’t real. Just as some say the Jan. 6 attack on the Capitol didn’t happen.

Some have said the Holocaust wasn’t real. I don’t know how those piles of dead bodies at Auschwitz can be denied away nor the violators of the Capitol building searching for

Nancy Pelosi and Vice President Pence.

Denial seems to be an answer for some. The world is heavy with inhabitants. It is heavy with issues.

We cannot deny these away. They need to be faced and dealt with. Attempting to lead such an effort requires honesty and a big touch of heart. As a people we can no longer pretend our troubles away. Will this fragile world survive for future generations? The Dark Ages were real.

Cecilia Rolando Ely

Why we need experienced people in government

As I’m sure you do, I hold family who serve our country in highest regard. Those serving in the military receive special respect, but the folks that run our government and make it actually work for us, civil servants, work quietly in the background for all of us.

My cousin has worked over 25 years as a “fire weather forecaster” at the National Weather Service. To get to that role he took four years of science in college followed by years of specialized training. Now he is an expert in his role, traveling globally during fire season from one incident to the next. Today he is working at the Park Wildfire in California. People’s lives depend on his work being accurate. He is a typical civil servant.

It was then interesting when reading in Project 2025 policy book “Mandate for Leadership”, page 80, that it is felt that increasing the number of political appointees to replace civil servant employees is considered such a priority that then President Trump issued Executive Order 13957

and created “Schedule F” to suspend civil service qualifications and rules to administratively convert civil service positions to political appointees. President Biden revoked this order.

Trump had supported Project 2025 until recently when he realized many people were reading it. He now denies knowing anything about it. He previously implemented this executive order when he was president. Would he do so again? Would he again make the critical requirement for a civil service position be allegiance to Donald Trump?

I fly; air traffic control is important to me. I use prescription drugs; the Food and Drug Administration is important to me. I use gasoline and electricity; the Department of Energy is important to me. I eat; the Department of Agriculture is important to me. A well run, functioning government that serves the citizens of the United States, not the president, is important to me.

Keith Steva Cook

We welcome your letters

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

We ask that letters be limited to 300 words.

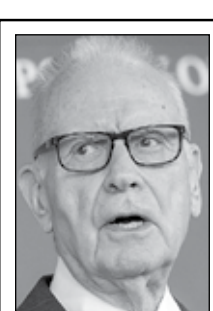
Letters are subject to editing, primarily for length and clarity.

COMMENTARY

The U.S. will elect a woman president

Editor’s Note: This column was written in June, before Kamala Harris became the candidate on the Democratic ticket.

Claudia Sheinbaum made history this month when she became the first woman elected president of Mexico. What will it take for a woman to become president of the United States?



LEE HAMILTON

usually elect a woman president. There is no shortage of highly qualified women in politics. Women have shown, time after time, that they can handle the tasks of governing. Most Americans say a woman president could do as well as, if not better than, a

man. We came very close, obviously, in 2016, when Hillary Clinton won the popular vote but lost to Donald Trump because of our antiquated Electoral College system.

But there is no question that women continue to face challenges in politics. Some people still hold the stereotype that only men can be strong leaders. Women are judged differently on their appearance, dress, and age. They can be seen as weak if they

show emotion.

And that’s a problem. When it comes to finding leaders who can address our nation’s problems, we can’t afford to write off half the population.

In Mexico, there was no question the next president would be a woman. Sheinbaum, who will take office in October, won decisively. Her leading opponent was also a woman: Xochitl Galvez.

Sheinbaum is certainly qualified. A former mayor of Mexico City, she

has a Ph.D. in energy engineering. Her campaign benefited from the support of current President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador, but she is expected to be more data-driven and less combative in her approach.

It may seem surprising that Mexico elected a woman president before we did. Mexican women didn’t get the right to vote in national elections until 1953, 33 years after women in the U.S. Mexico is known for a culture of

“machismo,” and violence against women is a huge problem. But recent reforms gave women more political access. Women hold half the seats in Mexico’s Congress, and the chief justice of the Supreme Court is a woman.

Women have come a long way, obviously, in U.S. politics. When I arrived in Congress, in 1965, there were only 11 women in the House and

More Letters from Readers

In response to the letter from Holmbeck

You're joking, right? You're going to vote for the party that is pro-strong military? We already have, under Pres. Joe Biden, the strongest military in the world. But you're going to vote for Donald Trump, who used fake bone spurs to keep him out of the draft. The man who said that not catching STDs during the 70s was his own personal Vietnam. Really? You're going to vote for the pro-law enforcement party, whose candidate for president has been found guilty by a jury, in a court of law, of sexual assault and another jury on 34 counts of fraud. Juries hear all the EVIDENCE. Have you?

You're going to vote for the pro-life party, who is all pro-life until it involves a woman whose baby has died inside her, leaving her vulnerable to septicemia and death, or when it comes to a 10-year-old who was raped by her uncle for years and is forced to carry that pregnancy to term. A child's body is not made to deliver a baby. She could die.

You say you'll vote for the unequivocally pro-Israel party. Many Israelis have been killed by Hamas bombs, but Netanyahu's policies have killed even more children and civilians, not to mention the starvation and loss of homes of the Palestinian people. It has to stop.

So much for pro-life. But you were kidding, right? I, too, am pro-USA. The country of "We the People." A land of free-

dom and opportunity, where no one is above the law.

Donald Trump is running for his freedom. Kamala Harris is running for OUR freedoms!

Kate Furness Ely

The coming election could be a major tipping point

Project 2025 is the name of the Republican plan that is designed by the Heritage Foundation as the "road map" for their expected Trump administration. Their recommended policies reflect Trump's rally speeches and were written by Republicans who had worked in the Trump Administration.

The document is 900 pages long and cost \$22 million to create and was likely supported by fossil fuel companies. Some of the concepts are to put their own political appointees in charge of major scientific agencies and to eliminate renewable energy, climate technology, and energy technology research. They would lift restrictions on fossil fuel development on public lands, while reducing protections for endangered species and requirements for environmental reviews.

They would eliminate the EPA's civil and criminal law enforcement office. Abolish the Department of Education and the independent Federal Reserve. The list goes on.

More importantly, Project 2025 proposes the entire federal government be placed under direct presidential control, otherwise known as "unitary executive theory." They

want to establish Trump as a dictator, without any checks or balances that, of course, eliminates any pretense of the United States remaining as democracy. Our Constitutional liberties will be sacrificed, and freedom of speech will be forfeited. It is likely to be enforced by "his" army, as Trump referred to the U.S. army while he was president. Moreover, he has indicated Americans will not have to vote in four years, implying that there is no need for voting under a dictator.

Project 2025 is not just rhetoric. It is a reality check. This coming presidential election could be a tipping point for the U.S. survival as a voting democracy.

Gerry Snyder Ely

The choice could not be more clear

DEMOCRACY and FREEDOM, not tyranny and despotism. The choice is clear, it's not "tweedle dum and tweedle dee." The choosing is near; do you want to throw out 248 years of toil and trouble to keep the flame of Lady Liberty burning or douse the flame to plunge into darkness by voting for the last time? Know your history; Adolph Hitler was elected into office!

TRUTH and JUSTICE, not deceit and deception. Truth informs justice; without truth there can be no justice and without justice there is no peace until someone tells you the truth. Listen carefully to voices of reason and words of wisdom that shine the light of truth on darkness and you, too, shall also see.

COURAGE and

COMPASSION, not fear and indifference. Courage, fear, compassion and indifference come from within. "Courage is not the absence of fear, it conquers fear and compassion is not the absence of indifference, it conquers indifference," paraphrases a Nelson Mandela quotation. What we choose to learn, believe, think, and do, we become.

SHARE for the GREATER GOOD, not selfishness and greed.

"Every man for himself," on the frontier may have been more foolish bravado of romanticism than wisdom. In 1890, Fredrick Jackson Turner declared the American Frontier, closed! Today, our society is global, more populous, more complex and perplexing. Working together we can take on concentrated private wealth, power and control.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY and INCLUSION, not division, exclusion and inequality. DEI stands for fair treatment and full participation of everyone in society. The "dei" offers one last-time vote for neofascist rule by white, Christian nationalists in a lockstep, cult-like following of a "wannabe" dictator. A vote for Kamala Harris secures people power for political democracy and freedom.

"UNITED WE STAND, divided we fall." The choice is clear, truth sets us free!

Harold Honkola Stillwater

America's shameful support for killing in Gaza

Gaza, Palestine has fewer people than does Minnesota. Can we imag-

ine 40,000 of us dead because of bombs made in some foreign country? Houses, clinics, schools, universities destroyed in our state. The bombs and bullets used to kill these people are made right here in the U.S. and sent to Israel to murder. And the money comes from us, the taxpayers. Does the U.S. government ask us what it can do with our tax money? The university where I once taught in Gaza has been destroyed. The suffering is unimaginable, but the U.S. government and the weapons industry know exactly what they are causing.

Palestinians are dying of disease and malnutrition because Israel wants them to die. And Biden et al. want the same thing. America is a killing machine-mafia on a huge scale.

America is the enemy of humanity. We need to wake up. These so-called representatives of the American people are criminals of the worst kind. Instead of being in Congress or the White House they should be in prison.

Shame is what I feel about the United States government.

Steve Johnson Ely

What would Gusty say about this?

His name was Gusty. He was the journeyman electrician that I was assigned to as a young apprentice in the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers union. He was probably one of the hardest working, most knowledgeable journeyman I worked with in my early career days, although I would later learn

there were many others similar to Gusty in the IBEW union.

But the lesson I remember the most is when Gusty and I were working on the electrical installation at the new (1980) Ewens field in Virginia. Gusty was called away to another project for a couple of hours leaving me a list of to-do items before his departure. The work item list was completed before his return. So, not knowing any better I went out to the front and sat on the step to wait for his return. Oh boy, when he returned I was read the riot act for what seemed an hour. There are always things to do on a job I was informed loudly, from organizing material, cleaning to make our work area safe, sweeping the floor, but never, ever sit down and do nothing while being paid eight hours pay for eight hours work. After completing my career in electrical construction, I think back to that day and think about the lesson Gusty taught me.

While reading that the U.S. Congressional House leadership canceled the scheduled votes for its fiscal 2025 appropriations bills, all because the GOP majority struggles to govern, they recessed and tacked another week onto their August recess for now a total of six weeks. And the outlook is similarly grim come September, the focus will shift to passing a stopgap funding measure to avoid a partial government shutdown when the new fiscal year begins Oct. 1.

I wondered what Gusty would say to Congressman Pete Stauber and the Republican leadership if he was on that job.

George Pliml Cook

LEVY...Cont. from page 3

Approved a photography contract with Eric Sherman Images, effective July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2027.

Approved a five-year master services agreement with Clifton Larson Allen LLP at the Aug. 5 special meeting for auditing services with a starting date of July 25.

Approved the consulting agreement with National Insurance Services, effective Jan. 1, 2024, through Dec. 31, 2026.

Adopted a resolution for the election of

school board members in the upcoming election in November. The resolution authorizes the clerk of the school board to take the appropriate measures required by state law to set up the election for new or recumbent school board members.

Approved the consulting agreement with National Insurance Services, effective Jan. 1, 2024, through Dec. 31, 2026.

Approved Todd Hohenstein's 0.2 FTE science overload assignment for the 2024-25 school

year.

Approved calling back Trenton Flegel and Anna-Lena Forsman to fill two vacant paraprofessional positions.

Accepted the resignation of Cory Lassi as Head Softball Coach.

Accepted the resignation of Jennifer Spanier from her paraprofessional position effective immediately.

Approved the following fall assistant and volunteer coaches for the 2024-25 school year: Kayci Zorman-Muhvich, Kalley Fischer, junior

high volleyball coaches (stipend paid by Ely Net Club); Ryan Bush, junior high football coach (stipend paid by Ely TD Club); Troy Oelke, Tim Hogan, Steve Holthaus, and Louis Wiggen, volunteer assistant football coaches; Nicole Selmer, Carl Skustad, Megan Devine, Toni Dauwalter, and Clara Roy, volunteer assistant cross country coaches.

Approved a \$1,000 donation from Lake County Power to support the summer school program.

DRILL...Cont. from page 3

ambassadors - the liaisons between residents and the fire department - as well as for our other volunteers on how to set up an emergency operations and reception center," said Michael Ostlund, the township's emergency management director. "It was also a chance for our residents to learn the process the

fire department would employ in the event of a really bad day."

Volunteers worked through a simulated scenario that had a fast-moving wildfire coming out of Ely and making a run towards the Eagles Nest area.

"In the event of an actual emergency, it would (most likely) be the vol-

unteers who would be responsible for contacting their neighbors and directing them to evacuate. Those same volunteers would be charged with establishing a shelter for residents along with setting up an emergency operations center," said Ostlund.

Besides Eagles Nest Fire Department, the Ea-

gles Nest Committee for Emergency Preparedness, a phenomenal group of volunteers according to Ostlund, St. Louis County Emergency Management and Morse-Fall Lake Fire participated in the exercise. Residents who were evacuated were invited to stay at the Eagles Nest Town Hall for a short 'after-action-briefing' to dis-

ELECT...Cont. from page 4

two in the Senate. Today there are a record 126 women in the House and 25 in the Senate. But the glass ceiling of the presidency hasn't been broken, even though we've seen many examples elsewhere of women as strong national leaders.

Margaret Thatcher was the longest-serving prime minister of the United Kingdom in the 20th century. Angela Merkel was chancellor of Germany for 16 years. As early as the 1960s, India

chose Indira Ghandi as prime minister and Israel chose Golda Meir. Women have been heads of state in Brazil, the Philippines, Ireland and dozens of other countries.

The U.S. elected its first woman vice president, Kamala Harris, just four years ago. Nancy Pelosi, the first woman to be speaker of the House, first won the office in 2007. Harris and several other Democratic women ran credible campaigns for president in 2020. Repub-


lican Nikki Haley made a strong challenge to Trump this year.

Hillary Clinton arguably had as strong a resume as any recent presidential candidate: She had been first lady, senator from New York and secretary of state. Gallup polls consistently found her to be the most admired American woman, but the presidency eluded her.

The rise of women in politics has unquestionably been good for our country, and we should

encourage it. Many talented women have strengthened our ability to solve difficult problems at all levels of government. But it takes more than talent and drive to be successful in politics. To reach the top, it also takes the right circumstances, especially for women.

Eventually, we will elect a woman president, and that will be an important milestone. When it comes to leadership, we need all the talent we can get.



the
TIMBERJAY

Copyright © 2024 by *The Timberjay*. *The Timberjay* (PN 16025) is published weekly on Fridays, 51 weeks per year, by *The Timberjay Inc.*, PO Box 636, Tower, MN 55790. Business/Editorial Office at 414 Main St., PO Box 636, Tower, MN 55790. Call (218) 753-2950 to subscribe. E-mail address is editor@timberjay.com. Periodicals postage paid at Tower, Minnesota.

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

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

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

Official Newspaper:

Townships of Bearville, Eagles Nest, Embarrass, Kugler, Vermilion Lake, Field, Morcom, Leiding, Kabetogama, Crane Lake, Owens, Greenwood, ISD 707, city of Tower.

Member: Minnesota Newspaper Association, Lake Vermilion Resort Association, Lake Vermilion Area Chamber of Commerce, Ely Chamber of Commerce.

Subscriptions Available:

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

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

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

Week of August 19

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 Aug. 20.

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

Wednesday

Greenwood Town Board- 6:30 p.m. on Aug. 14. Date changed due to primary election on Tuesday.

Thursday

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

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

Only one files for two open council seats

TOWER- Incumbent council member Kevin Norby was the only person to file for the two open council seats for the upcoming November election. The second open seat currently is held by Josh Zika. Filings for other township's who hold November elections also closed as of Aug. 13, and the *Timberjay* will report on those filings in next week's paper.

St. Martin's holding rummage sale on Aug. 24

TOWER- St. Martin's Catholic Church is hosting their annual rummage sale on Saturday, Aug. 24 from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the church social hall. For those early bird shoppers, the doors will open at 8 a.m. - for the cost of \$5. In addition to the rummage sale, there will be coffee, lemonade, and cinnamon or caramel rolls available for purchase. The rummage sale will continue on Sunday morning with a bag sale - you purchase a bag for \$3 and fill it up. Sunday hours are 8 - 10:15 a.m. and 11:30 - 12:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to stop by.

Lunch Bunch to meet Aug. 22 at Giants Ridge

BIWABIK- The Lunch Bunch will be meeting on Thursday, Aug. 22 at 12:30 p.m. at the Wacootah Grille at Giants Ridge in Biwabik. Everyone is welcome to join the group for lunch that day. Please RSVP to Kathy at 218-753-2530.

Golden Eagles Class of '59 holding 65th Reunion, Aug. 17

GREENWOOD TWP- Classmates and friends are invited to join the Tower-Soudan High School Class of 1959 on Saturday, Aug. 17, at the Vermilion Club at 2 p.m. The VC does not take reservations so it will be first come first served, that's why we are looking at 2 p.m. We will order off the menu. Please call Barb (George) Peyla at 218-410-7883 if you plan to attend so that we can reserve a table for the group.

HOODOO POINT CAMPGROUND**Hoodoo Point offers a new kind of beach fun with gaga ball**

A group of teens from Duluth had an energetic game of gaga ball while camping at Hoodoo Point. photo by J. Summit

by JODI SUMMIT
Tower-Soudan Editor

TOWER- If you haven't heard of gaga ball, you aren't alone. But this new game, made popular by school physical education classes, is proving a fun new outdoor game at Hoodoo Point Campground.

"Gaga ball is a little like dodgeball," said campground manager Julie Kranz. "It takes a minute to learn."

Kranz learned about the game from her grandkids, who play it at school. The game has

a relatively simple setup, with a knee-high circular border wall, and can be played on a gym floor, grass, or beach sand. It is a gentler form of dodgeball, because the ball is not thrown, and must hit a player low, below the knees.

Kranz said the game has become popular at campgrounds also, and adds to the basketball, beach volleyball, and playground areas already at the campground. They opted to install it on a sandy area, so it can be played barefoot.

The rules are simple and are

posted on the outside of the enclosure. The game uses a playground ball, and moves quickly as players try to hit the other players, below the knees only, with the ball, which needs to remain in action by hitting with an open or closed hand (not caught and thrown). When a player gets hit, they hop out of the pit, and the game continues until only one player is left. There is a lot of wiggling, jumping, and hopping as players try to avoid the ball, and get into position to try to get another player out. Watching a group of teens and preteens at

the campground play, one would say the game is simply fun. The pit easily fits 5-6 players, more if they are younger.

While the game is extremely popular with school-age kids, Kranz said she enjoys playing it with her youngest grandkids.

The gaga ball pit is open to the public, as are the other amenities, picnic area, and beach at the campground. Kranz hopes more area residents will stop by and try it out. The playground ball is left out in the gaga ball pit.

TOWER-SOUDAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY**History Talks on Main Street program about the Vermilion Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla on Aug. 28**

TOWER- Local history buff and weatherman Dave Anderson will be the featured speaker for a History Talk on Wednesday, Aug. 28 at 2 p.m. at the Lamma Civic Center in Tower. Admission is \$5. The talk is being sponsored by the Tower-Soudan Historical Society.

Dave Anderson will delve into the history of the Vermilion Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla, celebrating its 85th anniversary this year. This presentation will explore the pivotal role of the Auxiliary in boater safety and shine a spotlight on its local roots.

Highlighting the contributions of Mrs. Leslie Griggs Welles, a notable figure in the establishment of the Lake Vermilion flotilla, Dave will share intriguing stories from the past, enriching our understanding of

this crucial part of our community's history.

A familiar face in local media, Dave Anderson has been with television channels 3 and 6 since 1986 and is known for his popular *Holding On To History* series on Northern News Now. With deep ties to the area through his great-grandfathers, Harry Anderson and Konst Marttila, Dave brings a wealth of local knowledge and a passion for preserving our shared heritage.

Don't miss this opportunity to connect with our community's history and learn more about the remarkable efforts that have shaped the Coast Guard Auxiliary.

**Train Tales set for Wednesday, Aug. 21**

TOWER- The Tower-Soudan Historical Society's final Train Tales storytelling event of the summer will be held on Wednesday, Aug. 21 at 3:15 p.m. inside the air-conditioned coach car at the Tower Depot.

Karel Winkelaar (pictured above) will be telling stories about the Soudan Mine and miners. After the stories, there

will be treats from Sulu's. Children should be accompanied by an adult. Children will be able to take home a free book and stuffed animal. After the stories, families are invited to stop by the Arrowhead Library's bookmobile, which will be making its every third week visit to Tower in the civic center parking lot.



Over 20 local residents showed up for the Wagoner Trail Club potluck picnic on Saturday, at McKinley Park Campground. The club is named after the late Howard Wagoner, a DNR forester who helped develop the ski trail system, along with many other trails. Three of Howard and Wilma's daughters, who all live in the area, were able to attend the event. Before the potluck, nine people took advantage of a group hike on the Wagoner Ski Trails (which are open for hiking off-season), and then after the potluck, another group headed off for a bike ride on the Breitung and Tower loop trail. The trail club maintains the Wagoner Ski Trail system, just south of Tower, and hiking trails in Tower. submitted

LVCC hosting three upcoming events

TOWER- The Lake Vermilion Cultural Center will be hosting three events in the next few weeks.

On Wednesday, Aug. 21 at 6 p.m., "Songs of The Anishinaabeg, A Night Sky Drum Program" will be held in St. Mary's Hall. It will be a special evening of Anishinaabe Nagamon, where

the Night Sky Drum group will share songs and drum teachings. The concert is being sponsored by Waawaate Programs, a local 501c3 nonprofit organization (waawaateprograms.org). A free will donation will be accepted, and refreshments will be served.

On Wednesday, Aug. 28 at 6:30 p.m., a Wine and Watercolor event will be held in the Halunen Lobby of the LVCC. The class is being taught by Linda Smith,

a Lake Vermilion artist who has been active on the board of the Zumbrota Arts Council. The cost is \$45 and there is room for only 20 participants. Spots are filling quickly. If room is still available you may register at vermilionculturalcenter.org.

"Save the Date" for Sept. 12 at 7 p.m. when The Sectionals will again hold a concert in St. Mary's Hall. The Sectionals is a vocal octet featuring classic jazz

and modern a cappella favorites. This will be the fourth time they will perform in St. Mary's Hall. This concert is very popular and is often standing room only. A free will donation will be accepted.

All events will be at the Lake Vermilion Cultural Center at 705 Main Street in Tower. To learn more about the LVCC or to donate, visit vermilionculturalcenter.org.

ARTS AROUND ELY

While Ely may have seemed more peaceful since the end of the Blueberry/Art Festival, its arts scene continues to explode this summer. Below is a selection of the many artsy events in the Ely area since the end of the festival.



Reflections Dance Company

ELY- The Northern Lakes Arts Association's Reflections Dance Company will present their summer dance production, "Constant Changes," at

Ely's Historic State Theater this weekend.

Performances will be on Friday and Saturday, Aug. 16 and 17 at 7:30 p.m., and on Sunday, Aug. 18 at 2 p.m. General admission is \$25.

This full-length dance concert features live

music by the Chicka-dee-dee-dees, Karin Schmidt, Jay Gustafson and others. A special piece choreographed by guest artists Amanda Sachs and Elena Hollenhorst will be part of the show. Tickets are available at the door and online at www.northernlakesarts.org.



Left: Members of the dance company ensemble performing a ballet piece. Above: The Chicka-dee-dee-dees' Emily Weise (left) and Grace Kline (right). photos by Ian Lah

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:

- Aug. 20: Perpich Arts High School with Anne Johnson.
- Aug. 27: Get to know Harley Droba.

Opera in the Park



Despite the rain, the Mixed Precipitation Opera presented a modern adaptation of Gounod's "Faust" to an audience of over eighty in the pavilion at Whiteside Park last Thursday. photo by C. Clark

ELY- The Mixed Precipitation Opera paid its fourth visit to Ely, bringing an adaptation of Charles Gounod's "Faust" to Whiteside Park last Thursday.

Despite the pouring rain, the traveling Minneapolis-based opera company restaged its pro-

duction to fit inside the pavilion at the park. The opera was updated to place Faust's travails in the modern era of space travel, where Faust's love interest, the young physicist Margie, has discovered and harnessed the element Deemonium, enabling the conquering

of outer space and re-engineering of humanity.

The opera company mixed Gounod's music with modern tunes, including the disco beats of Depeche Mode, which the ensemble appropriately danced to. The performance in Ely was

the first of Mixed Precipitation's touring performances in the Arrowhead region this year. After Ely, the opera company took the production to Silver Bay, Hovland, and Grand Marais.

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.



Left: Attendees at the needle felting class at the Tofte Lake Center. The center held its annual "Day at the Lake" on Saturday, Aug. 3, which is a free open house. The day featured on-demand poetry, a concert, hobnobbing and snacking with Tofte artists-in-residence on the lakefront, and craft workshops for basket weaving, jewelry making, and needle felting. Right: Fowl play came to Ely and Babbitt when Jackie Fallow and the talon-ted peregrine falcon Bride paid a visit. Both the Ely and Babbitt Public Libraries hosted Fallon from the Midwest Peregrine Society on Wednesday, July 31. Fallon gave her presentation in Babbitt in the morning and in Ely in the afternoon. The peregrine falcon visits were made possible through a grant from the Kid Stuff Program of the Arrowhead Regional Library. photos by C. Clark



COMMUNITY EVENTS AND NOTICES

Babbitt Public Library

BABBITT- The Friends of the Library have a raffle currently going for \$1 per ticket for hand-appliqued dish towels by Jenny Kelley. The drawing will be on Sept. 3.

The library will host a free art class for kids in grades K-12 on Wednesday, Aug. 21, from 1-2 p.m., using water-miscible oil pastel painting. Call 218-827-3345 or stop by the library to register for this class.

The library will host Chad Lewis on Wednesday, Aug. 21, at 4 p.m., for a presentation on Minnesota's most haunted locations.

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

Ely Public Library

ELY- The library will be closed on Monday, Sept. 2.

The spice for August is cumin seed. Pick up a sample and recipes at the front desk while supplies last.

The library will hold a

graduation for the children who finished the 1,000 Books before Kindergarten program on Wednesday, Aug. 21, from 11 a.m.-noon.

The library will hold an online Kahoot trivia game on the first three books of the "Court of Roses and Thorns" series by Sarah Maas. The Kahoot will start at 2 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 22, and end at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 27. Register in advance so the library can email the link to the game.

The Library Scientists group will meet on Friday, Aug. 23, from 1-2 p.m. This group is for all ages with adult help. In this session, participants will learn about optical illusions and how to make them. Register in advance so the library can order enough supplies for everyone.

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.

Rotary Casino Night

ELY- The Ely Rotary will hold its casino night on Friday, Aug. 16,

from 5:30-9:30 p.m., at the Miners Dry Building. Tickets are \$35 in advance or \$40 at the door. Tickets are available from the Grand Ely Lodge or any Rotarian.

Pub Crawl

WINTON- The Contented Critters Animal Rescue pub crawl will be from noon-4 p.m. on Sept. 7, but the deadline to sign up for it is Saturday, Aug. 17. Sign up at SamZ.com, 1225 Winton Rd. The pub crawl is \$50 and includes a tee shirt, food, and transportation.

Art Show Reception

ELY- The Northern Lake Arts Association show for August is "Tender Offerings," by Two Harbors artist Kayla Schiltgen. The show opens on Saturday, Aug. 17, at Ely's Historic State Theater. The reception for Schiltgen will be from 5:30-6:30 p.m. and will be interactive where attendees will be able to contribute to the exhibition display guided by the artist. Schiltgen's art features the innovative use of second-hand and found materials and emphasizes rural community.

Dorothy Molter Museum

ELY- The museum will hold its supporter appreciation day on Sunday, Aug. 18, from 11 a.m.- 2 p.m. Admission is free during the open house.

Ozzie's all-natural hike

ELY- Ozzie Reif will give a free talk at the Ely Folk School, 209 E. Sheridan St., on Monday, Aug. 19, from 4-5 p.m. about his upcoming 110-mile hike along the North Country National Scenic Trail and the equipment he made for the trip. Reif will be hiking with no synthetic materials. All his camping clothing and equipment is made from natural materials like cotton, wool, hemp, leather, and wood. He will be leaving on his hike Tuesday morning after his talk. The hiking project is supported by a grant from the Arrowhead Regional Arts Council.

George Floyd Photography Exhibition

ELY- The Ely Folk School, 209 E. Sheridan St., will host an open house exhibition of John

Ratzloff's thirteen photos made during the aftermath of George Floyd's murder in Minneapolis in 2020. The photos taken in June 2020 are mostly of paintings on 4-by-8-foot plywood sheets that covered smashed windows after the riots. The exhibition will be from noon-1 p.m. at the Ely Folk School. Admission is free.

Ely's Historic State Theater

ELY- Ely's Historic State Theater, 238 E. Sheridan St., will continue its free live music events throughout August. All events will start at 5:30 p.m. On Friday, Aug. 16, American Pie: Pat & Donna Surface will perform, followed by Boss Mama & The Jebberhooch on Aug. 23 and Ginger Bones on Aug. 30.

The theater also holds an open mic night every Tuesday from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Come bring your stuff and perform. This event runs through Aug. 27.

The Portage Land Music Festival will arrive at the theater on Sept. 6-7. Festival passes are \$90; kids under 12 are free with a pass holder. Get tickets at northernlakesarts.org.

Call 753-2950 to subscribe to the Timberjay!

ORR CITY COUNCIL

Defections of Orr Muni staff cause headaches

City leaders scramble for solutions after abrupt resignations force unexpected closures

by DAVID COLBURN
Cook-Orr Editor

ORR- The abrupt resignations of both a bartender and manager of the Orr Muni has left city leaders in a quandary as to how to keep the business running, with many frustrated patrons having to go out of town to meet their off-sale needs due to the limited hours of operation.

The situation was a major topic of discussion at Monday's city council meeting, with council member John Jirik summarizing the city's dilemma.

"We had one of our bartenders quit with no notice, and so we were in a little bit of a bind, but we still had two people there," Jirik said. "Our manager, at the time (Laura Manai), was able to find a couple people just to kind of keep running for a while. And then our manager quit, so now we're down to one person."

"The biggest issue here is that we didn't get any notice," Jirik said. "That's been our huge issue, trying to make this work with absolutely zero notice. And then we had

some part-time people who happened to get sick at the very time when we asked them to come in, and they legitimately were sick. So that's what's going on."

The Muni is a pressing puzzle that needs both short-term and long-term solutions, Jirik said.

"The short-term solution is to try to get some people just to work off sale," he said, "and I think we have some candidates for that right now so we can get the off sale opened up ASAP. We have that going. We're hoping by Monday that we can at least have a schedule out there."

Long-term, the Muni operation will hinge on finding a capable full-time manager who can run the business side of things, Jirik said. Hiring someone without the needed skills just to have the position filled "would pretty much destroy us and make things even worse than they are now," Jirik said.

The city can't wait for a new manager to make some changes, Jirik said, starting with the Muni's open hours.

"We have way too many dead hours at that

place," he said. "We were trying to run from eight in the morning till two at night with three employees seven days a week. It was unmanageable with who we have, so we're looking at what hours we can cut, what hours we can go without it affecting the community and affecting sales. So even though it's terrible right now, I think we're going to head in the right direction. At least we know where to start."

Another change will be in the compensation structure for employees, Jirik said.

"Instead of looking at salaried and expecting people to work more, we're going back to hourly, and we can manage our overtime by looking at sensible hours and employees," he said. That's management, and that's our responsibility."

Mayor Robert Antikainen described an alternative that would likely come into play if the city can't find a qualified manager for the Muni. Under that scenario, the liquor store manager duties would fall to City Clerk Angela Fabish, which would not include bartending and would come

with a salary increase. The hours of the Muni would be significantly reduced, and the city would go with two full-time bartender positions. Open hours and days off would be covered by part-time employees. With the savings the city would get, they could hire professional weekly cleaning, have part-time off sale coverage, fund city office labor hours and purchase necessary equipment.

Dam solution?

Bobbi Malecha and Kathryn Hetra of the Dam Restaurant were in attendance to propose an alternative solution to the off sale hours issue, which would be for the city to grant them the right to make limited off sale beverages available at the restaurant. Under current law, the Dam is about 400 feet inside the mile distance required to obtain an off sale license from the county.

"It's been really difficult," Malecha said. "People can't get the things they need in this community. Right now our money is going south, and people are not happy. This is not the first time it's happened over the last

three or four years. I've got people coming in my doors and our hands are tied, we can't do anything. If you guys would release the rights to us to be able to sell off sale, I could at least get something out the door. I'm not here to bury the liquor store - this community needs every business that it has. But this community has to be able to offer the things that are needed."

Malecha and Hetra both emphasized that the Dam has neither the space or equipment for stock at a level that would hurt the Muni's overall sales. Having limited off sale products available would help people get what they need locally when the Muni is closed, they said.

While some concern was expressed about the possible impact on Muni sales, the overall response of the council was favorable. However, they deferred taking any action, preferring to do additional research to get more information before making a decision.

In other business, the council:

► Unanimously declined to participate in the National Flood Insurance

Program, citing the cost of premiums as an issue.

► Awarded the annual propane contract to Lakes Gas, which submitted the low bid of \$1.19.9 per gallon.

► Approved a proclamation for "See Tracks? Think Train" week, Sept. 23-29.

► Approved an estimate of \$935.48 from Taconite Tire for new tires for the city's 2012 Chevy Silverado.

► Recognized Sen. Grant Hauschild and Rep. Roger Skraba as League of Minnesota Cities Legislators of Distinction.

► Approved payment of the following invoices: \$5,700 to Jola and Sopp Excavating for water main repair; \$2,300 to M&M Auto Body for Mega Fi Router installation for the ambulance service; \$3,309.34 and \$1,218.75 to Hawkins for work at the water plant; and \$202,559.34 to O'Day Equipment as final payment for the new fuel system at the airport, pending reimbursement from the state of Minnesota and IRRR for the costs.



SMOKEY TURNS 80



It was time to celebrate at the LaCroix Ranger Station in Cook last week as Smokey Bear celebrated his 80th birthday. Top: Smokey poses for a birthday photo with, from left, Amina Kovacevic, Jameson Meyer, Gunner Meyer, and Kari Meyer. Lower left: Three-year-old Addison Fjelstad eagerly colors a party hat. Lower right: Eight-year-olds Harrison and Grayson work on cards and hats for the party. photos by D. Colburn

ALL-STARS



From left, Weston Quam, Jordan Herdman, Reece Whitney and Caleb Gornick from the Cook Majors baseball team were selected to play in the Nanti League All-Star game which took place last Saturday at the Mesabi East Sports Complex in Aurora. submitted

LIONS DONATE TO LIBRARY



Friends of the Cook Public Library representatives Kristi Sopoci, Mo Fontana, and Crystal Whitney receive a ceremonial \$10,000 check at a recent Cook Lions Club meeting. The donation from the club's general fund was intended to help with the cost of repairs for flood damage. Lions Club President Steve Kajala noted that donations to the club's flood relief fund are held in a separate account and were not used for this donation. submitted

Cook-Orr Calendar

NWFA concert and dance coming up on Sunday

COOK- It's not too late 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 Tears," 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.

Lions flood victim survey due Aug. 31 for possible aid

COOK- The Cook Lions Club is asking Cook and Angora residents whose home or business was damaged in the June flood to complete a ques-

tionnaire to determine how the club might be able to help by using some of the funds donated to the club's account for flood relief.

The short survey asks for contact information, the nature and extent of flood damage, a choice of option to indicate where you are in the recovery process, when you expect to be completed, and a list of items to indicate your needs.

The Google Docs survey can be accessed through a link on the Cook MN Lions Facebook page titled "Flood Relief Survey." Surveys must be completed by Saturday, Aug. 31 in order to be eligible for assistance.

Paranormal author will present in Cook on Tuesday

COOK- Step into the realm of the paranormal with author Chad Lewis on Tuesday, Aug. 20 at 5 p.m. at the Cook Community Center as he talks about ghosts, monsters, and UFOs in Minnesota.

Lewis is a researcher, author, and lecturer on topics of the strange and unusual. His background is in the field of psychology and he has spent 30 years traveling the globe in search of unique history and bizarre stories.

This free program is sponsored by the Friends of the Cook Public Library.

For more information

about Chad Lewis and his books, visit www.chadlewisresearch.com.

Cook Public Library is open with limited services

COOK- The Cook Public Library is now open with limited services Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Patrons are able to pick up holds from other libraries and check out books from a limited selection. A new bookshelf is stocked with recently published titles. Print, copy and fax services are available.

Library staff can also assist with information and reference requests. Wi-Fi is available outside day or night every day of

the week.

Public computers, indoor seating areas, public bathroom, meeting room, newspapers and puzzles are not currently available.

Preschool through elementary summer readers are reminded to complete their reading log/challenge and bring it back to the library by Aug. 29 for prizes.

Adult summer readers should bring their completed Choose Your Own Adventure Reading Challenge into the library by Aug. 29 for a prize.

**Read It
HERE**

ELY ASSAULT

Defendant may claim self-defense

July 14 fight left a man unconscious in an Ely alley

by CATIE CLARK
Ely Editor

ELY- Court records suggest a man arrested in a July 14 assault in Ely intends to plead not guilty on the grounds of self-defense. That plea will have to wait at least until Sept. 9, however, as the first omnibus hearing on his felony assault charge, originally scheduled for this week, was continued.

Dana Allen Middleton, a 41-year-old from Grand Rapids, was charged with one count of third-degree assault causing "substantial bodily harm" during a late-night incident in downtown Ely. The statement of probable cause indicates that deputies from the St. Louis County Sheriff's Office responded at 11:34 p.m. after receiving a report "that there was a fight in the alley (behind 11 Central Ave. N.) and someone was knocked out."

Middleton had already left the fight location when the law enforcement arrived. Witnesses said that Middleton and another person were in a one-on-one fight. After the other party was knocked unconscious, Middleton "kept hitting (him) after he was down." One witness said he "had to put the (defendant) in a headlock to stop him from continuing to punch" the unconscious man.

The other person in the fight had visible blood and wounds on his forehead and left-hand knuckles. He was transported to Ely-Bloomenson Community Hospital, where he was intubated and then airlifted by North Memorial Air Care to Essentia Health Duluth.

Arrest

Shortly before arriving at the fight scene, sheriff's deputies observed Middleton as they turned onto Central Ave.

They described him as briskly walking south on Central Ave. and "deliberately not looking toward the squad (car)" as they drove past him.

Given Middleton's behavior and his proximity to the scene, the deputies "believed he was involved in the incident." After investigating the fight location and talking to witnesses, law enforcement officers located Middleton in the area and detained him "without incident."

Middleton was already on probation for convictions in Itasca County when he was charged with the July 14 assault. Middleton posted a bail bond for \$75,000 on July 29.

A long record

Middleton has a record of past offenses, dating back to 2000. His previous felony convictions include fleeing from a peace officer in March



Dana Middleton

2023; possession or sale of a controlled substance in Aug. 2017; two counts of second-degree assault with a deadly weapon in Feb. 2014; fourth-degree assault of a peace officer in Sept. 2012; a pair of charges for terroristic threats and burglary in Jan. 2004, and a third-degree assault in Nov. 2000. He also has ten misdemeanor and six gross misdemeanor convictions including two counts of fourth-degree assault of a peace officer.

The *Timberjay* has not heard back from the St. Louis County Attorney's Office on its inquiries for more details regarding the case.

Woman killed in UTV accident

GREAT SCOTT TWP- A woman from Blaine has died after the side-by-side utility vehicle (UTV) she was riding in was rear-ended by a pickup truck on Friday afternoon, Aug. 9. The St. Louis County Sheriff's Office reported that the crash occurred at approximately 2:30 p.m. on Osborn Road, about 14 miles southwest of Cook.

The UTV passenger, a 61-year-old woman, was riding with her 15-year-old female family member from Coon Rapids when the accident occurred. The woman sustained life-threatening injuries and was airlifted to a Duluth-area hospital by Life Link III, where she later died.

Family members transported the 15-year-old driver to Essentia Health-Virginia for treatment of non-life-threatening injuries.

The driver of the pickup truck, a 17-year-old male from Britt, was uninjured.

All individuals involved in the crash were wearing appropriate restraints. Authorities said alcohol did not appear to have been a factor in the incident, which remains under investigation. The Sheriff's Office was assisted at the scene by Essentia Ambulance-Buhl and the Cook Fire Department. The name of the victim was not released as of press time.

FINDINGS...Continued from page 1

Local lawmakers have consistently argued that a land exchange, which would provide the state of Minnesota with about 80,000 additional acres of federal lands outside the wilderness for revenue generation, primarily from the selling of timber stumpage, is a better deal for the region and for schools, than is an outright sale. Many other officials have argued that a sale of the lands to the federal government would generate a large up-front pot of money for investment, which would continue to generate far more revenue for the trust fund annually than logging an additional 80,000 acres ever could.

Those arguments rely on various assumptions, but as the *Timberjay* found through a records request to the Department of Natural Resources, the revenue generated by a sale of the lands would far exceed that generated through an exchange and subsequent logging of any newly-acquired state lands.

Understanding the issue

Understanding that conclusion requires a bit of background. First, the Office of the School Trust Lands, or OSTL, oversees the roughly 2.5 million acres of land held under the trust, but much of the on-the-ground management of those lands falls to the Department of Natural Resources, and the DNR assesses its costs associated with that management from the revenues that the OSTL receives.

For example, if the DNR sets up a timber sale on school trust land, it can deduct the cost of administering the sale, managing the harvest and scaling and billing for stumpage. Any additional costs for things like construction or maintenance of access roads could also be deducted from the piece of the pie received by the school trust.

Second, most of the revenue generated from school trust lands today comes from royalties on mineral rights held by the trust, not timber, and the vast majority (about 96 percent) of that revenue comes from receipts on taconite reserves.

Over the past ten years, those revenues averaged \$27.83 million annually, or \$278.26 million over the decade. The DNR deducts just under nine percent of that revenue to cover its costs of management.

While some northeastern Minnesota politicians have touted the potential for additional mining receipts on lands it might obtain through an exchange, that's wishful thinking. In fact, neither a previously proposed exchange nor a sale of school trust lands would generate any additional revenue from mineral rights, notes Aaron Vande Linde, director of the OSTL. "The state-federal land exchange did not include an exchange of mineral rights," Vande Linde said. "The Minnesota Constitution and state law requires the state to retain minerals and water power rights when exchanging

lands," Vande Linde said, citing Article XI, section 10 of the Minnesota Constitution and Minn. Stat. 93.01.

Those restrictions mean that the state would retain its mineral rights within the Boundary Waters, where mining is prohibited, and would not obtain any additional rights outside of the wilderness. The bottom line? Whether sold or exchanged, the lands in question won't generate so much as a nickel of new revenue from mining.

Timber sales generate modest returns

When limited to revenue from timber sales, the returns on school trust lands are quite limited. The DNR currently manages approximately 1.5 million acres of school trust lands as commercial forest, while another million acres is considered non-forest land, or not commercially viable.

From those lands, the DNR generates about \$12.5 million in gross receipts from timber sales, or about \$8.35 an acre annually. Yet after deducting the DNR's expenses, the net receipts to the school trust are far lower, averaging just over \$3 million per year over the past five years, or almost exactly two dollars per acre annually.

At a similar rate of return, an additional 80,000 acres would be expected to generate an additional \$160,000 per year in revenue for the trust, or approximately \$1.6 million over a decade, not including any investment proceeds on

that money.

A sale would generate far more

In comparison to the revenue generated from an exchange and subsequent timber harvest, the revenue from a sale of the 80,000 acres of school trust lands would be vastly greater. "It comes down to the time value of money," said Vande Linde. "The trust will receive cash on the barrel and be able to invest it straight-away."

As with other school trust revenues, the funds from a purchase would be invested, and those investments have traditionally done quite well. Over the past ten years, through the Minnesota Board of Investment, the trust has achieved annual investment returns of approximately 7.5 percent, which is a rate of return that will double an investment every ten years.

The compounding nature of such a rate of return over time can yield staggering sums. Based on preliminary discussions and previous appraisals, the sale of the school trust lands would be expected to generate somewhere around \$32-\$34 million for the school trust. That initial \$33 million purchase price, invested and left untouched, would be worth about \$528 million in 40 years. Based on current net revenue from logging on the additional 80,000 acres, timber receipts plus investment returns if left untouched for those same 40 years, would be worth about \$33 million.

\$528 million versus \$33 million. While these numbers are estimates, they help to highlight the yawning gap between the financial returns to the trust depending on the decisions officials make over the next year or two.

Proponents of an exchange versus a sale argue there are other considerations involved. "Maybe we will generate more by selling it now," said state Rep. Roger Skraba, "but that shouldn't be our only goal."

Skraba argues that financial calculations that point to a far better yield from a sale assume that the state's past investment success will continue. "That assumes the economy doesn't go down," he said.

Economic change is inevitable, of course, and can work in many ways. Technology could reduce demand for paper products, which could reduce demand for timber from state lands. A slowing economy, that might impact the state's investment returns, could also slow the housing market and demand for wood products. Climate change could reduce the amount and type of forest that currently covers the state, impacting future timber receipts.

Skraba relies on a

second argument as well. "Communities need work to survive," he said. "We have a natural resource extraction economy. Now, if the surrounding communities know there are 50-60,000 more acres available, they have a better opportunity to plan logging for the future."

Skraba's argument suggests that federal lands generate less cordage on an annual basis than the same acres would under state ownership. While that is true, the difference is relatively minor. According to the DNR, federal lands encompass 1.9 million acres of commercial forest and those lands generated 283,200 cords of timber in 2018 (the most recent year cited on the DNR website), or 0.15 cords per acre. The DNR, which manages 3.7 million acres, generated 754,600 cords in the same year, or 0.20 cords per acre. Assuming similar trends, an 80,000-acre land exchange could be expected to generate an additional 4,000 cords annually, which would have increased the total cordage sold in the state in 2018 from 2.814 million cords to 2.818 million cords, an increase of 0.14 percent.



Fridays
4-6 PM
at the Train Depot




Lake Vermillion • Tower, MN

MAILBOAT EXCURSIONS
See 80 miles of Lake Vermillion
9 AM-12 Noon • Call for Reservations

Marina Hrs: M-Fri 8:30-5:30, Sat 8:30-5, Sun 9-4
6143 Pike Bay Drive • 218-753-4190
www.aronsonboatworks.com






At The Ely Area Food Shelf


SUNDAY, AUGUST 18
11:30 AM to 1:30 PM

"Come and see what your dollars are doing!"



Ely Area Food Shelf

15 W. Conan Street, Ely



History Talks on Main Street

Brought to you by Tower-Soudan Historical Society

Vermilion Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla by Dave Anderson
Northern News Now Meteorologist
(Longest-serving meteorologist in the Northland)
Creator of *Northern News Now-Holding On To History*

Dave has deep family ties in the area-
Harry Anderson and Konst Marttila

Wednesday, August 28 • 2 PM
Herbert Lamppa Civic Center-Tower
Admission is \$5

History of Indian Boarding Schools The Vermilion Lake Indian School
by **Linda LaGarde Grover**
Professor of American Indian Studies at the University of Minnesota-Duluth
Anishinaabe novelist and short story writer
Member of the Bois Forte Band-Vermilion District of Nett Lake Reservation
Her grandparents met at the Vermilion School

SAVE THE DATE!

Tuesday, September 10 • 5 PM
Herbert Lamppa Civic Center-Tower
Admission is \$5 or, included as part of your Annual Dinner Meeting Reservation

RESORT...Continued from page 1

a mostly rural residential area and a preliminary plat application for a planned unit development.

The developers propose to remove six of the 12 existing rental cabins, remove the RV sites, park homes, and tent sites from the property, and build a new lodge. The plan also calls for remodeling the motel and the remaining rental cabins, building 12 new docks and 49 new cabins.

The preliminary plat application is for the conversion of 22 of the resort's 62 acres into a privately owned time-share cabin community, where owners buy a one-quarter share. According to materials submitted by the developers to Lake County, each of the cabins will have a footprint of over 1,602 square feet, including the deck and side stairs based on developer-provided plans provided at the meeting.

EAW petition

A petition to require an Environmental Assessment Worksheet was the reason many of the meeting attendees went home less than happy. After the first meeting on the resort project on July 18, residents organized with the help of the rural advocacy nonprofit CURE and submitted a petition on July 31 to the Minnesota Environmental Quality Board, or EQB, asking that an EAW be prepared for the resort makeover.

In a July 31 letter to Lake County, the EQB "determined that Lake County is the appropriate governmental unit to decide the need for an EAW." According to Minnesota regulations, the planning commission cannot grant or deny the resort's zoning applications until a decision is made on the petition. The developers, who want to begin work on renovating the aged resort, were less than thrilled over the delay.

Because the decision on the petition must come from the Lake County Board of Commissioners, the county has 30 working days — until Sept. 5 — from the receipt of the petition to make its determination. The planning commission will need to make a recommendation to the county commissioners on whether an assessment is needed before then.

The petitioners were unhappy that the EQB did not determine that an EAW was mandatory and that they must wait for

the Lake County commissioners to decide the fate of the petition. They were also unhappy that the Lake County Environmental Services Department issued a formal determination dated Aug. 8 that the resort's two applications "do not meet the thresholds for (mandatory) environmental review."

Environmental services argued that the resort conversion did not exceed the density and unit thresholds for a mandatory assessment. "The department has determined that this application is different because the existing structures ... will still be owned and operated by the resort; the areas that will be platted will have new structures with the opportunity to have densities closer to the zoning lot area requirements (one-acre minimum) and that would meet DNR shoreline structure setbacks."

Environmental services made its determination based on revised preliminary plat applications which cut the five units of workforce housing in the original and revised downward the number of units built during the first of three phases of construction.

The planning commissioners appeared glum but resigned over the need to schedule a third meeting to consider the resort's applications. The developers, who appeared keen to start work on the makeover of the resort, were unhappy over the delays.

Sandy Hoff, speaking on behalf of the developers, asked if they could get an expedited hearing on the applications after the petition issue was settled.

"I think we can make an expedited hearing, but if an EAW (is required), that's a different question," said Rich Sve, who is the county commissioner liaison to the planning commission, pointing out that expediting the applications was contingent on the fate of the petition.

Discretionary EAW

The county's environmental services department provided additional "petition guidance" to the planning commission at the Aug. 8 meeting on how to determine if a discretionary EAW is needed. According to the county's ordinances, that determination must be based on whether the project would create "significant environmental effects."

According to Lake

County Ordinance No. 8, Article 5, the county commissioners must consider the type, extent, and reversibility of any environmental effects, cumulative potential effects, and "The extent to which the environmental effects are subject to mitigation by ongoing public regulatory authority."

The petition guidance noted that several factors could affect the county's decision, including increased traffic, pedestrian safety, boat traffic, invasive species, water supply, docks, parking, impacts on residents and housing, and the nearby Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.

The guidance concluded with a short summary of the EAW pros and cons. First, it noted that environmental concerns could be made into conditions instead of requiring a formal EAW. On the pro side, an EAW would provide transparency and better access for the public to any environmental studies and analysis. The downside would be the delays and drawn-out process of an EAW.

Missing information

After the July 18 meeting, Lake County Environmental Services Director Christine McCarthy provided the developers with a list of items the planning commission wanted them to address. The items the county requested were a formal response to the letter on the project from the county's traffic engineer, snowmobile and ATV use, environmental assessment, water resources, hazardous materials and waste, a justification for the number of parking and "mooring sites," the submission of a construction stormwater pollution prevention plan, congestion and safety at the boat ramp, pedestrian traffic, building setback distances on the top of the bluff, an alternative location for the beach bar and bathroom structure if the proposed building cannot obtain a zoning variance, a design showing the layout of the septic system retrofit for the first of the three phases of construction, and an aquatic invasive species prevention plan.

In response, the developers provided a written response to the traffic engineer letter, a "review of background information" on groundwater prepared by a consultant, a stormwater pollution prevention

plan, a revised plan for the boat ramp and pedestrian traffic, updated plans showing clarified setback distances, and details on their aquatic invasive species prevention.

In addition to facilities at the boat ramp to "clean, drain, dry," the resort will also educate its guests and fractional cabin owners on invasive species and respecting the integrity of the lakes.

"These owners will have an orientation, and they'll have refreshers as things go by," said Kate Williams, the resort's operating manager, who described to the planning commission how the resort will "focus our programming on nature ... and developing a love of the land."

The developers will also remediate a fuel spill from a leaking underground fuel tank. "We are already working with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency on the remediation of the brownfield (on the site)," said Alex Bushey, speaking on behalf of the resort. "And we have sent our clean-up plans to the county."

Regarding ATV and snowmobile traffic, Bushey said, "Having a trail go past our lodge is a benefit to our property," explaining that it was part of the resort's business plan to "capture that traffic."

Luke Sydow, the developer's landscape architect, explained the situation with the docks, and confusion over the numbers of boats, slips, and docks. "I think that was a really big misconception in the previous plan. We heard numbers of 90 docks, that kind of stuff. We just wanted to verify that it was clearly not 90 docks. We're proposing 27 docks."

The resort will add 12

new docks to the 15 already in use, for a total of 27. This is a reduction from the 36 proposed in the original application.

"If we look at the number of docks, and we average that out by three boats per dock, because of the variety in size, we're looking at 75 boats."

Regarding traffic issues, the developers redesigned the boat ramp as a one-way and expressed their willingness to work with the county to manage pedestrian traffic. Regarding the rest of the traffic issues, Hoff stated, "I think that's an ongoing discussion to make sure that we create a safe environment for everybody, but I think that could be a condition of approval that we all work to solve."

280 versus 400

Issues of water supply, density, and traffic were less clear. The elephant in the room was not the 49 cabins or the new docks. The unspoken issue was the increased occupancy at the resort, which has a direct impact on water supply, wastewater generation, the amount of traffic in and out of the resort, and even the density calculations used to determine the thresholds for whether an environmental assessment is needed.

As stated in the petition guidance document, the current maximum occupancy of the resort is 280. After the proposed makeover is completed, the maximum occupancy will be around 400.

"There is a question about square footage of units," the guidance document related. "The footprint of the (cabins) appears to be close to 1,500 square feet, but there are two stories so actual square footage is closer to 3,000. Number of units is based on habitable space of units, which

did not include the lower level. Staff did not receive floor plans so actual square footage can't be determined." The document also noted that higher square footage would lower the permitted density of structures that could be built during the three proposed stages of construction.

Water supply

The developers' response regarding the water supply needed for the increased occupancy at the resort seemed less than thorough. The planning commissioners stated at both the July 18 and Aug. 8 meetings that the resort's water usage must not only meet the needs of its guests and fractional cabin owners, it must also not deprive the water supply in wells on neighboring properties.

The developers did not arrive at the Aug. 8 meeting with anything other than background information from their consultants. An analysis of the groundwater behavior of their well or of their proposed future well sites was not provided.

Bushey commented that "the water supply is adequate for phase one (of construction)," but that they wanted to put off groundwater tests until the second and third phases of resort conversion.

"We can assure the commissioners that a thorough analysis will be presented," the developers stated in their written response to the county's questions, "as we move forward with the development to assure the proposed facilities have sufficient water resources and that this project does not have a negative influence on surrounding properties."



Scenic Rivers Clinics

Medical, Dental, and Behavioral Health
Quality and Compassion
For Every Patient for Life

**Cook • Bigfork • Tower • Eveleth • Northome
Floodwood • Big Falls**

Same Day Appointments Available 

24-Hour Emergency Care in Cook and Bigfork (877) 541-2817
www.ScenicRiversHealth.org

NORTHERN LAKES ARTS ASSOCIATION PRESENTS:
REFLECTIONS DANCE COMPANY'S

CONSTANT CHANGES



AUG. 16 & 17, 2024 | **ELY'S HISTORIC STATE THEATER**
7:30 PM
AUG. 18 @ 2 PM | ELY, MINNESOTA

TICKETS: \$25
\$20 NLAA
\$18 SENIOR
\$15 STUDENT
\$10 CHILD

"CHANGE IS THE ONLY CONSTANT"

A DANCE CONCERT IN TWO ACTS WITH LIVE MUSIC
FEATURING CHICKADEE-DEE-DEE AND GUESTS

TICKETS: WWW.NORTHERNLAKESARTS.ORG 218-235-9937

Member Appreciation Days



Tuesday, August 20
Cohasset Service Center
26039 Bear Ridge Drive

Wednesday, August 21
Mountain Iron Service Center
8535 Park Ridge Drive

Thursday, August 22
Kettle River Service Center
4065 Hwy 73 South

11:00 a.m. — 1:30 p.m.
each day



A Touchstone Energy Cooperative 

800-421-9959
www.lakecountrypower.coop

Bring the family and connect with your cooperative. Fun for all ages!

- Bounce house fun for children
- Bucket rides
- Kids' drawing for prizes
- Picnic lunch
- Registration gift for adults
- Registration gift for kids
- Visit with employees & friends

This event is for co-op members who are served by Lake Country Power.

CENTER...Continued from page 1

got serious about this land because it had sat empty for about 20 years," said Gretchen Janssen, who's been involved with the project as a member of the town visitor center and campground committee. "We hired a lobbyist and made a plan. We had a lot of community involvement, a lot of meetings and design workshops, and presented it to the state Legislature and were awarded grant money." Funding for the center and the adjoining campground came from the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources, the Department of Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation, and the Department of Natural Resources, Janssen said.

"Voyageurs National Park has been a great partner," she said. "They've always wanted a visitor center in Crane Lake, but because they didn't own land in Crane Lake it was impossible for them, so this is a real win-win. The town owns the building, and we'll have about 70 percent of it leased out to Voyageurs National Park, and the rest will be town offices."

VNP Superintendent Bob DeGross said that he's excited to see the center finally coming together.

"Since 2017 we've been talking with the community on how to get this done, so it's really exciting to see it actually getting close to operational, which will hopefully be next spring or summer," he said. "The work that the community leadership put into the creative way of finding funding and support to get this done is just outstanding."

Up until now, visitors accessing VNP through Crane Lake had to depend on the local business community for information about the park, and DeGross said their assistance has been invaluable.

"We really appreciate the support and partnership that the local community businesses gave to visitors," he said. "But now that we have the space, we'll be able to be here and provide that information and the resorts can concentrate on their guests, but we'll all do it in partnership."

VNP will occupy the welcome/exhibit area and an auditorium for informational presentations, as well as two of the four offices in the building, DeGross said.

"A lot of what we are going to be doing is focusing on orientation, letting people know where they're at in the grander picture of the park," he said. "One of the unique things about Crane Lake is that it is not only a gateway to Voyageurs National Park, it's also the gateway to the western entrance of the Boundary Waters, and to Quetico Provincial Park up in Canada as well. So, it's sort of uniquely situated in that regard. We have four gateway communities, and the way people tend to visit the park is to go to one gateway community to get their information and then go into the park, so it's important to have that orientation and welcome opportunity for the different visitors that are coming in."

Voyageurs Conservancy, the park's nonprofit partner that supports educational, recreational, and conservation projects, is engaged with helping to develop the exhibits in the visitor center, and they recently contracted with Sarah Zwier, a St. Paul-based designer who specializes in exhibit design, to spearhead the



People gather at the front entrance of the new Crane Lake Visitor Center.

Crane Lake development. Zwier's past clients have included the Minnesota Historical Society, Arizona State University, the Children's Museum of Southern Minnesota, the Jay C. Hormel Nature Center, the Minnesota State Fair, and the Children's Discovery Museum of

Maine. "I'm working on the design and development phase of the exhibit design where we generate research and gather stories about the area, about the park," Zwier said. "We start to figure out what the big themes are, what makes this place special, and from there we

start to look at the space. We look at different ways we can engage visitors, whether that be graphic panels, large murals, media pieces, or video interactives. We're really trying to find a variety of ways to engage visitors and help them learn more. Crane Lake is a really special place, and there's a rich history of stories to be told, voyageurs, settlers, the fur trade, the Ojibwe. There's a lot of really great personal stories that we can tell here. So, I think it's just a really exciting project to be part of."

Two themes that have emerged in the process so far are the historical Indigenous culture of the park and the night skies, as VNP is an International Dark Sky Park. Zwier sees possibilities for integrating

those themes in the exhibits. "There's some really interesting resources that we've found that talk about the Ojibwe knowledge of the constellations and how they tracked cycles and seasons and everything, and because dark sky and constellations are so prominent here, we're really excited to try to engage that as another layer of information," she said.

Janssen said that the visitor center will likely open Memorial Day weekend next year. "It's going to take us the winter to get the finishing touches on the building and get the exhibits complete," she said. The center will operate primarily in the summer, but Janssen said that the town could open the center on a limited basis in the winter if there are a lot

of snowmobilers in town. DeGross said that ideally the center will be open from Memorial Day to Labor Day, and that it will initially be staffed primarily by volunteers, with support from VNP employees.

"Eventually, I'm hoping that we can get a committed staff person that would be able to work from this space," he said. "We do have a law enforcement ranger that works out of Crane Lake, and he will be housed in this building."

"It's just exciting to see something that has taken so long to come to fruition through all the partnerships it required to get it done actually getting implemented and moving toward operation," DeGross said.

FORD OF HIBBING HAS WHAT YOU ARE LOOKING FOR WITH OVER 140 NEW & USED VEHICLES ON THEIR LOT! STOP IN AT FORD OF HIBBING OR SHOP ONLINE AT FORDOFHIBBING.COM

2024 F150 STX CREW CAB 4X4

\$54,105 MSRP
-\$2,000 STX DISC
-\$3,108 FOH DISC

2.9% @ 66 MOS.*

\$48,997+TTL EVERYONES PRICE

\$3,500 FLEX BUY BONUS CASH + 2.9% @ 66 MOS.*

\$45,497+TTL CONDITIONAL PRICE

#25862

Fog Lamps, Power Windows/Locks, EcoBoost
**Prices will Vary Due to Model and Optional Equipment
*Must Finance Thru Ford Credit O.A.C

2024 BRONCO SPORT BIG BEND 4X4

\$35,215 MSRP
-\$1,000 CONV DISC
-\$816 FOH DISC
-\$1,000 BONUS CASH
-\$750 RETAIL BONUS CASH

5.9% @ 60 MOS*

\$31,649 EVERYONES PRICE

-\$1,000 JEEP CONQUEST BONUS CASH***

\$30,649+TTL CONDITIONAL PRICE

#25938

***Must on a 1995 or New Jeep

2024 BRONCO BIG BEND 4X4

\$47,695 MSRP
-\$2,233 FOH DISC
-\$1,000 RETAIL CASH
-\$1,000 BONUS CASH

\$43,462+TTL EVERYONES PRICE

-\$2,000 JEEP CONQUEST CASH***

\$41,462+TTL CONDITIONAL PRICE

#25809

Hard Top, Hoop Steps, Remote Start
**Prices will vary due to models and Optional Equipment
***Must own a 1995 or Newer Jeep

2024 EXPLORER XLT 4X4

\$48,375 MSRP
-\$300 REGIONAL DISC
-\$1,728 FOH DISC

2.9% @ 66 MOS.*

\$46,297+TTL EVERYONES PRICE

-\$1,200 FLEX BUY CASH PLUS
2.99% @66 MOS*
SUMMER SALES
FORD CREDIT CASH*

\$44,297+TTL CONDITIONAL PRICE

#25827S

*Must Finance Thru Ford Credit O.A.C

2024 EDGE SEL AWD

\$42,860 MSRP
-\$1,772 FOH DISC
-\$1,000 FLEX BUY CASH PLUS
1.9% @66 MOS*

\$39,988+TTL

#25939

EcoBoost, Black Appearance PKG
*Must Finance Thru Ford Credit O.A.C
**Prices will vary with Models and Optional Equipment

HUGE SELECTION OF FRESH TRADES

<p>2013 CR-V LX 82K MI</p> <p>\$14,712 #8201</p>	<p>2022 EDGE ST-LINE 38K MI</p> <p>\$28,397 #8202</p>	<p>2007 FOCUS ZX5 120K MI</p> <p>\$5,710 #8212</p>	<p>2016 EXPEDITION XLT</p> <p>\$17,742 #25893A</p>	<p>2022 SILVERADO 2500 HD CREW</p> <p>\$42,980 #8163A</p>
<p>2021 F150 LARIAT 6.5FT BOX</p> <p>\$44,972 #8171</p>	<p>2020 EDGE ST 30K MI</p> <p>\$30,980 #8223</p>	<p>2013 F150 XLT</p> <p>\$14,980 #8214C</p>	<p>2019 EDGE TITANIUM AWD</p> <p>\$20,397 #8135</p>	<p>2022 ECOSPORT S AWD 20K MI</p> <p>\$17,954 #8191</p>
<p>2022 RAPTOR 25K MI</p> <p>\$70,497 #25733A</p>	<p>2020 F150 XLT CREW</p> <p>\$34,978 #25789A</p>	<p>2020 FUSION TITANIUM HYBRID</p> <p>\$19,390 #8105</p>	<p>2017 SANTA FE SPORT AWD</p> <p>\$6,971 #25672B</p>	<p>2017 CHEROKEE LIMITED AWD</p> <p>\$17,710 #8215</p>
<p>2014 150 KING RANCH</p> <p>\$23,712 #25930A</p>	<p>2017 FUSION SE HYBRID</p> <p>\$13,978 #8193</p>	<p>2010 F150 XLT CREW</p> <p>\$9,701 #8190B</p>	<p>2016 MKX RESERVE</p> <p>\$16,980 #8219</p>	<p>2007 F150 LARIAT</p> <p>\$4,710 #25734B</p>
<p>2020 ECOSPORT 20K MI</p> <p>\$17,397 #8174</p>	<p>2019 ESCAPE SE AWD 42K MI</p> <p>\$18,980 #25825</p>	<p>2020 MURANO S AWD</p> <p>\$19,497 #25845A</p>	<p>2019 ESCAPE SE AWD</p> <p>\$16,701 #8208A</p>	<p>2020 ESCAPE SE AWD</p> <p>\$19,184 #8211</p>
<p>2020 F150 PLATINUM</p> <p>\$41,397 #25856A</p>	<p>2014 FIESTA SE 100K MI</p> <p>\$7,290 #8216</p>	<p>2023 EXPEDITION LIMITED</p> <p>\$55,972 #8169</p>	<p>2004 SILVERADO 1500 104K MI</p> <p>\$10,397 #8153B</p>	<p>2016 EDGE TITANIUM 42K MI</p> <p>\$20,980 #8225</p>
<p>2013 MKZ AWD 70K MI</p> <p>\$12,980 #8224</p>	<p>2017 EDGE SEL AWD 70K MI</p> <p>\$16,980 #25880A</p>	<p>2020 F250 XLT CREW</p> <p>\$41,980 #25932A</p>	<p>2014 CHEROKEE LATITUDE 68K MI</p> <p>\$13,980 #8207A</p>	<p>2018 SANTA FE SPORT 80K MI</p> <p>\$14,710 #25834A</p>

	LEIGH LONSON	TIM CARRUTH	RYAN AULTMAN	JAMI HENDRIX	ERIC GRAFF	MIKE DAY	TEIGAN BOSARGE	AIDEN SMERUD	JON CHIARAVALLE	2627 Hwy 169
		218-212-7202	218-293-4606	218-293-4636	218-293-4627	218-293-4637	218-293-4596	218-293-4625	218-293-4624	218-262-3881

PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

Johnson, Reed prevail in tight District 6 judge race

by DAVID COLBURN
Cook/Orr Editor

REGIONAL- The five-man battle for St. Louis County District 6 judge was the only nailbiter in an otherwise relatively mundane Minnesota primary on Tuesday, with four of the five candidates each getting around 20 percent of the vote.

Former Duluth city attorney Gunnar Johnson edged out the pack with 6,547 votes, 23.85 percent of the total number cast.

He'll face runner-up Duluth attorney Shawn Reed in the November general election. Reed captured 6,196 votes, or 22.57 percent. The balloting brought an end to the hopes of Peter Raukar, 21.25 percent, John B. Schulte, 19.85 percent, and Gerald K. Wallace, 12.49 percent, who failed to advance to the runoff.

In the primary for U.S. Senate, incumbent Amy Klobuchar easily outdistanced her DFL opponents with 94.26 percent of the vote.

Her Republican challenger in November will be Royce White, who pulled in 38.54 percent of the vote in a crowded eight-person field, easily outdistanced runner-up Joe Fraser with 29.25 percent. White will face an uphill contest against the perennially popular Klobuchar, who has regularly routed Republican challengers throughout her career in the Senate. In Tuesday's primary, Klobuchar garnered nearly twice as many votes in Tuesday's

primary as all eight GOP candidates combined.

The primary for the U.S. House Eighth District seat sets up a rematch between incumbent Republican Pete Stauber, who raked in 90.49 percent of his party's vote, and DFL challenger Jen Shultz, who also won in a landslide with 90.96 percent of the vote.

The race to replace retiring District 7B Rep. Dave Lislegard, DFL-Aurora, in the Minnesota

House saw Cal Warwas get the Republican nod over Matt Matasich, 84.22 percent to 15.78 percent. DFL candidate Lorrie Janatopoulos was unopposed for the party's spot in the November general election.

There was no contested primary race in House District 3A, where incumbent Republican Roger Skraba will face off against DFLer Harley Droba in the general election.

MARJO...Continued from page 1

sections last month, all the way from the Tinde Hytter factory in Vinstra, Norway.

The foundations, poured just last week, came out right to spec, which was easing the positioning of the wall segments. Starting Monday, using two cranes to lift the wall segments into place, the workers had the walls up on two of the units by Tuesday morning, when project manager Orlyn Kringstad put together a ribbon cutting to mark the project's launch. More than 50 people turned out for the event, including project owners Luke Kujawa and Michael Jellish, Tinde CEO Audun Skattebo, Kringstad's Norwegian business partner Lars Hanstad, along with IRRR Commissioner Ida Rukavina and business development director Matt Sjoberg.

Standing on a makeshift stage of stacked wooden pallets, Kringstad joked that Kujawa and Jellish had finally agreed to buy the Marjo property for a development project just to get him to stop talking about it.

"And yet he's still talking!" Jellish shot back in response.

Skattebo, in his own comments on Tuesday, credited Kringstad and Hanstad with helping him envision a new market for the high-quality cabins that his company builds. He noted that Tinde Hytter was now in its 22nd year of operation and has manufactured over 3,000 cabins of various sizes during that time. In Norway, he said the mountains and the seacoast are the main attraction for vacation homes, while Minnesota's thousands of

lakes provide their own opportunity for growth for his company. "The future and the opportunities are ahead of us," he said. "We must carry the right vision and the right values with us, then success will come."

Many of those attending on Tuesday were there to get a first look at the attractive and highly energy-efficient cabins produced by Tinde Hytter and the reaction was overwhelmingly positive.

Watching the market reaction

Skattebo was in Tower all week, keeping a close eye personally on the progress as the units were assembled by local construction workers with help and advice from two of his Norway crew who came along to help with the training. So far, it's gone smoothly, said Skattebo, even with the required conversion for the U.S.-based contractors to accommodate the use of the metric system in Norway. "They're getting it, that's for sure," he said.

This is Tinde's first entry into the U.S. market, so a lot is riding on the successful completion and marketability of the units.

"This is all part of the market survey, in my opinion," said Hanstad, who was in Tower as well this week. Hanstad said he's encouraged but not surprised by the interest in the "Tinde" cabins. He said he had talked with several different manufacturers in Norway before determining that Skattebo and Tinde had the right combination of expertise, capacity, and personality to be a good fit for both

the U.S. market and the U.S.-affiliated company, Tinde-USA, that Hanstad and Kringstad recently launched to begin marketing the Tinde cabins all across the Upper Midwest. You can learn more at their new website, Tinde-usa.com.

Both Skattebo and Hanstad will be watching closely to see what kind of interior fixtures and finishes Minnesotans prefer and if the clean Nordic-style and ultra-high energy efficiency of the units are appealing to customers in America.

The potential for market growth in the U.S. is almost limitless compared to in Norway, which has a nationwide population on par with Minnesota. While the company has sold a few units in Sweden, their market has been mostly limited to Norway— at least until now.

The Tower development, owned and funded by Your Boat Club principals Michael Jellish and Luke Kujawa, is expected to eventually include as many as 49 units spread across a site totaling 23 acres, although those numbers could change as they finalize their site plan. In either case, it's likely to be the largest single development project in Tower's history.

The development is located adjacent to the Your Boat Club marina and Jellish and Kujawa

anticipate many of the units will be for short-term rental or fractional ownership for club members when they're visiting the Lake Vermilion area. The marina, located on the East Two River, provides direct water access to Lake Vermilion.

The next three units are expected to arrive yet this year and should be erected before the snow flies. The remaining units should start arriving next spring,

assuming the developers can complete the necessary documents for the planned unit development.

Potential for new factory in Tower

Assuming the Tinde cabins find an interested market here in the U.S., the shift of manufacturing to Tower could happen relatively quickly. Skattebo toured a facility this week that could provide space for three production lines ini-

tially, which could produce about 100 units per year.

Manufacturing the cabins in the U.S. could substantially lower the price point of the units, given that shipping costs and the time delays involved were problematic for the first three units. Labor and material costs are also generally lower in the U.S. than in Norway, which could also help keep the unit prices at an attractive level.

We've been approved!

RECENT ARRIVALS



COSTA

Advanced Optical has been approved as a **Costa Ophthalmic** frame dispenser. Stop in and check out our wide assortment of styles and sizes.

Quality eyewear that makes a difference

ADVANCED OPTICAL
Family Eye Care Center

Mountain Iron/Virginia • 741-3000 • www.advoptical.com

SUPPORTER APPRECIATION OPEN HOUSE

AT THE DOROTHY MOLTHER MUSEUM
SUNDAY, August 18
10am - 5pm

Free Admission, Door Prizes & Light Refreshments

WWW.ROOTBEERLADY.COM
DOROTHY MOLTHER MUSEUM

Open Daily 10am-5pm

CABIN QUILTING

Your North Country
• 5-Star Rated Shop •




Quilting Fabric & Supplies
Longarm Quilting Services, Gifts

Susan Covey • 218-666-3146
227 1st St SW & Hwy 53, Cook MN 55723
cabinquilting@gmail.com

EBCH
Ely-Bloomenson Community Hospital

Hospital Connection
What's New at Ely Community Pharmacy



Q: What is Ely Community Pharmacy doing to be more eco-friendly?
A: Ely Community Pharmacy has added some unique new ways to be environmentally responsible. They recently switched to new prescription bags that are brown instead of white, so they aren't bleached and are used with 40% post-consumer recycled material. Also new are some over-the-counter items that are available in aluminum bottles to save on plastic, over 70% less.

Q: Is Narcan available at Ely Community Pharmacy?
A: Narcan (naloxone) is a medication used to rapidly reverse opioid overdoses that is available without a prescription at Ely Community Pharmacy. It can be obtained from pharmacies and is often carried by first responders, law enforcement, and community organizations. While Narcan is designed to be user-friendly, training can be helpful for those who might need to use it in an emergency.

Q: How can I refill my prescription at Ely Community Pharmacy?
A: Ely Community Pharmacy is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. During these regular business hours, our friendly ECP staff is available to help in person or by calling 218-365-8788. Additionally, ECP has partnered with RxLocal to offer app-based ordering from our website or your phone. Be sure to visit our website or see the ECP Monthly Specials ad to find some valuable savings each month on over-the-counter items.

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. Like our Facebook page to keep up with current events and announcements.

ebch.org 328 W. Conan St.
Ely, MN 55731
218-365-3271

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



NorthCountry

Serving northern
St. Louis County
since 1989



Above: The barn in a 2005 photo showing the extensive roof damage and also the basketball hoop used by local youths for pickup games.

Right: The restored loft has cedar panels on the ceiling and white pine flooring with railing balusters handmade in Yemen.

Lower right: Described as the “most Yemeni part of the house,” this living room, called a mafrag, features low cushions for seating.

Bottom right: Sharon Beatty and David Stanton have restored this 1928 Sears “Cyclone” kit barn north of Cook into a home with design features reflecting their former home in Yemen.

photos by D. Colburn



RESTORATIONS

METAMORPHOSIS

Rural Cook couple transform hundred-year-old barn into an extraordinary home

by DAVID COLBURN
Cook-Orr Editor

COOK- A stunning remodel that has converted a near-century-old Sears kit-barn into a showplace residence with distinctive Middle Eastern accents is now nearing completion amidst the forest and old farms of Field Township.

The barn, abandoned during the Great Depression, came with the property when Russell and Delphine Beatty, bought the land for the price of back taxes. The Beattys, who owned the adjacent farm to the north, picked up the property primarily for haying.

But for Russell and Delphine’s daughter, Sharon Beatty, the old barn was the property’s most valuable feature. She fondly recalls many hours spent playing in its hayloft as a child. So, when her mother decided to bequeath her property to her children about 20 years ago, Beatty knew that she wanted the 80 acres with the barn. And that’s how the property eventually came into the possession of Beatty and her husband, David Stanton.

Beatty viewed the barn as more than a familiar memory, she saw it as her future as well, intending to restore the grand old structure as a place to eventually settle.

But first, life interceded. Beatty and Stanton met when they were both living and working in Yemen, an impoverished country on the south end of the Arabian Peninsula. About twice the size of Wyoming, the country of 28 million people borders Saudi Arabia and Oman. Beatty went to Yemen as a Peace Corps volunteer in 1977, and eventually worked in the field of international development. Stanton also traveled overseas with the Peace

See RESTORATION...pg. 4B



CITY OF TOWER

Mesabi Trail facing many challenges finding route to Tower

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

TOWER—For years, city officials and local volunteers invested significantly in the creation of a welcoming service and information hub near the train depot in anticipation of the eventual arrival of the Mesabi Trail. But at a city council meeting here on Monday, city officials heard some stunning news — the trail may never actually make it to Tower.

Sarah Ciochetto, deputy director of the St. Louis and Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority, said sharply higher costs of construction, extensive wetlands and rugged terrain just south of town, along with resistance from the Minnesota Department of Transportation, have prompted trail officials to look at alternatives for connecting the final mile and a half of trail with the existing segment that runs from Tower to Ely. The most likely option, she said, would divert the trail to the northeast from near the Tower ski trails along the rail grade, connecting to the existing trail about a mile east of Tower.

The existing portion of the Mesabi Trail in Tower would serve as a spur that could connect riders with the services in the community.

It was not welcome news to members of the city council, who just recently approved construction of a new Green Flush toilet facility at what was expected to be the trailhead.

Ciochetto said she understood the concern. “We’d like to see it come into the depot as well,” she said. “We just can’t find a reasonable path to do so.”

Ciochetto said trail officials believe the best option would be to use a widened shoulder on Hwy. 135 for the last mile and a half, which would easily connect with the depot. But she said MnDOT has been highly resistant to that idea, which has prompted the search for alternatives.

“How much more will it cost to bring it right to Tower?” asked council member Kevin Norby. “I’m already seeing bikers every day on Hwy. 135. I’d like to see some of that traffic coming to town.”

Ciochetto didn’t have an answer to the question but noted that the cost of trail construction has nearly doubled since she started working for the rail authority in 2021, and was now exceeding \$600,000 a mile.

In the end, the council tasked members Norby and Bob Anderson to look for other alternatives to ensure that the trail comes through Tower. The issue is likely to be back on the council agenda next month.

In other business, the council agreed to send representatives to an Aug. 27 study session to be held by the Ely City Council to discuss the proposed merger of the Ely, Tower, and Babbitt ambulance services, as proposed in a recent study commissioned by the Ely-Bloomenson Hospital. “I think it’s very important that we participate,” said Norby. The city council discussed but took no final action on the possibility

See COUNCIL...pg. 4B



GET YOUR HOME SET FOR SEASONS TO COME.

SIDING • ROOFING • DECKING • WINDOWS • DOORS



804 N. 6th Avenue | Virginia
218.741.3014



Outdoors

Our lives in the Northwoods

MINNESOTA SCHOOL TRUST

Forest service seeks comment on land purchase

The public has until Sept. 3 to weigh in on acquisition of 80,000 acres in BWCAW

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

REGIONAL—The Superior National Forest is seeking public comment through Tuesday, Sept. 3, on its proposal to purchase approximately 80,000 acres of state school trust lands located within the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness from the state of Minnesota. The comment period is part of the forest service’s scoping process under the National Environmental Policy Act, or NEPA, however the decision is expected to

be made under a categorical exclusion, which will eliminate the need for extensive environmental review.

The transfer of the trust lands to federal ownership will resolve a decades-old land management issue that stems from the creation of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness, which greatly restricted the state’s ability to access its trust lands within the wilderness boundaries.

The state of Minnesota recently withdrew its request to address the issue through a land exchange, and

the forest service canceled the school trust land exchange environmental impact statement as documented in a Federal Register Notice dated July 12, 2024.

With the proposed acquisitions, the federal government would purchase approximately 80,000 acres of school trust lands, approximately 3,200 acres of tax-forfeit St. Louis County lands within the BWCAW and approximately 17,000 acres of lands located outside the wilderness

See PURCHASE...pg. 3B



A canoe on Slim Lake in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. file photo



OHV DEVELOPMENT

Campground build now underway

Facility located just east of Soudan expected to open next July

by SETH ROESER
Staff Writer

REGIONAL— Construction on the new state campground designed specifically for off-road vehicles is well underway just east of Soudan, with an opening set for July 2025.

The new facility, dubbed the Murray Spur campground, will connect to the Prospectors Loop ATV trail, a trail system that connects Ely, Babbitt, Embarrass, Tower, and Soudan through forest roads and wooded trails. The network also connects riders with an ever-growing network of off-road vehicle trails in the region stretching from the North Shore to the Canadian border.

Another trail in the works will provide campers with direct access to both Tower and Soudan, where gas stations, restaurants, and other services are available.

The campground was part of the original concept for the Lake Vermilion-Soudan Underground Mine State Park, but the idea ran into opposition from lawmakers and outdoors groups that opposed the lifting of a longstanding prohibition on ATVs and other off-road vehicles in state parks. The small section of park land, about 400 acres, located just south of Hwy. 169 near the Murray forest management road, was re-designated as a state recreation area in 2020 to allow for construction of the OHV campground. Despite its new designation, state park staff will manage the new campground just as it manages other camping facilities within the park itself.

Park assistant manager Jim

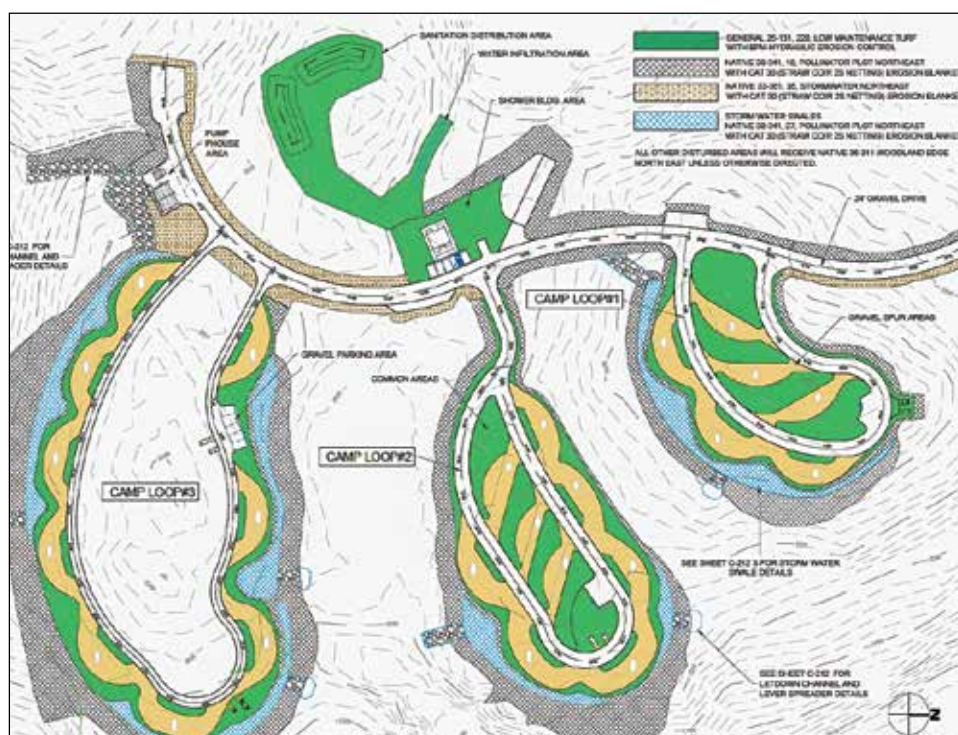


Top: A dozer moves freshly dumped gravel as part of construction of the new Murray Spur campground just east of Soudan.

Left: A new ATV bridge at the entrance to the park.

Below: The site plan for the new campground.

photos by J. Summit



See CAMPGROUND...pg. 3B

Wildflower Watch



This week's featured flower
BIRDSEOT TREFOIL

It's been the summer of **Bird's-foot Trefoil**, *Lotus corniculatus*, which seems to be growing everywhere, particularly along roadsides and other disturbed areas. It's a non-native legume that can be invasive at times. It's often used as a groundcover for mining reclamation because of its nitrogen-fixing ability. But the huge number of tiny seeds that develop in inch-long seed pods seem to spread like wildfire. Our wet June this year probably prompted widespread germination.

The plant, which grows about 8-10 inches high in thick clumps, is readily identified by its bright yellow, pea-like flowers, and its small, three-lobed leaves that are reminiscent of a fat-toed chicken foot, which likely contributes to its name.

NATURE

Sax-Zim Bog BioBlitz set for Aug. 24

TOIVOLA—The 12th annual BioBlitz at the Sax-Zim Bog is set for Saturday, Aug. 24, which is being held at a significantly later date than in the past.

Organizers hope the shift to later in the season will enable the participants to discover species that have not yet been recorded in the Sax-Zim Bog. Anyone who'd like to learn more about the biodiversity of the bog and to help record previously undocumented species is invited to join experts for day-long field trips. Field trip options include emphasis on insects, butterflies, birds, plants, galls, moths, aquatic species, and fungi. Over 3,500 species have been recorded in the Greater Sax-Zim Bog and that total typically grows during every BioBlitz.

Participants will meet at the Friends of Sax-Zim Bog Welcome Center at 8793 Owl Avenue in Toivola at 9 a.m. This event will take place outdoors. Expect varied weather conditions, biting insects (which will be documented), and uneven terrain.

Bring swampers (tall rubber boots) if you have them. People who are interested in joining in are encouraged to register through the website Saxzim.org. There is no charge to participate in this event. All ages and knowledge levels are welcome.

Fishing reports

Ely area

Yet another major cold snap swept through the Ely area last week, dropping water temps from 76 to 68 degrees. Clearly this has thrown a wrench into the walleye bite for many. Cold weather had anglers thinking of large minnows on a jig or lindy rigging. These anglers were not disappointed as they were able to catch walleyes while others struggled. As weather conditions stabilized, walleyes have begun to bite again on spinner rigs, tipped with a crawler and slip bobbers with a leech floated over shallow rocks. Locations to find walleyes vary greatly from lake to lake now. In some lakes, river mouths have been hot, while in others it's sunken islands, weedlines, shallow rocky flats in 6-12 feet of water that are producing. For a handful of lakes, deep water trolling has been on fire. Hot colors remain orange/chartreuse, pink/white and gold.

Smallies too can now be found in many locations. Shallow rocks and timber have been a good location for topwater fishing early in the mornings or cloudy days. As water warms up, big smallies have been sliding out to sunken islands where they feed on schools of ciscos. Here strolling large soft plastics has been deadly. Clearly not all smallies are doing the same thing, so anglers have also been finding smallies on shore-

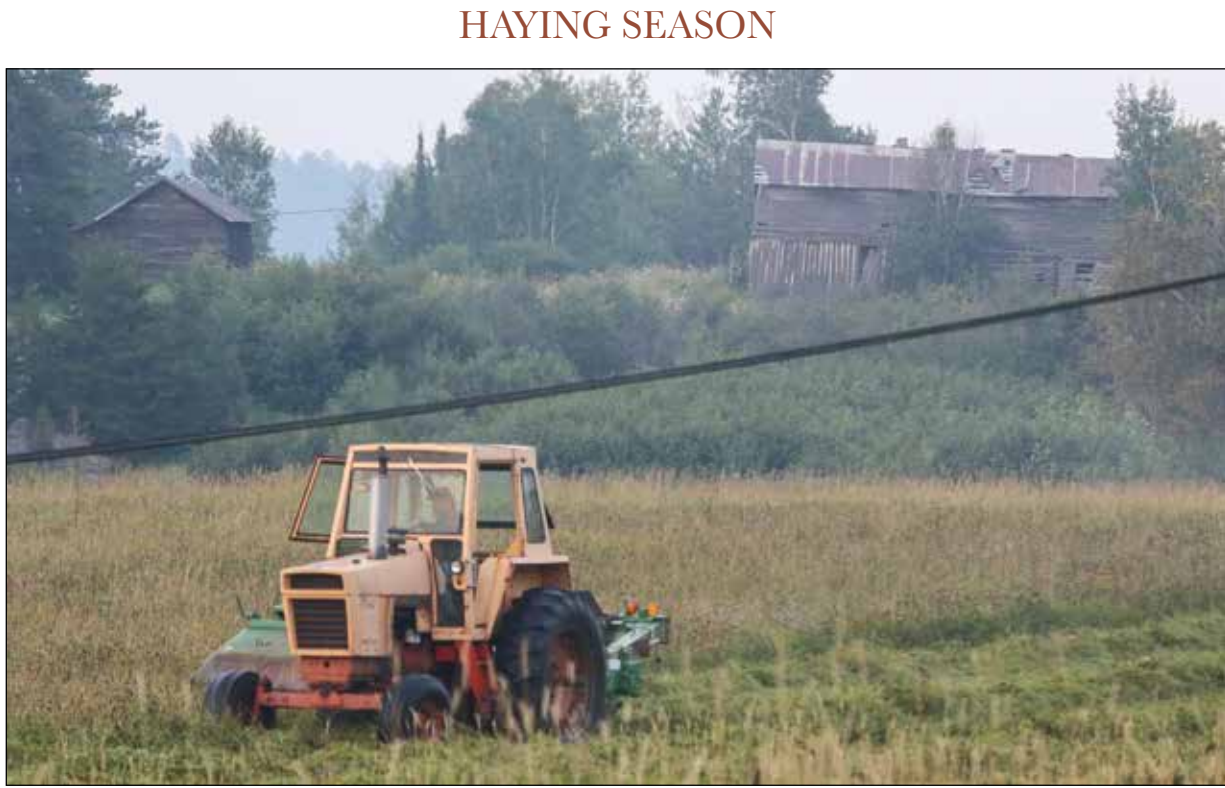
lines with spinnerbaits and wacky worms.

Panfish - The sunfish and crappie bite has clearly cooled off. Dropping water temps kicked the sunnies out of the shallow water for a few days. Anglers found sunnies more on weedlines for a few days. Small wax worms were really effective on these guys. Last couple reports have the sunnies back up in weedbeds and pencil reeds. Small topwater flies, angleworms and small soft plastics have been effective again. Crappies have been hanging just off the weedbeds until the evening hours when they slide into the weedbeds. Beetle spins, jig/twister and small crankbaits have been effective here.

Rainbow trout didn't seem to mind the recent cold snap. Anglers continue to do well with rainbow trout trolling cowbells tipped with a small crankbait or spinner rig with half a crawler.

Lakers, too, didn't seem to mind the recent cold snap as anglers reported catching quality trout this last week. Anglers continue to use down riggers for dipsy divers down by the thermocline in 40-60 feet of water. Large flashy spoons have been the most popular lure to troll. Colors have varied greatly from angler to angler, so be sure to keep changing colors until you find the color of the day.

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

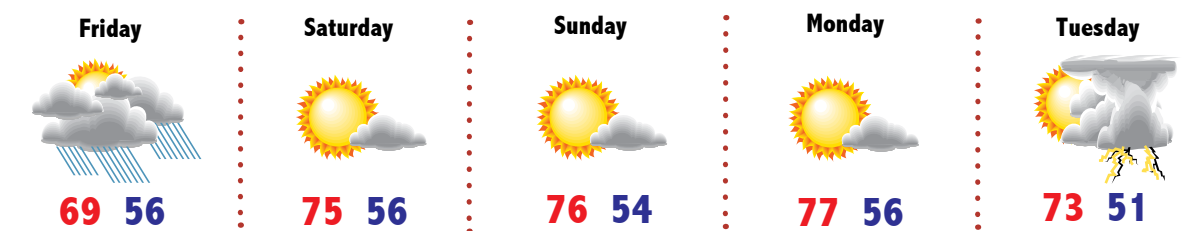


An old tractor slowly made its way with a mower across a hayfield just west of Tower this week. The field is traditionally mowed in August for hay. photo by M. Helmlberger

HAYING SEASON

LAKE COUNTRY FORECAST

from NOAA weather



	Ely	Emb.	Cook	Orr	Tower
08/05	72 53 0.00	72 47 0.03	68 48 0.00	66 50 0.00	71 48 0.00
08/06	68 51 0.00	70 40 0.00	74 43 0.00	75 43 0.00	68 40 0.00
08/07	75 54 0.00	76 40 0.00	69 45 0.01	70 55 0.00	75 47 0.00
08/08	72 53 0.31	72 55 0.53	62 52 0.34	63 50 0.20	70 50 0.44
08/09	60 50 0.08	61 51 0.27	60 51 0.04	57 52 0.13	60 52 0.26
08/10	55 49 0.13	57 51 0.03	70 50 0.00	72 54 0.00	56 51 0.10
08/11	69 53 0.00	70 44 0.00	76 47 0.00	79 50 0.00	na na 0.00
YTD Total	20.41	22.05	22.84	NA	23.19

CAMPGROUND...Continued from page 2B

DeVries said the new campground will include 27 large, pull-thru campsites, which will be considerably wider than those found in most state park sites, to allow for loading, unloading, and maneuvering of off-road vehicles. Like most other state park campgrounds, facilities will include a shower house and vault toilets. The new campground is also slated to include an ATV wash station, which DeVries

said is intended to help reduce the spread of invasive species, since seeds from invasive plants like dandelion and tansy are frequent hitchhikers on ATVs. The new sites will provide for either tent camping or RVs.

In 2020, the park received \$5.8 million in bonding funds from the Legislature to help move the project forward.

PURCHASE...Continued from page 2B

held by The Conservation Fund, a national nonprofit.

The proposed purchases are the next step after the cancellation of the school trust land exchange, which was originally proposed by the DNR in 2012. The purpose of the scoping period is to inform the public of the proposed action and to solicit public comments. The scoping package and links to comment are available at: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/superior/?project=66600>. The forest service will also be hosting two open houses to take input on the proposal.

Those include an in-person event set for 4:30-7 p.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 28. A virtual open house will be held on Thursday, Aug. 29, from 4-6 p.m. The link is available in the scoping package.

"The purchase of these lands will help reduce administrative issues the state, St. Louis County and the forest service have faced for a long time," says Tom Hall, supervisor of the Superior National Forest, "and the purchase of The Conservation Fund lands will offer approximately 17,000 new acres of

public land within the Superior."

The lands acquired inside the BWCAW would be managed as wilderness under the BWCAW Act, and The Conservation Fund lands acquired inside the forest boundary would be managed for multi-use purposes, including public recreation, in accordance with the current forest plan. Approximately \$50 million in Land and Water Conservation Fund funding is currently available for the forest service's proposed purchase.

THE TIMBERJAY: Your source for outdoor news

Ritchie Automatic
Livestock Waterers and Parts
HIBBING FEED and SEED
262-3049

Cook VFW POST 1757
(218)666-0500
Open Daily: Noon to Closing (Closed Tuesday)
HAPPY HOUR 3:30-6:30 PM
Pull Tabs (Lic #00390)
Thursday: BINGO
Food Served 4:30-5:30 PM
Games Start: 6:30 PM
Friday
BURGER NIGHT • 4:30-7
Burgers starting at \$7
Take-out available
206 1st St SW, Cook, MN

PETERSEN DRILLING
Since 1948
Wells Water Systems
• PUMPS
• WELLS
• HYDRO-FRACKING
1-800-662-5700
Spring Park Rd.
Mt. Iron, MN 55768

CLEAN.DRAIN.DRY.

CLEAN

- Boats, PWCs, trailers, and gear
- Remove all weeds, mud, and hitchhiking contaminants from axles, wheels, undercarriage, motor, prop, skis, wakeboards, ropes, and life jackets before leaving

DRAIN

- Water from boat, bilge, motor, ballast tanks, and bladders. PWCs - run motor for 10 seconds to blow water out of jet drive
- Remove drain plug and open all water draining devices
- Trash unused bait

DRY

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

STOP INVASIVE SPECIES! LEARN MORE AT CLEANDRAIN.DRY.ORG

RESTORATION..Continued from page 1B

Corps, serving in Botswana before moving to Yemen in 1991 to teach in an international school, where the couple eventually met.

Bit by bit

The couple's work schedule provided the opportunity to come to Cook during the summer, time they would spend working on the restoration.

"It started when we were much younger and more fit and able," Stanton said. "It started out with a query – 'Do you think this would make a nice house?' And I said yes, and that's what we've been doing ever since. We were living in Yemen at the time, so we were only here about six weeks every summer." They spent that time building, hiring contractors, while still doing a lot of the work themselves. "So, for years and years it was just six weeks a year that we could spend on this, which is why it's taken so long. We were limited by my vacation schedule until I retired in 2019," said Stanton.

The first order of business was to repair the roof, which was severely degraded, leaving the barn open to the elements, including birds, Beatty said.

"After that, the first thing we did was hire a barn straightener," she said.

"By that time, it was 90 years, maybe 85 years, and the thing had started changing shape," Stanton said. "Peter Maeder, a good friend of ours who did most of the initial skilled work, very frequently said, 'There isn't a right angle in this place.' He was talking about the fact that it leaned, and it bowed out."

Beatty and Stanton focused primarily on the hayloft at first, as they intended that to be their primary living space. At 48 feet by 28 feet with



A soft woodfired brick wall installation carved in a traditional Yemeni style yaagur pattern was shipped to the U.S. in three pieces.

a vaulted ceiling 22 feet high, the loft was one big room that needed to be turned into smaller rooms and other living areas for a self-contained living space.

Beatty and Stanton accomplished that in part by using the vertical space to create a second level in the loft that has sleeping and living room areas, as well as a small office and a bathroom. And it's here that one sees the influence of their years in Yemen on the design, beginning with the railings on the staircase and around the upper level.

"These balusters were forged in Yemen by a guy that we were advised to contact if we wanted any steel work done," Stanton said.

But it's the living room that Beatty called "the most Yemeni part of this house."

"This is a Yemeni living room, it's called a mafrag," she said. "Every room in Yemen has these cushions on the floor. It's

your living room, it's your room for guests, it's your bedroom at night because the cushions are ideal for sleeping, it's where you eat. Everything is done in this one room which can accommodate almost any kind of occasion, so we designed the room around that idea."

And if one raises their eyes toward the peak of the ceiling at either end of the barn, one will see two colorful round glass windows of Yemeni origin.

"It's not stained glass, they call it colored glass," Beatty said. "They're usually in the shape of a half-moon, but you can do any shape you want. We decided we wanted to bring some back with us, so we found a very, very good artisan. We actually have two more which we haven't figured out where to put yet."

Stanton said the designs were inspired by the hex signs of Pennsylvania

Dutch country his mother pointed out to him on family road trips.

On the lower level of the loft, two striking features are a room length bookshelf incorporated into the structural beams of the roof and a beautiful white pine floor, with the boards milled to their specifications in Deer River. The floor is complemented by thin cedar panels on the ceiling, chosen to reduce the weight of the installation.

The kitchen provides an example of a problem that Beatty and Stanton have encountered several times during their restoration, finding contractors willing to work with the unique materials imported from Yemen.

"We brought the granite (for the countertops) from Yemen, so we had to guess what the final proportions would be for each of the rooms and it turned out we were off a little bit," Beatty said. "We had to recut everything, and no one would do it for us because they were worried we wouldn't like it because it wasn't standard. So, we had to settle for David figuring out how to cut it. We ended up reimagining exactly how to make the kitchen."

Windows were chosen mostly to fit the existing openings in the barn, including the hay doors. Decorative elements such as paintings are by Yemeni artists, and other items are reflective of the couple's other travels, such as tiles surrounding the bathroom tub.

Beatty said that the barn was far more space than they needed to live in.

"It was a little bit embarrassing that we didn't think about the fact that this is really a big structure," she said. "But once we realized

this was going to be an issue, we decided to design it so that this is a space all its own on the top floor. The bottom floor is a completely separate apartment. It can have a kitchen, two bathrooms, two bedrooms, living spaces and a dining room."

The upstairs was essentially finished two years ago, although there are still a few tweaks to be done. Beatty and Stanton are focused now on completing the downstairs, which still has work to keep them occupied.

One wall downstairs is faced with soft wood-fired brick from Yemen in a style known as yaagur, Beatty said.

"What they do in Yemen is carve into it traditional patterns – you see a couple of different patterns here. It's usually on the outside of homes. But living in Yemen for 28 years or so, I built a second floor onto the home we owned and I had them do a wall of the yaagur in the kitchen because I liked the way it looked."

The bricks were assembled and carved in Yemen, then imported as three separate pieces.

"My role, apart from doing semi-skilled work, is figuring out how to make some of Sharon's ideas work," Stanton said. "We could not import a Yemeni mason to do the yaagur here, so I had the idea of building it in sections, and then trying to figure it out when we got here."

Another challenge has been the herringbone stone tile floor, primarily because the tiles are over an inch thick, and with all of the cuts required for the pattern it was difficult to find a contractor willing to take the task on.

A bathroom downstairs is unique in that

reflects the time Beatty and Stanton lived in Vietnam after leaving Yemen.

"We decided to make the walls of this old French colonial style tile, which amazingly we found at Menard's, because we had lived in Vietnam for five years, and all the old buildings had this exact pattern," Beatty said. "We fell in love with it, and we wanted something to remind us of Vietnam, since everything else reminds us of Yemen."

All of the hard work downstairs is done, Beatty said.

"We just mostly have painting and staining and hanging doors," she said. "We're not quite sure what to do with this part yet, but we'll finish it and figure it out."

Stanton also showed off a small board that came not from overseas, but from the barn itself.

"As far as we know, this is coming up on its 100-year anniversary," Stanton said, pointing to the date etched in the wood. "We think this is the date that he pounded the last nail, Oct. 26, 1928."

Beatty was pleased that for the most part, the restoration has remained true to her original vision.

"With a few improvements or modifications, this is pretty like I had imagined it," she said. "Our vision was to incorporate Yemeni architectural features and to keep it as much like the original barn as possible."

Beatty and Stanton's vision not only included restoration of the barn, but restoration of the land around it, bringing back the native plants and grasses that had been pushed out by invasive species. That multiyear project will be the subject of an article in next week's edition of the *Timberjay*.

COUNCIL..Continued from page 1B

of calling its own special meeting so any of the council members could attend.

In related action, the council approved an increase in the allocation for the new ambulance, which is now expected to cost \$258,000, up from the \$250,000 the council originally approved. The council also authorized the ambulance service, after the fact, to apply for a rescue UTV from an EMS grant program.

In other business, the council:

- Listened to a presentation by a representative of TextMyGov, a company that maintains software to facilitate text messaging between local governments and residents. The system would cost \$2,000 for the first year, including setup and would be \$1,500 annually after that, with some additional options available at extra cost. The system would allow residents to find information using a smart texting option that would provide automatic responses based on key words. It would also allow residents to report issues or safety concerns by text and allow the city to send alerts to residents as well. The council took no immediate action on the proposal, but indicated they planned to keep the issue on the agenda.

- Heard public input from two Hoodoo Point seasonal campers, both of whom said they would like to be able to keep the second sheds on their campsites for the needed storage. Second sheds have become an issue at the campground and speakers Don Miller and Richard Swanson both said they would like clarification

of the situation. "Do we have to remove them or not?" asked Swanson.

- Discussed the need for changes in the drinking water well system at the Tower Airport, which is experiencing low pressure. In addition, the well is located within a private hangar, which restricts access to the well in case of problems. Council member Josh Zika asked for more information on what might be causing the low pressure, noting that there could be several possible causes. But that information wasn't immediately available so the council voted to table the issue until some additional questions could be answered.

- Voted to approve advertising for a new maintenance assistant for public works in the wake of the resignation of former assistant John Harju. Mayor Dave Setterberg said he has begun reviewing the job description for the position in preparation for possible changes as well as upcoming contract talks with the union.

- Heard a brief report on the housing development on the Marjo Motel property, which had poured foundations for three units last week without the proper permitting in place. Clerk-treasurer Michael Schultz said as a result of a meeting with the developers and county officials last week that the permitting was now fully in place for the three units currently under construction on the property.

- Heard that the city's financial audit is now completed and that the council will likely have a review of the document with the auditor at its September

meeting.

- Gave the second and final reading to an update to the city's forestry ordinance.

- Voted to designate Michael Schultz as the city's primary representative to the Lake Vermilion Trail joint powers board, with David Wanless as the alternative. Wanless had recently responded to a city request for volunteers to serve on the board, which is currently focused on developing a paved trail between Tower and the Y Store.

- Heard from Setterberg on what he termed a "good conversation" with U.S. Rep. Pete Stauber on development currently taking place in the city and the need for future congressionally-directed funds to continue helping with the city's efforts to address wastewater issues.

- Heard that the new kayak and canoe access dock is here and being installed by the city's public works.

- Heard that the purchase agreement for the county public works facil-

ity is being finalized by the city and county attorneys and will get signed once that work is completed. "We have the money waiting," said Schultz. Council member Anderson said he'd like the council to talk seriously about leasing the two soon-to-be-empty pole buildings to help cover some of the expense of the purchase of the county building.

- Heard a report from Schultz on conversations with potential apartment developers who are interested in projects in Tower.

"We had a couple developers say that, yeah, 'this is a project we'd like to do,'" said Schultz. "One of the developers has done a lot of projects, and has worked closely with the IRRR. We'll need to get into more detail at some point. Right now we're trying to go nice and slow so we don't get ahead of ourselves."

- Discussed the possibility of a special meeting later this month to hold a public hearing on a new short-term rental ordinance.



A Regional Favorite

STOP IN TODAY OR CALL...

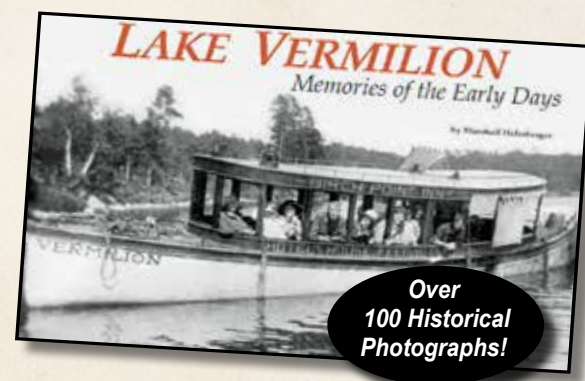
Just \$29.95 + Tax

Don't miss your chance to own Lake Vermilion's most definitive history!

Memories of the Early Days

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

Written by Marshall Helmlinger • Published by the Timberjay



Over 100 Historical Photographs!

Pick up book(s) at Timberjay office in Tower or have book(s) mailed, for \$39.95 each.



The Timberjay
P.O. Box 636, 414 Main St
Tower, MN 55790 • 218-753-2950

BOOK ORDER FORM

Quantity of Books _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP Code _____ Tel.# _____

Credit Card Information VISA MC DISCOVER

Exp. Date ____/____/____ CVV _____

Billing address if different from above _____

Book Total - Pick Up \$29.95 + tax (\$32.16) Book Total - Mail \$39.95

Total charged to credit card \$ _____ Paid by check \$ _____ Check # _____

Pick Up Mail

HEALTH CARE

Nursing care centers receive additional state funds

by DAVID COLBURN
Cook-Orr Editor

REGIONAL- Two area nursing homes are among seven northeastern Minnesota facilities benefitting from the nearly \$3 million in additional state funds for long-term debt and facility expenses approved last year, with a second distribution of funds happening soon.

Sen. Grant Hauschild, DFL-Hermantown, announced the additional funding in a press release on Monday.

“Our region has a higher aging population than most and I want our seniors to access care and support services near their families and home communities,” Hauschild said. “That’s

why the nursing homes in our communities are critical and why I helped champion support to keep them open. I’m grateful this second round of funding is coming as a lifeline for these nursing homes and I look forward to continuing to advocate for them into the future.”

Cook Care Center, affiliated with Cook Hospital, will receive \$170,239 in the second round of funding for a two-year total of \$338,315. The funds will be used to pay down long-term debt associated with renovations, said CEO Teresa Debevec.

“We used the funds from last year for our long-term debt payments for the 2016 loan when we remodeled and added on to make the care center all

private rooms with private bathrooms and showers,” Debevec said. “We will also use the funds this year for those payments.”

The total allotment for Boundary Waters Care Center in Ely was \$395,956, with \$199,109 to be received this year.

“This funding made it possible for our team at BWCC to complete capital improvements within our residents’ whirlpool tub room as well as purchase new beds to enhance our residents’ comfort,” said Executive Director Adam Masloski. “We leveraged some of these dollars to partner with Ely-Bloomenson Community Hospital in a culinary improvement project that has enhanced residents’

and patients’ dining experiences through capital improvements in our kitchens and dining spaces.”

Masloski expressed thankfulness for Hauschild’s support.

“Sen. Grant Hauschild has been a true champion for BWCC,” he said. “We welcome and deeply appreciate all the support he continues to show our community. We would not have realized the legislative support received last year, such as this funding and that of the Critical Access Nursing Facility (CANF), without the support of our local government officials.”

Masloski acknowledged the important role donations from local community members and partners, including the Blandin Foundation, played in achiev-

ing the improvements. With the funds that are still in reserve, the BWCC team is considering dining room improvements and new furniture for common areas, he said.

“On behalf of everyone at BWCC, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to our friends and partners throughout Ely and the surrounding area, our incredible residents and families, and our dedicated team members,” Masloski said. “The continuous donations of time, funds, and gifts are countless reasons why BWCC continues to have the opportunity to serve the families of St. Louis County.”

MPCA fines four area businesses for violations this year

REGIONAL- The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency has released details of its enforcement actions for the first six months of the year for violations of water and air quality regulations. The MPCA completed 100 enforcement cases during that time, including several in northeastern Minnesota.

Environmental enforcement investigations

often take several months, in some cases more than a year, to complete the investigation and issue final enforcement documents to regulated parties. Penalties are calculated using several factors, including harm done or potential for harm to the environment, the economic benefit the company gained by failing to comply with environmental laws, or how responsive and co-

operative a regulated party was in correcting problems.

Imposing monetary penalties is only part of the MPCA’s enforcement process. Agency staff continue to provide assistance, support, and information on the steps and tools necessary to bring any company, individual, or local government back into compliance.

Among those receiving significant fines during the

first half of 2024 were the following:

► Dave Rose, doing business as Tower RV Resort Cooperative and Power Sports of Minnesota, Inc. Rose was fined \$25,000 for several violations of construction stormwater permit requirements during 2022, causing adverse impacts to nearby wetlands.

► Cleveland-Cliffs Minorca Mine, near Vir-

ginia. The facility was fined \$16,750 after leaking wastewater, construction runoff, and tailings materials into nearly half an acre, including a nearby wetland, in 2023.

► Packaging Company of America, in International Falls. The company was fined \$10,230 for failing to report an incident last October in which a transport truck released lime dust

that drifted and deposited on area school playground equipment, vehicles, and vegetation near its paper production facility.

► KGM Contractors of Angora. The company was fined \$9,285 for exceeding particulate matter emissions and failing to keep and submit required records in 2023.

Obituaries and Death Notices



Paula D. Barnes

Paula Doreen Lind Barnes, 68, of Tower, passed away peacefully in the arms of Jesus in Virginia Hospital Hospice on Saturday, Aug. 10, 2024, with family by her side. In 2020, Paula developed ovarian cancer that spread to her peritoneal abdominal cavity. She was a loving and energetic mother, grandmother, sister and friend and will sadly be missed by all who knew and loved her.

A celebration of life will be held at 3 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 30 at the Evangelical Free Church in Embarrass, with a gathering afterward at 4 p.m. at the Tower Civic Center for a silent auction, food and remembrance. The family asks that, in lieu of flowers, please consider donating to Paula’s Go Fund Me at <https://www.gofundme.com/paulalindbarnes>.

Paula was born on June 20, 1956, in Minneapolis, to Curtis Herbert Lind and Darlene Joann Sandstrom Lind. The family lived in Pike Lake in houses built by her dad and maternal grandfather, Turre, until her parents moved to Alaska.

She graduated from Proctor High School in 1974 and attended UMD and Lake Superior College for medical laboratory science. Paula worked for Essentia Health Clinic laboratories in Ely, Tower and Babbitt, Cook Hospital, and lastly at Bois Forte Tribal Clinic as lab/x-ray manager-supervisor.

Paula was active at the Evangelical Free Church of Embarrass under Pastor Marlin Bjornrud and his wife, Jeanine. She was a part of the choir, Sunday School, youth league events, school events for her children, and coach-

ing volleyball, softball and basketball. She loved researching and recounting family history for further generations. She was an antiquer and crafter known for her soy candles and lotions. She loved remodeling and decorating houses. In the end, she discovered e-biking, and a love-hate relationship ensued. Paula married her soulmate, Jason Mathew Barnes, in 2016. It was her dream to go through life with him, completing their happy, loving journey.

Paula is survived by her husband, Jason; three children with Robert Francis Trucano of Tower, Terah Sue (Nathan) Rinerson, Robert Andrew Trucano and Tasha Anna Trucano (Lee) Majerle; three sisters, Pamela (Dave) Peterson, Lisa Anna Repensky and Lana (Lind) Arro; sister-in-law, Juanita Trucano, who was more like a sister; the joys of her life, five grandchildren, Oryann Sophia Trucano, Hayden Rinerson, Evelyn Rinerson, Robert Charles Trucano Swartz and Cecilia Majerle; mother, Darlene Lind; numerous nieces and nephews; and mother-in-law, Patricia Barnes of Quakertown, Penn.

She was preceded in death by paternal grandparents, Fred and Anna Savik Lind; maternal grandparents, Turre Alexander and her best friend, Grandma Edna Nylund Sandstrom; in-laws, Charles and Mildred Trucano; loving father, Curtis Herbert Lind; and father-in-law, Donald Barnes.

Joyce H. Peuranen

Joyce Helga “Joy” Hill Peuranen, 89, of Vermilion Lake Township, was called home by our Lord on Monday, Aug. 5, 2024, surrounded by her precious family. A private family service will be held. Burial will take place at the Vermilion Lake Cemetery. Arrangements are with Range Funeral Home in Virginia.

Joyce “Joy” was born on Feb. 23, 1935, to Helen and Charles “Charlie” Hill at her parents’ home on the Pike River in Vermilion Lake Township near Tower. She was a lifelong resident of Ver-

million. Joyce attended Vermilion’s School 40, graduated from Embarrass High School in 1953, and attended junior college in Virginia. She met the love of her life, John Peuranen, at a wedding dance. Joyce and John were married on June 1, 1957, at the Embarrass Apostolic Church and enjoyed 67 adventurous years together. They raised three children in the home she designed and John built which they filled with love, laughter, faith, and plenty of sisu. Joyce enjoyed working at the REA (Rural Electrification Association) before starting her family. She also worked at the Embarrass Credit Union and as an election judge, before turning to nursing where she provided attentive care at Arrowhead Nursing Home for many years before retiring. She was a longtime member of Pike Apostolic Lutheran Church.

Joyce loved to travel and saw the beauty of God’s creation in nature. When her children were young, summers found her paddling the BWCA, especially Lake Isabella, for family camping trips whenever sunny weather landed on John’s days off. You wouldn’t guess by looking at her but Joyce could out-paddle a man twice her size when wild ricing with John, or one-third her age while whitewater rafting in retirement. She always navigated while John drove their family on camping road trips out west, sharing mountains, oceans and national parks with their children. Later in life, the road led them to Alaska, New England, the Wild West, Canada and for 22 years to Port Aransas, Texas, where she walked the beach and watched dolphins instead of trudging through the snow drifts of Minnesota winters.

Joyce delighted in cooking. She showed her love of her family and friends through her wonderful new recipes, homemade breads, and a never-empty cookie jar for her grandchildren. She shared her creativity through her original cross-stitched art, hand-pieced quilts, painted ceramics, and tai-

lored clothes. She loved to watch high school hockey, the Olympics, and keep up with politics on TV. In her spare time, you could usually find her cozied up with a good book. Her intelligence, common sense, thoughtfulness and sisu will be dearly missed.

Joyce is survived by her husband, John Peuranen of Vermilion Lake; three children, Jodene (Brad) Syrjanen of Esko, Jill Peuranen of St. Paul and Jay Peuranen of Vermilion Lake; three grandchildren, Jeremy (Courtney) Syrjanen of Zimmerman, Bridger Carlson and Solei Carlson, both of Saint Paul; one sweet great-grandchild, Brielle and her new sister expected to arrive in September; sister, Sharon (Bob) Beckman of Bensen, Ariz.; many nieces, nephews, and cousins, as well as beloved extended family, Pike Apostolic Lutheran Church family, and friends.

She was reunited in heaven with her parents; sister, Hazel (Gorden) Crayne, whom she missed every day; infant brother, Robert; and so many family members and friends. Joyce shared that the hard part of reaching 89 years of age was the large number of family members and good friends that she’d had to say goodbye to.

Shirley Hartleben

Shirley A. Milbrandt Hartleben, 88, of Ely, passed away on Tuesday, July 23, 2024, at Ely Bloomenson Community Hospital. She had resided at Carefree Living in Ely for the past five years. Her family will forever be thankful for the care she received and special friendships she had with all her caregivers and residents of Carefree. A graveside service will be held on Saturday, Aug. 17 at 11 a.m. at the Ely Cemetery. Arrangements are with Landmark Funeral Home in Virginia.

She is survived by her children, Wayne (Elaine), Peggy (Dean) Erzlar and Curtis (Jackie), all of Ely; sisters-in-law, Diann (Wally) Milbrandt and Joyce (Larry) Milbrandt, both of Hankin-



Donald D. Dean

Donald “Duffer” D. Dean, 88, of Virginia, passed away on Friday, Aug. 8, 2024, at Water-view Pines in Virginia. Per his request, there will be no public service. Arrangements are with Landmark Funeral Home in Virginia.

Don was born on March 14, 1936, in Saginaw, Mich., and graduated from Saginaw High School in 1954. In 1957, Don was hired as a Patrolman for the City of Virginia. He loved his career as a Police Officer and worked hard to advance his position in the force. Don retired in 1992 as Assistant Chief of Police.

In 1959, Don served in the Army National Guard of Minnesota earning the rank of Staff Ser-



geant. He was decorated with a Good Conduct Medal and Marksman-ship Badge. Don was a member of the Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association.

He is survived by three sons, Douglas Dean, David Dean and Daniel Dean; one daughter, Dawn (Scott) Frazee; four grandchildren, Abigail (Ripley Siemsen) Frazee, Avery (Adeline Robbins) Frazee, Zoe (Carter Meier) Swanson-Dean and Arianna Dean; two step-grandchildren, Aubie (Jason) Shaw Paulsen and Mandy Shaw; and two great-grandchildren, Flora and Arlo Siemsen.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Roy and Bertha Dean; and the mother of his children, M. Kay Dean.

son, N.D.; sister-in-law, Betty DeMersseman of Greeley, Colo.; grandchildren, Terry (Emily) Erzlar, Tracy (Mark) Henrich, Travis (Shanna) Erzlar, Sara (Ben) Hutar, Emily (Mike) Hartleben, Hillary (Eric) Hartleben and Alicia (Van) Hartleben; and 11 great-grandchildren.

Jahna L. Sandberg

Jahna Lynn Sandberg, 23, of Cook, passed away on Wednesday, Aug. 7, 2024, at St. Luke’s Hospital in Duluth. Many people created great memories with Jahna to cherish forever and she will be deeply missed. She is a hero as she was a donor and has changed lives of people who never knew her. A celebration of life will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 16 at the Cook Community Center. Arrangements are with Mlaker Funeral Home of Cook.

She is survived by her mother, Taryn (Donnie

Luecken); brother and sister-in-law, Jaret and Destinie and their children, Grayson and Leah; bonus sister, Michaela Luecken; grandmother, Gail (Mike Gwash) Brunner; grandfather, Merlin Sandberg; great-grandfather, Ken Brunner; aunts, uncles, cousins, many other family members and friends.

Gary L. Pratt

Gary Lee Pratt, 64, a longtime Pike Township resident, passed away on Monday, Aug. 5, 2024, at the University of Minnesota Medical Center. A celebration of life will be held from 1 to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 17 at the Pike Town Hall. Arrangements are with Range Funeral Home in Virginia.

He is survived by his wife, RaeAnn Leppala Pratt; son, Eric (Rachel) Pratt; granddaughter, Bonnie; and brother, Jerry.

EMPLOYMENT

PUBLIC NOTICES

PT BARTENDER WANTED Apply at the VFW in Cook

(218) 666-0500

Northern Tier High Adventure Full-Time Opening

Food Service Administrator

Competitive Salary and Benefits. Apply online at www.scouting.org/careers/open-positions

Located on Moose Lake in Ely, MN Call with any questions: 218-365-4811 www.ntier.org

JOB OPENING - CITY OF ORR FULL-TIME BARTENDER

The City of Orr is accepting applications for a full-time Bartender at the Orr Municipal Liquor Store. This is an hourly position that includes a competitive benefit package with health insurance, life insurance, vacation, sick leave and retirement.

Applications may be picked up at the Orr City Hall, 4429 Hwy 53, Orr, MN, M-F, 8:00 AM-4:00 PM, or the Municipal Liquor Store.

Questions? Contact us at orrmn@centurytel.net. Or call 218-757-3288.

Published in the Timberjay, Aug. 16 & 23, 2024

ELY PUBLIC SCHOOLS POSITION OPENING Temporary Part-Time Custodian

Ely Public School District is looking for a Temporary Part-Time Custodian in the Washington/Memorial building for the 2024-2025 school year. We are an EC - Grade 12 district, seeking an energetic, self-starting, personable, and highly motivated individual. Background check required.

Required Qualifications:

- > High school diploma, with post-secondary training in facility maintenance preferred
> Ability to read basic operating instructions and write reports
> Demonstrate aptitude for successful completion of the tasks assigned
> Such alternatives to the above qualifications as the supervisor, administration, and board finds appropriate and acceptable
> Prior work experience demonstrating positive and effective interpersonal skills in the work place
> Demonstrated ability to perform assigned tasks without direct supervision

Essential Functional Capacities:

- > Ability to lift a minimum of 50 pounds
> Ability to climb ladders (at least 10 feet)
> Ability to withstand heights (up to 30 feet)
> Ability to climb 3 flights of stairs in 1 minute
> Pass physical exam per doctor's statement
> Visual and auditory acuity, corrected or non-corrected, at standard levels as established by appropriate medical standards
> Any other qualifications as deemed appropriate by the school board

Benefits include:

- > Paid sick leave, personal days and vacation
> Flexible spending account
> PERA retirement

Starting Rate of Pay: \$22.92/hour
Dates of Employment: September 3, 2024 - May 29, 2025
Hours: 4 hours/day, 5 days/week, student contact days (3:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.)

Application available at: www.ely.k12.mn.us
A complete application must include the following:

- > District Non-Licensed Application
> Resume
> College Transcripts
> 2 letters of recommendation

Return materials to: Ely Public Schools, Attn: Superintendent, 600 E. Harvey St., Ely, MN 55731 or email lwestrack@ely.k12.mn.us
Application review to begin: August 27, 2024; open until filled.

Published in the Timberjay, Aug. 16 & 23, 2024

Newspaper Delivery- Thursday mornings (2 PT Openings)

The Timberjay in Tower is looking for two individuals to help with newspaper distribution on Thursday mornings, approx. 4 hours starting at 9 a.m. \$15/hour plus mileage. Two routes, one to Ely/Babbitt (72 miles roundtrip), and the other to Cook/Orr (90 miles roundtrip). Job duties include helping organize papers for the post office and newsstand sales, and then dropping them at area post offices and newsstand locations. Mileage paid at 50c per mile on top of hourly wage. The Timberjay does have a vehicle available if you do not have a reliable car. Job starts in mid-to-late August. Must be reliable. Our longtime helpers are moving out-of-state!

Call Jodi at 218-753-2950 for information or to apply.

Blandin Foundation SENIOR GRANTS PROGRAM OFFICER

Blandin Foundation is seeking a Senior Grants Program Officer with a drive to further the Foundation's strategic priority of Community Wealth Building. This position requires a passion for the impact that can be made in rural MN through a combination of grantmaking, community engagement, and coalition building. We are looking for candidates motivated to move rural places forward with 7 years of related experience, and a 4-year degree, preferred but not required. For a copy of the full position description and requirements, please visit our website at www.blandinfoundation.org/careers.

Application Deadline: August 25, 2024, or until position is filled.

POSITION OPENING Ely Public Schools

Ely Public Schools is accepting applications for the following Extra-Curricular Vacancies beginning the 2024-2025 school year as per the current Master Agreement between ISD #696 and the Ely Education Association. A background check is required.

Table with 2 columns: POSITION, STIPEND. Rows include Play - Musical Director (\$2,500), Gamers Guild (\$750), Youth in Action (\$1,000)

A complete application must include the following:

- > Cover letter
> District Non-Licensed Application
> Resume

Return materials to: Ely Public Schools, Attn: Superintendent, 600 E. Harvey St., Ely, MN 55731 or email lwestrack@ely.k12.mn.us.

Deadline to apply: August 23, 2024; open until filled.

Published in the Timberjay, Aug. 16 & 23, 2024

POSITION OPENING Ely Public Schools Head Speech Coach

Ely Public Schools is accepting applications for the following extra-curricular vacancy beginning the 2024-2025 school year as per the current Master Agreement between ISD #696 and the Ely Education Association. A background check is required.

Table with 2 columns: POSITION, STIPEND. Row includes Head Speech Coach (\$3,000)

A complete application must include the following:

- > Cover letter
> District Non-Licensed Application
> Resume

Application available at: www.ely.k12.mn.us
Return materials to: Ely Public Schools, Attn: Superintendent, 600 E. Harvey St., Ely, MN 55731 or email lwestrack@ely.k12.mn.us.

Application Review to begin on: August 27; open until filled.

Published in the Timberjay, Aug. 16 & 23, 2024

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

Super Crossword

Answers

Grid of crossword answers including CIGNA, IPAD, DOTE, SCRAM, RVLOT, DELI, EGAD, TOADY, YOUREH, IRED, FIXER, UPPER, PIE, ONO, TILERS, ETNA, TROPICANA, FIELDS, VFW, SENOR, ISLES, APRICOT, RICE, SOU, FIN, ETHNO, ACHESON, APPOINTED, HOUR, LOU, MALI, FAKES, RST, POLITICAL, CALLEFT, PSST, SLAMINTO, EAST, ISRAELIS, DANG, SECONDDHELPPING, IDA, TOYED, USES, NAT, DUNGEON, MASTER, ASSIGNS, ELCID, EAR, ESS, FOPS, EYEROLL, INTEN, USAIR, AMI, PONDEROS, SARANCH, TGIF, CREDO, SNNE, KOO, WAFFLE, IRON, BEFORE, H AND, ORSEA, TERI, ARAB, MARIE, DROSS, ASST, RAT, IMACS

STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF ST. LOUIS SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT DISTRICT COURT PROBATE DIVISION Court File No. 69VI-PR-24-122

Estate of John R. Emery

NOTICE AND ORDER OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR SUMMARY ASSIGNMENT OR DISTRIBUTION AND FOR FORMAL PROBATE OF WILL - NOTICE TO CREDITORS - NON EXEMPT ESTATE

aka John Robert Emery, aka John Emery Decedent

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

Any objections to the petition must be filed with the Court prior to or raised at the hearing. If proper, and if no objections or claims are filed or raised, the Court may issue a decree distributing or assigning the Estate's assets. It is Ordered and Notice is now given that the Petition will be heard on September 16, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. by this Court at 300 S. 5th Ave, Virginia, Minnesota.

*This hearing will be held remotely via Zoom Technology.

Notice is further given that (subject to Minnesota Statutes section 524.3-801) all creditors having claims against the Estate are required to present the claims to the Court Administrator within four

months after the date of this Notice or the claims will be barred.

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

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

Published in the Timberjay, Aug. 9 & 16, 2024

STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF ST. LOUIS SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT DISTRICT COURT PROBATE DIVISION Court File No. 69VI-PR-24-128

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

Estate of Phillip Norman Ericson, Decedent

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on September 16, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. this Court at 300 S. 5th Ave., Virginia, Minnesota, for the adjudication of intestacy and determination of heirship of the Decedent, and for the appointment of

Robin J. Ericson, whose address is 9520 Stevebrook Rd., Fairfax, VA, 22032 as Personal Representative of the Estate of the Decedent in an UNSUPERVISED administration. Any objections to the petition must be filed with the Court prior to or raised at the hearing. If proper and if no objections are filed or raised, the Personal Representative will be appointed with full power to administer the Estate, including the power to collect all assets, to pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, to sell real and personal property, and to do all necessary acts for the Estate. * This hearing will be held remotely via Zoom Technology. Notice is also given that (subject to Minnesota Statutes section 524.3-801) all creditors having claims against the Estate are required to present the claims to the Personal Representative or to the Court Administrator within four months after the date of this Notice or the claims will be barred.

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

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

Published in the Timberjay, Aug. 9 & 16, 2024

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Persian leader
5 Kipling hero
8 Dull sound of impact
12 Earring site
13 Enzyme suffix
14 Bagel feature
15 River to the Baltic
16 Boom times
17 Director Preminger
18 Spanish explorer
20 Some babies
22 Contemplate anew
26 Vatican VIPs
29 Televisé
30 Italian article
31 Jazzy Fitzgerald
32 Automaton, for short
33 Farmland unit
34 Oklahoma city
35 Weir
36 Grove units
37 Contemplate anew
40 Eyebrow shape
41 Excuses
45 Pocket bread
47 Passing craze
49 Aloe -
50 Scott Turow book

King Crossword grid with numbers 1-55 indicating starting positions for across and down clues.

- 51 German conjunction
52 Black, in verse
53 Go by
54 Nonclerical
55 Lairs

DOWN

- 1 No neatnik
2 "Today"
3 First victim
4 Chamomile product
5 Island of Hawaii
6 MSN, for one
7 Camper's dinnerware
8 Daring swimwear
9 Tabasco, for one
10 Last (Abbr.)
11 "Gloria in Excelsis -"
19 Surprised cries
21 Rowing need
23 Model Campbell
24 Concerning
25 Burnsian turn-downs
26 Bartlett, for one
27 Shoppe descriptor
28 Mollifies
32 Timid
33 Showed up
35 Pol. party org.
36 Business card no.
38 Face-to-face exams
39 - Warbucks
42 Actress
43 Press
44 Without
45 Soda
46 Chef Garten
48 Santa - winds

© 2024 King Features Synd., Inc.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

9x9 Sudoku grid with numbers 1-9 in some cells and empty boxes for solving.

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!

© 2024 King Features Synd., Inc.

PUBLIC NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE City of Tower Publishing of Ordinance 72C

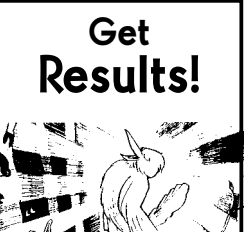
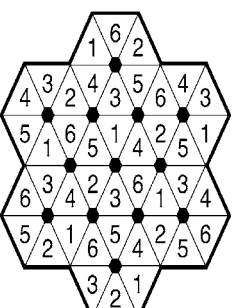
1st Reading July 8, 2024
2nd Reading August 12, 2024

Given length of Ordinances, please review at: https://cityoftower.com/city-ordinances

Published in the Timberjay, Aug. 16, 2024

CryptoQuote answer

Nothing happens in the "real" world unless it first happens in the images in our heads. - Gloria Anzaldua



Advertise in the 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

MARINE



Centrally Located On
Lake Vermilion

Covered Wet & Dry Boat Storage
Lease or Purchase Options
Marina • Mechanic on Duty
Convenience Store
24-Hour Fuel • Live Bait

4551 Bradley Road, Tower • 753-5457
www.shamrocklanding.com

MARINE

ARONSON BOAT WORKS
LAKE VERMILION, TOWER
Located two miles southwest of Tower on Hwy. 169
Summer Hours:
M-F: 8:30-5:30; Sat: 8:30-5
Sun: 9-4
MERCURY LUND HONDA
Storage • Complete Service • Sales

Since 1926
Handberg's MARINA
& GENERAL STORE
Boat Sales, Service & Storage
YAMAHA MERCURY
218-993-2214 • handbergs.com
Crane Lake, MN

MERCURY OUTBOARDS
Frank's Marine Sales & Service
Mercury, Crestliner, Lund
www.franksmarinesales.com
franksmarine@centurytel.net
Hwy 53, Orr • Call 218-757-3150

Subscribe to the
TIMBERJAY!
Call
218-753-2950

Your local source for news,
music and entertainment!

91.7 KAXE
Northern Community Radio
90.5 KBXE

91.7fm - Grand Rapids
90.5fm - Bemidji
89.9fm - Brainerd
kaxe.org

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

BOAT FOR SALE

1997 23' Boston Whaler Conquest, 225 hp Evinrude motor and trailer. \$15,000 OBO. Call 763.786.9298. 8/16

SEWING

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

MOCCASIN POINT MARINE

4655 Moccasin Point Rd Lake Vermilion
218-753-3319

Storage, Boat Rentals, Service/Repairs/Sales
Mechanic on Duty

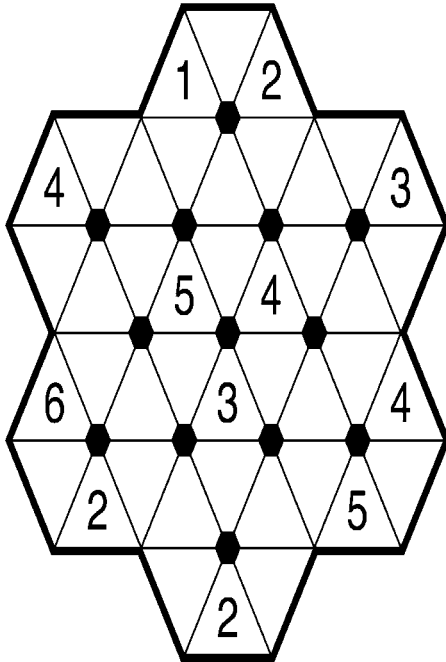
moccasinpointmarine.com



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

© 2024 King Features Synd., Inc.

Super Crossword

ENDING IN FIVE DIGITS

- | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|---|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| ACROSS | 47 —wester | 98 Dismissive facial reaction | DOWN | 37 Mr. Flintstone | 88 Ancient Dead Sea region |
| 1 Big name in health insurance | 48 Fish feature | 100 One — (long odds) | 1 Underground vaults | 40 Feed the kitty | 89 Takes care of |
| 6 2010 Apple debut | 50 Prefix with botany | 102 Delta rival, once | 2 Afrique's Côte d'— | 41 Chuckling with glee | 90 Punta del — |
| 10 Love to excess, with "on" | 51 Dean of Truman's Cabinet | 106 Gallic pal | 3 Attach using paste | 42 Big burden | 92 San Antonio hoopster |
| 14 "Get lost!" | 54 Agreed-upon time | 107 Spread on "Bonanza" | 4 Fish-fowl link | 43 Civil wrong | 93 "Insecure" co-star Rae |
| 19 Park for mobile campers | 57 Hitter Gehrig | 111 End-of-workweek cry | 5 Devoured | 44 Attending | 94 Dog pests |
| 20 Reuben offerer | 58 African land | 114 Formulas of belief | 6 "Let It Go" singer | 46 Ratify | 95 Part of the conspiracy |
| 21 "Bejabbers!" | 60 Phonies | 116 LA-to-IL dir. | 7 Italian beer brand | 48 Royal decree | 96 Diet-friendly, maybe |
| 22 Sycophant | 61 Pre-U queue | 117 "Kitchy-kitchy- —!" | 8 British beer | 49 Writing fluid | 97 Turkey's capital |
| 23 Welcome words to a job applicant | 62 Liberalism | 118 Appliance that cooks batter | 9 Pulled off | 51 Swiss peaks | 98 Like sacred images |
| 25 House badly in need of repairs | 67 Low-key "Hey!" | 120 In advance ... or where nine key words in this puzzle | 10 Disobeys | 52 "Neat!" | 99 — Scholar |
| 27 Bake-off dish | 70 Ram hard | 124 Whether by land — | 11 "Darby — and the Little People" | 53 Luau entertainment | 100 French for "fathers" |
| 28 Yoko of art | 71 Winter hrs. in D.C. | 125 With 112-Down, she had a "Tootsie" role | 12 Levied | 54 Departing for | 101 Bad smells |
| 29 Floor layers | 72 Haifa citizens | 126 Sheik, e.g. | 13 Broadway singer Linda | 55 Potent coffee | 102 Uppity types |
| 30 Active Sicilian volcano | 76 "Doggone it!" | 127 One of the Osmonds | 14 "Disco" cartoon guy | 56 Language akin to Thai | 103 — Lingus |
| 31 Tampa Bay Rays' stadium | 77 Additional plateful | 128 Smelting waste | 15 Manage, as a problem | 57 Key near F1 | 104 Having length and width but not depth, for short |
| 36 Org. for some ex-GIs | 79 Lupino of "High Sierra" | 129 Deputy: Abbr. | 16 Engrossed | 58 Mineo of film | 105 See 125-Across |
| 38 Tijuana Mr. | 81 Trifled (with) | 130 "Doggone it!" | 17 City in Yemen | 59 Month no. 9 | 106 "In case it's true ..." |
| 39 Makeup of Hawaii | 84 Purposes | 131 1998 Apple debuts | 18 Gore Vidal's Breckinridge | 60 SSNs, e.g. | 107 Poet Dove |
| 40 Yellow-orange fruit | 85 D.C. ballplayer | | 24 Ad — | 61 Paper bundle | 108 Part of UNLV |
| 44 Bed for sushi | 86 Certain role-playing game organizer | | 26 Reply to an invite | 62 — instant (very quickly) | 109 Watering hole |
| | 91 Gives, as duties | | 29 Traffic snarl | 63 Some NCOs | 110 Notable period of time record co. |
| | 94 Spanish national hero | | 32 Skin opening | 64 Scorch | 111 Easter entree |
| | 95 Part of ENT | | 33 Pupil locale | 65 Baby's bottle | |
| | 96 Ar-tee linkup | | 34 Really rail at | 66 Notion, to Luc | |
| | 97 Dandy dudes | | 35 Dud | 67 "— noted" | |
| | | | | 68 "The — lama, he's a priest" | |
| | | | | 69 Sumac of song | |
| | | | | 70 World's tallest creatures | |

CryptoQuote

AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

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

SNCBLST BFHHASD LS CBA

"UAFO" RNUOV YSOADD LC

ELUDC BFHHASD LS CBA

LZFTAD LS NYU BAFVD.

— TONULF FSWFOVYF

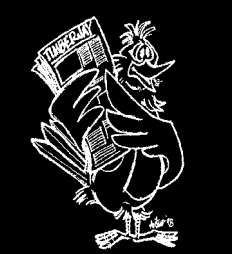
©2024 King Features Synd., Inc.

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

Call
753-2950
to subscribe
to the
Timberjay!



— King Crossword —
Answers

Solution time: 25 mins.

SHAH	KIM	THUD						
LOBE	ASE	HOLE						
ODER	UPS	OTTO						
BALBOA	SONS							
	THINK	AGAIN						
POPE	AIR	UNA						
ELLA	BOT	ACRE						
ADA	DAM	TREES						
RECONSIDER								
ARCH	ALTBIS							
PITA	FAD	VEIRA						
ONEL	UND	EBON						
PASS	LAY	DENS						

FAMILY FUN

Lots of new events at this year's Embarrass Region Fair

EMBARRASS- While the Embarrass Fair officially kicks off on Friday, Aug. 23, the fair-ground horse arena will be full of action starting Friday, Aug. 16, when the 16th Annual Danny Theel Memorial Team Penning and Ranch Sorting gets underway.

Cowboys and cowgirls put their cattle rustling skills to the test as they compete for buckles and prizes. Registration for participants opens one hour before the event. Spectators can relax and enjoy the competition for free. Food trucks are available all weekend. In addition, attendees can be a judge in our "Little Miss" Queen competition essay contest. Five girls between 9 and 13 years old are competing for the crown. Read each essay and vote for your favorite.

This year, the Embarrass Region Fair celebrates 85 years of this homegrown last hurrah of summer. In addition, Friday, Aug. 23, marks the 33rd anniversary of the ribbon cutting that officially opened the Timber Hall. Gates open on Friday, Aug. 23 at 2 p.m.

Like any major community event, the Embarrass Region Fair has undergone many changes over the years. In fact, based on feedback from last year's fair, some significant changes have been made to this year's fair.

Parking

Congestion on Hwy. 21 and safety on the grounds had fair organizers re-think how cars enter and exit the fairgrounds. This year, the north gate (by the horse arena) will be the entrance and the south gate (across from the Nelmarm) will be the exit. Cars will be routed across grass to a ticket booth where fairgoers will be able to buy their wristbands. Then, drivers will be directed to fill the parking lot from the back to the front



Check out all the exhibits (and maybe enter some yourself), feast on fair food, and have some fun at the Embarrass Region Fair. file photos

(west end to east end). Folks needing handicap accessible parking will be directed to park near the Timber Hall and must display a handicap parking permit. Volunteers are still needed for this very important role. Contact organizers by email at info@embarrassrfa.org or call Dawn at 218-341-7765 to help out.

Pet adoptions and petting zoo

State regulations have hampered the ability to exhibit animals in competition at the fair. So, the fair committee got creative and added a different twist on what used to be the "animal barn." Pet adoptions will be available on Saturday and a petting zoo will entertain the young and old on Sunday. Other animal

events include a mutton busting competition on Friday, K9 and agility demonstrations on Saturday, and horse games on Sunday. Pony rides will be available all weekend. Dogs on a 4 - 6 ft. leash are welcome on the grounds but owners are expected to keep their animals under control and clean up after their pet. Water and poo bags will be available for fairgoers' use. Only service animals are allowed inside the Timber Hall.

Exhibits

All exhibits will need to be delivered by 7 p.m. on Friday and judging will take place on Saturday morning. In this way, the exhibit building can open on Saturday around 11 a.m. for visitors to enjoy the things made and grown by our community and see what ribbons



have been awarded. Entries are for garden produce, baked goods, canned goods, arts and crafts, and much more. Cash prizes are paid for top entries. For rules on entries, see www.embarrassrfa.org/fair/participate.

Participate

There are plenty of opportunities to play and compete at this year's Fair.

Pre-registrations are strongly encouraged for the Flying Finn 5K Run-Walk, the chess tournament, and speed puzzle contest, all on Saturday. The mutton busting competition is set for Friday, while the demolition derby and the grand finale parade are set for Sunday. Please register at www.embarrassrfa.org/fair/participate.

Registrations for power wheels demo derby (kids 3 to 10 years old) on Sunday during the demo derby intermission, cornhole contest on Saturday, and horse games on Sunday begins one hour before the event.

Entertainment

The entertainment stage has been moved to the west side of the grounds at the end of food-vendor row. And the Lions Club beer tent will be nearby. Honkytonks and Hangovers take the stage Fri-

day evening and Swamp Donkey is featured on Saturday. Both shows begin at 7 p.m.

Wizard's Kingdom inflatables have moved to the front of the fairgrounds near Timber Hall. The Amazing Charles Magic Show is back, and you won't want to miss the Will Hale Kids Concert and the musical memories on the accordion.

Parade

There are two parades this year. Sunday at 11:30 a.m., the kiddie parade will assemble in the Kids Area in front of the Timber Hall. Decorate your bikes and trikes, big wheels, and wagons, wear a costume or be yourself—but join in the parade.

The finale parade at 4 p.m. Sunday is changing course this year. The parade route will be in reverse from past years. Line-up will take place between Hanka Nevala Road and the ice arena. The parade will finish at Waisanen Road. Spectators are encouraged to bring chairs and spread out along the route.

Much more

Breakfast in the Timber Hall, fair food all weekend, bingo under the eaves, the mud run, the demolition derby, the softball tournament, classic car and truck show, and more. Visit the information booth outside Timber Hall for a weekend schedule, check out the fair schedule below, and also find the schedule online at www.embarrassrfa.org/fair.

Putting on community activities is a huge undertaking. The fair committee would like to thank all of the volunteers who make these two weekend events possible and hope that everyone enjoys this year's fair and considers joining the team of amazing volunteers who make it happen every year.



Call 218-993-2295 for RESERVATIONS

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

Breakfast: 6:30-11, Lunch 12-2, Dinner 5-9

NEW FALL HOURS IN SEPTEMBER...

- Enjoy our rustic yet elegant dining room.
- Enjoy delicious home cooked cuisine.
- Breads and desserts are baked daily.

IT'S the LAST WEEKEND this SUMMER for...

LIVE PIANO with STEVE JOHNSON

7632 Nelson Rd, Crane Lake, MN 55725
www.nelsonsresort.com

ST. MARTIN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

RUMMAGE SALE

PROCEEDS GO TO VARIOUS PROJECTS AT ST. MARTIN'S



24TH AUGUST, 2024

8:00 - 8:30 Early Bird \$5 Entry Fee
8:30 - 1:00

COFFEE, CINNAMON & CARAMEL ROLLS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE!

SUN 25TH AUGUST, 2024

8-10:15 & 11:30-12:30 Bag Sale
Purchase a Bag for \$3 & Fill

AUGUST 23-25, 2024



www.embarrassrfa.org










Friday, August 23

2 pm: Grounds Open
2-6 pm: Timber Hall Crafters/Vendors
4 pm-Dusk: Wizard's Kingdom Inflatables
Pony Rides, Exhibit Building
5 pm: Mutton Busting Competition
6 pm: "Little Miss Embarrass Region" Queen Coronation
7-10 pm: LIVE MUSIC by Honky Tonks & Hangovers

Saturday, August 24

8 am: Grounds Open
8-11 am: Breakfast served in Timber Hall
Exhibit Building Closed for Judging
9 am-6 pm: Timber Hall Crafters/Vendors
9 am-Dusk: Softball Tournament
Wizard's Kingdom Inflatables
Animal Adoption Barn
Pony Rides
9:30 am: Flying Finn 5K Run-Walk
10 am-5 pm: BINGO
11 am: Races for All Ages, Cornhole Tournament, Exhibit Building Open
12 pm: The Amazing Charles Magic Show
12:30 pm: Tony Morsching Memorial Mud Run
1 pm: K9 Demonstrations & Agility
2 pm: Will Hale Kid's Concert
3 pm: The Amazing Charles Magic Show
Chess & Puzzle Competition
4-6 pm: Musical Memories on the Accordion
7-11 pm: LIVE MUSIC by Swamp Donkey

Gates Open

Friday from 2 pm-8 pm
Saturday from 8 am-8 pm
Sunday from 7 am-3 pm

Gate Prices

- Weekend wristbands \$12
- Daily Admission \$5
- Children 10 and under FREE with a paid adult

Sunday, August 25

7 am: Grounds Open
7-11 am: Breakfast served in Timber Hall
8 am: Cowboy Church
9 am-4 pm: Softball Tournament, Horse Games Show, Classic Car & Truck Show
10 am-4 pm: Timber Hall Crafters/Vendors
Wizard's Kingdom Inflatables
Exhibit Building, Petting Zoo & Pony Rides
11:30 am: Kiddie Parade
12-4 pm: BINGO
12 pm: The Amazing Charles Magic Show
12:30 pm: Demolition Derby
1 pm: Will Hale Kid's Concert
2 pm: Classic Car & Truck Show Awards
3 pm: The Amazing Charles Magic Show
4 pm: PARADE
6 pm: Grounds Closed

For more information visit our website





OR check us out on Facebook



EMBARRASS REGION FAIRGROUNDS
4855 Highway 21
Embarrass, MN 55732

MINING

More testing underway at Pulsar Helium site

by CATIE CLARK
Ely Editor

BABBITT- Pulsar Helium continues its exploration of the helium in the Precambrian Duluth Complex rocks southeast of Babbitt, seeking to extend its understanding of the resource. The firm started a seismic campaign last week typical of oil and natural gas exploration but rarely used in the mineral exploration studies in the Iron Range.

The survey started collecting seismic data along the Dunka River Road last week using non-destructive vibroseis trucks to provide the needed sound waves.

“This sort of seismic survey is rarely conducted in northern Minnesota ... Our seismic survey is 12.7 miles long,” said Jack Gibbons, a Pulsar geologist. “The data we collect will help us with our upcoming drilling campaign.” Based on the data the firm has gathered already, Pulsar plans to deepen their Jetstream No. 1 exploration well and to drill additional “step-out” wells to exploit the gas in the ground.

Pulsar has conducted multiple geophysical surveys of the area southeast of Babbitt, seeking to characterize the location and quantity of helium present. The company already knows the quality

of the sought-after noble gas: it’s the highest helium concentration in North America and may be the richest in the world.

Seismic surveys

Pulsar collected an ambient-noise 3D seismic survey of the region last summer and short vibroseis and vertical seismic surveys in May at the well itself. Seismic surveys use acoustic waves to map what’s underground. The reflected waves are recorded by geophones planted at the surface.

Geophones need the presence of traveling acoustic waves so they can measure the reflections. Those acoustic waves can come from ambient noise, which can be from blasting at the region’s iron mines, or from large earthquakes on the other side of the world. The seismic data gathered by Pulsar last year used ambient noise. Ambient noise seismic surveys are less expensive and non-destructive. Because the survey workers do not control the source of the seismic energy, such surveys are typically less detailed than surveys using artificial sources.

Vibroseis

For detailed seismic studies, an artificial source of acoustic energy is preferable. Before the 1950s, geophysicists used explosives to inject acoustic waves into the ground.



Jeff Hislop of Evergreen Geophysical walking in front of the 62,000-pound NodalSeismic vibroseis truck hired by Pulsar Helium to conduct a seismic survey along the Dunka River Road. photo by C. Clark

Then the Continental Oil Co., better known as Conoco, invented the vibroseis truck. The term “vibroseis” was a Conoco trademark until the company’s patent expired. Over half of the seismic surveys conducted today use the vibroseis method.

A vibroseis truck uses hefty hydraulics and the weight of the truck itself to inject a shaped wave train of energy into the ground. These waves start with low-frequencies better felt than heard. Then a vibroseis truck will increase the frequency over several seconds. The finishing frequencies are usually in the range of tubas and trombones if the

waves traveled through the air as sound.

Different features in the subsurface can be sensitive to differences in frequency, so a vibroseis survey can illuminate details in the subsurface that an omnidirectional source like explosives can miss. This is the advantage of the vibroseis method. It’s other advantage, like ambient noise, is that it is non-destructive, thus avoiding the permitting process, safety issues, and damage of using explosives.

The current survey

Pulsar’s existing seismic and other geophysical datasets suggest that the helium resource extends

deeper than the current exploration well and may extend beyond its immediate neighborhood. This is why Pulsar is now conducting a detailed multi-mile seismic survey.

About the current seismic campaign, Pulsar President CEO Thomas Abraham-James said, “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. This new data, alongside existing drilling, passive seismic, and gravity information, sets the stage

for our upcoming drilling program where we plan to deepen Jetstream No. 1 and drill additional step-out wells.”

The survey is being collected by contractors Nodal Seismic, which is providing the vibroseis trucks, and Evergreen Geophysical of Evergreen, Colo., which is conducting the data collection. The geophysicists have deployed 2,800 geophones planted at 10-meter spaces down the entire length of Dunka River Road. The survey will take approximately a week to collect the data.

Pulsar hopes the new data will help them delineate the seismic anomaly associated with the helium in the exploration well and how it extends regionally. The firm has found a zone of lowered seismic velocity where the 14 percent helium gas has been encountered in well.

The velocity anomaly persists to a depth of approximately 3,773 feet, giving it a vertical thickness of approximately 1,970 feet. The anomaly as currently mapped covers an aerial extent of two square miles. The vertical thickness of the velocity anomaly increases to the north-east to two-thirds of a mile and is connected to another velocity decrease which dips and broadens towards the west.

ST. LOUIS COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS

Open house set for Aug. 26 at new Kugler facility

KUGLER TWP- St. Louis County Public Works is hosting an open house on Monday, Aug. 26, from 4 – 6 p.m., at the new Kugler public works facility at 8632 Hwy. 135, Tower. The facility replaces separate facilities that were located in Tower and Embarrass.

This multi-year project was designed to ensure faster and more effective response for road maintenance. It is one of three new public works facilities the county has constructed, replacing five aged buildings that could no longer effectively serve modern day equipment and service needs, said Dana Kazel, Communications Man-

ager for St. Louis County.

The open house will include tours of the new buildings and a glimpse of the vehicles. Each new facility includes a main building, storage buildings, salt/sand domes, brine storage system, fuel system, truck wash and paved driving and laydown areas that all support efficient cost-effective operations. The buildings were constructed with energy efficiency, ease of maintenance, and longevity in mind.

The Kugler location oversees 182 miles of roads, including 88 miles of gravel roads and 94 miles of paved roads. Nine employees work from the location, which has 10 dump trucks

and two graders.

The other two facilities are in Makinen and in Culver. The three new campuses were constructed for a total cost of \$34 million, including funding from a \$26 million bond sale approved by the County Board in 2021. They replace five smaller garages in Tower, Embarrass, Brookston, Brimson and the Town of White that had outlived their usefulness due to age, lack of space, or both. The city of Tower has purchased the old county garage in Tower.



The new Kugler maintenance facility. Another open house was held at the Whiteface Reservoir Campus, 3560 Town Line Road, Makinen, on Aug. 12; and another is set at the Culver Campus, 5316 Hwy. 31, Culver, on Tuesday, Aug. 20 from 4 – 6 p.m.

NORTHWOODS FRIENDS OF THE ARTS

CONCERT FUNDRAISER

NWFA's

- **Annual Concert • Sunday, Aug. 18**
- **“4 Blue Teardrops”**
Cook Community Center
510 Gopher Drive
- **Sashay in at 5 p.m. for Refreshments, Silent Auctions and Ticket Raffles**
- **5:30 Music by Eric Pederson**
- **6:30-9 Listening and Dancing to “Oldies” ‘50s & ‘60s Rock & Roll**

Raffle Prize

Last chance for 50/50 Raffle!

Advance Tickets \$25 or \$30 at the door

TO RESERVE TICKETS with payment:
CALL Lauren Nelson (218-750-1989) or Shawna Kishel (218-780-6510)

OR purchase at NWFA Gallery between 10 & 4 Wed., Thurs. or Fri. at 210 S. River St. in Cook (next to Dreamweaver Salon) or Sat. between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Northwoods Friends of the Arts
PO Box 44, Cook MN 55723
Gallery 210 S. River St.; nwfamn.org@gmail.com

PICKLEBALL FUNDRAISER

AUGUST 22, 2024

FOR NEW GREENWOOD PICKLEBALL COURTS

RAFFLES, PRIZES, FREE APPETIZERS, & LIVE MUSIC BY THE BEEFEATERS

TAVERN IN THE BAY

TIME: 6 - 9 PM
ADDRESS: 2007 CTY ROAD 77, TOWER, MN

HOSTED BY: LAKE VERMILION PICKLEBALL ASSOCIATION & GREENWOOD COMMUNITY RECREATION BOARD (REG. 501C3)

DONATE

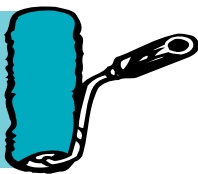
SCAN HERE

APPETIZERS COURTESY OF TAVERN IN THE BAY

\$10/PERSON DONATIONS AT THE DOOR ARE APPRECIATED & ALL CASH DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE



HOME IMPROVEMENT GUIDE



Trusted. Local. Experts

VERMILLION ROOFING.com
218-800-ROOF • Insured • License #BC785662

Kitchens That Cook!
New Cabinets for Home or Cabin!

Stop in today and speak with one of our qualified sales professionals about **CUSTOM CABINET DESIGN**

FROM CABINS TO CASTLES
COOK BUILDING CENTER

Phone/Fax: 218.666.5344
Hours: Mon. Fri: 7-5, Sat: 8-12
eric@cookbuildingcenter.com

CALM
COMFORTABLE
SOLUTIONS

ANDERSON FURNITURE & KITCHENS

AndersonFurnitureCompany.com
214 2nd Ave. S, Virginia, MN • 218-741-9356

INTEREST FREE FINANCING AND LAYAWAY AVAILABLE
VISA M.C.

Tekautz Mechanical
Heating, Air Conditioning, Refrigeration
Repair & Install

Steve Tekautz
612-845-1625
P.O. Box 264
Soudan, MN 55782
(We accept credit cards)

Your All-Season Project Headquarters

- Lumber
- Hardware
- Tools
- Paint
- Friendly Service

"We've Got What You Need!"

VERMILION LUMBER
HOME OF THE PROFESSIONALS
218-753-2230
302 Main St., Tower, MN
M-F: 8 AM-5 PM; Sat: 8 AM-Noon

YOU CALL, WE HAUL!

Anderson Barging, Inc.

Cement Trucks, Septic-Pumping Trucks, Dump Truck Service, Building Materials, Dirt, Well-Drilling Equipment, Propane Delivery,

Covering all of the Lake Vermilion Area

Cell 218-780-4955
www.andersonbarging.com

Let these professionals help with your next home improvement project

Licensed Septic Design & Installation

- Complete Site & Building Preparation
- Road Building, Land Clearing, Basement, Demolition
- Digging, Dozing, Hauling
- Sand, Gravel, Crushed Rock, Black Dirt

Call for an estimate • 218-365-4220
2408 Hwy. 169, PO Box 608, Ely, MN 55731
jschulze.excavating2@gmail.com

FOREST CONCRETE PRODUCTS

Delivered Redi-Mix Concrete Septic Tanks

We have: Concrete Steps & Sidewalk Pavers, Crushed & Washed Rock, Sand, Garden Soil, Crushed & Screened Gravel, Different Types of Concrete Blocks.
FREE ESTIMATES for site development, roads, fill and excavations.

Celebrating Over 52 Years! From Ely to Tower-Soudan and Virginia, using local gravel pits to support all your needs.

FOREST CONCRETE PRODUCTS

1715 E. Sheridan, Ely, MN 55731
office 218-365-6161 • plant 218-365-4030
fax 218-365-6985 • cell 218-341-3197

POWERFUL SAVINGS WITH GENERAC

- FREE estimates
- Financing available
- AFFORDABLE backup power
- Delivery, Installation and Service
- Family and locally owned and operated

GENERAC

CLEARBROOK ELECTRIC 7-Year Parts & Labor Warranty Automatic Standby Generator

SALES AND "SERVICE" Randy Wetenkamp
218-776-3995 • 218-556-5981 Serving ALL of Northern Minnesota

Call today and receive a **FREE SHOWER PACKAGE PLUS \$1600 OFF**

SAFE STEP WALK-IN TUB

1-833-966-3882

With purchase of a new Safe Step Walk-In Tub. Not applicable with any previous walk-in tub purchase. Offer available while supplies last. No cash value. Must present offer at time of purchase. CSLB 1082165 NSCB 0082999 0083445

EASE OF USE CERTIFIED MADE IN THE USA BBB ACCREDITED BUSINESS LIFETIME LIMITED WARRANTY

FINANCING AVAILABLE WITH APPROVED CREDIT

Beautiful **CABINETS**

• Providing Design Help For Your Unique Style •

FLOOR to CEILING
INTERIOR DESIGN SHOWROOM

floortoceiling.com/virginia

8401 Enterprise Drive N, Virginia/Mt. Iron • 218-741-6690 • HOURS 8-5:30 M-F

Donate Your Car

Imagine the Difference You Can Make

FREE TOWING & TAX DEDUCTIBLE

When you donate your car, you'll receive:

- a \$200 restaurant voucher
- a 2-night, 3-day hotel stay at one of 50 locations

Call 1-844-220-9501

Help Prevent Blindness Get A Vision Screening Annually
Heritage for the Blind

Advertise Here

One Low Price Great Coverage

Call Today 218-753-2950
editor@timberjay.com

SUBSCRIBE TODAY