

More Ely Marathon coverage inside...

Inside:

Trail celebration planned... See /2

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Hiking at Crane Lake... See /4B

# The TIMBERJAY



Serving the communities of northern St. Louis County since 1989

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## TRAFFIC SAFETY

# Shermans Corner realignment has reduced crashes

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

ANGORA— A realignment of the intersection known as Sherman's Corner along Hwy. 53 has significantly reduced accidents at the site, according to MnDOT crash data obtained by the *Timberjay*. It suggests the \$1 million redesign of the intersection, located where Hwy. 1 and County Rd. 22 meet Hwy. 53, may have been a worthwhile

safety investment.

MnDOT made the upgrade at the intersection in 2019, five years after the conversion of Hwy. 53 to a four-lane divided highway north to Cook. MnDOT engineers have found that standard intersections along divided highways can be at higher risk for crashes, particularly right-angle crashes.

That proved to be the case at Sherman's Corners in the wake of the Hwy. 53 conversion to four-lane back in 2014. Over the

next five years, the intersection averaged four crashes annually, with 80 percent in daylight and 90 percent under dry conditions. Half of the incidents were labeled as angle crashes, while 20 percent were classified as rear-end crashes. Ten involved minor injuries, with possible injuries in another four incidents at the intersection. Most of the crashes occurred as cross traffic entered the far lanes of the highway.

Josie Olson, who managed the intersection project for

MnDOT back in 2019, said the realignment was known as a "reduced conflict intersection" or "J-turn" to MnDOT engineers. "MnDOT has studied these intersections all across the state and has seen reduced right-angle crashes," Olson told the *Timberjay* at the time. "That is the goal with this project."

In fact, MnDOT's own research found somewhat mixed

See...CRASHES pg. 9



## ELY MARATHON

# Canoe portage records smashed

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

ELY— Two world records fell here on Saturday during the ninth annual running of the Ely Marathon and Highland Bank Half Marathon — and it was thanks to the unique canoe country twist on the event.

Many communities host marathons, but only Ely hosts the canoe portage marathon and half marathon and the iconic event has regularly attracted a handful of the hardcore to the end of the road to take part in one of the most grueling events ever imagined.

Just six individuals took part in the full canoe portage marathon and they set new men's and women's records in the process.

New world records set in both mens and womens division

**Above: Victoria Ranua, of Shakopee, takes part in the full canoe portage marathon. Ranua crushed the previous womens' record by nearly an hour and a half.**

photo by M. HelMBERGER

**Right: Drew Boysen, of Iowa City, reaches the finish line, besting the previous mens' record by more than ten minutes.** photo by C. Clark

Drew Boysen, of Iowa City, had never heard of a canoe portage marathon until a week before this year's event. He was planning to be in the area last weekend to visit friends near Isabella,

See...PORTAGE pg. 10



## TROUBLING QUESTIONS

# Lake County may face lawsuit over Silver Rapids CUP

DNR warned county staff weeks ago that proposal violated county's own ordinance

by CATIE CLARK  
Ely Editor

FALLLAKE TWP- The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is threatening possible legal action against Lake County unless county officials reconsider their recent approval of a conditional use permit allowing a major redevelopment at the Silver Rapids Resort property.

Katie Smith, director of DNR's ecological and water resources division, in a Sept. 13 letter to Lake County Commissioners, claims the county used the wrong standard to calculate allowable unit density at the resort and asks for a reevaluation of the

project. "Absent these changes, the DNR understands that it has thirty days from the Sept. 6... to appeal the Planning Commission's decision to the district court," Smith states in her letter.

Smith concluded that her agency would prefer to work with the county "to bring the development into conformance" rather than to seek a solution through the legal system.

### Previous correspondence

The letter from Smith should have come as no surprise to Lake County officials. Email correspon-

See...COUNTY pg. 9

## LAKE VERMILION

# Black Bay rezoning nixed by county board

by DAVID COLBURN  
Cook/Orr Editor

BEATTY TWP- An ongoing battle over a Black Bay campground on Lake Vermilion intended to serve disabled veterans took a turn in favor of its opponents on Tuesday when the St. Louis County Board rejected an application from the developers to have the property rezoned.

Developer Christine Wyrobek had sought to have the zoning for two mainland parcels and three water-access only parcels changed from residential to shoreland multiple use that would have

allowed development of the Rough-N-It campground proposal.

The board did not discuss the matter, but approved the denial as part of the board's 13-item consent agenda this week.

Reached by email for comment by the *Timberjay*, Wyrobek expressed her dismay at the board's decision.

"The zoning denial was expected as the county has proven its desire to stop the nonprofit campground for disabled veterans," Wyrobek

See...REZONING pg. 9

# Ely turns out to cheer on racers



by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

ELY— The cheers could, at times, be heard from blocks away, as hundreds of racers competed this past Saturday in the Ely Marathon and the Highland Bank Half Marathon, held here as part of an

**Left: A pickup full of cheerleaders kept the race course lively on Sunday.** photo by M. HelMBERGER

event that — nine years in — seems to turn out the entire community.

Runners were greeted with light morning showers as they left Ely in buses for the trek to the starting lines up the Echo trail, but the bright double rainbow that was visible along the way seemed to portend what ultimately became an excellent morning for racing.

See...MARATHON pg. 10



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## Community notices

### ERFA Pancake Breakfast and jigsaw puzzle competition at Timber Hall Oct. 5

EMBARRASS - Join us for all-you-can-eat pancakes, choice of ham or sausage links, juice, and a bottomless cup of coffee on Saturday, Oct. 5, between 8 and 11 a.m. at the Timber Hall Event Center in Embarrass. Cost is \$7 for adults, \$4 for ages 6-10, 5 and under eat free. During breakfast, you will have an opportunity to make a blood donation. If you are interested, sign up online at [www.mbc.org/searchdrives](http://www.mbc.org/searchdrives) (code 5046) or call Bonnie Overton at 218-780-3058.

Stay for the jigsaw puzzle speed competition. Tables will be set up for a 4-person team and each team will get one 500-piece puzzle to put together. Sign up a whole team or as an individual and we will get you on a team. Cost is \$5 per person (\$20/team). Prize for first place only and each team gets to keep their puzzle. RSVP to Sue Beaton (text or call) 218-750-2718. PLEASE RSVP so I have enough puzzles. Mail payment to: ERFA, PO Box 83, Embarrass, MN 55732.

Have a closet full of puzzles? Bring some to trade! The Embarrass Region Fair Association sponsors all of this fun.

### Meeting of Lokka Tupa #1 Ladies of Kaleva scheduled for Oct. 7

VIRGINIA - Lokka Tupa #1, Ladies of Kaleva will meet on Monday, Oct. 7 at noon at Kaleva Hall in Virginia.

### E-Waste expo & collection event Oct. 5

MT. IRON - The Iron Range Partnership for Sustainability has partnered with Global Ewaste Solutions for an e-waste collection event on Saturday, Oct. 5 at the Mt. Iron Community Center. The event aims to bring awareness for the need to recycle old electronics. This educational community event is sponsored by Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation, University of MN NE Regional Sustainable Development Partnership, St. Louis County, RECA (Recycling Electronics for Climate Action).

The event will run from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. There will be food trucks, activities, and more.

Many electronics will be accepted for free, such as cables, wires, intact batteries, VCR/DVDs, speakers, stereo equipment, toner cartridges (limit 3 per person), keyboard, toasters, and more. There will be a \$5 per item fee for laptops, tablets, smart phones, PCs, printers, LCDs up to 24", and vacuums (bags must be removed). Larger televisions will be accepted for a fee, depending on the size and type.

### Riding the Range for Care Partners

EVELETH - Care Partners invites the community to join us on Saturday, Sept. 28 for "Riding the Range for Care Partners," a breathtaking ATV ride designed to celebrate the stunning fall scenery of the Iron Range while raising funds to support local families facing cancer. Registration starts at 9 a.m. at Eggy's Red Garter in Eveleth and the ride begins at 10 a.m. Registration fee is \$30 per rider.

Participants will embark on an exhilarating ATV ride through the picturesque landscapes of the Iron Range, while contributing to a noble cause. The funds raised will directly support Care Partners programs that provide crucial assistance to families affected by cancer in our communities.

"Riding the Range for Care Partners" is more than just a ride; it's an opportunity to unite as a community, show support for those facing cancer, and experience the natural beauty of our region. Whether you're an ATV enthusiast or simply want to enjoy a day in nature for a great cause, we welcome everyone to join us. Riders and non-riders are welcome to participate. Rain or shine, we'll be riding. For more information about "Riding the Range for Care Partners" call 218-404-1411 or to learn more about our programs, please visit [carepartnersmn.org](http://carepartnersmn.org).

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## OUTDOOR RECREATION

### North Country Trail events in Ely and Tower this weekend

REGIONAL- The North Country Trail Ely Northwoods Chapter is celebrating its one-year anniversary by becoming an official North Country Trail Town on Sept. 28-29 and the public is invited to attend numerous events to mark the occasion.

On Saturday, Sept. 28, join us for a hike to Kawishiwi Falls from 10 - 11 a.m. Meet at the trailhead. The Trail Town ribbon cutting will be held from 12:30 - 1 p.m. at Hidden Valley Ski Chalet with Ely City Council, Ely Chamber, and trail and U.S. Forest Service leadership. The NCTA Trail Town barbecue and hiking, also at Hidden Valley Ski Chalet, will follow from 1 - 4 p.m. (hiking at 3 p.m.) Head on over to the Ely State Theater at 6 p.m. for a wilderness storytelling event sponsored by Save the Boundary Waters, Boundary Waters Connect, Ely Community Resource, and Ely Folk School.

On Sunday, Sept. 29, from 9 a.m. to noon, join the Kekekabic Trail Chapter



on a guided hike. We will meet at the Snowbank Canoe Landing/BWCAW Entry Point 27/28. From there we will have a short motorized boat ride to the Kekekabic spur trail at the south end of Snowbank Lake/Pickerel Bay. Two hike options are available, a 4 - 5 mile hike to the BWCAW Boundary or an 8 - 9 mile hike to the Becoosin/Benzie Loop. Bring your lunch, snacks, and

water. Email [kek@northcountrytrail.org](mailto:kek@northcountrytrail.org) to sign up.

Also on Sunday, Sept. 29, there will be a 5K hike on the Wagoner Ski Trails in Tower, from 10 to 11 a.m. Meet at the ski trail parking lot on the west side of Hwy. 135 (approx. two miles south of Tower.)

## FUNDRAISER

### Tomassoni Bike Tour highlights Tower and Ely

REGIONAL- The Tomassoni Tour - Cycle for ALS hosted its second annual bicycle event on the Mesabi Trail last weekend. The weather was excellent, and participants had a great time on the trails. With over 70 cyclists and 25 volunteers, the group announced \$273,200 was raised to provide support to individuals battling ALS.

Former Minnesota Twins alumni Terry Steinbach and Kent Hrbek were among the cyclists who were on the trails. "I am excited to be here again for a second year," said Steinbach. "This event is great, my wife Mary joined me, and the people are so awesome. Never Surrender Inc. does a great job in all of their events."

Never Surrender Inc. hosts two other events, the Black Woods Blizzard Tour in February and the Kolar Toyota ALS Fishing Tournament in late May - early June. Proceeds from all the events go towards funding the fight against ALS. Just this year, over \$2 million



was donated to local research and organizations providing durable medical equipment and communication devices to people living with ALS.

At Saturday night's banquet dinner, Matt Harold was awarded the Todd Lauer Award, awarded to a participant or volunteer who exemplifies the passion and drive to either end ALS or provide hope to those living with ALS. A new award, the US Steel Sponsor Award, is given to a sponsor who has demonstrated enthusiasm to

support the event tenfold. This year's award winner was title sponsor B2 Bank.

### Tomassoni Cycle Tour

No one has done more to raise awareness of ALS than MN State Senator David Tomassoni. He left a lasting legacy of helping those with ALS and their families. His ability to secure \$25 million for research and care for Minnesotans living with ALS has been a benefit to so many. We were blessed that he

joined our fight against ALS and proud that we could call him our friend.

We want to continue his legacy and one day, we hope to end ALS. This fundraising event targets outdoor and biking enthusiasts with a multi-day trail bike ride on the beautiful Mesabi Trail-another milestone project that was fueled by Tomassoni's passion for the Iron Range. Dates for next year's event are Sept. 18 - 20, 2025.

## VOLUNTEER

### Adults needed to share their time and talents with 4-H Clubs

REGIONAL - St. Louis County 4-H is looking for caring adults to help with short- and long-term volunteer opportunities. Check out the listing of volunteer opportunities in St. Louis County 4-H for adults with a variety of interests, skills, and time commitments.

St. Louis County 4-H is a youth-serving organization that is powered by caring adults who share their knowledge and time to support their community. Regardless of your skill,



experience, or interests, we value connecting caring adults with young peo-

ple to see the positive youth development outcomes of our program grow.

Please take a moment to fill out the survey at [z.umn.edu/SLC4HVolunteers](http://z.umn.edu/SLC4HVolunteers) or contact Nicole Kudrle, 4-H extension educator, at 218-471-7120 or [vande422@umn.edu](mailto:vande422@umn.edu) or Kristy McManus, 4-H extension educator, at 307-871-9625 or [khanen4@umn.edu](mailto:khanen4@umn.edu).

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BREITUNG TOWNSHIP

# Breitung juggling multiple road and infrastructure projects

by JODI SUMMIT  
Tower-Soudan Editor

**SOUDAN-** The township's major infrastructure projects were the focus on the agenda at the Sept. 18 Breitung Town Board meeting.

The township has four separate infrastructure projects underway, including a large three-part project set for next year, which includes the rerouting of the Thompson Farm Rd., the most costly item in the ongoing list of projects. The township is seeking IRRR funding for a shortfall in the upcoming 2025 project budgets. Most of the Thompson Farm Rd. reroute is being funded by a state road project grant, with additional funding from the DNR and the Prospectors Trail Club, but an estimated \$69,000 shortfall still remains. This project is being done in conjunction with the new state park ATV campground, and it will provide trail access to the Tower-Soudan area from the park and Prospector's Trail, as

well as move the gravel road away from township and private gravel pit areas.

The current infrastructure project on Church St. and First Ave. has also run above estimated costs due to problems found while the streets were dug up, as well as damage from the June flood.

"The project just kept getting bigger," said board chair Tim Tomsich. "When the street is dug up, you have to do it." The township has received around \$184,000 in grant funding from IRRR and CDBG for this project so far, along with a township contribution. The estimated cost has grown to around \$324,000 plus engineering fees. Township residents did vote to increase the 2025 levy by \$40,000 to help build up the road and bridge fund, and at that time, Tomsich told residents that amount might need to become the new normal.

### Loop trail

The township has been working with St. Louis County on a proposed route for the completion of

the loop trail that will link paved trails in Breitung and Tower, specifically between McKinley and Hoodoo Point campgrounds. The township did receive grants from Blandin and IRRR for the engineering and environmental reviews required, which are now underway. The township plans to submit a second grant application to the DNR this spring to fund the actual construction of the trail segment, and if that grant is successful, would apply to the IRRR for matching funds. Tower and Breitung would also be contributing to the project.

Breitung Township engineer John Jannick said the project wouldn't require filling of any wetlands, but they would need a permit to "impact wetlands."

The project will provide a complete paved loop trail between Tower, Soudan, and the two campgrounds.

### FEMA flood funding

Township officials met with a FEMA representative to review damage and cost estimates from the

June flood event.

"They will cover costs to repair to the previous condition," said Tomsich. "But possibly will not pay the costs for improvements to mitigate future flood damage." The township had been told that such funding may have been possible. Some improvements, such as increasing the size of culverts so a higher volume of water can flow through might be covered, they were told.

The township recorded about 20 locations that were damaged during the flood.

Tomsich noted that clerk Amber Zak was spending a lot of time on the paperwork required and asked if the board would consider paying the clerk for the extra time. The board agreed and asked Zak to track her hours. Jannick noted that FEMA funds can be used to reimburse that expense.

In other business, the board:

► Heard an update on the sewer treatment expansion project from Matt Tichel. The township-ap-

proved logging at the site adjacent to the sewage treatment ponds is completed. Tichel said the initial soil boring results are looking favorable, and more borings might be done to determine the exact site for the infiltration wells. Tichel noted the site might be a source of gravel for the township in the future.

► Heard that the logging done by the water tower is also completed. Tichel was set to meet with Eric Norberg, who is working on a solar panel installation in that area. Tichel said the logging would mean a larger solar array can be installed, possibly making the site more financially feasible.

► Heard that work on the new water filtration plant is on schedule. The exterior of the building should be completed by December, and the contractors will work on the interior over the winter.

► Will begin discussions with the city of Tower for the new police contract. The current contract expires at the end of this year.

ST. LOUIS COUNTY

# County proposes 7.23 percent property tax hike for 2025

by DAVID COLBURN  
Cook-Orr Editor

**REGIONAL-** The St. Louis County Board gave preliminary approval last week to a 2025 property tax levy of \$180.3 million, a 7.23 percent increase from 2024. The levy increase is slightly below the 7.8 percent growth in the county's property tax base, which could offset the impact on many property owners.

Over the past year, the county's tax base grew by \$265 million, primarily due to new residential construction. As a result, the tax burden will be spread across more taxpayers, meaning homes with little or no increase in valuation may see no rise, and possibly a decrease, in their property taxes.

The levy increase is aimed at maintaining critical services while investing in staffing. This includes increases in salaries and benefits to address recruitment and retention challenges in

the current tight labor market.

"The investments in this levy are really about people, especially ensuring public safety," said commissioner Annie Harala, chair of the board's finance committee. "We need to retain our well-trained staff and attract new staff in this competitive hiring market."

Commissioners Ashley Grimm and Paul McDonald praised Harala and county staff for keeping the levy increase lower than initial estimates.

"As an arm of the state, sometimes our hands are tied," McDonald said. "There are things we have to do, and to do that, we need more funding."

The levy also accounts for inflationary pressures on county operations, as well as investments in economic development and community programs, including The Depot.

A final vote on the proposed levy is scheduled for the Sept. 24 county board

meeting at the St. Louis County Courthouse in Duluth. By law, Minnesota counties must set their maximum property tax levy by the end of September. While the levy could be lowered as the board finalizes the budget in the coming months, it cannot be increased. The final budget vote is expected on Dec. 17.

The county has scheduled two public input meetings on the levy and budget.

The first will be on Monday, Nov. 18 at 7 p.m. at the St. Louis County Courthouse in Virginia. The second is set for Monday, Nov. 25 at the St. Louis County Courthouse in Duluth, also beginning at 7 p.m. The Nov. 25 session will also be livestreamed on the county's Facebook page.

To learn more about the proposed levy and the current budget for St. Louis County, visit [stlouiscountymn.gov/budget](http://stlouiscountymn.gov/budget).

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# 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

### Time to work together

Nitpicking and “gotchas” do not contribute to a productive township

As the members of the recently constituted Lake Vermilion Pickleball Association have demonstrated, residents of Greenwood do know how to work together to accomplish good things for their community. When residents set a goal of building new pickleball courts, they organized and raised the money and the four new courts now located near the town hall are proof positive of the benefits of working cooperatively together.

If only the town board would take the hint.

For years, it seems, members of the town board have constantly found something to fight about. Indeed, the years of dysfunction in the township’s governance has become the stuff of legend in our region.

Most recently, the fight has focused on how meetings are noticed. For various reasons, the town board has moved its regular monthly meetings the past couple months, first due to a conflict with the Aug. 13 primary and the second time to accommodate a work conflict by one of the board members. A work conflict by a member isn’t the kind of thing that typically prompts a governmental body to change its meeting date, since they can typically conduct their business short a member. In the case of Greenwood, however, given the current 3-2 split on the town board, the absence of one member from the current majority could well limit the board’s ability to pass motions.

Maintaining a regular meeting schedule is valuable to the public, since those wishing to attend can generally rely on the predictable timing of those meetings to remember when to show up. That’s harder when meeting dates bounce around, even if the meetings are properly noticed.

In the case of Greenwood, of course, there would be more controversy to the story, raising issues so Byzantine as to make one’s head hurt.

The town board rescheduled their August regular meeting that conflicted with the primary to the next day, Aug. 14, a decision the board made at their regular meeting in July. In that motion, they referred to the rescheduled gathering as a special meeting, which would require posting the time, date, and purpose of the meeting three days prior. It appears the town clerk neglected to post it at the township office and when the issue was raised by one of the board members at the beginning of the Aug. 14 meeting, the board wisely opted to adjourn the meeting without taking any action.

Subsequent research on the issue by town officials as well as the *Timberjay*, however, con-

cludes that the Aug. 14 meeting could have been rescheduled as a regular meeting without any extraordinary notice requirements, had the board opted to do so. That’s based on consultation with three attorneys, including Mark Anfinson, the Minnesota Newspaper Association’s attorney and one of the state’s foremost experts on the Open Meeting Law.

It appears the town board erred when it passed a motion that described its Aug. 14 meeting as “special” when it was actually its “regular” meeting on a different date.

This is a common misperception, one that isn’t helped by a training video transcript from the Minnesota Association of Townships, or MAT, provided by one of the offended board members, which suggests that by changing the date of a regular meeting, it automatically becomes a special meeting.

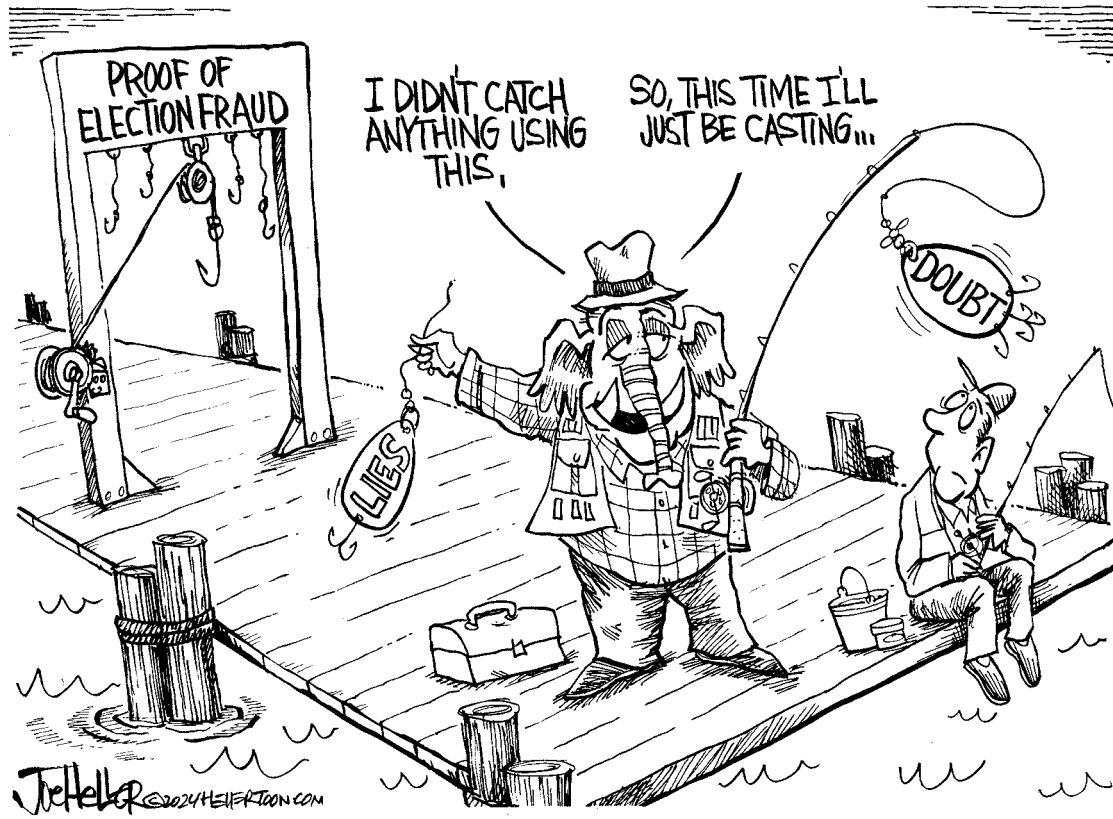
Based on a straightforward reading of the Open Meeting Law, specifically Minn. Stat. 13D.04, Subd. 1, it is clear that a governmental body can change the date of a regular meeting without it becoming a special meeting. It simply says that the date change needs to be noticed as per the requirements of a special meeting.

What’s more, as the township attorneys related to the town board chair, there is nothing in the law that prevents a governmental body from changing the dates of its regular meetings. Once approved and noted in the meeting minutes, no further public notice is even required.

Anfinson agreed with that assessment and points to Minn. Stat. 13D.04, Subd. 4, which implies that a meeting with a time and place recorded in the minutes of a prior, properly convened meeting does not require any additional notice.

While one can see both sides of the issue with the Aug. 14 meeting, the dispute went from esoteric to silly earlier this month when two board members walked out of the Sept. 12 regular meeting complaining that the agenda, which was properly posted three days in advance, should have referred to it as a “special” meeting. In fact, it appears there was no legal reason to make such a change, and even if there was, why would the offended board members grandstand about it at the meeting rather than address it when the agendas and packets were sent out days ahead of the meeting.

Unfortunately, some town board members appear more interested in conducting “gotcha” demonstrations than conducting the township’s legitimate business. Folks in Greenwood are capable of better.



## Letters from Readers

### The scale of the Silver Rapids proposal is too big

How big is the proposed Silver Rapids expansion project approved by the Lake County Planning and Zoning Commission? VERY BIG. During the peak summer season, the capacity for onsite residents will increase from about 220 to 440, or double the current capacity. In effect, 37 seasonal RV hookups and tent sites and five small cabins will be replaced by 49 new four-season homes with almost 3,000 square feet of living space with three bedrooms, three bathrooms, and comfortable sleeping capacity for eight people. Those new cabins alone could house 392 people. Added to this is the capacity of the refurbished motel rooms and cabins, bringing the total to 440.

Looked at on a full-year basis, the effective person-months of residential capacity will increase three-fold, because seasonal sites are being replaced by year-round homes. That represents a very big impact on Fall Lake Township, which has slightly less than 600 full time residents. The year-round population increase will increase traffic on our roads and lakes, solid waste to be removed, noise from ATVs and snowmobiles, and consumption of water, possibly affecting wells of neighbors. The quiet lakes and forests that drew so many of us here in the first place will be significantly affected.

How our public officials could approve this massive project with essentially no public input after information about the project was available is outrageous. It makes a mockery of the idea of public hearings to get input from the neighbors most affected by the project.

A responsible, properly scaled revival of the Silver Rapids Lodge Resort would be welcomed by most neighbors. This is not such a project. It is too big for the location and for our community.

**Charles Marsden**  
Fall Lake Township

### The earth we take, the responsibility we bear

Responsibility is a term easily articulated but challenging to embody. As children of this planet, we utilize its resources, cultivate its land, and reshape its landscapes. In return, the Earth molds us, influences our lives, and offers us sustenance. Yet, it does not demand anything from us. We take and take, often forgetting the fundamental principle of reciprocity.

In America today, conversations about climate change and our impact on the environment have become increasingly loud. While this recognition is crucial, it begs the question: do we consider our insatiable consumerism as a primary driver of climate change? The dialogue has shifted recently, and society is beginning to set ambitious goals for a sustainable future. Regulatory measures are emerging, particularly in the automotive and manufacturing sectors, but how are these changes materializing?

Electric vehicle batteries are becoming ubiquitous across the nation, yet our high demand necessitates extracting more minerals from the Earth. Fortunately, we have valuable deposits right here in the United States. My roots in Minnesota connect me to local mining operations, and this connection prompts a deeper reflection on our actions.

Recently, I had the opportunity to speak with an environmental scientist (and friend) who, like many outdoor enthusiasts, cherishes the Boundary Waters. She presented a compelling viewpoint: “A toothache hurts, and so does stubbing your toe; the Earth will feel mining wherever it occurs. Why is one area deemed more suitable for extraction than another?” This perspective brings us back to the issue of responsibility.

Our consumer-driven society has propelled us into the climate crisis that we now face. While America is pledging to do better, we must take ownership of our actions and acknowledge the problem head-on.

We must commit to becoming

a more sustainable and renewable nation. It is vital to recognize that our ancestors contributed to this environmental degradation, and we are now tasked with addressing the repercussions of their choices. We must work collectively to forge a path toward sustainability—one that acknowledges our past, embraces our present, and honors our responsibility to the planet.

Taking responsibility means making difficult choices and sacrifices. We need to force ourselves to do the hard thing, mine locally and attempt to pay the earth back for everything she has given us. It requires us to reconsider our consumption habits.

By prioritizing local mining and sustainable practices, we can begin to heal the wounds that we have inflicted on the Earth. In this moment of climate crisis, let us not only advocate for change but also embody it. We owe it to ourselves, to future generations, and to the planet that has nurtured us.

As we navigate the complexities of our relationship with the environment, let us strive to foster a culture of gratitude and reciprocity. Let us honor the Earth, take responsibility for our actions, and move toward a sustainable future.

**Dominick Olivanti**  
Virginia

### Trump’s driving the clown car

Is he a good clown? Is he a bad clown? It doesn’t really matter. Donald Trump belongs in a circus not in the White House.

**Jim Ganahl**  
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

# My Carpentry 101 crash course, and the wonders of oakum

With the season about to shift to autumn, my mind has been focused on the final steps to restore the exterior of my log house. A project I thought would take one summer is now rounding out the end of its third. And this summer, which I thought would surely be the last, will likely leave some important steps left for next year. My inner voice repeatedly chants, “Perseverance, dear girl. Perseverance!”



**KATHLEEN MCQUILLAN**

When I began this journey into the unknown, I decided to leave work on the east wall of the house for last because, in my preliminary assessment, it looked like it would require the most time and attention.

Our bitter Minnesota winters and scorching summer heat had definitely taken a toll. Dense forest surrounds my place and is closest to the

east side, creating persistent shade and humidity, and poor air circulation, that together contribute to more rotting and insects. Saving the worst until last was a big, big mistake. I learned too late. Never save the hardest stuff for the end. I know that now because, in my current state of project fatigue, facing that east wall is a bit like facing El Capitan.

I thought I was so smart back in May when I jumped on that string of nice days we had and scraped, scrubbed, and sanded five decades of

debris from that east wall just to ready it for the first coat of penetrating stain that would protect the logs from rot and bugs for many years to come. No one could have predicted that June would produce some of the heaviest rains in centuries, followed by weeks of what meteorologists called “pop-up showers” that showed up on a nearly daily basis until mid-July.

It would take many weeks before the now saturated logs would dry thoroughly enough to stain. My

frustration with the weather spawned waves of anxiety. Our summers are short, and time was a-wastin’! I knew I’d have to review the priorities on my to-do list and recalibrate the timetable. What I needed to identify was an indoor project until the weather decided to cooperate.

I found myself completely shifting gears from exterior log work to something indoors. The lightbulb went on. I could start upgrading my 1980s experiment with solar power. The equipment

I’d installed way back then still functioned, but I knew it was losing its zip and was shockingly obsolete. This could be my opportunity. I resumed researching where I’d left off last winter. I determined how much power I would need and how much I could invest in new equipment. I also realized that I would need to construct an area suitable to assure my system could be kept warm in the winter. I decided to de-

See OAKUM...pg. 5

## COMMENTARY

# Things that need to be considered before creating a name...

In 2007, I designed and built a website that was then banned by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The website was an April Fool's gag called kitty-porn4.me. It featured an escort service whose employees were



**CATIE CLARK**

all cute cats and kittens targeting lonely business travelers looking for feline companionship while on the road. The "girls" all specialized in "Pouncy paws Feng Shui massage," which could be either clawed or clawless. As a gag, it was purrfection.

I told some Mormon friends about the website. One looked for it and

found that it was banned by the church. Curious, I inquired about the church's policies for banning websites.

The folks who censored websites for the church based their decisions on the domain name and the internet category (e.g., education, entertainment, etc.). The church censors didn't inspect most of the websites they banned. Because "porn" was embedded in the name of my website, kitty-porn4.me was classified as a pornographic site.

The church has a simple appeal process where a website owner can write the

communication division of the church, stating why the ban was incorrect and asking to be recategorized. Given that I had no affiliation with the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, I never bothered.

Websites names can have great potential for misunderstanding. For example, the Mole Station Native Nursery in Tenterfield, Australia uses the domain name of molestationnursery.com. The firm is a legitimate nursery business in New South Wales and has used its domain name for over 20 years.

Another suggestive domain name belongs to the newspaper in Winters, Calif., the *Winters Express*. The paper's website is winters-express.com, which can be parsed into three words in-

stead of two.

Personal names can also make waves and impact one's ability to get a job. Twenty years ago, a pair of researchers sent fake job applications for positions advertised in Boston and Chicago newspapers. They found that names common to white people received more interviews than names common to Blacks — results recently confirmed by a larger 2024 study by researchers from the University of California — Berkeley and the University of Chicago.

A contrary name doesn't always result in not getting a position. I think my favorite example of this is Robert Lawless, who I interviewed regarding bankruptcy trends a few years ago. He is currently one of the people run-

ning the Consumer Bankruptcy Project founded by U.S. Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D – Mass.). Lawless is the Max L. Rowe Professor of Law at the University of Illinois College of Law.

Of course, the names that catch the most attention are the ones that have English-language innuendoes, like Bra, Boob, Poop, and Shat. I have a friend in Sweden whose last name is Bra. Bra can be a Swedish, Corsican, Catalan, and Bengali surname, and a nickname for Bernard in Hungarian and Polish.

Boob is Hindi, with the highest number of Boobs living in Maharashtra. Indian names can be far worse than Boob, however. For example, consider the perfectly acceptable Hindi name of

Hardick Ramdeep.

Poop is a Taiwanese surname and Shat is Scottish. Neither is common. More Shats now live in the U.S. and Canada than live in the U.K. Out of all the lousy last name ones can have, I think Shat may be the crappiest.

Last, we should not neglect that honorable last name from Germany and Austria, Schmuck. I knew someone with the last name of Schmuck when I lived in Vienna. Schmuck means jewelry in German and is an occupational surname for jewelers. Of course, the word means something entirely different in Yiddish.

## Harris is an economic idiot and a mental midget

The slogan, 'We are not looking back' means discount the Harris record and not look at Harris's southern border invasion, high cost of inflation, Afghan disastrous withdrawal, funding two wars, high cost of energy, food, and shelter, and increases in mortgage rates and crime. Harris is a new incarnation of the Wizard of Oz.

Slogan, 'Turn the Page,' means Democrats want everyone to think they have new plans to solve all problems created with their failed policies, touting new policy failures like price fixing. How ironic that Harris adopts Trump policies instead of failed Democrat policies like 'Bidenomics' that Harris promoted.

Slogan, 'New way Forward', means that Democrats have new plans to drive us into the proverbial ditch. All you need to do is listen to Harris's BS; the way she does not explain how we are better off now under her leadership than we were four years ago. The Harris campaign is disturbing buffoonery where word salad is still on the menu.

Slogan, "Kamala for the people", means what, that illegal aliens take priority over American citizens? Maybe it means deaths from fentanyl are acceptable, gang bangers operating in the US is ok, funding criminals that burned down Minneapolis, or maybe it means the cartels getting wealthier?

When Harris says her 'values have not changed', it

means she plans going back to Marxist socialist ways after policy flip flopping like a fish on the bottom of the boat. Harris changing her previous policy stances is vote pandering for uninformed gullible Democrats. What happened to critical thinking Democrats?

Who is so naïve, vacuous, ignorant, dense, obtuse, or so clueless to believe that a government kakistocracy lead by Harris will solve all the problems on 'day one' that Democrats have created?

KH only does very limited pre-taped, edited or softball interviews and gives convoluted word salad answers because she is an economic idiot, a military mental midget, and a foreign policy dunce.

**Mike Banovetz  
Winton**

## Lorrie was the best boss I ever had

I had the good fortune of having Lorrie Janatopoulos as one of my first bosses. To date, she is still the best boss I've ever had. We need more public servants like Lorrie who lead with heart, a clear vision, intelligence, empathy, and hope.

Lorrie has worked with a broad cross-section of the population for over 30 years. She understands issues facing working families: childcare, stable work in a growing economy, education and ensuring that our seniors can retire in dignity and obtain the healthcare that they deserve. I've witnessed firsthand Lorrie's commitment to our Iron Range families, her tenacity and effectiveness to help build workforce

pathways and solutions for her community. Lorrie understands that work should be more than just a paycheck and that it should provide dignity to workers as well.

Lorrie deeply understands the issues facing her district and has the ability to work across differences to best serve her community. Lorrie is also pragmatic and not a do-nothing ideologue more interested in scoring political points than helping working families. The folks in district 7B would be fortunate to have Lorrie fighting for them in St. Paul every day.

**Noah Hobbs  
Duluth**

## America doesn't live up to its rhetoric

Gov. Tim Walz said "violence has no place in America." I hope that is his vision for the future but I doubt it. As of now violence IS America and his running mate promotes violence with her support of Israel's genocide in Palestine. Maybe Walz has forgotten the United States' murder spree around the world, such as the U.S. killing of three million Vietnamese, one million Iraqis, 50,000 Nicaraguans in the U.S. sponsored Contra war, and the dozens of other examples that Americans are encouraged to forget (and they do.) Maybe Walz has a real short memory and has already forgotten the 41,000 Palestinians killed in the last 11 months, destroying homes, medical facilities, and schools. And the killing continues with weapons continuing to flow to the Israeli (American) killing

machine. Unfortunately, the Democrats are the same as the Republicans. Americans don't have a choice for peace. America does not want peace— it's not good for the weapons industry and big business. We need to recognize the fact that the U.S. government is not the answer to world peace which is the most important thing in the world. America does not want it. We as taxpayers are funding the genocide in Palestine.

When are we going to get tired of America killing people around the world and not taking care of the people and the environment here in the U.S. When are we going to demand the U.S. government be peaceful and stop killing Palestinians. When will we stand up to the weapons manufacturers that the Senate, House, and President represent.

Biden and Harris are the current criminals in the White House. They do NOT want peace. The enemies of humanity outnumber everyone else in the House, Senate, and White House.

We are in big trouble as long as we don't question this so-called democracy.

The choice that the system gives us is vote for war and genocide or vote for war and genocide.

America equals war and dictatorship.

**Steve Johnson  
Ely**

## Trump is bringing us back to the bad old days

Donald Trump, during the Sept. 10 debate, actually argued that "illegal" Haitian immigrants in Springfield,

Ohio, were eating dogs, cats, and other pets. First, since the Haitian immigrants are all here legally, the premise of his claim was a lie. Then, days later, JD Vance admitted he had no evidence that any pets were eaten, saying "If I have to create stories" to get attention for Trump in the media, then that's what he'll do.

Now the MAGAs are pretending it's a joke. Billboards in Arizona show cute kittens that say: "Please don't eat us. Vote Republican." MAGAs are the only people who would think these racist, disgusting lies are cute, who would not realize these lies have real world consequences.

The people who left Haiti did not come here to lie around on welfare. They came because Ohio was offering jobs. They came because they thought this was a safer place to live, and there was opportunity to give their families a safer life. One of their employers in Springfield said, "Thirty of them work here. I wish I had 30 more."

Now the MAGAs have made bomb threats in hospitals, elementary schools,


police stations, and the city hall. Police dogs are being used to sniff for bombs. The immigrants and locals are pulling their children out of school because they are afraid the children will be killed or injured by a bomb or some MAGA whacko with an AR15.

In an interview filmed from his back so he could not be identified, a Haitian immigrant said one of his coworkers asked him if he really ate cats and dogs. Another asked if he should go back to Haiti because it was too dangerous in the USA.

Can you imagine MAGAs spreading these lies about a WHITE immigrant? Can you imagine a MAGA making "jokes" like this about anyone who is WHITE?

I thought we had all recognized people of color as being human back in the 1960s. I can't believe we're still having to fight this garbage in 2024.

**Kate Furness  
Ely**



**the  
TIMBERJAY**

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## OAKUM...Cont. from page 4

sign an insulated "closet" in my three-season addition.

For that month of sequestration, I created a personalized Intro to Carpentry 101 crash course. Thanks to the generous array of battery-powered saws, drills, bits and blades that my sons had gifted to me at Christmas two years ago and some great YouTube videos I found, I was able to complete my first solo construction project. And now I have power! That rainy weather I'd so lamented had in fact allowed me the experience of learning to read a tape measure right down to the "16ths", and everything else involved. My next DIY challenge will be wiring my own house.

Finally, the weather began to cooperate. The logs were drying. But before I could start staining, I would need to insulate and seal the spaces between the logs. In times past, log builders would often turn to whatever materials were on hand whether moss and straw, shredded newspaper, or scraps of cot-

ton and woolen clothing. Today, the "make-do" materials of our ancestors have been replaced by manufactured products such as fiberglass batts, spray foam, and "elastometric" caulks, all of which I considered, until I discovered oakum.

Oakum is made from multiple twisted strands of jute and hemp soaked in pine tar and bentonite, a compound derived from volcanic ash. It is easily manipulated to fit the varied spaces between the logs and accommodate variations from their knots and other unique features. It acts as a natural deterrent to insects and can swell or shrink with changes in humidity, enhancing its sealing capabilities. It's been around for centuries with one of its first uses in shipbuilding when skilled maritime craftsmen would salvage worn ropes from ships' rigging to repurpose as filler for cracks and leaks in their 16th- and 17th-century wooden sailing ships. Later it was used to build the

massive networks of pipes that transport drinking and wastewater underneath our major cities. It's still used for many modern-day plumbing repairs.

Working with oakum has taken some getting used to. Like so many aspects of my restoration project, it's been another trial-and-error process, learning what it can and cannot do, requiring my patience and concentration in an almost meditative way. There is an art in how tightly to twist it, so it conforms and fills the nooks and crannies endemic to log buildings. I was able to purchase a vintage shipwright's cast iron caulking tool that has proven to be perfect for the job. I sometimes muse the by-gone era when Maritimers masterfully employed the skills I'm just learning, ones that allowed for vast ocean crossings. I appreciate attempting a traditional practice that I hope will not be lost.

I must confess. At times, I've questioned my sanity, as may have some of my

friends. This endeavor to restore my cabin began in sheer ignorance, and has tested every part of my being — body, mind, and spirit. My biggest fear this year has been that I might "age out" before it's complete, something that would be a huge disappointment to me, and a burden left for somebody else.

I owe my family, friends and community thanks for their patience and support. I've turned down many invitations to commit with my truth, "If it's a sunny day, I'll need to work." Next summer, I'd like things to be different. But this year has shown me, when it comes to time, or the weather, there are no guarantees. Our priorities will sometimes need discernment and adjustment. And everything we choose to do has the power to message something meaningful.

In many a stressful moment, working with oakum has messaged me this. Take more time when you can. And appreciate the twists and turns.

Week of Sept. 30

**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 bulding. Next food shelf day is Oct. 15.

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

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



**TSHS weekly winner**  
TOWER- The Week 2 winner of a \$100 cash prize of the Charlemagne's 52 Club is Tom Larson of Elk River. Watch this space each week to learn a bit of Tower-Soudan-Lake Vermilion history.

**History Tidbit:** The first livery stable in Tower was built in the early 1900s, and was acquired by Mr. Henry Anderson who moved from Soudan to Tower when he became a partner in the Claus Domberg Livery Stable. Mr. Anderson and his four sons transported freight to the numerous logging camps and sawmills, hauled business supplies for the community and hauled passengers between Tower and Soudan. Up to 26 horses were kept at the stable; also an important part of the business was transporting school children. During the winter a sled was used, and the "bus" was heated by a coal stove. The first bus was pulled by two horses named Dan and Jerry, who were retired in 1914 when a Model A Ford truck was purchased.

**Tacos with Cops set for Saturday, Oct. 5**  
SOUDAN- The third annual Tacos with Cops fundraiser will be held on Saturday, Oct. 5 from noon - 5 p.m. at the Breitung Community Center. The event is hosted by Breitung Police Chief Dan Reing and his family. There will be authentic tacos, public safety information and resources, and community dialog. A freewill donation will be taken which will help fund Breitung Police Department special projects.

TOWER-SOUDAN ELEMENTARY



# Will run for root beer

Seven elementary students from Tower-Soudan participated in this year's Ely Marathon as part of Dorothy's Root Beer Run, which is sponsored by the Dorothy Molter Museum. Children 12 and under run 25 miles prior to race day, and then log their final 1.2 miles on the actual race course, finishing at the official finish line in Whiteside Park where they receive their medals and free root beer. First-grade teacher Jo Holen helps organize group runs at the school during recess times, and children can log miles on their own. She said she was very proud of this year's group, who gave it their all, finishing the 1.2 mile course is less than 15 minutes. Pictured (from left) Raven Rettke, Mark Rettke, Lailana Stellmach, Kaleelah Chosa, Ayva Anderson, and Zaija Schroeder. Not pictured is Brayden Purkat. photos by J. Holen

## Tower-Soudan Historical Society reports a busy year, updates on projects

by JODI SUMMIT  
Tower-Soudan Editor

TOWER- The Tower-Soudan Historical Society hosted their annual meeting on Sept. 10, and the Lamppa Civic Center was standing-room only. The talk on the Vermilion Lake Indian School by Linda LeGarde Grover started out the evening, and then there was a presentation by historical society president

Nancy Larson, and then a catered dinner. There was a silent auction and trivia games. Larson reported the train depot museum had 1,283 registered guests this year, and 19 volunteer greeters worked a total of 362 hours at the depot which was open on 59 days. Visitors contributed \$1,000 in donations. The Charlemagne's Attic Sales raised almost \$2,000 this summer, and 550 shoppers/visitors toured

the historic fire hall during the sale days. The society also hosted 12 public tours of the fire hall this year. Train Tales, a summer storytelling event held in the coach car, had a total of 72 attendees. Work on the interior restoration of the fire hall will begin in October. The society hosted one History Talk this summer and Coach Car 81 hosted six events. The TSHS has 136 paid members.

To date, \$52,390 in individual donations were made for the restoration of the fire hall, and \$693,250 in grants were received for the project this year. In total, over \$1.5 million in grants have been received. There are also pledges of future support and memorials/honorariums received for this project.

### COMMUNITY NOTICES

**VCS looking for used magazines**  
TOWER- The Vermilion Country School is looking for used magazines that would be appropriate for use in school art projects. Magazines can be dropped at the charter school or at the Timberjays office in Tower.

**Ruby Milton awarded scholarship to UW-Eau Claire**  
EAU CLAIRE, Wis.- Four hundred eighty-one incoming freshmen received scholarships from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire for the 2024-25 academic year, with many students receiving multiple awards. Ruby Milton, of Embarrass, an incoming freshman at UW-Eau Claire was awarded a Chancellor's Scholarship. Ruby graduated from Northeast Range High School in Babbitt.

**Tower-Soudan Singers to begin rehearsals for holiday concert**  
TOWER- Come join the Tower-Soudan Area Singers as they start preparing for the holiday season and their annual Christmas concert. Rehearsals begin on Monday, Sept. 30 at 5 p.m.

at the Tower Elementary School music room (please enter through the front door on N. 2nd St.) All kinds of holiday music will be sung during the concert, scheduled for Sunday, Dec. 15 at 2 p.m. in the school gymnasium. "You don't need to be a great singer to participate in this group," said choir director Rolf Anderson. "The organization exists to provide opportunity to enjoy singing together. No audition is required!"  
**Lunch Bunch to meet on Sept. 27**  
TOWER- The Lunch

Bunch will meet on Friday, Sept. 27 at the Tower Café from 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. RSVP to Kathy at 218-753-2530. Every is welcome to join the group for lunch and conversation.  
**Rummage sale to be held at Tower Food Shelf in October**  
TOWER- The Tower Food Shelf will be holding a fundraiser rummage sale on Tuesday, Oct. 15 from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Donations can be dropped off at the food shelf by calling Kate Smith at 763-528-5396 to set up an appointment.

**St. Martin's getting ready for Christmas Bazaar**  
TOWER- St. Martin's Catholic Church in Tower will once again be hosting a Christmas Bazaar. The event will be held on Saturday, Nov. 9 in the church social hall. The church is looking for local crafters to participate. The cost for a table is \$20. If you are interested please contact Maryann at the rectory (218-753-4310) by Oct. 16. Office hours are Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, from 9 a.m. - noon.

**NOTICE**  
CITY of TOWER

The City of Tower will be **FLUSHING HYDRANTS**

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2**  
Starting at 10 AM

Residents should expect discolored water.

**NOTICE**  
TOWN of SOUDAN

The Town of Soudan will be **FLUSHING HYDRANTS**

**TUESDAY, OCT. 1**  
BEGINNING AT 7:30 AM

Residents can expect discolored water and irregular water pressure.

**ATTENTION SOUDAN RESIDENTS WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

Breitung Township is required to complete a household survey in Soudan proper (not the entire township) to maintain its eligibility for CDBG funding. The township uses this important source of grant funding for many projects, including road and infrastructure repair. CDBG funding is based on a community's income levels.

The township will be mailing out surveys to all households in Soudan proper that receive a utility bill. Please complete the simple four-question survey, which will ask about household size and age of residents, if you own or rent, what type of housing you live in, and family income. All the survey information remains confidential. Residents do not sign their name on the survey.

The township needs to get a response from at least 70% of its residents. If needed, they will have township staff going door to door to help complete the surveys. Your cooperation means Soudan will be able to continue to afford to improve its aging infrastructure and complete other important community projects.

If anyone has any questions, please contact the township office at: 218-753-6020

R.E.S.I.D.E.N.T

THE GLOW RUN



Left: Well-known Elyite tuba player Elton Brown sets up every year to play for the runners in the Well Being Development Benefit 5K Glow Run on the Friday evening before the Ely Marathon. This year, a group of participants stopped to take a selfie with Brown. Right: Eight-year-old Elyite Madoc Kannas finishing his Glow Run as the sun was going down. photos by C. Clark

In Brief

Tuesday Group schedule

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

Upcoming Tuesday Group speakers:

- Oct. 1: Pete Kero, author of Minescapes: Reclaiming Minnesota's Mined Lands
- Oct. 8: Sonja Tosteson, Urban & Community Forestry Volunteer & Partnerships Coordinator
- Oct. 15: Northwoods Volunteer Connection with Jo Swanson

Audition for the holiday production of "Elf - The Musical"

ELY- Northern Lakes Arts Association invites actors, singers, and performers from the community and beyond to audition for this year's festive production, "Elf - The Musical."

Whether you're an experienced performer or a newcomer to the stage, this is your chance to be part of a holiday spectacular that promises to bring

joy and laughter to audiences of all ages.

Auditions will be on Sunday, Oct. 13, at 3 p.m. and Monday, Oct. 14 at 7 p.m. at the Vermilion Fine Arts Theater at Minnesota North College, 1900 E. Camp St. Show up to the audition time that fits your schedule.

Based on the beloved holiday

movie, "Elf - The Musical" follows Buddy, a human raised as an elf at the North Pole, on his quest to find his real family in New York City. Auditioners should be prepared to move and sing. All audition materials will be provided on the day of the audition. Just bring enthusiasm, energy, and readiness to have fun to the audition.

Can't make it in person? Submit your headshot, resume, and vocal or performance reel online to contact@northernlakesarts.org by Oct. 12 to be considered.

The performance dates for Elf are Dec. 12-21.

Harvest Moon Festival voted ten best in the nation

ELY- Ely's Harvest Moon Festival has landed on the USA Today's list of the ten best fall festivals in the nation. This is the first time the festival has broken into the top-ten list to win one of USA Today's "Readers' Choice Awards."

The festival made the cut as one of the top 20 contenders for best fall festival in both 2023 and 2024. Every year, a panel of experts nominates fall festivals for consideration, with the final 20 nominees selected by the USA Today 10-Best editors. After the nominees for best festival are announced in August, the public is invited to vote for their favorites over a period of four weeks. The public can vote for one nominee per category, per calendar day.

Last year, the Harvest Moon Festival did not receive enough votes to slide into the top 10 winners circle. This year, to get the word out, the Ely Chamber of Commerce staff posted the voting link on social media and put up signage at each of Whiteside Park's entrances during

the festival. The festival's attendees came through and cast enough votes to place the festival into tenth place, landing it one of USA Today's Readers' Choice Awards.

"We even had the staff at the Frozen Tundra in our Harvest Moon food court encouraging people to vote for the festival – they apparently did a fantastic job," said Kristen Switajewski, festival coordinator for the chamber.

"Kristen took on the festival coordinator role in 2023," said Eva Sebesta, Ely Chamber of Commerce Executive Director. "She has done a phenomenal job of promoting the festival to both exhibitors and the public. She has offered fresh new ideas, and both our Harvest Moon and Blueberry/Art festivals have benefited significantly."

"We are so excited to place in the top 10," said Switajewski. "This will really help further promote our fall festival, which has plenty of room to grow."



Festival goes taste-testing maple syrup at this year's Harvest Moon Festival. photo by C. Clark

Breathing Out

by Cecilia Rolando © 2024



tomatoes, onions  
garlic, zucchini, carrots  
canning jars in wait

Libraries

Ely library

Hours: Monday – Friday, 9:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m.  
Closed on Saturday, Sunday, and holidays  
Phone: 218-365-5140

Babbitt library

Monday 10 am-6 pm  
Tuesday 10 am-6 pm  
Wednesday 10 am-6 pm  
Thursday 10 am-6 pm  
Friday 10 am-6 pm  
Phone: 218-827-3345

COMMUNITY EVENTS AND NOTICES

Babbitt Public Library

BABBITT- The library is now open on Fridays again.

The Friends of the Library have a raffle going for a Kate Spade glimmer tote bag. Tickets are \$5 each and only 500 will be sold. The drawing will be on Dec. 14; ticket holders do not need to be present to win.

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 spice for October is anise. Pick up a sample and recipes at the front desk while supplies last.

The library will hold an online Kahoot trivia game on three books by acclaimed children's author Roald Dahl: "The Twits," "Matilda," and "The BFG." The Kahoot will start at 3 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 2, and end at 8 a.m. on Monday, Oct. 7. Participants must preregister for the Kahoot so the library can email the link for the game.

Preschool Storytime is held every Friday from 10:30-11 a.m. All library events are at the Ely Public Library at 224 E. Chapman St. unless otherwise noted.

The Ely for Ely Leadership Workshop

ELY- Registration for the Ely for Ely Leadership Workshop opens on Oct. 1 and runs through Nov. 11. Register for this event at the Boundary Waters Connect website at boundarywatersconnect.com/elyforely. The

workshop will be on Monday, Nov. 18. The cost is \$20 with scholarships available. The conference includes a continental breakfast, lunch and afternoon snack.

NLAA 2025 Art Shows

ELY- The deadline to apply for one of the spots in the Northern Lakes Arts Association's 2025 Art Show Season is Oct. 30. This opportunity offers a two-month exhibit, a \$500 stipend, and a three-day artist residency to engage with the local arts community. Apply through the NLAA website at northernlakesarts.org/2025-art-show-application.

Reflections Dance Company Classes

ELY- Registration for fall classes by Reflections Dance Company is now open. Classes start on Oct. 6, and run through Dec. 4, with a showcase recital on Saturday, Dec. 7 at 7 p.m. Sign-up for classes at www.northernlakesarts.org and pay online, or bring cash or check to the first class. New for the fall session are introductory levels for social swing dance, beginning adult jazz and tap, and an advanced technique class. Come to class ready to move and bring a water bottle. If you have questions, contact Director Molly Olson at 218-410-9457 or send an email at reflectionsdc18@gmail.com. Scholarships are available.

Latina Americana

ELY- On Sept. 27 at 7 p.m., rising Latin American musical star Mercedes Escobar will perform at the Vermilion Fine Arts Theater, bringing her spellbinding fu-

sion of blues, country, and Latin music to audiences in Ely. Tickets are \$25 for general admission, \$20 for NLAA members, \$18 for seniors/veterans, and \$10 for ages 18 and under. Minnesota North students get free admission. Tickets can be purchased online through the NLAA website (northernlakesarts.org/tickets) or at the door on the day of the performance.

Beaver Tales

ELY- Ely's Historic State Theater, 238 E. Sheridan, will host "Beaver Tales: a Community Storytelling Event," in the theater's lounge on Saturday, Sept. 28. Doors will open at 5:30 p.m., with the main event from 6:30-9 p.m.

5K Fun Walk and Run

ELY- A benefit five-kilometer fun run and walk will be held on Sunday, Sept. 29, at 11 a.m. at the Trezona Trailhead, at the intersection of Pioneer Rd. and Miners Dr. No sign-ups are necessary. Donations to benefit Planned Parenthood cheerfully accepted. Email Plannedparenthood5k@gmail.com with any questions.

New Resident Social

ELY- Boundary Waters Connect will host a new resident social on Tuesday, Oct. 1, from 5-7 p.m. at the Ely Folk School. The event will feature light appetizers as well as a variety of beverages, including mocktails, beer, and wine. This is a free function open to everyone. At 5:45 p.m., Boundary Waters Connect will toast new Elyite neighbors.

Call of the Wild Returns

ELY- The Call of the Wild Poetry reading returns to the Ely Folk School, 209 E. Sheridan St., on Thursday, Oct. 3, from 5-6 p.m. The theme will be "echoes of Autumn." Come and read your own poems, read a poem by someone else you like, or just some and listen. This is a no-cost event and all are welcome.

Letters from Home

ELY- Northern Lakes Arts Association is proud to present the internationally celebrated show "Letters from Home," on Saturday, Oct. 5 at 7 p.m., at Ely's Historic State Theater. Tickets are available at www.northernlakesarts.org/tickets. As a special tribute to our veterans, Northern Lakes Arts is offering free tickets for veterans, thanks to the generosity of community members and the organization itself. Veterans can claim their free tickets by selecting the special "Veteran Ticket" at checkout as a thank-you for their service.

Fish Thief

ELY- On Oct. 11 at 7 p.m., Ely's Historic State Theater will show "The Fish Thief." Formerly titled "Relentless," this documentary screened at the 2024 Ely Film Festival to a sold-out audience of 50 people. If you missed it back in February, now is your chance to see the film. The director of "The Fish Thief," Lindsay Haskin, will be present at this one-night reshowing of the film.

Harvest Festival

BABBITT- the Babbitt Senior Citizens and the Babbitt Friends of the Library are holding a Harvest Festival with craft vendors, a white elephant sale, a bake sale, and food on Saturday, Oct. 12, from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Lunch featuring sloppy joes or pulled pork sandwiches, chips, pickle, dessert, and a drink will be \$10; just coffee and dessert, \$5. The event will be at the Babbitt Municipal Gymnasium, 71 South Dr.

Art Reception

ELY- Ely's Historic State Theater will host a reception for Sarah Seidelmann's Exhibition of "Things That Make Me Feel Good Again," which is the Northern Lakes Arts Association art show for September. The reception will be on Oct. 12, from 5-6 p.m. in the theater lobby.

The Sectionals rescheduled

ELY- Ely's Historic State Theater's presentation of ever-popular Sectionals singing ensemble has been rescheduled for Sunday, Oct. 13, from 4-6 p.m. Cost is \$10 per person. Tickets can be ordered in advance at elystatetheater.org or bought at the door.

Ladies of Kaleva

ELY- The Ely Ladies of Kaleva will meet on Tuesday, Oct. 15 at 1 p.m. at the Ely Senior Center. The Marsalji Trio will play a program of Finnish music. Anyone interested in Finnish heritage is welcome to attend. Questions about the program can be directed to Sally at 218-760-2036.

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.

ENVIRONMENT

# Forest service chooses LaCroix landscape plan

Flexible toolbox approach will allow targeted, effective approach to managing varied vegetation needs

COOK- The LaCroix Landscape Project in the Superior National Forest is set to move forward after District Ranger Sunny Lucas announced last week that a plan had been selected for the first implementation cycle.

The project is a landscape-scale vegetation management project that will use flexible methods to apply various management strategies targeted to particular types of terrain and vegetation. Implementation will occur over a 15-year time period.

“We are excited to begin implementing the first cycle of the LaCroix Landscape Project,” Lucas said. “The approach we’re taking for this project allows us to select the right treatment for the right acre at the right time. We’ll also have the flexibility to work with other landowners and partners to take advantage of opportunities to make landscape scale improvements to forest health, increase wildlife habitat, and reduce hazardous fuels.”

The chosen option, called Alternative 2 in project documents, was selected as a balance between resource use and protection while best meeting the project’s purpose. Specifically, this alternative will contribute to landscape ecosystem objectives and minimize wildfire effects through vegetative treatments. Additionally, this alternative will help restore fire to the project area, provide sustainable timber products, manage the transportation system, and improve moose and grouse habitat through management actions.



The selected option provides for coordinated management in an area with a diverse landownership pattern with other agencies and organizations in the Arrowhead

Landscape Collaborative.

First announced in July 2022, proposed alternatives were mailed to interested parties, made available online, and discussed in an open house at the LaCroix District Office in Cook last December, the same time a draft environmental assessment was shared with tribal government and subsequently published for public comment.

Only four comment letters were received during the comment period. A final environmental assessment and draft decision notice was shared with tribal government and subsequently published for objection in July. No objections were received.

Detailed information including all actions associated with the decision, and the rationale of the selected actions for implementation is available on the Superior National Forest webpage at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/projects/superior/landmanagement/projects>, under the LaCroix Landscape Project.

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS

## County teams with local health orgs for breast cancer awareness event Oct. 1

COOK- Scenic Rivers Health Services, St. Louis County, and Cook Hospital are joining forces for a significant breast cancer awareness event on Tuesday, Oct. 1 at 4 p.m. in front of Cook Hospital, and the public is invited to attend and show support for this vital cause.

Mayor Harold Johnston is slated to deliver a proclamation to mark the occasion, underscoring the importance of community involvement in the fight against breast cancer, and declaring it “Go Pink Day”.

There will be a photo booth set up at the hospital for community members

to participate in the breast cancer awareness movement. In addition to raising awareness, the event will raise funds to purchase gift baskets for those in the community who have been diagnosed with breast cancer.

The event has multiple goals as the collaborating partners seek to make a tangible difference in the community and save lives, which include:

►Raise Awareness: Highlight the prevalence of breast cancer and its impact on individuals and families.

►Educate: Provide valuable information on the resources available within

Cook and how they can be accessed.

►Support: Offer a supportive environment for those currently battling cancer and their loved ones.

►Encourage: Promote healthier lifestyle choices to help prevent cancer and improve overall well-being.

Event attendees are strongly encouraged to continue showing their support by going to North Woods School that evening for the Grizzlies volleyball team “Dig Pink” night for breast cancer awareness (see accompanying article for details).

## Bragging rights on the line for Grizzlies, Wolves on Dig Pink night

FIELD TWP- It’s time again to come out and support the North Woods volleyball team as they work to raise breast cancer awareness through their annual Dig Pink match, and this year’s event won’t disappoint.

You don’t want to miss this barnburner match between the sizzling 2024 Grizzlies and the rival Ely Timberwolves, still flying high after last year’s state tournament appearance. Do the Grizzlies have the combo they need to send the Wolves home howling in defeat? The way to know for sure is to be there and be a

part of Dig Pink mania!

The volleyball promises to be great, but even better will be helping to raise funds to support the Virgie Hegg Hospice Program, serving hospice and hospice-eligible patients and their families in the Cook, Orr and Tower areas. You and VHHP can both be winners when you purchase tickets for the basket raffle and 50/50 drawing, Timbershakes, still flying high after last year’s state tournament appearance. Do the Grizzlies have the combo they need to send the Wolves home howling in defeat? The way to know for sure is to be there and be a

The festivities will get underway at 5:30 p.m. with the C team game followed by the seventh and eighth grade match. The junior varsity squad will serve it up at 5:45 p.m. on the main North Woods gym court, with the varsities duking it out on the main court beginning at 7 p.m.

So come on out and “Dig Pink” to help the Grizzlies support breast cancer awareness!

FLOOD RELIEF

## Cook flood center to close on Oct. 12

COOK- While FEMA has extended its deadline for flood relief applications, a local source of assistance is starting to wind down its efforts.

The Cook Lions Club stepped up at the outset of the June flood to receive donations on behalf of the community, and shortly thereafter opened a donation center in the former Franks Pharmacy building downtown. The center quickly filled up with furniture, linens, kitchen items, appliances, given for free to anyone who had suffered

losses from the flood.

Homeowners, renters, and business owners had the opportunity through Sept. 15 to apply for financial assistance for damage beyond what was covered by insurance, and funds will be distributed equally among qualified applicants.

And now, the club has announced that the donation center will cease operations on Saturday, Oct. 12, with unclaimed items available in a rummage sale tentatively set for Oct. 26, with the proceeds to benefit the flood relief fund.

“Even though a donation to the center may not have benefited someone directly, it still benefits them (through the rummage sale),” said Lions President Steve Kajala.

Initially open seven days a week and staffed by volunteers, the donation center transitioned to be open on Thursdays from 5-7 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to noon. Three months after the flood, people are still coming in for assistance or bringing donations, Kajala said.

“The first several weeks, things came and went very quickly, and after that, it slowed down significantly, but things still come and go,” Kajala said. “There are people every day we’re open, there are people here coming and taking things. We’ve

kind of had to stop most of the donations because we just ran out of room. But, you know, as room opens up, we may take a few more.”

Kajala said club members will have to decide what to do with any leftovers from the rummage sale, as well as whether to try to continue leasing the building for another purpose.

“I’m hoping that we can get rid of pretty much everything here, because we don’t know if we’re going to be in this building long term or not,” Kajala said. “This was rented originally as a stop gap to help provide this flood support. So that’s going to be presented to the club, as far as what we want to do in this long term.”



Left: Sons of Norway Haarfager Lodge #40 of Virginia presented a check for \$1,000 for flood relief to the Cook Lions Club at their Lapskaus supper meeting on Sept. 5 in Virginia. After the check was presented by Lodge President Bob Simensen, Lions Club service chair Ivette Reing and Lions Club secretary Erin Danielson posed with club members for a photo.

## Reception to kick off Martin memorial show at NWFA

COOK- October is the month for the Susan Martin Memorial Member Show at the Northwoods Friends of the Arts Gallery in Cook, and a reception will be held to celebrate the exhibit on Friday, Oct. 4 from 5-7 p.m. at the gallery.

This annual event showcases the artistic talents of NWFA members both new and old and honors the spirit of one of NWFA’s founding members and artists, Susan Martin, who passed away in 2015. Members who wish to exhibit may have space and sell their works free of rental fee from Oct. 6-26. Members should bring crafts and art to the gallery on Monday, Sept. 30 or Tuesday, Oct. 1. Generally, display space of approximately 4x4 feet of wall space or six feet of table space is provided per artist or crafter. An inventory list describing each item, including price if for sale, is required. Sales tax and a 15 percent commission on items sold will be collected.

Contact Alberta White-nack at 218-666-2153 with questions.

Folks may become a member now to participate. The annual membership fee is \$25 from June 1 to May 31.

The gallery is located at 210 S River St. in Cook.

## NWFA drawing class will be Friday, Oct. 18

COOK- Introduction to Basic Drawing, a class to be taught by Cecelia Rolando at Northwoods Friends of the Arts Gallery, has been rescheduled as a one-day class on Friday, Oct. 18 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. in Cook.

Ely native Rolando teaches a variety of art classes and loves drawing. Rolando will run through several exercises to encourage better drawing from students and how this leads to improved paintings. Register calling Alberta at 218-666-2153.

The NWFA Gallery at 210 S River St. in Cook is open on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. More information about NWFA and upcoming classes, exhibits, and events is available online at [www.nwfamn.org](http://www.nwfamn.org).

formation about NWFA and upcoming classes, exhibits, and events is available online at [www.nwfamn.org](http://www.nwfamn.org).

## Fall Festival Fiesta is coming Oct. 5

COOK- The Cook Friends of the Parks will be hosting a Fall Festival Fiesta on Saturday, Oct. 5 from noon-6 p.m. at the Cook VFW.

A festive meal of authentic Mexican steak tacos with rice, beans, and salsa will be served for \$10, with takeout and delivery in Cook available.

As a fundraiser for the organization’s pickleball project, a variety of raffles will be offered, as well as Bingo, with cash prizes, from 1-4 p.m.

Volunteers are needed, as are donations of wine, spirits, and baskets for raffles. In lieu of making a raffle basket, people may make a donation and have Friends of the Parks put together a basket in their name.

Check the Friends of the Parks-Cook, MN Facebook page for event details and updates.

## BAYTREE-FIELD 4-H



Students from the Baytree-Field 4-H club proudly show off their projects from the county and state level fairs. Projects range from metal work to crafts to creative writing. Pictured are, front row, from left, Lila Pearson, Sydney Olson-Stoltenberg, and Shelbey Olson-Stoltenberg; back row, Alice Sopoci, Cheyenne Schelde, Emma Schuchard, Allison Schuchard, and Aubrey Olson-Stoltenberg. 4-H has much to offer in regards to learning a multitude of new skills, personal growth and leadership. The Baytree-Field 4-H club regularly volunteers their time and helps out the community in various ways. The club meets monthly and would welcome new members. If interested, please contact Nicole Kudrle at the University of Minnesota extension office at 218-471-7265.



**CRASHES...**Continued from page 1

results, with some locations seeing little reduction in crashes, while others saw significant improvement. But for some intersections, the redirection of traffic with the new style of intersection can make a significant difference, even if the changes are typically unpopular with the public.

**Changes at Shermans Corners**

Drivers wanting to cross Hwy. 53 at the intersection or those seeking to turn left from either of the side roads, have seen the most change from the realignment, requiring that they turn right onto Hwy. 53, then travel a short distance to

a dedicated U-turn lane that places them back on Hwy 53 headed in the opposite direction. From there, they can either continue on Hwy. 53 or make a right turn to continue on either of the crossroads. Those seeking to turn left off of Hwy. 53 onto either Hwy. 1 or County Rd. 22 now have

a dedicated turn lane. Those seeking to turn right from either of the crossroads onto Hwy. 53 in either direction are unaffected by the change.

The changes appear to have made a significant difference. In the five years since the change, the intersection has seen just one minor accident,

back in 2020, that involved no injuries. Since then, the intersection has been accident-free.

“That makes me pretty happy when I can see a change make that kind of a difference,” said Jim Miles, a traffic safety engineer with MnDOT’s District 1 office in Duluth.

Miles noted that the intersection struck some drivers as odd at first. “These tend to be more unpopular intersections with the public. Most drivers seem to like convenience over safety,” he said.

**COUNTY...**Continued from page 1

dence between DNR and Lake County officials on the Silver Rapids project, which was obtained this week by the *Timberjay*, shows communication of DNR concerns dating back at least to early August. Those communications culminated in a Sept. 4 email from Danielle Braund, a DNR hydrologist. In it, Braund told Tanya Feldkamp, assistant director of Lake County Environmental Services, that the Silver Rapids proposal, as presented, “deviates significantly from the county’s ordinance limits on number of units and the number of mooring spaces.” Braund said the county ordinance, developed in the mid-1990s with DNR input and support,

currently “allows 16 units in the first tier and 33 units in the second tier.”

Later that same day, despite the DNR’s expressed concerns, the county’s planning commission approved a conditional use permit that calls for 33 units in the resort’s tier one setback zone closest to the lakeshore, and the 29 units in its tier two setback zone.

Braund also expressed concern about the number of mooring spaces, noting that the county ordinance would allow for just 16 mooring spaces, since it limits those spaces to one for every housing unit in the first tier. That issue is likely to require DNR permitting, so any county action on the question likely won’t be the

final word.

The timing and nature of the DNR correspondence with Lake County officials raises troubling questions about what county officials knew when they approved the CUP on Sept. 4. It appears that county officials did not reveal the DNR concerns publicly, either at the Sept. 4 meeting or during earlier meetings on the Silver Rapids proposal. What is less clear is whether county planning staff revealed the agency’s objections to members of the county’s planning commission before they approved the CUP that state officials believe violated the county’s own rules.

The *Timberjay* asked Christine McCarthy, director

of Lake County Environmental Services, when planning commission members first learned of the DNR’s concerns over the project.

“I can’t answer that at this time,” McCarthy responded. “Because there are people talking about appealing (the approval of the applications), I don’t have the authority to talk about this without consulting the county’s attorney. We’re not trying to hide anything, but because of the legal situation, I have to follow this procedure.”

**Rare fish also at issue**

DNR concerns about the impact of the development on a rare species of fish, known as the longear sunfish, never came up in county discussions on the proposal, either. In the

Sept. 4 email, Braund noted White Iron Lake is home to the rare sunfish, and Farm Lake contains protected waters for northern pike and walleye. “Increasing the number of structures and mooring facilities outside of what is allowable by ordinance would put pressures on the shoreline stability and aquatic environment of White Iron and Farm Lake,” Braund wrote.

**Ordinance history**

In her Sept. 13 letter, Smith outlined her reasoning, starting with the history of Lake County’s PUD ordinance. She noted that Lake County had expressed its concerns with the DNR’s commercial PUD regulations, with the county finding the DNR’s

standards: “Too restrictive in some areas and too permissive in others.” After negotiating, the DNR and the county came to an agreement in 1995 on a set of PUD rules which reflected “The character and environmental values of the area.”

Smith went on to state that the county should have used those negotiated standards, now part of Lake County’s ordinances, and not DNR’s more lenient commercial PUD regulations. She further wrote, “Even if the statewide commercial PUD standards were applicable, which they are not, the density calculations would only permit 48 units in total.”

**REZONING...**Continued from page 1

wrote. “I gave the county about two weeks’ notice I would be out of the country for the month of September. I received about four days’ notice when I was out of the country that the county decided to hold the meetings while I was out of the country, so the landowner was not represented at all. By Minnesota law it could have been postponed with no consequences to the county, but they refused. So that tells you where they were at. It’s a sad day for disabled veterans and their families.”

The board relied on the recommendation of the county planning commission for its decision, based on documents

submitted and hearings held, according to a board letter explaining the rationale for the decision accompanying the consent agenda.

According to the document, Beatty Township had previously recommended denial of the application in May 2023, citing potential issues with the land’s suitability for the proposed use. After two public hearings held by the planning commission in April and May 2023, the commission voted 7-1 to deny the rezoning request, concluding that the change would constitute “spot zoning,” a practice that benefits a specific property owner at the expense

of broader land use harmony.

In its decision, the planning commission emphasized that the proposed rezoning did not align with the county’s comprehensive land use plan and failed to demonstrate a clear public benefit.

In the consent agenda justification, the board agreed.

“The map amendment shall also be denied because there is no showing that the public interest would be best served by rezoning the property in question rather than other property in the community,” the document stated.

Wyrobek began offering limited camping opportunities last summer and has

continued to do so, despite receiving multiple letters from the county. She asserts that the use is allowable under an interpretation of the current residential zoning status. A post made to the Rough-N-It Facebook page in August indicated that the campground has been serving its intended purpose.

“We are proud to announce we have hosted over 30 veterans and their family (sic) so far in the past two years,” the post stated. Numerous positive online reviews praised the accommodations and Wyrobek’s work in facilitating their experiences.

Meanwhile, Wyrobek

sought to resolve the impasse by turning to the judicial system, filing two separate lawsuits that were both voluntarily dismissed. Wyrobek said she and the county were to enter into “good faith” mediation but expressed her opinion that “there was no ‘good faith’ from St. Louis County.” She indicated she may go back to court for a resolution.

“The application is more than likely already approved by law due to St. Louis County’s mishandling of the laws already,” Wyrobek said. “We just need to file with the courts to get it approved, which we are considering.”

The *Timberjay* reached

out to county Planning and Zoning Director Ryan Logan for information about possible options for Wyrobek to move forward with the campground. Instead, he provided the following statement:

“St. Louis County is committed to bringing the use of this property into compliance with our zoning ordinance. We recognize this has been a long and frustrating process for neighbors and we appreciate their patience. Beyond that, at this point, we have no comment on any specific action we have taken or are planning to take in this regard,” Logan wrote.

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



**ASH RIVER TRAIL CANISTER SITE**

11391 Ash River Trail

**WINTER HOURS**

**Sat:** 12:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

**COOK TRANSFER STATION**

2134 S. Beatty Rd.  
Cook

**HOURS**

**Mon:** 10 a.m.–6 p.m.  
**Tues thru Sat:** 9 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

**COUNTY 77 CANISTER SITE**

2038 County Rd. 77  
Greenwood Twp

**WINTER HOURS**

**Thu, Sun:** Noon–5 p.m.

**KABETOGAMA LAKE CANISTER SITE**

10150 Gamma Rd

**HOURS**

**Wed:** noon – 4 p.m.  
**Sat:** 8 a.m. – noon

**ORR CANISTER SITE**

4038 Hwy 53

**WINTER HOURS**

**Tue, Thu:** 9 a.m.–noon  
**Sat:** 8 a.m.–noon

**PORTAGE CANISTER SITE**

6992 Crane Lake Rd, Buyck

**WINTER HOURS**

**Tue, Sat:** 1 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

**REGIONAL LANDFILL**

5341 Regional Landfill Rd, Virginia

**HOURS**

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

**HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE FACILITIES**

5345 Regional Landfill Rd, Virginia  
**Tues and Sat:** 8 a.m.–1 p.m.

3994 Landfill Rd, Hibbing  
**Sat:** 8 a.m.–1 p.m.

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

**Winter hours effective October 1 - April 14**



# MARATHON...Continued from page 1

While the courses wind along the edge of the wilderness, spectators appeared out of the woods all along the route and hundreds of volunteers manned aid stations to hand out water and electrolytes and cheer the runners on.

Race organizer Wendy Lindsey estimated at least 380 volunteers, equal to about ten percent of Ely's population, turned out to help in a myriad of ways. It was the ninth running of the marathon this year and Lindsey said it seems they might finally be getting the organizational details down. "It went really well this time," she said. "It was the first year we didn't have any major panics. Fortunately, most of our volunteers have been with us for nine years now, so they know what to do."

A total of 372 racers finished their races, including 92 in the full marathon. Sixty-eight-year-old Brent Smith ran the 26.2-mile course in 3:12.19 to take first place, followed by Charles Marshik, age 45, who finished in 3:15.07. John Crosby, age 36, took third in a time of 3:24.19. On the women's side, 29-year-old Amy Bianco Regan finished first in a time of 3:17.01, pacing the field by a whopping 14:09 over second-place finisher, 39-year-old Julie Helsene, who finished in 3:31.10. Molly Gardner finished



Top left: Kids got in on the action as well, competing in their own kids "marathon."

Above: "Mabel," who completed the half marathon with her owner Miriam Kero, of Hibbing, wears the medal won by her owner. All participating dogs received special bandanas.

Left: Marathon runners make their way down the Passi Rd. hill on the Echo Trail, overlooking Burntside Lake.

Far left: Spectator Hans Peterson, of Babbitt, is all smiles as he works on a Dorothy Molter root beer.

ished third in 3:37.58.

In the half marathon, 35-year-old William Sackett posted the fastest time with a 1:22.01, while 62-year-old Paul Kuchenmeister finished second in 1:27.53. Fifty-year-old Walter Skahl finished third in a time of 1:32.04.

Among the women, 47-year-old Kari Brown took

first with a time of 1:43.30, while Wendy Krause finished second in 1:44.54. Aurora Kothe finished third with a time of 1:46.17.

In the kids marathon, Nolan Niskala finished first in a time of 8:29, just ahead of Fletcher Chopp, who took second in 8:52 and Toren Harding in a time of 8:56. The

kids marathoners had accumulated at least 25 miles running ahead of the event and ran the last 1.2 miles of the course on race day.

More than a dozen racers ran the half marathon with their dogs, who are now allowed under the rules, and all of the participating dogs were awarded blue "first

place" bandanas. That included official *Timberjay* dog "Loki," who ran with owner Jodi Summit.

While race volunteers were spread across the sprawling race course, most of the activity was centered on

Whiteside Park, which had a carnival-like atmosphere with bouncy houses for kids and food and beverage trucks and live music for the adults.

# PORTAGE...Continued from page 1

when they jokingly suggested he could run a marathon with a canoe on his back. "It was just a joke when I told him," said his friend Jeff Ford.

Boysen, 30-years-old, was no stranger to extreme physical exertion. He has hiked the entire Appalachian Trail twice, completed the Pacific Crest and Continental Divide trails and rode his bike across the United States. He ran his first marathon last year and competed in an Ironman competition earlier this month. So, a week before the Ely event, he signed up—and trained by running a mile with a canoe the evening before the race. He showed up the next morning and crushed the previous men's world record of



4:23.20 in the event, hitting the finish line in 4:11.04, earning the \$5,000 prize put up by Piragis Northwoods Company for new world records. Last

October, he had finished his first marathon in three hours and fifty minutes, which means the canoe added just 21 minutes to his time.

Left: Ben "Sunshine" Gardner, of Ely, smiles at a water stop early in the race. Sunshine finished fourth in the canoe portage marathon.

photo by M. Helmlinger

It was a much different story for 44-year-old Victoria Ranua, of Shakopee, formerly of Tower, who destroyed the previous women's record in the portage marathon by nearly an hour and a half. Ranua, enticed by the \$5,000 cash prize for setting a new world record, had begun training nearly a year ago in preparation. She bought an ultra-light canoe from Piragis Northwoods Company in the spring and could be regularly spotted on the streets of her southwestern Twin Cities suburb as she ran with her canoe, building her endurance and strength, expecting that she'd have to beat the men's record in order to collect the cash prize.

Through mile 16, she was on pace for the men's record but fell back in the later miles as her legs began to ache intensely. After an allowed

pit stop at an aid station in Winton, however, she resolved to power through the pain and finished in 5:25.34, third place overall and an hour and 24 minutes ahead of the previous record set by Auralee Strege, the only other woman to ever finish the brutal competition.

Ranua's run was inspiring to many of those along the route, and she was greeted with celebration and cowbells from fans and many of the volunteers as they saw a woman outcompeting some of the men in the event.

Ranua's story and sheer determination prompted a special second \$5,000 prize, split by Piragis and race organizers from their proceeds. It also prompted consideration of changing how the prize is awarded in the future, to give women equal opportunity.

Both Boysen and Ranua will also receive free Boundary Waters canoe trips sponsored by Spirit of the Wilderness Outfitters.

Among the other marathon portage finishers were 30-year-old Cam Regan, of Portland, the husband of Ely's

Amy Bianco, who took second overall with a time of 4:35.13, and Ben (Sunshine) Gardner, of Ely, who finished fourth in 5:30.04. Thirty-one-year-old Dana Gilbertson, of Duluth, was only the third woman to ever complete the portage marathon and bested the previous record by 50 minutes with a finish time of 5:59.36, good for fifth place out of the six racers who completed the event. Thirty-five-year-old Travis Meier, of Minneapolis, finished sixth with a time of 6:16.43.

### Other portage events

In the marathon portage relay, the Ely Outfitting Company took first among the four teams competing with a time of 4:25.17, followed by the We've Got the Runs team, with a time of 4:55.53. Catching Greenlights took third with a time of 5:01.53, while the Lumber Jills finished fourth in 5:21.27.

In the half marathon portage contest, 61-year-old Tom Klos, of Belle Plaine, took first in a field of 13 in a time of 2:43.52, while 28-year-old Trenton Flegel, of Ely, finished second in 2:44.16. Twenty-four-year-old Blaine Carter, of Minneapolis finished third in 2:53.12, Justin Domogalla finished fourth in 2:59.36, and Nick Dunnom, of Ely took fifth in 3:04.30.



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LOCAL HISTORY

# The school across the bay

Grover assesses the complicated history of the Vermilion Lake Indian School

by JODI SUMMIT  
Tower-Soudan Editor

TOWER- For many Native American tribes, including the Ojibwe, educating their children in their traditional ways kept their culture intact. Which is why the movement to remove Indian children to boarding schools to teach them the ways of Europeans was so culturally devastating.

That's according to historian Linda LeGarde Grover, who keynoted the Tower-Soudan Historical Society's annual dinner here last week.

Grover said the so-called boarding school movement began with the Carlisle Indian School in Pennsylvania, which opened right after the Civil War. But it soon spread around the country, including to the North Country. The Vermilion Lake Indian School, located on Sucker Point, where the Bois Forte offices and health facilities are found today, opened in 1899 and ran through 1953. Its history is personal to Grover, a retired professor of Indian Studies at University of Minnesota- Duluth, whose grandparents met at the school.

"My aunt told me if it wasn't for the school, I wouldn't be here," said Grover.

As Bois Forte band members, Grover's family lived on the Vermilion Reservation. Today, she is known for her poetry, fiction, and nonfiction, and has won many literary awards.

While children were not forced to go to attend the boarding school, most families sent their children because it meant they would get new clothes and be fed regularly. "Life was very hard at home," she said. "Parents could take a little comfort that their kids were being fed and clothed."

Children had to live at the school during the school year and were not allowed to see their families. This was unusually harsh since

most of the children enrolled at the school were from the Vermilion Reservation, whose parents often lived nearby. If lonely parents tried peaking through the school's windows to catch glimpses of their children, the teachers would pull the shades, ostensibly to keep from upsetting the children.

This was less an issue at most other boarding schools in the state, which housed students from a wide area and often many different states.

Children at Vermilion wore uniforms. The boys' uniforms were shipped in, but the girls, Grover said, sewed their own uniform dresses from bolts of fabric the school received. Sewing and other household skills were an integral part of the educational program for girls, while boys were taught farming and worked in a sawmill on the grounds.

Students stayed at the Vermilion school until they were 16 or 17, but they only got the equivalent of a sixth-grade education. Older students were also tasked with caring for the youngest students, some of whom were preschoolers.

"They often didn't have the best teachers," Grover said. "The emphasis was not on academics, but on assimilation." Students were forced to speak in English and go to church. Boys' hair, traditionally kept long at home, was cut short. "Physical punishment was expected and could be very harsh," Grover said. There were reports of deaths at the school.

"Children were hurt badly at times," she said. "There were children who died in accidents or mysterious circumstances. One of my relatives is buried on the grounds somewhere there," she said.

Girls' hair was also cut, often into a pixie style. Grover's grandmother talked about how she often was punished for things she didn't do.

"The girls all had the



Above: A photo of the students at the Vermilion Lake Indian School circa 1910.

Right: Linda Grover (center) talks with Leah Rogne and Fred Schumacher, of Greaney, after her presentation.

photo by J. Summit

same haircuts and glasses," she said, noting the teachers really weren't able to tell them apart. "She finally went to the school superintendent and told him if the only thing I am doing here is scrubbing those stairs, I might as well go home."

"She was a very mild lady," Grover said of her grandmother. "I can't imagine her disobeying anyone."

The federal government had mandated that Indian children be educated, and parents could be imprisoned if they didn't send their kids to school. In many cases, there were no alternatives to a boarding school, she said, because of the condition of area roads, which made getting a child to and from school in a nearby town almost impossible.

Grover said many of her relatives were reluctant to talk about their time at these boarding schools. Many students tried to run away, but they were usually found right away. She said her uncle ran away from an Indian boarding school in Hayward, Wis., and when he got himself back to his home in Duluth, someone was already waiting to bring him back. The runaways were usually easy to find,



Grover said, because they were heading to their homes.

"My mother told me not to ask him about it, because it made him too sad," Grover said.

Grover had relatives who attended similar schools around the state and in Wisconsin.

Boarding schools began to be dismantled in the 1930s, she said. "A study showed how the schools were hurting children."

While the public was shocked at the treatment given to Native students at these schools, Grover said she was just used to it. "It has been harder and harder for me to do this research," she noted. "But I feel like I must do this."

Besides the impact on the children taken away, she said there was additional trauma on the families left behind. "What was it like to live in a community with no children," she wondered aloud.

After the Spanish flu epidemic, which forced the Vermilion school to close for

a period of time between 1919 and 1921, enrollment at the school dwindled, with some students traveling to school in Tower and Soudan.

Martha Martilla, who later ran the drugstore in Tower with her brother Walter, taught at the school during the period after the Spanish flu. By this point, the school no longer was a boarding school, and just served about two dozen students in grades K-6, who lived on the reservation. Walter drove Martha back and forth each day. At first the roads were awful, Grover said, but soon a passable gravel road was in place. Also, at that time, the school curriculum matched that at the elementary schools in Tower and Soudan.

When the school closed, Martha taught in Soudan, and worked with many of the same students she had at Vermilion. The closure was the result of a state policy to eliminate small, segregated schools that mostly served Indians. This was concurrent with a federal policy that aimed to disband

tribes and strip them of their federal designation. Though the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe was never disbanded, 61 other tribes across the country were terminated. Grover writes in her article (see link below) that this policy was another attempt at assimilation, intended to get people to leave their reservations and live in cities.

The damage done to generations of children and families is unspeakable, she said. "There is no way to reconcile this," she said. "They were trying to destroy a people... But we are still here."

Grover has collected photographs of the school for years. The schools were mindful of their public relations, and photos of well-clothed students standing in front of nice-looking school buildings were popular, and often made into postcards.

One family photo she treasures is of her uncle as a teenager, standing next to his best friend, who still has family members living on the Vermilion Reservation.

"When I was a professor at UMD, a new professor was hired. It turned out he was a descendent of my uncle's friend from the photograph," she said.

"We honor those who went through the experience, we remember and honor them. We want our children to succeed in school," she said, ending her talk to a loud round of applause.

To learn more:

► Find Grover's article published by the Minnesota Historical Society, "The Vermilion Lake Indian School: From Assimilation to Termination" here, <https://bit.ly/3sH4dLG>.

Some of the information above comes from this article.

► The Bois Forte Heritage Center has a permanent exhibit on the school, which includes a replica of one of the classrooms. For more information, <https://www.boisforteheritagecenter.com/>.

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## VOLLEYBALL

# Grizzlies' streak ends at 10

Drop a match at Rock Ridge tourney, but bounce back with two wins

by DAVID COLBURN  
Cook-Orr Editor

FIELDTWP- The North Woods volleyball team saw its ten-match winning streak come to an end at the Rock Ridge tournament on Saturday, but bounced back for a pair of resounding wins on Monday and Tuesday.

The Grizzlies entered the Rock Ridge event as one of the

favorites to win, and affirmed that perception in their first two matches of the day. First up for the Grizzlies was Mt. Iron-Buhl, a team they defeated 3-0 to open the season. The Grizzlies were pushed hard by the Rangers, but won the match in two games, 25-23 and 25-20.

The Grizzlies had an easier time in the next round against a clearly overmatched

Nashauk-Keewatin squad, winning 25-11 and 25-18.

It was in the third round against eventual tourney champ South Ridge that the Grizzlies hit a roadblock. North Woods had a mental edge going in with a 3-0 road win against South Ridge on Sept. 10, but that only served to fuel the Panthers' desire for revenge.

The Grizzlies took an

**Right: The Grizzlies' Carsyn Burnett and Brittin Lappi team up for a block against South Ridge on Saturday.**  
photo by D. Colburn

early lead in the first game, but the score had been tied six times by the point it reached 22-22. A Grizzlies error and a Panthers kill gave South

See NWVBALL...pg. 2B



## CROSS COUNTRY

# Wolves win at Deer River

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

REGIONAL- Ely cross country runners were the class of the field at Tuesday's War Eagles Invitational meet in Deer River, winning both the boys and girls team titles.

In a small meet with five schools competing on the boys side, the Ely boys took full advantage of the opportunity to cram the upper echelon of finishers with runners.

Four Wolves finished in the top ten, with Otto Devine leading the pack with a fourth place effort in a time of 18:41.2 on the Blueberry Golf Course 5K layout. Eli Olson placed fifth in 18:43.6, Mason Kurnava took sixth in 18:52.3, and Oliver Hohenstein captured ninth in 19:15. Placing just outside the top ten was Hilo McClelland in 11th with a time of 19:15.

Molly Brophy led the girls in a strong performance against a field

See ELY RUNNERS...pg. 2B

## SWIMMING

# NRE tops Bluestreaks, fall to Agates

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

BABBITT— The Northeast Range/Ely swim team beat Chisholm but fell to Two Harbors in two home meets this week.

On Tuesday, NRE notched firsts in the breaststroke, the 400 freestyle relay, and the 100 butterfly, but fell behind 53-39 in total points in the contest with Two Harbors. Anna Larson, Ivy Ohlhauser, Brynn Larson, and Via DeBeltz teamed up in the 400 freestyle relay to claim first in a time of 4:25.94.

In the 100 breaststroke, Jorden Borchert took first with a time of 1:29.39, while and Tuuli Koivisto took second in 1:32.8.

Anna Larson notched a first-place finish in the 100 butterfly in a time of 1:10.74, pacing the field by better than ten seconds. Larson also notched a second place in the 50 freestyle.

DeBeltz posted second place finishes as well, in the 200 freestyle (2:21.43) and the 500 freestyle

See SWIMMING...pg. 2B



## FOOTBALL

# Penalties plague Ely in 28-16 loss

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

ELY— The Timberwolves found a way to move the ball in their home faceoff with Chisholm, but the Bluestreaks found another way and went home with their first win of the season, 28-16, in a game plagued with penalties on both sides.

Ely was able to move the ball throughout the contest, but continually found ways to hurt themselves.

In their opening drive, facing a second and 20 after back-to-back holding pen-

alties, Chisholm picked off a Sean Merriman pass and returned it 70 yards to put six on the board. A successful conversion put the 'Streaks up 8-0.

Ely was again able to move the ball in their second drive, and after two long Alex Merriman runs, the Wolves found themselves with a first down on the Chisholm 32. But another back-to-back set of holding penalties pushed Ely back to midfield and a punt as the first quarter an out.

A 15-yard Ely penalty left Chisholm at midfield after the punt and two long pass plays sent the 'Streaks deep into

**Above: Senior Alex Merriman breaks through the line on his way to racking up 167 yards rushing on the night.**

**Right: Junior Jesse Oelke brings down a Chisholm runner last Friday night in Ely.**

photos by J. Greeney

Ely territory at the 11-yard line. That's where the Wolves put their foot down. Four plays later, Ely took over on downs at their 12-yard line,

See WOLVES...pg. 2B



# Grizzlies notch season's first W at Littlefork

by DAVID COLBURN  
Cook-Orr Editor

LITTLEFORK- Big plays on offense and defense catapulted the North Woods football team to their first win of the season on Friday, using a last-minute defensive stand to hold off the Littlefork-Big Falls

Vikings at Littlefork.

The Grizzlies set the tone early, separating a Vikings ball carrier from the ball on the third play of the game, with James Yernatich recovering for North Woods at their own 38-yard line.

Quarterback Louie Panichi then led the Grizzlies on an eight-

play scoring drive, picking up a big chunk of change with a 25-yard pass to Yernatich at the L-BF 23. Panichi ran it up the middle down to the three, and scored on a 1-yard sneak. Nick Abramson ran in the conversion for an 8-0 lead.

North Woods got on the board again at the start of the second

quarter. On second-and-six at their own 36, Talen Jarshaw lined up at receiver, then came back through the backfield to take a handoff from Panichi. Jarshaw raced around the left end, avoided a pair of tacklers, and toted the ball 64 yards to the

See GRIZZLIES...pg. 2B

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## ELY SCHOOLS

# ISD 696 shares capital levy details on new web page

by CATIE CLARK  
Ely Editor

ELY- The Ely School District has built a website to answer questions on the capital project levy it has placed on the November ballot. The district is asking voters to approve a new levy that will provide \$350,000 per year.

The news that the capital project levy website is now live was reported at Monday's school board meeting. The website can be accessed from the Ely Public Schools webpage at [ely.k12.mn.us](http://ely.k12.mn.us). The link is in the upper right-

hand corner in white letters on the red bar across the top of the webpage.

The link will land a user on a three-page website with detailed information on the levy. "(The website) has all the information on what we're asking for by category and how the funds will be used," said Superintendent Anne Oelke. "If this levy doesn't pass, we will have to make more cuts, and unlike this year, those cuts will be a lot closer to the students."

The website includes the levy presentation the school board heard at its Aug. 12 meeting, which was covered

in the Aug. 16 edition of the *Timberjay*. The website also has a tool for users to calculate how much the levy will add to property taxes by both month and year. The property tax tool is on the tab marked "property tax information" and is located at the bottom of the page.

## Why a levy?

As previously reported in the *Timberjay*, ISD 696 had a half-million-dollar budget shortfall when developing its 2024-25 budget. 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.

Ely Public Schools must now find another quarter million dollars in cuts and/or revenue increases for the 2025-26 budget. A capital project levy would help cover the budget shortfall by shifting technology and building-related expenses out of the general fund, allowing more general fund dollars to be used for operations.

The school board's money crunch is not unique to Ely but is shared by multiple

rural school districts across Minnesota, many of which are resorting to new levies to close the funding gap.

Details on the budget shortfall, the 2024-25 cuts, and how Minnesota has short-changed its public schools over the last two decades are included on the levy website under the presentation tab.

## Strategic planning

The school board heard from Oelke that ISD 696 will hold its strategic planning listening sessions on Oct. 2. To help with the strategic planning, ISD 696 is asking that school district families, residents, and stakeholders

take the survey now available through the "strategic planning community survey" link on the Ely Public Schools website. The link is in red, under the sliding pictures and above the "Quick Links" section.

Surveys should be completed by Oct. 6 at 11 p.m. For those uncomfortable working online or without good internet access, a paper copy can be picked up at the district office at 600 E. Harvey St. A copy can also be mailed to your home or sent by email. Contact Lori Westrick at 218-365-1727 or [lwestrick@ely.k12.mn.us](mailto:lwestrick@ely.k12.mn.us) to be sent a copy.

# FEMA extends application date for individual flood assistance

by DAVID COLBURN  
Cook-Orr Editor

REGIONAL - Homeowners and renters affected by the severe storms and floods from June 16 to July 4 have more time to apply for federal disaster assistance.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency has extended the application deadline to Oct. 27 for residents in St. Louis County and 20 other Minnesota counties eligible for individual assistance.

FEMA assistance can include funds for temporary

housing, such as rental assistance or reimbursement for hotel stays, as well as for the repair or replacement of primary residences, including privately-owned access routes like driveways, roads, or bridges. Aid is also available for disaster-related expenses,

including personal property and vehicle repair or replacement, moving and storage, medical and dental care, child care, funeral costs, and other approved needs.

Agency officials have noted that FEMA assistance does not provide the same

coverage for losses as standard flood insurance, providing only enough assistance to bring homes back to a livable condition.

Those affected who have not yet applied can visit [DisasterAssistance.gov](http://DisasterAssistance.gov), use the FEMA app, visit a Disaster

Recovery Center, or call 800-621-3362. Those using relay services should provide their service number when applying.

For more information on Minnesota's disaster recovery efforts, visit [fema.gov/disaster/4797](http://fema.gov/disaster/4797).

## GRIZZLIES..Continued from page 1B

house. Panichi scored the conversion to put North Woods ahead 16-0.

The Vikings, relying completely on their running game, took over at their own 48 after a short kick and return, and took just six plays to get into the end zone. A two-yard plunge for the score and the two-point conversion made the score 16-8.

The Vikings were right back out on the field after they picked off a Panichi pass, setting up shop at the North Woods 47. L-BF got several big gainers, including a 14-yard touchdown sweep, and the PAT was good to tie it a 16-16.

After exchanging fumbles, it looked as though the Grizzlies had struck again when Abramson took the ball up the middle, shed several tacklers and dashed 62 yards for a score, but the touchdown was nullified by a North Woods holding penalty. The half ended with the score still tied.

The Grizzlies' defense

handed the offense a golden opportunity early in the third quarter when they forced a punt by L-BF deep in their own territory that was shanked and went out of bounds at the Vikings 25, but North Woods gave the ball back two plays later on a fumble.

The Vikings were on the move again late in the quarter, moving from the North Woods 47 to a first-and-goal at the nine. On third down from the three, L-BF lost three yards, and a subsequent false start penalty put the ball back on the 12. The Grizzlies squashed a fourth-down quarterback sneak to turn back the scoring threat.

From there, the Grizzlies embarked on a masterful ten-play drive that culminated in another sweep and score by Jarshaw, this time from 34 yards out, and Panichi's conversion bumped the lead to 24-16.

Aided by a holding call against L-BF, the Grizzlies shut down the next Vikings drive, but they would have

to step up one more time to preserve the win. Starting from their own 35, the Vikings ground out yards on the ground as they mounted a ten-play drive to the Grizzlies 15, where they had third-and-one for a first down. Panichi broke through the line and blew up a handoff in the backfield, forcing a rolling fumble that L-BF recovered on the 28. With time running down, the Vikings attempted a rare pass with a back circling out of the backfield. John Warren picked up the receiver and had him covered at the goal line when Aidan Hartway zoomed in from his safety position to bat the pass away and preserve the win.

With his two big scoring runs, Jarshaw led the Grizzlies in rushing with 97 yards on four carries. Panichi toted the ball 15 times for 70 yards, a touchdown and two PATs. Abramson, who's been the workhorse of the backfield this season, carried the ball 12 times for 45 yards and a PAT. Panichi had his best

game throwing the ball, going eight-of-10 for 68 yards and one interception. Jarshaw was his favorite target with five receptions for 35 yards. Panichi's other completions were to Warren, Yernatch, and Abramson.

Panichi and Carson Johnson led the defensive charge with four tackles and three assists each. Johnson also forced two fumbles.

Head Coach Joel Anderson was pleased with his team's efforts on both sides of the ball, noting that they made multiple adjustments based on the Vikings' packed in run-oriented offensive set.

"It can be somewhat of a challenge against them in the sense that you've got 17 or 18 guys in the box - there are just humans everywhere," Anderson said. "Our message to the guys all week is that if it's working or if it's not working, this is what they're going to do and we have to be in our spots and make sure we're attacking. On offense, we had some extra receivers

in there. They're good at being packed in tight, they practice against it every day, so we tried to pull some of those guys out of there and have to adjust, and it worked out well for us."

Jarshaw's two long touchdown runs were designed to take advantage of his speed and agility in open space, Anderson said.

"He made a nice play at the end of the Mt. Iron game that really started to set up a lot of stuff that we were looking to do in terms of getting him out in space, to let him make a move and be the athlete he is," Anderson said. "It was nice to see Talen be able to make a move and make a cut and just keep going."

Anderson also praised his punting unit, with Panichi kicking, for flipping the field on the Vikings to make it more challenging for their offense. And the game-ending defensive stand was huge, he said.

"It was a nice, nice thing to see that we made a defensive stop there at the end of the game to preserve the lead

and be able to go out to victory formation after that," he said.

"It was a fun game to be a part of," Anderson said. "Our guys were very much prepared, we lined up well, defensively we made our reads and played our positions well, and offensively we gave ourselves the opportunity to move the football. We've just got to keep moving forward now after that."

Next up on the schedule for the Grizzlies was a Friday afternoon homecoming tilt against 0-4 Cass Lake-Bena. While the Panthers are winless, they've played a powerhouse schedule, and Anderson knows that playing against tough competition can often work to a team's advantage against more evenly matched foes.

"We're going to put in a hard week of practice here and come in prepared on Friday," Anderson said. "We can't overlook anybody." Game time was scheduled for 3:30 p.m.

## WOLVES..Continued from page 1B

which proved the start of the most impressive drive of the game for either team. This time penalties helped the Wolves after the 'Streaks capped the second of two nifty Merriman runs with a 15-yard penalty that put the Wolves in Chisholm territory. The Wolves kept moving, and even a busted play worked out after Chisholm was assessed another 15-yard penalty to put Ely on the 36. Two first downs later, the Wolves were knocking on the door and it was Brady Eaton who took it

in from a half yard out with 3:50 left in the half. An Alex Merriman conversion knotted the score at eight apiece.

A penalty on the subsequent kickoff left Chisholm with excellent field position. While Ely seemed poised to hold the line, the 'Streaks returned to the air on a fourth and ten for six points. The conversion put them up 16-8.

But Chisholm wasn't finished. When Ely bobbled the kickoff, the 'Streaks recovered the ball at Ely's 37 yard line. A couple runs later left them

at the Ely 25. With 49 seconds left, Chisholm went to the air yet again to put Ely in a 22-8 hole at the break.

The 'Streaks seemed headed for more to open the third quarter as they took advantage of the opening kickoff to move the ball deep into Ely territory. But a fumbled pitch and a holding penalty, followed by an intentional grounding penalty on the next play, quickly pushed Chisholm back. Ely took over on downs at their own 15 yard three plays later.

And for the second time, starting deep in their own territory seemed to work to Ely's advantage, as they mounted their second scoring drive of the night, capped with an Alex Merriman touchdown run and conversion to close the gap to 22-16.

That was all the scoring Ely would muster. Chisholm took advantage of an Ely fumble deep in Wolves' territory with just under five minutes to play to put their final six on the board.

Despite losing, the Wolves

showed their ability to move the ball. Senior running back Alex Merriman rushed for 167 yards, a touchdown, and two conversions, while fellow senior Brady Eaton tallied 31 yards and a touchdown. Junior Jayden Zemke added ten yards rushing.

While Ely's defense stopped Chisholm's rushing attack nearly cold, the 'Streaks relied on an effective passing attack that got the job done as needed.

Junior Jesse Oelke had a big day, posting seven tackles,

two pass breakups and a forced fumble. Eaton tallied nine tackles, while Alex Merriman and Kohner Baltich tallied six tackles apiece. Senior Tory Hughley posted six tackles and a pass breakup, while senior Garrett Rohr added five tackles and forced a fumble. Sophomores Palmer Tripp added five tackles and sophomore Leo McCrahl added four.

The loss drops the Wolves' record to 1-3. They're set to travel to Braham on Friday, Sept. 27. They'll be back home Oct. 4 to host Deer River.

## NW VBALL...Continued from page 1B

Ridge a 24-22 advantage, and after a North Woods time out the Panthers sealed the 25-22 win with a service ace.

North Woods trailed 12-11 in the second game when a South Ridge error put the ball in the serving hand of Lauren Burnett. A big block by Brittin Lappi and an ace by Burnett put the Grizzlies ahead for good at 15-12. The Grizzlies went up by five on a huge kill by Izzy Pascuzzi, and with Presley Chiabotti serving for the win the Panthers

committed an unforced error, evening the match at 1-1 with the Grizzlies' 25-19 win.

The race to 15 points for the match winner was another heated battle, as North Woods overcame an early four-point deficit to forge an 8-8 tie on a Burnett kill, and the game was tied at 9, 10, 11, and 12 as each team battled to impose their will on the other. A pair of Grizzlies miscues gave the Panthers a 14-12 lead, and South Ridge got the revenge they sought by handing North

Woods its first match loss of the season with a 15-13 decision.

Denied a berth in the championship match, the loss appeared to take the wind out of the Grizzlies' sails against Bigfork in the consolation round against Bigfork. The Huskies led from start to finish in the first game, winning 25-20. From a 2-2 tie in the second, the Grizzlies faltered to a 13-5 deficit, and trailed 16-8 when Pascuzzi took the serve for North Woods. A

couple of commanding blocks at the net by Amber Sopoci were highlights in a run that cut the lead to 16-13, but that was as close as the Grizzlies would get. Bigfork took the match with a 25-19 win.

"I think to sum it up, it just wasn't our day," Head Coach Kaileen Redmond said. "South Ridge came at us with revenge on their mind and it showed in their energy. Our then shuffle of the lineup only added to things not going our way. By the time we got to

the Bigfork game, my girls were just tired; 4 matches all in a row with no more than a five-minute break was rough on us."

## Back on track

The weekend was forgotten when the Grizzlies hit the road on Monday for a match against Littlefork-Big Falls. The energy was back up as North Woods won handily, 25-18, 25-16, and 25-14.

Tuesday found the Grizzlies back on their home

floor taking on McGregor, and North Woods showed no mercy in the 3-0 smackdown, crushing the Mercuries 25-4, 25-10, and 25-13.

North Woods was scheduled to play at Northeast Range on Thursday, followed by a Monday home match against Chisholm. The Grizzlies will renew their rivalry with Ely on Tuesday in a home match that will be "Dig Pink" night for breast cancer awareness.

## ELY RUNNERS...Continued from page 1B

in which only four schools entered enough runners to compete for the team title. Brophy clocked a time of

20:12.4, finishing second behind winner Olivia Pascuzzi of Chisholm. Mattie Lindsay came in fifth with a time of

21:37.4. Next over the line for Ely in eighth place was Isabella Macho in 22:31.7. Elsa Ellerbroek completed the

quarter of top ten finishers by placing tenth in 23:14.3. The next closest Ely runner was Anna Dunn, who finished 15th

with a time of 24.40.1.

The Wolves have a little time to recuperate before hosting their own invitational

on Thursday, Oct. 3.

## SWIMMING...Continued from page 1B

(6:25.82). Alyssa Ice notched a second-place finish in the 100 freestyle with a time of 1:06.51.

Facing Chisholm last Thursday, NRE notched numerous firsts as they edged the Bluestreaks 42-36. NRE's

200 freestyle relay team, of Anna Larson, Ohlhauser, Brynn Larson, and DeBeltz, notched a first-place finish

with a time of 1:58.95

DeBeltz claimed a first in the 500 freestyle with a time of 6:20.25 and in the

200 freestyle with a time of 2:19.26. Anna Larson took first in the 50 freestyle with a time of 27.64, followed by

Brynn Larson in second with a time of 30.35.

NRE will visit Mesabi East on Tuesday.

Obituaries and Death Notices

**Brody J. Horn**

Brody Jon Horn, 33, of Babbitt, died unexpectedly due to injuries sustained in an ATV accident on Sunday, Sept. 15, 2024, along the Stoney Trail near Babbitt. A celebration of life will be held from 2-4 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 29 at the Biwabik Pavilion. Memorials are kindly preferred in lieu of flowers.

Arrangements are by Ziemer-Moeglein-Shatava Funeral Home in Gilbert.

He is survived by his mother, Kelly Laugen of Biwabik; love of his life, Samantha Orcutt of Babbitt; children, Izzik, Maci and Paisley; brother, Trenton "TJ" Horn of Eveleth; grandparents, Diane and Russell "Joe" Laugen of Aurora and Solomon Horn of Owosso, Mich.; numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

**Linda A. Rafac**

Linda Ann Rafac, 75, of Embarrass, passed from this life on Saturday, Sept. 14, 2024, at Essentia Health in Virginia. There will be a private service held for the immediate family. Friends are invited to send cards and remembrances in her name to PO Box 61, Embarrass MN 55732. Funeral arrangements

are with Landmark Funeral Home in Virginia.

She is survived by her partner of 35 years, Jim Samanich of Embarrass; and brothers, Joseph and James.

**Frances L. Scofield**

Frances Lorraine Fredlund Scofield, 97, of Bear River, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, Sept. 18, 2024, at Guardian Angels Nursing Home. An evening visitation will be held from 5-7 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 30 at Mlaker Funeral Home in Cook. A celebration of life will be held at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 1 at Bear River Lutheran Church with visitation one hour prior to the service at the church. Memorials are preferred to Bear River Lutheran Church or the Bear River Fair Fund.

She is survived by her children, Carol (Nels) Mahle of Cumming, Ga., Diane (Alan) Yonk of Idaho Falls, Idaho, Cynthia (Mike) Petroske of Side Lake, Nancy (John) Stoneburner of Side Lake, Alan (Cherie) Scofield of St. Cloud, David (Leslie) of Bear River, Christopher (Deb) of International Falls and Melissa (Dan) Baumgartner of Wyoming, Minn.; 18 grandchildren; 22 great-grandchildren; and in-laws, Agnes Eddy, Irene Hardy, Faye and Ralph

Schmidtke, Shirley Scofield and Margaret Scofield.

**Patrick J. Boffa**

Patrick Joseph Boffa, 74, of Babbitt, passed away on Wednesday, Sept. 18, 2024, at Waterview Woods Assisted Living in Eveleth. Funeral services were held on Tuesday, Sept. 24 at the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Babbitt. Memorials are preferred to the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Babbitt, the Ely Food Shelf, Contented Critters of Ely, and veterans' organizations of your choice. Family arrangements have been entrusted to Kerntz Funeral Home of Ely.

He is survived by his sisters, Roxanne (Brad) Sader and Jill (Dave) Lossing; brother, Joseph (Patty) Boffa; nieces and nephews, Amy Sader, Chris Lossing, Kate (Matt) Hall, Derek (Carlyn) Lossing, Jay (Natasha) Boffa, Emily (Eddy) Acquah, Cory Lossing and Shannon Boffa; and many great-nieces and great-nephews of whom he was very fond,

**Margaret H. Skube**

Margaret Helen Sipola Skube, 88, of Ely, passed away at Essentia Health in Duluth on Wednesday, Sept. 18, 2024. The visitation and funeral will be held on Saturday, Sept. 28 at St. Antho-

ny's Catholic Church in Ely with visitation at 10 a.m. and Mass at 11 a.m. The Skube family would like to thank the Ecumen community and the Shores staff for all their support and care for Margaret. Family arrangements have been entrusted to Kerntz Funeral Home of Ely.

She is survived by her children, Roxanne Skube Korman (Dennis) of Cloquet, Richard Skube of St. Louis Park, Randy Skube (Becki) of Minnetonka, Renata Skube (Steve), Renee Beaumier (Matthew) and Rhonda Strum (Scott), all of Duluth; nephew, Greg Tulla (Jodi); sister, Doris Sipola; grandchildren, Katrina Souders (Russell), Nicholas Skube (Hannah), Henry, Claire and Abby Beaumier, Owen Strum and Lindsey Tulla; and many nieces and nephews.

**Carol F. Norby**

Carol F. Zbacnik Norby, 88, of Ely, passed away on Monday, Sept. 16, 2024, at Essentia Health St. Mary's Medical Center in Duluth. Per her request, there will be no formal funeral service. Burial will be in the Ely Cemetery. Arrangements are with Landmark Funeral Home of Virginia.

She is survived by her son, Emil "Moe" (Pam) Norby of Amery, Wis.; daughter, Fay (Tom) Manning of Cottage Grove; granddaughter, Alicia (Madi) Norby; brother, Tom Zbacnik; brother-in-law, David Chelesnik; and many nieces, nephews and family friends.

**Wilfred Braun**

Wilfred "Bill" Braun, 92, of Ely, passed away on Thursday, Sept. 19, 2024. Bill donated his remains to

the University of Minnesota medical research. Services will be held at St. Anthony's Catholic Church in Ely on Saturday, Oct. 12 with a social session starting at 10 a.m. and a service at 11 a.m. Luncheon will follow in the basement of St. Anthony's with burial at the Ely Cemetery at a later date.

He is survived by his wife of 71 years, Georgia Sames Braun; children, Mary (Chris) Peterson, Tom (Deb) Braun, Mike (Chris) Braun, Cindy Kuhar, Beth Patterson, Cecilia (Randy) Bennett, Peter (Karen) Braun and Cathy Braun; daughter-in-law, Robin Braun; brothers, Jim (Wanda) Braun and Alan (Norma) Braun; 15 grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

**Guatemalan singer-songwriter Mercedes Escobar to perform in Ely on Sept. 27**

ELY— On Sept. 27 at 7 p.m., Guatemalan-born singer-songwriter Mercedes Escobar will grace the stage at the Vermilion Fine Arts Theater, bringing her spellbinding fusion of blues, country, and Latin music to audiences in Ely. Known for her hauntingly beautiful voice, Escobar is returning to the spotlight after a four-year hiatus, performing what she calls "Latin Americana."

Tickets are \$25 for general admission, \$20 for NLAA members, \$18 for seniors/vet-

erans, and \$10 for ages 18 and under. Minnesota North students get free admission. Tickets can be purchased online through the NLAA website or at the venue on the day of the performance. With such a limited run, this is a rare opportunity to witness the rising star of Latin Americana music in an intimate setting. For more information please visit <https://www.northernlakesarts.org/tickets>.

**ELY-WINTON HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP FUND**


The Ely-Winton Hospital Scholarship Fund offers scholarships to students in the fields of:

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5. Medical Records Librarian	10. Other approved by the Committee

Applicants must have attended school in Ely or Babbitt for at least two (2) years and graduated from that school. Applicants must be engaged in obtaining professional, vocational, or scientific education or training leading to a degree or certificate in one of the above-mentioned fields.


Applications are available at the District Office, Ely Public Schools, 600 E. Harvey St., Ely, MN 55731, or you may contact Lori Westrick at (218)365-1727 or [lwestrick@ely.k12.mn.us](mailto:lwestrick@ely.k12.mn.us). Applications are due in the District Office by Thursday, October 31.

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<b>REGIONAL LANDFILL</b> 5341 Regional Landfill Rd Virginia	<b>HOURS</b> Mon-Fri: 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Sat: 8 a.m.–3:30 p.m.
<b>HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE FACILITY</b> 5345 Regional Landfill Rd, Virginia	<b>HOURS</b> Tues and Sat: 8 a.m.–1 p.m.

Winter hours effective October 1 - April 14

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# Outdoors

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## OUTDOOR CAREERS

# It's not English, but it's what she loves

by DAVID COLBURN  
Cook-Orr Editor

New Voyageurs park interpreter brings experience, vitality to the job

REGIONAL- For most people who take a trek into the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness the experience is life-enriching, but for some, like Kate Severson, it's life-altering.

When the Rochester native graduated from Gustavus Adolphus College in 2009 with a bachelor's degree in English and Japanese studies, a career working in the great outdoors wasn't even on the radar as she left home to spend two years teaching English as a second

language in a rural village in Hokkaido, Japan.

With a population of 600, the rural village, called Otoineppu, marketed itself as the smallest town in northern Japan, Severson said. What they lacked in people, they made up for in scenery. "They had mountains and wilderness, and I got into hiking," recalls Severson.

And like northern Minnesota, the town had plenty of snow, too. In fact, when it comes to the white stuff

Otoineppu puts Minnesota to shame, averaging 128 inches of snow in December and 115 inches in January, according to climate data on Wikipedia.

After her adventure on Hokkaido, she returned to Minnesota without a clear sense of what she wanted to do, but was increasingly open to a career in the outdoors.

"I got back to the U.S., and I went through a bit of reverse culture shock," Severson said. "I was struggling to find something I wanted to do. My dad

**New Voyageurs National Park Manager of Interpretation and Public Affairs Kate Severson has jumped in with both feet on her new responsibilities of overseeing visitor experiences at Minnesota's only national park.**

photo by D. Colburn

said, 'You should look into this program called the Minnesota Conservation Corps. You work

See SEVERSON...pg. 5B



## BORDER COUNTRY

# A little light adventure

While our original plan flopped, we found no shortage of things to do in Crane Lake

A planned trip earlier this month to revisit the Herriman Lake trail near Crane Lake didn't go as planned, but it made for an interesting adventure in either case. The trail, which my wife Jodi and I had only traversed once before, was overgrown with lingering waist-high summer vegetation, all dripping with heavy dew from the night before.

About a half-mile in, our planned route looked as if no one had passed that way all summer and the trail seemed to almost disappear into the woods, suggesting it might be a challenge to follow. Considering that we had lost the trail for a time on our last adventure there, we opted to turn back.

But along the way we had passed over the walking bridge across the Echo River and noted that the rocky riverbed was essentially dry. From our map, we could see that the river would come close to the enormous rocky outcrop (think mini-mountain) that had been our original destination, so we tried traveling the riverbed, figuring we could cut cross-country when we neared the outcrop. We've always enjoyed river walking, and often walk riverbeds on the North Shore during low water to explore the canyons they've carved over the millennia.

The terrain along the Echo River was perhaps less dramatic, but it offered a bit more variety as we picked our way through a modest rock canyon and along dry stretches of loose cobble. I never thought of the Echo River, which flows from Echo Lake to Crane Lake, as a



**MARSHALL  
HELMBERGER**



**Top: The author and wife Jodi Summit make their way along a rocky slope on the edge of the Echo River, near Crane Lake.**

**Above: Recent beaver activity along the Echo River had backed up water, submerging the riverbed and obstructing further progress upstream.**

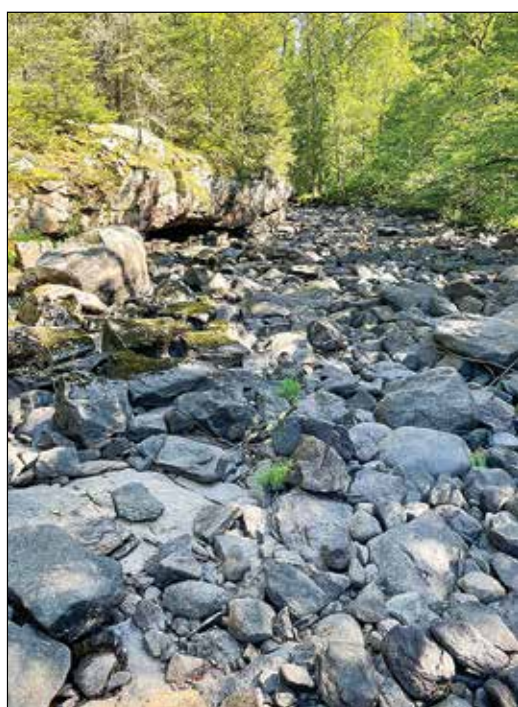
**Right: The dry riverbed of the Echo River. The lack of significant rainfall in recent weeks has sent water levels dropping around the region.**

photos by M. Helmberger

seasonal river, but our late summer and early fall dry spell has definitely sent water levels falling.

Our plan to travel the river to our destination worked for a time, until we reached a beaver pond that looked traversable only if we were content to wade up to our waists in muck. We weren't feeling quite that adventurous, so we

See ADVENTURE...pg. 5B



## Outdoors briefly

### Early reports suggest bird numbers are down

REGIONAL— Initial reports suggest bird hunters across the area are finding less success than last year. Based on observations by local conservation officers, most hunters say they are encountering relatively few ruffed grouse in the area, at least compared to last season's exceptionally high numbers. Conservation officers in Ely, Orr, Ray, and Tower all reported lackluster results for grouse hunters.

"Duck hunters also had mixed bags over opening weekend," noted Tower area CO Aaron Larson in his weekly report. "Everyone had at least a few birds, but the poor quality of rice this year may be affecting some typical hunting areas."

Migrating ducks typically rely on wild rice as a major food source as they move through the region. Overall, the rice crop has generally been very poor this, likely due in part to the torrential rain that hit the area in mid-June, prompting widespread flood damage.

The June rains also likely impacted ruffed grouse nesting success, according to DNR Tower area wildlife manager Jessica Holmes.

## Fishing reports

### Ely area

Finally, cooler, more normal temps have returned to the area, which has helped the walleye bite on many Ely area lakes.

Anglers have been reporting that they are finding some walleyes in 12-20 ft. of water on large flats close to deep water. Here larger minnows on a lindy rig or a jig have been very effective. Reports of crawlers working well for anglers continue to come in. With crawlers, spinner rigs have been the way to fish. Gold, gumball, and orange/chartreuse have remained popular colors for anglers.

Smallies have been the hottest bite happening right now and they continue to be found in all classic smallmouth locations, but sunken islands with deep water around them have been the best locations to find the really aggressive smallies. Out here, medium suckers or creek chubs have been deadly on the giant smallies. Tip these minnows on a jig or lindy rig and hang on!

Crappies seem to be schooling up a little more this last week as anglers reported higher catch rates. Cabbage beds have been the best location to find crappies, but standing timber has also been a good location to find crappies. Jig/twisters, beetle spins and the classic, crappie minnows under a bobber have been the way to go for crappies.

Rainbow trout continue to be a popular catch for stream trout anglers this last week. Anglers fishing a night crawler 5-10 ft. under a bobber, or floating one off the bottom, have had very good luck. Anglers fishing from a boat have simply been trolling small crankbaits, over deep water, and finding plenty of action.

Pike fishing has been a little bit hit or miss this last week for pike anglers. Some really big pike have been landed this last week, but there have been a fair amount of hammer handles caught too. Large suckers fished under a bobber and floated in shallow bays, rocky points or near river mouths have been effective on big pike.

Arrowhead Outdoors. See more at ArrowheadOutdoorsElyMN.com.



**SEVERSON...**Continued from page 4B

for a summer, a nice short gig where you go out and clear out portages in the Boundary Waters.' I thought that sounded amazing, so I did that. It was so impactful. You have those night skies, you're out camping, you're with your crewmates at night cooking around a campfire, then during the day you're working, and it's not easy work. But it was really rewarding because you could look back instantly and see all the work you accomplished with your team. That actually is what got my foot in the door into this field." And now, a dozen years and many more outdoor gigs later, Severson is back home in Minnesota as the new Manager of Interpretation and Public Affairs for Voyageurs National Park. At least, that's the short title.

"I'm juggling a lot of balls in the air right now," Severson said.

VNP Superintendent Bob DeGross added some context.

"As the lead for interpretation, Kate's role is to facilitate opportunities for people to connect with the park," he said. "This occurs through a variety of activities, including ranger-led programs, developing exhibits, maintaining our website and social media, and leading our curriculum-based education program."

It's a complex, multifaceted job that meshes well with Severson's outdoor-oriented job experience. Following her Boundary Waters experience, she did similar gigs with the Great Basin Institute in Nevada and the Texas Conservation Corps. She parlayed that experience into a park ranger job at Eisenhower

State Park near Dennison, Texas, where she prepared and presented interpretive programs, including night sky experiences, and educational curriculum. After three years there, she moved up to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department as a statewide interpretive planner. From there she went to Colorado Springs.

"My sister got married in Colorado, and I went out for her wedding," Severson said. "My husband and I thought the area was beautiful, and so I looked for jobs and got a position at Pikes Peak. While Pikes Peak mountain is managed by the U.S. Forest Service, the city of Colorado Springs has a special use permit to manage the roadway up to the top. So, I was technically a city park ranger on a mountain that was about ten miles away from the center of the city. The work was hard, but that job was amazing. That site receives about 500,000 people every year, and that was just from the roadway. You also had the train going to the top, and you had hikers."

Colorado Springs was where Kate finally married her husband, Parker, in October 2020, who she first met while on the BWCAW portage crew.

"He was one of the crew leads," Severson said.

They parted ways at the end of the summer, but their paths would serendipitously cross again in Nevada the next year when Severson worked at the Great Basin Institute. Not having stayed in contact, she had no way of knowing that Parker had signed up to work there as well.

"It's funny because our

crew went to go pick him up at the airport, and someone said, 'He's from Minnesota, do you know him?'" Severson recalled. "I was like, 'Hey, I have no idea who he is.' And then I saw him, and I was like, 'Oh, I do know him.' That's where we started dating."

And it was the husband who she first met in the Boundary Waters who encouraged her to apply for the VNP job, she said.

**Getting settled**

With so many varied responsibilities at VNP, there's a lot to learn.

"Every time I think I've got one thing handled and figured out, something else pops up," Severson laughed. "Right now, one of the big things for me is getting the hang of operations at the visitor centers. Understanding that at a very detailed level is important because a big part of my role is facilitating the visitor experience, and for most of them they walk into those visitor centers. What are they seeing, how are they being treated, what kind of information are they given? That is so critical for me because that's how we set people up for success on their trip, whether it's giving them safety information or telling them about the tours or the campsites they're staying at."

"Tied to that," Severson continued, "are the programs we're providing. Are they reaching the audiences we

want them to reach, and are they telling the stories that are important to the park? A huge part of the workforce that does that are our seasonal park rangers, so making sure they're set up for success at the start of the season is really important."

Another aspect of her job is the park's online presence.

"I'm trying to get a handle on our social media and the messages we're wanting to send out there," Severson said. "You can't ignore it. It's an amazing way to connect with people, and it's such a powerful tool. Technology is important, and that includes our website. We're trying to make sure the content on our website is compliant with National Park Service accessibility standards."

One of the partnerships Severson is grateful to have is with the Voyageurs Conservancy, the park-affiliated nonprofit that provides so many of the special visitor and educational experiences.

"When I first started, their support is so intertwined with our operations and our mission that I thought some of their employees were national park employees," Severson said. "This is such a valuable working relationship we have with them, and it needs to continue to grow and be strengthened any way we can think to do that."

Severson noted the work of the education specialists

that work for the Conservancy.

"They really facilitate the field trips that are taking place in September," she said. "They're going to be busy - I was told it's going to be over 400 students in the next couple of weeks that are going to come through. One of those education specialists focuses on our night sky programming."

The night sky is one of two recurring themes that keep popping up as Severson learns about the park, the other being Ojibwe culture. And she's discovered that the two complement each other well.

"When we had our star party, we had people from all over the U.S. who showed up and wanted to see the northern lights," she said. "That is an amazing resource - it inspires awe, and it's part of our heritage. And cultures from everywhere have stories to tell about the sky. The Ojibwe have lots of stories about constellations, so making sure we're telling those stories is important."

"One other thing that surprised me here was wild rice, manoomin," Severson said. "It seems like such a humble piece of the park, but it's connected to heritage and culture and science and the health of the environment. Wild rice has this spiritual significance for people in the area, too - there's a lot to be learned there and a lot I think that can be shared with visitors."

Severson said she hopes

to build public awareness and a perception of the park in a way that makes it a well-known desired destination in the way the Boundary Waters has been.

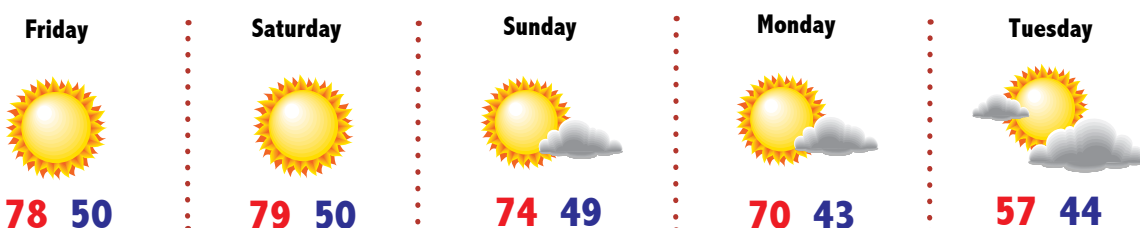
"I grew up in Rochester, I went to high school there, and I don't feel I heard much about Voyageurs National Park," she said. "We talked about the Boundary Waters, and I went on two trips to the Boundary Waters. I never, never heard anything about Voyageurs and how amazing it is. It's a best kept secret, for sure. We're right next to the Boundary Waters, and in some ways it's a bit more accessible for folks who might not be prepared for an intense backcountry experience."

Severson said the number one experience for families at the park that she would recommend is camping.

"The superintendent likes to say we have the best campgrounds in the National Park Service, and the reason for that is every campsite is a water-side campsite," Severson said. "And the campsites are well-maintained. I love the Boundary Waters, but some of those campsites are rough - bringing younger kids would be a challenge. But out here you can go camping with your family. They'll have adventures - there's swimming, canoeing, and just being able to explore the natural world."

**LAKE COUNTRY FORECAST**

from NOAA weather



Station	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Emb.	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Cook	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Orr	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Tower	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.
Ely	82	63	0.00		09/16	83	64	0.12		09/16	82	61	0.08		09/16	84	64			09/16	82	63	0.16	
	85	na	0.00		09/17	87	60	0.06		09/17	86	62	0.20		09/17	84	63	No		09/17	86	59	0.03	
	82	na	0.00		09/18	84	60	0.00		09/18	85	61	0.00		09/18	86	64	precip		09/18	89	58	0.00	
	84	na	0.00		09/19	86	65	0.00		09/19	85	65	0.04		09/19	75	63	data		09/19	84	65	0.00	
	77	na	0.00		09/20	83	53	0.22		09/20	77	58	0.10		09/20	73	50	at press-		09/20	81	54	0.80	
	66	na	0.18		09/21	73	41	0.00		09/21	73	50	0.02		09/21	77	45	time		09/21	73	43	0.11	
	72	na	0.00		09/22	77	42	0.02		09/22	76	46	0.00		09/22	63	39			09/22	76	40	0.00	
YTD Total			22.75		YTD Total			23.92		YTD Total			24.39		YTD Total			NA		YTD Total				25.70

**ADVENTURE...**Continued from page 4B

turned around and headed the other way, eventually intersecting with the road that we had driven on to the trailhead.

It turned out not to be the long hike we had expected, but we made up for it with a jaunt to the Vermilion Gorge followed by a late lunch on the

deck at Voyagaire Lodge and a stop at the ice cream social at Handberg's Marine, all of which made for the kind of light "adventure" that might become our new normal as we edge toward Medicare eligibility in just over a year.

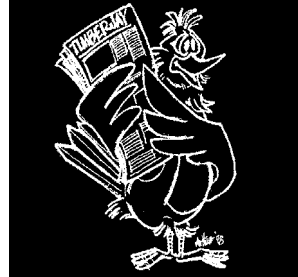
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**DRAIN**

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

**DRY**

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# PUBLIC NOTICE

STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF ST. LOUIS

DISTRICT COURT SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT NO. 69DU-CV-22-2370

LAND TITLE SUMMONS IN APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION OF LAND

In the Matter of the Application of VIP 2 LLC, a Minnesota limited liability company, to register the title to the following described real estate situated in St. Louis County, Minnesota, namely:

Lot Nine (9), Block Two (2), Aviator's Field Addition to Hibbing, St. Louis County,

Minnesota.

Applicant vs. Shirley A. Hertel; Patricia A. Rediske; Michelle Christenson; First National Bank of Omaha; Western National Bank; City of Hibbing; and also all heirs and devisees of any of the above-named persons who are deceased; and all other persons or parties unknown, claiming any right, title, estate, lien or interest in the real estate described in the Application or amendments herein, Defendants.

THE STATE OF MINNESOTA TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS:

You are hereby summoned and required to answer the Application of the Applicants in the above-entitled proceeding and to file your answer to the said Application in the office of the District Court Administrator in said County, within 20 days after service of this Summons upon you exclusive of the day of such service, and if you fail to answer the Application within the time aforesaid, the Applicants in this proceeding will apply to the Court for the relief demanded therein.

Witness, District Court Administrator of said Court, and the seal thereof, at

Duluth, in said County, this 4th day of September, 2024

By Paula R. Watsula, Deputy

Attorney for Applicant Name: Gary C. Dahle Address: 2704 Mounds View Blvd Mounds View, MN 55112 Telephone: 763-780-8390 Fax: 763-780-1735 Attorney Registration No.: 218947 Email: garydahlelaw.com

Published in the Timberjay, Sept. 13, 20 & 27, 2024

# EMPLOYMENT

**m**

**DEPARTMENT OF IRON RANGE RESOURCES & REHABILITATION**

**Office & Administrative Specialist, Intermediate**  
Permanent, Full-Time

The Department of Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation is seeking to fill the permanent, full-time (1.0 FTE) position of Office & Administrative Specialist, Intermediate.

This position assists in the coordination of division activities and promotion of teamwork for the efficient functioning of the Facilities and Operations Division and other agency departments. This position also provides additional administrative support to the Executive Aide to the Commissioner and Business Recruitment team. The incumbent provides receptionist and front-line services for the agency and its customers.

This position is located in Eveleth, MN and is in-office five (5) days a week.

Learn more and apply online at [mn.gov/careers](http://mn.gov/careers)  
Job ID: 80095  
Application deadline: October 7, 2024

**GREAT BENEFITS PACKAGE!** Full time positions are eligible for low cost medical and dental insurance, employer-paid life insurance, short-term and long-term disability, pre-tax flexible spending accounts, retirement plan, tax-deferred compensation, sick leave, paid personal days.  
AA/EOE, Veteran Friendly 507

**Position: Marketing/ Development Coordinator**  
Closes: 10/01/2024

**Position Purpose:** The Marketing/ Development Coordinator is responsible for developing and implementing fundraising, marketing, sales and event promotional strategies to generate revenue streams in support of Bois Forte Tribal Community Radio and its mission. The incumbent must identify and develop relationships with service area organizations and businesses supportive of KBFT's mission and programming. This position leads the station's membership drive planning team.

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

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

Published in the Timberjay, Sept. 20 & 27, 2024

**FIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING LOCATION CHANGE NOTICE**

The October through February regular board meetings of Field Township will be held the second Tuesday of each month, at 7 p.m., at the Clerk's residence, 9998 East Lind Road, Angora.

Pat Chapman/Clerk

Published in the Timberjay, Sept. 27, 2024

**NOTICE OF AUCTION**  
**Forfeited Impound Vehicle**  
**1978 Ford Pickup**  
Unknown Mileage, Min Bid \$3,500  
Impounded for 6 Years  
Auction Date 10/30 @ Noon  
Viewing 1 hour prior  
Kens A1 Auto Service  
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**WORD LADDERS**

Can you go from SHAKE to SKATE in 6 words?  
Change one letter for each rung in the ladder.

**SHAKE**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**SKATE**

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**WORD SPIRAL**

W O F

K E E

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Fill in the missing letters to reveal the nine-letter word that starts at one of the four corners and moves clockwise around the perimeter before ending in the center.

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**ELY PUBLIC SCHOOLS POSITION OPENING**  
**Bus/Van Driver**

Ely Public School District is looking for a Bus/Van Driver 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:**

- ▶ Minnesota Class B driver's license
- ▶ Must have good driving record
- ▶ Pre-employment drug test required

**Benefits include:**

- ▶ Paid sick leave and personal days
- ▶ PERA retirement

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

**A complete application must include the following:**

- ▶ District Non-Licensed Application
- ▶ Resume
- ▶ 2 letters of recommendation

**Return materials to:**  
Ely Public Schools, Attn: Superintendent, 600 E. Harvey St., Ely, MN 55731 or email [lwestrack@ely.12.mn.us](mailto:lwestrack@ely.12.mn.us)

**Starting Rate of Pay:** \$22.56/hour  
**Hours:** 3-4 hours/day, Student contact days  
**Deadline to apply:** September 30, 2024; open until filled.

Published in the Timberjay, Sept. 20 & 27, 2024

**Radio Station Events Coordinator**  
Closes: 10/08/2024

**Position Purpose:** The Radio Station Events Coordinator serves as liaison between content producers, independent contractors, and Bois Forte Tribal Programs or other interested parties engaged by KBFT radio, to oversee the execution and documentation of its community events including photographer(s), videographer(s), and/or sound engineer(s) for recording live broadcasts if needed. The incumbent is responsible for promoting all events which support the rich history, culture, arts, of the Bois Forte Community and creates opportunities for art, education and access to the arts.

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

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

Published in the Timberjay, Sept. 27 & Oct. 4, 2024

**Even Exchange** by Donna Pettman

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

1. Sitcom butler	___ R ___	Midday meal	___ N ___
2. Bowler's goal	___ K _	Do your utmost	___ V _
3. Timepiece	___ C _	Dracula's mantle	___ A _
4. Pinball hangout	___ D _	Obscure	___ N _
5. ___ Potter	___ A ___	Get a move on	___ U ___
6. Boring tool	___ U ___	Irritation	___ N ___
7. Feeling well again	___ E ___	Pancake topping	___ U ___
8. King's chair	___ E	Multitude	___ G
9. British title	B ___	Brother of Moses	A ___
10. Corn	___ Z _	Augusta's location	___ N _

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**Position: Contract and Procurement Manager**  
Closes: 09/30/2024

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

**Excellent Benefits:**  
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Published in the Timberjay, Sept. 6, 13, 20 & 27, 2024

**CryptoQuip**

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

Clue: R equals W

RVFZ YVHFIA REGDN YHEYAHDX  
NAIUHKJA JEZV NES CEEN FWN  
ZVA UEIZ EC F JGI HKNA?  
SHAXVEGWN CFHA.

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[www.mnpublicnotice.com/](http://www.mnpublicnotice.com/)

**King Crossword**

**CryptoQuote**  
answer  
The real test of golf and in life is not keeping out of the rough, but getting out after we are in. — Source obscure

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solution

**ACROSS**

1 Peron of Argentina	7 Dasher's boss	31 Big rig
4 Siestas	8 Agriculture goddess	33 Bought time
8 First light	9 Pronto	35 Deleted
12 Bud	10 Humpty's perch	38 Tram load
13 — Major	11 Egyptian river	40 Realm
14 Actor Morales	16 Sashimi fish	43 Ersatz chocolate
15 German shepherd	20 Goof up	45 Follower (Suff.)
17 Teen hangout	21 Pack (down)	47 "Peek- —!"
18 Resistance unit	22 Curved molding	48 Holler
19 Church topper	23 Airline to Sweden	49 Disaster aid gp.
21 British party	27 Evergreen type	53 Scoundrel
24 Louvre treasures	29 Wedding	54 Long. crosser
25 Khan title	30 Despot	55 CIA operative
26 The "G" of LGBTQ		
28 Doesn't buy		

**DOWN**

1 Clean air org.	3 Losers	5 "Entourage" agent
2 Kilmer of "Top Gun"	4 Eggnog sprinking	6 Unpaid TV ads
3 Only	58 Pool unit	
46 Stew flavorer	59 Contain	
50 Chi follower	60 Commanded	
51 Genesis brother	61 Messy room	
52 Music school concerts		

**Weekly SUDOKU**  
by Linda Thistle

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

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

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦**

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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**Super Crossword**

**Answers**

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

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# TIMBERJAY CLASSIFIEDS

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

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

### PET CREMATION

Go online to VermilionPetCremation.com or call 218-780-8069 for pet cremation details and rates.

### WANTED

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

### SEWING

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

### PUPPIES

**AKC Golden Retriever** puppies, ready for their forever homes October 15th. They will be vet checked, dewormed and 1st round of vaccines. \$950 with limited registration Deposit required to hold a puppy. Text or leave message with Charity 218-410-6373, or email charityross79@gmail.com located in Tower. 10/4

### 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.

### MARINE

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**CryptoQuote**  
 AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW  
 One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each week the code letters are different.  
 ZQO SOBD ZOVZ NP HNDP  
 BMG EM DEPO EV MNZ  
 XOOWEMH NTZ NP ZQO  
 SNTHQ, JTZ HOZZEMH NTZ  
 BPZOS CO BSO EM.  
 - VNTSYO NJVYTSO  
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**SNOWFLAKES**  
 by Japheth Light

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

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

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**CryptoQuip**  
 answer  
 What phrase would properly describe both dog food and the cost of a bus ride?  
 Greyhound fare.

— **King Crossword** —  
 Answers  
 Solution time: 25 mins.

EVA	NAPS	DAWN
PAL	URSA	ESAI
ALSA	TIAN	MALL
OHM	STEEPLE	
TORRES	ART	
AGA	GAY	RENIS
MENS	SEX	RUSE
PESTO	WEE	PAM
ARC	DMITRI	
BAYLEAF	PSI	
ABEL	RECITALS	
SOLE	OMAR	LAP
HOLD	BADE	STY

**Word Spiral Answer**  
**WAFERLIKE**

**WORD LADDER**  
 Answer  
**SHAKE, SHAPE, SHADE, SPADE, SPATE, SKATE**

**Even Exchange**  
 answers  
 1. Lurch, Lunch 6. Auger, Anger  
 2. Shive, Slave 7. Better, Butler  
 3. Clock, Cloak 8. Throne, Throng  
 4. Arcade, Arsene 9. Baron, Aaron  
 5. Harry, Hairy 10. Maize, Maine

## Super Crossword PLAYING A ROUND

**ACROSS**  
 1 Willing to go along with it  
 9 Lyric work  
 12 It follows pi  
 15 Swindle  
 19 Receiving steady pay  
 20 Extreme agitation  
 22 Woman  
 23 Golf tee shot that goes down a mountain cliff?  
 25 Sheriff Taylor's boy  
 26 Leaking goop  
 27 Suffix with hero  
 28 "Ho-hum"  
 29 Harder to find  
 30 Pretty soon  
 33 Brilliant golf shot?  
 38 Big continent  
 40 Outfielder Slaughter  
 41 Intertwine  
 42 Yearning to play golf again?  
 47 Bell's ring  
 48 Your and my  
 51 Red as —  
 52 Scarf down  
 53 Gift topper  
 54 Singer Fisher  
 56 Crater parts  
 57 Eye sore  
 58 Young woman who's very skilled with metal golf clubs?  
 60 CBS series set in Vegas  
 61 "I never — purple cow ..."  
 62 Actress Dunham  
 64 Tennis star Andre  
 65 Precious gem hidden among a golf course's long grass?  
 70 Immediately  
 72 — buco  
 73 In addition  
 74 Sigh of relief  
 77 Amazingly executed approach shot that a golfer recalls often?  
 80 "I Shot Andy Warhol" actress Taylor  
 81 Lhasa —  
 82 Circus venue  
 83 Muffin grain  
 84 Tots' batting game  
 86 Food intakes  
 87 Belittle, in hip-hop  
 88 Cafe freebie  
 90 Golfer's cry when a would-be one-under-par shot almost goes in the hole?  
 92 Sheep group  
 93 Foal's mother  
 94 Tears on foot  
 95 Lettuce or spinach cultivated in a golf putting area?  
 101 One of the Twin Cities  
 105 Bolt variety  
 106 Cattle call  
 107 Jackie's "O"  
 109 Height: Prefix  
 110 Elliptical  
 111 No matter how an errant golf shot is made?  
 117 Walk in shallow water  
 118 — Boys (rap trio)  
 119 Thrombocyte  
 120 Winter glider  
 121 Mag workers  
 122 Likely (to)  
 123 Special outdoor mall event  
 3 Doolittle of "Pygmalion"  
 4 Places for warships  
 5 Is plural?  
 6 Life story, in brief  
 7 Jeans maker Strauss  
 8 Idyllic places  
 9 Slugger Mel  
 10 "Obviously!"  
 11 In advance of  
 12 Bronc riding event  
 13 Pompous  
 14 Corrida yell  
 15 2017 U.S. Open winner Stephens  
 16 — pants  
 17 Kin of "Ciao!"  
 18 Clinton aide Dee Dee  
 21 Viral videos, e.g.  
 24 On Social Sec., say  
 29 Group of amateur sports teams playing for fun  
 31 "— really true?"  
 32 Stannite yield  
 34 Brand of lens solution  
 35 Like spud-peeling Gls  
 36 Boxing stats  
 37 Damsel  
 39 Tot's "terrible" time  
 42 With 2-Down, stand-up comic who co-starred on Netflix's "GLOW"  
 43 Heron cousin  
 44 Rounded roof halves  
 45 — egg (flop)  
 46 Native suffix  
 47 In addition  
 48 Having an irregular form  
 49 Road 180s  
 50 Italian painter Guido —  
 53 Male bud  
 55 From corner to corner: Abbr.  
 57 Lacking in variety, informally  
 58 Grooving on  
 59 Native Kiwi  
 61 Christian rite  
 62 Speech flaw  
 63 USNA grad  
 66 A part of  
 67 "Get going!"  
 68 Actress Blunt  
 69 Hair curler  
 70 In — rush  
 71 Actress Garr  
 75 — Spumante  
 76 Stockings  
 78 Sentenced to punishment  
 79 Cap  
 80 Testing site  
 81 Often-restricted flying zones  
 84 Banks of fashion  
 85 Telly network, with "the"  
 86 By — of (due to)  
 89 Hip-hop mogul Gotti  
 90 Belfry flier  
 91 Urban vehicle  
 92 Followed closely, as a dog  
 93 Cat calls  
 95 Gets bigger  
 96 Opponent  
 97 Sidestep  
 98 Works by painter Francisco  
 99 Thai tongue  
 100 Explode  
 102 Amtrak train  
 103 An archangel  
 104 Singer Lenya  
 108 Atoll unit  
 111 1860s prez  
 112 — glance  
 113 Quick bark  
 114 Despite that  
 115 Multiple-PC system  
 116 "Addams Family" cousin

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18		
19								20		21				22					
23							24							25					
26						27				28				29					
30				31	32		33	34	35	36			37						
			38			39		40					41						
42	43	44					45	46				47				48	49	50	
51						52					53			54	55				
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70	71						72				73					74	75	76	
77					78	79					80					81			
82					83				84	85				86					
87					88	89			90					91					
			92					93					94						
95	96	97					98				99	100		101			102	103	104
105						106					107		108			109			
110						111				112	113	114			115	116			
117						118							119						
120						121							122						

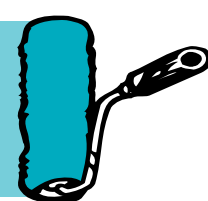
### Weekly SUDOKU

**Answer**

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



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