

the **TIMBERJAY**



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LAKE COUNTY DEVELOPMENT

Court issues restraining order in Silver Rapids case

Order prevents construction related to conditional use permit issued by Lake County

by CATIE CLARK
Ely Editor

DULUTH- A Minnesota Sixth District judge in Duluth has issued a temporary restraining order preventing the owners of Silver Rapids Resort from performing any construction related to its contested and controversial conditional use permit, or CUP, at least until a Nov. 27 hearing on two related lawsuits seeking to overturn the permit. The order was issued

exactly one week after a conference with District Judge Eric L. Hylden and the parties involved in the two lawsuits seeking to overturn the CUP and an associated preliminary plat, both for the proposed expansion of the resort.

The CUP and the plat were approved by the Lake County Planning Commission on Sept. 4. A grassroots opposition group called the Community Advocates for Responsible Development, or CARD,

filed a petition for a Writ of Mandamus on Oct. 1 to overturn Lake County's approvals. The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources filed a simpler appeal of Lake County's CUP on Oct. 4.

Scheduling conference

The Oct. 15 conference was to schedule a hearing for the two legal actions and to discuss whether the cases should be consolidated. Four parties were present at the virtual conference: Silver

Right: One of the older resort cabins at Silver Rapids Resort, which is proposed for replacement as part of a redevelopment plan

photo by C. Clark
Rapids, Lake County, CARD, and the Minnesota Attorney General's Office representing DNR.

Usually, scheduling conferences are simple affairs

See...**ORDER** pg. 10



Left: Actors in the film "Bigfoot Woods" perform a scene from the film outside the Lamppa Civic Center in Tower.

Below: A member of the film crew checks lighting near the entrance to the "Bigfoot conference," a portion of the production being filmed in Tower.

photos by J. Summit

FILM PRODUCTION

Bigfoot legend comes to Tower

"Bigfoot Woods" being filmed in Ely and Tower this month

by JODI SUMMIT
Tower-Soudan Editor

TOWER- The Lamppa Civic Center in Tower was transformed into a movie set last week as a film crew, along with actors and extras, filmed scenes for a movie titled "Bigfoot Woods."

The civic center was chosen as a set for part of the film that takes place at a Bigfoot conference. The majority of the film is being shot in Ely.

"We picked Ely because it's a beautiful town," film producer Megan Huber said. Huber and her team had looked at other locations on the Range, but they ended up

picking Ely. In addition, the film's screenwriting team, Bruce and Abel Pavalon, have family living in Ely, so were familiar with the location.

The civic center exterior got a fall harvest theme makeover, and the interior was transformed with booths

See...**BIGFOOT** pg. 11



EIGHTH DISTRICT RACE

Campaigns hit high gear with ten days to go

Stauber, Schultz to face off in Tuesday debate

by DAVID COLBURN
Cook/Orr Editor

REGIONAL- The national fervor surrounding the presidential election has trickled down into the Eighth Congressional District race between Republican incumbent Pete Stauber and Democratic challenger Jen Schultz, with both encountering enthusiastic crowds as they barnstorm their way around the district in search of votes.

The *Timberjay* caught up with Schultz between stops on Monday to find out how her campaign has been going. "We're in Bemidji right now, and we're headed to Red Lake today," Schultz said. "We've been so surprised at how many people show up in little towns like Mora, like 50 people. In Deerwood we had a ton of people show up, 60 people. These are tiny little communities."

Schultz has set a frenetic pace in her second attempt to unseat Stauber. She's logged more than

See...**CAMPAIGNS** pg. 10



Jen Schultz



Pete Stauber

POLITICS OF ABORTION

MCCL claims clash with law changes

Anti-abortion group claims babies "can be left to die" in Minnesota: That's not true

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

REGIONAL— Since the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in Dobbs eliminated a constitutional right to abortion in the U.S., Republicans have generally been on the

Left: An ad produced by Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life does not hold up to fact-checking.

defensive as sizable majorities of the public in states across the country have expressed support for continued access

to the full range of reproductive services.

Yet, part of the GOP's response to the abortion question has been to accuse Democrats of supporting abortion at any stage in a pregnancy, including even after birth. It's an effort, led

by former President Donald Trump, to paint Democrats as the true radicals on the question of abortion.

Both in presidential debates and in interviews with conservative media, Trump

See...**CLAIMS** pg. 11



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Community notices

Ely's annual Trunk-or-Treat event Oct. 31

ELY - The Ely Chamber of Commerce is excited to announce their annual Trunk-or-Treat event, which will take place on Thursday, Oct. 31 from 4:30 to 6 p.m. in Whiteside Park.

This is a fantastic opportunity for families to celebrate Halloween in a safe and fun environment. Kids can trick-or-treat from car to car, admiring all the creatively decorated trunks and collecting plenty of candy along the way.

This is a family-friendly event and everyone is encouraged to come out and enjoy the festive atmosphere. Dress up in your favorite costume, decorate your car trunk, and join in the fun.

If you are interested in getting in on the action, register your trunk. Registration is free. The Chamber invites residents, community organizations, schools, business owners, and families to participate in the event. We expect approximately 500 children this year, so please prepare your treats accordingly.

If you can't join the event but still want to share the holiday fun, the Chamber is accepting candy and cash donations. For more information, email Kristen Switajewski at fun@ely.org or 218-365-6123.

Trunk-or-Treat event Oct. 26 in Mt. Iron

MT. IRON - Calling all superheroes, princesses and kids in whatever other costumes are popular this Halloween! The St. Louis County Sheriff's Office and Virginia Police Department are partnering with Legacy Church and Recovery Alliance Duluth (RAD) to host a Trunk-or-Treat event on Saturday, Oct. 26, from 2-4 p.m., in the Plaza 53 parking lot, 5465 Mountain Iron Dr.

This annual event is free and open to the public, welcoming kids and families from around the region. Area businesses and community members will be decorating vehicles with kid-friendly Halloween displays in the trunks, and will be handing out treats.

It's a great opportunity for families to safely trick-or-treat during the daylight, not to mention a chance for kids to wear their costume an extra time before Halloween.

Care Partners 15th Annual Swedish Meatball Dinner Fundraiser set for Oct. 30

EVELETH - Care Partners, a dedicated organization serving the Iron Range community for over 20 years, is excited to announce the 15th Annual Swedish Meatball Dinner on Wednesday, Oct. 30, from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. at Rock Ridge High School, located at 1405 Progress Parkway, Virginia. This event is designed to raise funds for individuals and families facing cancer or life-limiting illnesses right here on the Iron Range.

Guests can choose to dine in or carry-out. For those who prefer curbside service, simply text your name and order details to 218-780-4133. The cost is \$15 per person, and children aged 5 and under eat for free.

For those with a craving for our signature dish, we offer a special option: meatballs only, available at \$15 per dozen, with or without gravy.

Every dollar spent at the Swedish Meatball Dinner stays in our community. All proceeds directly support Iron Range individuals and families facing cancer or life-limiting illnesses. Care Partners has been a steadfast source of support for our communities for over two decades.

Care Partners Executive Director Tasia Hoag expressed her enthusiasm for this annual gathering. "The Swedish Meatball Dinner is a beloved tradition that brings our community together to support one another. Every plate served represents hope and care for those who need it most, right here on the Iron Range."

For more information about the services Care Partners provides, or if you or a loved one need support facing cancer or a life-limiting illness, please call 218-404-1411.

The 15th Annual Swedish Meatball Dinner promises an evening filled with great food, community spirit, and, most importantly, an opportunity to positively impact the lives of those in our Iron Range communities.

Used clothing donations for DAV

EMBARRASS- The Disabled American Veterans (DAV) will once again be taking donations of gently used clothing and outerwear during the pancake breakfasts in November and December. These donations support veterans in our area. Donations MUST be packed in white garbage bags. Donations will be taken at Timber Hall in Embarrass on Saturday, Nov. 2 from 8 a.m. – noon, and Saturday, Dec. 7 from 8 a.m. – noon. Both events are in conjunction with the monthly pancake breakfasts.

Hope Lutheran Harvest Festival on Oct. 26

EMBARRASS- Hope Lutheran Church in Embarrass is hosting its Fall Harvest Festival on Saturday, Oct. 26 from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. There will be raffles with prizes such as quilts, gift baskets, and gift cards. Baked and canned goods will be for sale, plus a luncheon. All are invited to attend.

SPOOKY SOUDAN



The Leino family loves Halloween and welcomes trick-or-treaters to their home on 4th St. in Soudan – with the abundance of decorations you can't miss it. Before they started decorating their house, they would only get a couple trick-or-treaters, last year they had 70! Pictured are from left to right Seth, Vivian, Ruthie, and Kathy Leino. photos by S. Ukkola

EAGLES NEST TOWNSHIP

Auxiliary donates \$25K for new fire truck



EAGLES NEST – On Wednesday, Oct. 16, the Eagles Nest Fire/EMS Auxiliary Eagles presented a check for \$25,000 to the Eagles Nest Township Board. The donation to the Township is designated for use by the fire department toward the purchase of a wild-land fire truck.

The ENFEA is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that was organized in 2022, for the purpose of support for fire protection, emergency medical services, a safe environment, and to

aid financially during times of emergency. This will be the fourth donation made by this group, bringing the total amount donated to \$47,000 since the group was founded.

The ENFEA would like to thank the people of Eagles Nest for their participation and very generous donations at all of the fundraising activities, for encouraging and helping spread the word about dates and times. We would also like to thank the many businesses and individuals that sponsored the 911

Memorial Walk.

This fundraising was also made possible by all the auxiliary members who worked so hard and pushed themselves beyond the limit to exceed the fundraising goals that were set.

The auxiliary is already working on some great events for 2025 and we will be asking for everyone in Eagles Nest and the surrounding area to join us in making our events fun and successful. Follow us at www.ENFEA.org.

NORTHERN LAKES ARTS ASSOCIATION

Ely's Got Talent takes to the stage on Friday, Nov. 1

ELY - The excitement is building as Ely's Got Talent returns for its second year on Friday, Nov. 1, at 7 p.m., at Ely's Historic State Theater. This thrilling evening will showcase the North Country's finest talent, from comedy to music to dance, all competing for a grand prize of \$1,000. But the real magic of the night comes from the community—be-

cause you will help decide who walks away with the big win.

After a successful debut last year that raised \$6,300 to support local arts, Northern Lakes Arts Association (NLAA) is setting an even bigger goal for this year's event with a target of \$7,500. This family-friendly talent competition promises to be a night full of fun, entertainment, and community spirit, all while raising critical funds to keep the arts accessible in Ely.

At Ely's Got Talent, the audience plays a starring role in deciding the night's biggest prize. There are two major awards up for grabs:

- Judges' Favorite Award: Our panel of expert judges will award \$250 to the performer they believe deserves the top spot.

- Audience Favorite Award: Here's where you come in. With every ticket purchase, audience members receive 5 votes to cast for their favorite act. And, if you're feeling extra generous, you can increase a performer's chances of winning by donating. For every

\$1 you donate, the performer earns an additional vote. The act with the most votes will take home the \$750 grand prize.

Meet the Performers

This year's talent lineup is nothing short of impressive. From singers to comedians and even a few unexpected surprises, here's a glimpse of who will be competing:

- Abby Dare – Sharp, witty comedy that will keep you laughing.

- Catie Clark – Humorous recitations that bring a smile to your face.

- Fiona Olson – Stand-up comedian with punch lines for days.

- Jenni Fowler – A soulful singer-songwriter with heartfelt melodies.

- Jennifer Merhar – A stunning performance of a Mozart aria with her own pianist.

- Karl Jones – A storyteller, singer, and guitarist sharing his personal journey to Ely.

- Ken Innis & Adam Norgren – A dynamic duo blending vocals and guitar

harmonies.

- Marissa Ronning – Captivating the crowd with her powerful vocals.

- Melissa Arvola – A powerhouse singer lighting up the stage.

- Ragnar & Bjorn, with LynnAnne Vesper – A unique act featuring two cats showing off their pandemic-learned tricks.

- SunShine Gardner & Megan Olson – A dynamic dancing duo ready to energize the stage.

- Willy Martin – Delivering heartfelt guitar tunes and soulful singing.

With such an exciting and diverse group of performers, the competition will be fierce, and the entertainment will be top-notch.

Tickets for Ely's Got Talent are only \$25, and they're going fast. Don't miss your chance to be part of this unforgettable night of talent, fun, and community support. Grab your tickets now at www.northernlakesarts.org/elysgottalent.

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MINING

NewRange Copper Nickel hosts open house

by CATIE CLARK
Ely Editor

REGIONAL- NewRange Copper Nickel held an open house this week in hopes of building momentum for its plans to develop two copper-nickel deposits near Hoyt Lakes.

The open house came 20 years after PolyMet Mining launched its own effort to open its NorthMet deposit, one of the two now eyed by NewRange. PolyMet's effort came close to completion before a series of successful lawsuits reversed most of the project's key permits. PolyMet is now part of Glencore, the international commodities conglomerate, which has formed the joint venture with Teck Resources and the two entities now operate under the banner of NewRange.

NewRange officials were on hand in Hoyt Lakes Monday, to talk with open house attendees and provide bus shuttles to the former LTV taconite processing facility, where the company hopes to eventually process copper-nickel ore.

The tour took visitors to the concentrator building, built in the 1950s, which is the focus of an ongoing salvage and recycling project. The work includes electric restoration, roof repair, and refurbishing the former mill's 200 ton overhead.

General Manager Tannice McCoy narrated the tour both on the bus and inside the



Simon Charter, the NewRange community and social performance manager, talking about the mine site to visitors at the project's office building. photo by S. Clark

concentrator building. She pointed out the firm's efforts to recycle scrap removed from the former mill.

"We've recycled over 70,000 tons of concrete and over 25,000 tons of steel scrap,"

McCoy told the tour attendees. "We crush the concrete and are using it as road base at the site." She was proud of the fact that the project so far has had no lost time accidents.

McCoy also commented that the com-

pany hopes to reapply for a Clean Water Act Section 404 permit in 2025 and to use a federal program to fast track other permits needed to operate the proposed copper nickel mine.

Simon Charter, the community and social performance manager for NewRange, said the mine would employ 350. Pre-operation construction would employ 750 to 1,000 on a temporary basis.

Bringing NewRange's two ore bodies into production will be a challenge due to environmental opposition. Though the company successfully defended against a court action targeting its air pollution permit last year, NewRange's 404 permit was revoked by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in June 2023 and the company's permit to mine was also reversed in state court. Even if the company wins all its permitting fights, McCoy anticipated that mining operations would not begin prior to 2030.

NewRange is a 50-50 joint venture between Swiss multinational Glencore and Canadian mining firm Teck Resources. The project was renamed NewRange Copper Nickel last year. Many in the Arrowhead region still refer to it as PolyMet, the name of the American-based entity owned by Glencore that operated the property prior to the formation of the joint venture in February 2023.

Ely City Council hears about the economic impact of the arts

by CATIE CLARK
Ely Editor

ELY- Ely's arts and culture scene drives positive economic outcomes for Ely. That was the message from Ian Francis Lah, who spoke to the city council here last week. Lah is Executive Director of the Northern Lakes Arts Association and he had statistics to bolster his presentation, made on behalf of the Ely Cultural Alliance and the Ely for Ey Leadership Conference.

Citing data from the ProPublica nonprofit database, Cause IQ, and a 2019 study for the National Governors Association, Lah noted that rural performing arts organizations such as those in Ely attract more outside visitors than those in urban settings, which drives economic activity through admissions, dining, and other related expenditures. "Cultural expenditures in Ely surged from \$776,544 in 2019 to \$1,305,909 in 2022, marking an impressive 68.2 percent increase," said Lah. "Attendees at cultural events in Ely spend \$6 for every \$1 they pay for tickets and participa-

tion. This year alone, that accounts for over \$500,000 being spent at local businesses."

Lah invited the city council to the meeting of the Ely Cultural Alliance on Nov. 19. He also extended an invitation to the Boundary Waters Connect Ely for Ely Leadership Conference on Nov. 18.

In other matters of business, the city council:

- ▶ Heard the report of the Library Director Rachel Heinrich that the library will be closed on Friday, Nov. 15, and Monday, Nov. 18, while the carpet is replaced.

- ▶ Heard the report from both Heinrich and Fire Chief David Marshall that children showing up in costume at the library and fire hall on Oct. 31 will receive Halloween treats.

- ▶ Heard a report from Marshall regarding the brush fires on Oct. 1 and Oct. 4 along the Trezona Trail. Both are thought to be human caused. The first fire, next to the Vermilion campus of Minnesota North College, was covered in the Oct. 4 edition of the *Timberjay*.

The second, smaller brush fire

was "less than a tenth of an acre" Marshall said. It occurred between the Trezona Trail and Miners Lake, close to the Ely Rec Center. The *Timberjay* was at the scene of this fire and interviewed the reporting party but chose not to cover it due to its small size. Marshall said that both fires are under investigation by the Department of Natural Resources.

- ▶ Heard the unwelcome but necessary reminder from Police Chief Chad Houde that calendar parking begins on Nov. 1, where vehicles must park on the odd side of the street on odd-numbered days and the even side of the street on even-numbered days.

- ▶ Approved the promotion of patrol officer Bradley Roy of the Ely Police Department to police sergeant.

- ▶ Approved a request for continued support services for the Ely Area Community Foundation's Community Hub Building on Miners Dr. for HVAC and snow removal. In exchange, the foundation has granted \$7,500 to the Happy Days Learning Center on behalf of the

city for 2024 and will continue to provide this credit in 2025.

- ▶ Appointed Mary Groening-Helms to the open seat on the tree board with a term expiring Jan. 31, 2027.

- ▶ Approved a recommendation from the projects committee to have the city attorney arrange a deed transfer for the residential properties at 334 and 350 W. Chapman St. to the city. According to Ely Clerk-Treasurer Harold Langowski, the property, which is next to the water tower, belongs to the Pollock family. All but one of the older members of the family have passed away. The remaining family lives on a rural farm in Missouri.

"They're just looking at the options for them to get rid of it," Langowski said. "I told them, 'Why don't you list it for sale?' They said, 'Well, we live on the farm a long way away. We don't really want to deal with that.'"

Langowski suggested they could deed the property to the city and the family was open to the idea. City council member Jerome Debeltz asked if the property could be

used for city needs, like providing housing, and Langowski said yes.

- ▶ Approved a reconnaissance-level survey of historical properties at a cost of \$7,867 from the Duluth Archeological Survey. The survey will fulfill a state requirement before the city can begin construction on ambulance and fire garage buildings. The survey is required by the Minnesota State Historical Preservation Office to determine if the construction will impact any historic buildings in Ely, despite the lack of any in the immediate vicinity of the construction site across from the former railroad depot site. The nearest historic buildings are the Pioneer Mine and the former Ely Community Center building on Harvey St.

"It isn't adequate just to acknowledge those are not within the project's purview," said Langowski. "I don't see any way around it. I've tried to beg and plead and complain to the Department of Admin but to no avail."

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OPINION

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Editorial

Lies on immigration

Trump seeks chaos and disorder at the border to bolster his authoritarian ambitions

In the massive flood of falsehoods and exaggerations that Donald Trump has injected into the political discourse in this country, no subject has been more distorted than the debate over immigration.

The portrait created by Trump, of an invasion of untold millions released from prisons and insane asylums across the globe, causing untold mayhem on America's streets, is simply nonsense.

When it comes to immigration, there are three primary ways we're seeing it occur. It can happen through long-established processes under which people can apply for entry into this country, or through a refugee or asylum application, which is how most migrants, particularly at the southern border have gained entry in recent years. There are undoubtedly some illegal crossings that occur at various points along our border, and those people are either interdicted somewhere after crossing (and become part of official statistics), or make their way into the country, usually for work, without ever being detected. We don't know how many evade authorities or who they are, but this has been true under every administration. Illegal crossings may well have been higher under Trump since the administration was more restrictive of legal avenues for entering the country than past presidents.

The increase in immigration that we experienced in the early part of the Biden administration was due primarily to a sharp increase in asylum applications following the lifting of COVID restrictions at the border. By Trump's telling, these are "illegals," but under U.S. law asylum seekers can come into the U.S. legally. That's right, these are not "illegal" immigrants — they have a right under U.S. law to seek asylum and they will continue to have that right unless Congress changes our immigration laws.

And they are vetted before they can enter the country, including verification of their identities, criminal background checks, and the collection of biometric data. Trump's claim that countries are emptying their prisons and sending criminals to the U.S., and we're just letting them in, is pure fiction.

Most asylum seekers will eventually be deported, but not until they have had their chance to make their case before a judge. Like it or not, that's the system that our laws have established because here in America most of us still believe in due process. Unfortunately, because our asylum courts aren't adequately funded, asylum seekers can wait years before their case hits the docket.

And contrary to claims by Trump and others, the over-

whelming majority of asylum seekers released from detention do show up for all of their hearings. According to a study by the nonpartisan American Immigration Council, which reviewed nearly three million cases, fully 83 percent of asylum seekers who were released pending their court action, attended all of their subsequent court hearings, and 96 percent of those represented by an attorney showed up. And for those who did not appear initially, it was most often due to inadequate notice.

The bipartisan immigration reform measure developed earlier this year would have, among other things, provided more resources to hire additional judges to hear asylum claims in order to speed up the removal process. But Donald Trump, who has exploited fears of immigrants since he launched his first campaign in 2015, wanted nothing to do with a solution, so he convinced GOP members of Congress to scuttle the deal. And were he to return to the White House, the chances for a bipartisan deal to address immigration would be close to nil.

The increase in asylum and refugee claims is not surprising. We've seen economic collapse in populous and authoritarian countries, like Venezuela, as well as Cuba. Climate change is fueling famines and other impacts that are forcing people to flee their homes, and they aren't just coming to the U.S. Most Western countries are seeing rising numbers of immigrants as well.

While President Biden has more recently sharply limited the ability of individuals to seek asylum through an executive order (a move that has sent entries plummeting), Biden's order is already facing a court challenge. Similar orders imposed by President Trump in 2018 were tossed by the courts as illegal, a fate which Biden's order is also likely to face.

While Trump claims that he had immigration under control, we actually saw higher numbers of entries in the first three years of his administration than we had seen under Obama, a surge that didn't end until COVID gave the administration legal avenues to close off most entries.

If Americans want to address the issues at the border, it is going to take congressional action, the kind that Donald Trump blocked earlier this year. As with everything Trump does, his strategy leaves America more chaotic, more divided, and filled with unnecessary fear and anger. In other words, the perfect conditions for an authoritarian takeover. Americans should think long and hard about their vote on Nov. 5. Our democracy depends on it.



Letters from Readers

Stauber would rank near the bottom

This year, 154 presidential historians ranked all of America's presidents, including President Joe Biden, who ranked No. 14, and former President Donald Trump, who ranked much, much, much lower.

There is currently no group of historians ranking members of Congress for effectiveness for their constituents. If there was such a group, Rep. Pete Stauber, I suspect, would share a rank similar to Trump's.

Stauber voted no on expanding veterans' health care benefits, no on the safe production and delivery of infant formula, no on capping the cost of insulin, no on protecting unions' right to organize, no on affordable child care and high-quality preschool, no to allowing the government to negotiate drug costs for Medicare recipients, no to placing a \$2,000 Medicare cap on out-of-pocket prescription-drug costs, no to funding the IRS to audit the super-wealthy, no to improving the nation's infrastructure and then claiming credit for new projects coming to our area, no to access to contraception, and yes on overthrowing a free and fair 2020 election. He also apparently is in favor of the implementation of Project 2025.

This is just a very small portion of his votes against his constituents' interest. That is, of course, when Stauber decides to show up and vote. From January 2019 to September 2024, Stauber missed 101 votes, which is way worse than the median among the lifetime records of representatives currently serving. And speaking of not showing up, Stauber refuses to take part in candidate forums that allow voters to attend and hear directly from the candidates.

Now we may not be historians, but viewing Stauber's voting record and his refusal to hold in-person town halls leads us to rank him as a definite NO as our representative. His opponent, Jen Schultz, ranks much, much, much higher.

George and Robin Pliml Cook

Janatopoulos will support civil rights, not censorship

In the race for Minnesota House District 7B, it is imperative voters be able to listen through the soundbites and dog whistles and see through the coded messages and euphemisms. In the race between Lorrie Janatopoulos and Cal Warwas, only one of the candidates is really interested in protecting our civil liberties and cherished traditional American rights. That candidate is Janatopoulos.

It is clear and well understood when Warwas uses the terms "parental rights" and "protecting vulnerable children," he is using them as euphemisms for taking away the rights of parents to choose what their children read. "Parental rights" hands that decision to the government to actually limit parental and student First Amendment rights to free access to a broad range of ideas. It limits the ability to express those ideas in schools supported by the taxes of a broad range of the Minnesota population, not just a select few interested in narrowing the scope of what thoughts and beliefs are allowable by law.

Any parent is capable of restricting what printed media their child has access to and reads in public spaces such as schools and libraries. That has always been a parent's right. No parent has the right to decide that for other parents and other children. And that is exactly what Warwas, who doesn't have children in public school and is not invested in it, is wanting when he talks about "parental rights."

Janatopoulos will stand for the rights we have always enjoyed as American parents, not overreach by an expanded nanny government Warwas wants to bring us.

As a parent and educator, I urge you to see through the verbiage and into what it really means and vote for keeping your rights intact. On Nov. 5, vote for Lorrie Janatopoulos for Minnesota House District 7B.

Adam Byrn Tritt Chisholm

Don't be fooled by big outside money

This is the season of obnoxious, negative campaign literature in the form of large postcards which are intended to give a few sound bites of information and graphics in a glance before you toss them out. I think most of them are a waste of money and trees, but the more useful ones actually have some facts about a candidate's voting record and their stand on issues, indicating what they want to work on if chosen to represent us in the Legislature.

However, the worst of them are just full of unsubstantiated opinions, distortions of photos and facts and outright lies. A recent one had a distorted, photoshopped photo of Harley Droba, the democratic candidate for the Minn. House of Representatives with flames behind him (burning a pile of money) giving the visual suggestion that he's the devil. The ridiculous, melodramatic, transparent exaggerations on these cards would be funny if it weren't true that they are effective with some people.

These slick postcards generally do not come from the candidates' campaigns but from political action groups. I've received many from Make Liberty Win, a dark money PAC based in Alexandria, Va., known for sponsoring far right-wing challengers. They use the same bizarre graphics for different candidates, switching out photos and names, sometimes even getting those wrong.

So, please inform yourself about candidates from reliable sources. Look at their records and the values they will stand up for. These fear-mongering groups make a lot of money pumping out this garbage, and they have no respect for you as a reader or a voter. They're counting on you being duped. Prove them wrong.

Check out Harley Droba at <https://harleydroba.com/>, and give him a call if you have questions; he'd love to talk to you about the critical issues we face in northern Minnesota. He is the respected mayor of International Falls with a proven track record who I believe would represent us well in St. Paul.

Betty Firth Ely

A grave affair: a Halloween tale about ghosts in Ely

REGIONAL- The recent news that the Diocese of Duluth is seeking the beatification of Monsignor Joseph Buh (1833-1922) is welcome in Ely, especially since Buh was the pastor of St. Anthony of Padua Church for 21 years. Buh founded 57 Roman Catholic parishes in northeast Minnesota and was the founding Vicar General of the Duluth diocese.



CATIE CLARK

"We could not be prouder of Monsignor Buh," said the late Zora Slabodnik, the president of the Ely chapter of the American Post-Corporeal Entity Union, or APCEU. "We'll miss him here at the Ely Opera House, but he's moved on, and we know he's in a far better post-corporeal residence now. He did

so much for us and for the people he ministered to that we're throwing a celebration in his honor for the evening of Oct. 31. We've sent the Monsignor an invite. He replied, saying he'd be there. We're confident he won't ghost us."

The APCEU represents the small but non-trivial population of post-corporeal humans in the Ely area. Given the declining number of old homes to haunt in Ely, many now reside at the old Bowling Alley on Camp Street, the Ely Opera

House, or at the now-shuttered Tanner Hospital.

"Vlad, the original chef from the Vail Hotel, volunteered to do all the cooking, and we've invited all the ghosts from all the surrounding communities," Slabodnik explained. "We were going to throw the party at the Ely Opera House, but given the anticipated attendance, we've moved it to the old city auditorium at the former Community Center on Harvey Street.

"We posted an event notice with the menu and the

program on Facebook. I know there are Ely ghosts who aren't online yet, so let me outline what we've planned. After all, it's not our intent to be cryptic. We've booked the Dead-on-their-Feet Polka Band for the dancing. We also arranged a performance by the Bootiful Ghoully Sisters Trio, who, as you know, are famous for their haunting melodies. The late Dr. Patison will give the elegy in honor of Monsignor Buh.

"Vlad is pulling together a menu to die for, including his well-known scream puffs,

boo-nanas foster, spookghetti, fettuccine afraid-o, terror-fried potatoes, ghouliflower in scream cheese sauce, Hungarian ghoulish, and boo-berry cheesecake for desert.

"I don't want to spook anyone who might want to attend, but this isn't some cheap peanut boo-ter and jelly picnic with ghou-aid. This is a dress-up event. If you died without being buried in a funeral suit or gown,

Letters from Readers

In voting this year, consider the risk

This “presidential” election is not about public policy. It is about risk. The question is simple. Is the ascension of Donald Trump to the highest office in the land worth the risk? Here’s a sampling of the risks.

The ex-president is a convicted felon who’s been charged with multiple additional crimes including conspiracy to defraud and obstruct the government. We risk living in a country that flouts the rule of law.

The ex-president has bragged about overturning *Roe v. Wade*. We risk living in a country that further limits women’s rights. The ex-president has been found liable for sexual assault and defamation. We risk living in a country that grossly demeans women.

The Supreme Court has said the president cannot be prosecuted for “official” criminal acts. We risk living in a country where the president has unchecked power.

The ex-president has said he will implement extraordinary tariffs. We risk igniting the worst inflation in our lifetime.

The ex-president has spurned the scientific consensus on climate change. In a rare editorial, *Scientific American* magazine says “the (ex)-president endangers public health and safety and rejects evidence, preferring instead nonsensical conspiracy.” We risk living in a world of fantasy and losing our grip on evidence and facts.

The ex-president has formed an unprecedented alliance with the richest man on the planet and gives the Presidential Medal of Freedom award to one of his biggest billionaire contributors (while dissing Medal of Honor winners). We risk living in a country that completely ignores the common man.

The ex-president has shown signs of diminished

mental competence. The president is always accompanied by an aide carrying the nuclear codes. We risk a nuclear miscalculation.

The ex-president has been quoted and confirmed as saying that “Americans who died in war are ‘losers’ and ‘suckers.’” We risk living in a country that demeans its veterans and humiliates the military.

The ex-president has praised Russia’s armed forces and argued to stop funding Ukraine. We risk enabling both Russia and China to take what they want. We risk war in Europe or Asia.

The ex-president has refused to admit that he lost the 2020 election. His Republican allies have done the same. We risk losing the most fundamental right we all have, the right to have our vote count. We risk the cherished practice of honest elections and the peaceful transfer of power.

The ex-president said of China’s ruler Xi Jinping: “He’s now president for life. President for life. No, he’s great. And look, he was able to do that. I think it’s great. Maybe we’ll have to give that a shot someday.” He admires Vladimir Putin, Viktor Orban and Nicolas Maduro. He vows retribution will be a primary aim of his next presidency. Recently he has proposed using the military against his political opposition, whoever he deems that to be. He has called to terminate parts of the Constitution of the United States of America. We risk installing an autocrat. We risk losing our fundamental freedoms. We risk literally losing a way of life that we have celebrated, fought for and died for in this country.

My grandfather, nicknamed “Craps Charley,” was a dice player. My father was a no-limit poker player. I have traded options on futures contracts for much of my life. I have a large appetite for risk. I cannot take this much of a risk.

Steve Anderson
Birch Lake

Operating on belief rather than reality has consequences

The late paleontologist Stephen Jay Gould once defined science and religion as “two non-overlapping magisteria,” where religion provides certainty but no testability, and science provides testability but no certainty. As the philosopher Soren Kierkegaard said, “If I am capable of grasping God objectively, I do not believe, but precisely because I cannot do this I must believe.” Science is based on two principles: the testable hypothesis and falsifiability. If a proposition is non-falsifiable, it lies outside the realm of science.

Non-falsifiability enters the secular world as a form of civil religion. Trumpism is a movement based on a secular belief system. Donald Trump can be as wild and extreme as he wants to be, knowing that his followers will accept his statements on faith, without question.

It is not possible to have dialogue with a belief system. No amount of data presented to a “true believer” has any impact. The belief system acts as a force field blocking any external information. It is what former Bush speech writer David Frum calls “epistemic closure,” the unwillingness to accept new information.

Belief systems have real consequences in real life. Republican voters suffered a 42-percent higher COVID death rate than Democrats. Those victims were martyrs for a political leader. Homeowners within feet of sea level refuse to accept the reality of climate change, but when hit by a hurricane defer to conspiracy theories to explain why the federal government has not bailed them out for their own poor judgment.

People vote for a belief system without considering the consequences of their actions. The Northland once

had three giants in Congress: Colin Peterson, Jim Oberstar, and David Obey, from northwestern Wisconsin. These Democrats have been replaced by three Republican back benchers who swing no power in Congress. Minnesota lost a huge amount of influence by sending true believers instead of competent legislators to represent us.

At the state level, the switch of Northland voters from being reliably DFL to moving toward the Republicans has resulted in this region’s loss of power in the state Legislature, where the GOP caucus still remembers all those years of northern voters blocking them from power. Note that the most effective legislator from this region is rookie DFL Sen. Grant Hauschild, the “Caitlin Clark” of the 2023-24 legislative session. Hauschild always acted within the realm of the possible and the real and not some belief system.

Fred Schumacher
Gheen

Why I support Donald J Trump

Most of us know, but few of us will admit it out loud. Democracy has reached its limit. It has been a great run of 250 years and across many continents, but times and global circumstances are very different than they were in the days of our Founding Fathers. So, it’s time to dispense with the Constitution as we’ve known it as well as the old style of government and leadership where we try to be all things to all people. For our very survival as a nation, it’s time to adapt to a new world order. Now is the time when we need a strongman, a tough leader who will govern by fear and who is respected by the other strong, tough leaders in the world like Xi Jinping, Kim Jong Un, Vladimir Putin, and others. These leaders, Trump said in August, are “at the top of their game, they’re tough, they’re smart, they’re vicious, and they’re

gonna protect their country.” And just this week, Trump said we should use our National Guard and military, if necessary, to quell protests and defeat “the enemy from within.” That’s toughness! That’s strength! That’s the new style of leader we need.

An endless parade of unwelcome illegal outsiders has invaded our country. Forcibly removing three million of this “bad blood” from our work force can only help to grow the economy by offering thousands of agricultural and service jobs to real Americans. That, along with Trump’s brilliant plan to put tariffs on all imported goods, will infuse billions to our economy, lower the deficit, and improve all our lives. Furthermore, with executive power granted to him by the Supreme Court, President Trump will use the Justice Department to fire thousands of civil servants and replace them with patriots loyal only to his vision for America. He can now inflict revenge on his left-wing adversaries and those enemies in the media including news anchors, and other Marxist journalists who have criticized him and distorted his vision while praising extremists.

While President Trump seems to have distanced himself from Project 2025, we know, and he knows, this plan is our destiny. After all, this document was authored by his administration’s most loyal subjects and is fully endorsed by JD Vance. These are the critical steps that will “Make America Great Again!”

➤ Eliminate civil service protections.

➤ Legal action against prosecutors who aren’t tough on criminals.

➤ Abolish all trans health care.

➤ End all fetal cell research.

➤ Educators who endorse sexualized materials will be registered as sex offenders.

➤ Abolish prohibition against LGBTQ+ discrimination.

➤ Support conversion therapy research.

➤ Remove “abortion” from all federal laws and regulation.

➤ Abolish the Dept. of Education; make all education by voucher.

➤ Eliminate energy-transition and environmental justice programs in all state and federal government and all businesses.

➤ Business will generate profit for U.S. dominance and prosperity.

➤ No IRS restrictions on religious organizations.

➤ No FCC restrictions on political speech on grounds that it’s untrue or dangerous.

➤ Eliminate Head Start.

➤ Eliminate Homeland Security.

➤ Eliminate all things WOKE.

➤ National abortion ban.

➤ Two-tier income taxes for individuals, 15 percent and 30 percent.

➤ Reduce corporate taxes.

➤ Eliminate NOAA.

➤ Recognize that religion is the source of all happiness.

These are only a few of the dramatic actions the second Donald Trump administration will initiate to forever rejuvenate and repair America and bring our country back to a happier, more righteous, and more prosperous place in the world, a place where we all, including women and ethnic minorities, know our proper places in American society. This is just the beginning of the New World Order. We all know very well that we cannot continue on the current path with an obsolete democracy, an outdated constitution, and a feckless government. The world has changed, and we must follow. Let’s reconnect with our great, traditional family and national values. It’s really quite simple: Make America Great Again!

Terry J Walters
Ely

Skraba rides for free thanks to the DFL

Labor built the middle class. Republicans, à la Reagan, did their best to break labor. Think PATCO in the ‘80s. No middle class for you, America.

But labor gave us this beautiful term, free rider.

Skraba is similar to a free rider. Look at the ads he’s running bragging about the Northland gains. Basically, all DFL initiatives. His dark money is saying we blew the \$19 billion, Skraba’s bragging about what it bought. Contradiction much, Skraba?

But he’s claiming credit for things that would never have occurred to a Trump-ish mind. A mind that thought there was factual substance in “2000 Mules.”

Free rider Skraba. I’m just calling him what he is.

Jeff Wilfahrt
Ely

Trump’s policies would sink America’s economy

To get votes, candidates promote various federal subsidized programs and tax

incentives that will provide economic benefits to certain groups of voters. There are subsidies for the purchase of electric cars, child care programs, student loans, farmers, etc. There are all sorts of tax benefits in place and proposed from which the candidates expect to garner votes.

Subsidies come in a variety of forms such as cash, grants, or tax concessions of various forms. These tax concessions reduce federal tax revenue. The Committee for Responsible Federal Budget judged that Trump’s subsidy proposals would cost the government \$15 trillion in lost revenue over the next ten years, while Harris’s would cost \$3.5 trillion.

Since it is politically difficult to raise taxes, the alternative is to issue government bonds to fill the gap in tax revenue. Our current national debt is \$35.7 trillion which represents 125 percent of our gross domestic product (GDP) that is considered one indicator of our financial condition. The last time our national debt exceeded 100 percent of GDP was 79 years ago when World War II ended. Prior to the war it was 40 percent of the GDP and low as 20 percent in the 1970’s. Our

current annual debt interest costs \$1.1 trillion and represents 17 percent of total federal spending.

The bond market will demand higher interest rates due to the increase in our national debt that is considered as a weakening of our financial condition. Other countries and private investors may sell their U.S. bonds or reduce purchases of them, which could lead to higher interest rates.


If Trump wins the presidency, inflation will reemerge with his increase in subsidies, debt, and his initiation of tariffs. He reportedly will charge a 20-percent tariff on all imports, but he favors a 60-percent tariff on all products from China. The price increase of the tariffs, estimated to total \$4 trillion, will be added to the costs of goods sold in the U.S. It is naive to think that manufacturers will not add their additional tariff costs to the price of their products. The combined costs of Trump’s proposed new subsidized government programs and his additional tariffs would result in extremely high inflation and send interest rates sharply higher for U.S. citizens.

The war between Israel and Iran is escalating. Ac-

ording to the *Wall Street Journal*, Iran is closer than ever to acquiring nuclear weapons. And now we may be confronted with possible war using nuclear weapons. If Trump, when he was president, had not withdrawn from the nuclear agreement with Iran on May 8, 2018, the U.S. would be in a much better position to enforce the agreement. The terms of agreement were very strong on the prohibition on the development of nuclear weapons. Moreover, it permitted International Atomic Energy Agency constant stringent oversight of their nuclear program.

Trump, with his usual bluster, said he would negotiate a better deal. It never happened.

Gerry Snyder
Ely


Your letters
The *Timberjay* encourages letters to the editor. You can submit letters by mail at PO

Box 636, Tower, MN 55790, or email letters to marshall@timberjay.com.

We ask that letters be limited to 300 words.

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

Letters are a great way to offer your input to the *Timberjay’s* edi-

HAUNT...Cont. from page 4


cover up your death attire with a proper shroud. This is a dignified celebration, and we expect the attendees to haunt the party in a grave manner. Remember, Monsignor Buh is a consecrated

priest, and any misbehaving poltergeists may find themselves exorcised if they disrupt the program.

“Last, we do want everyone to come and attend. This is a big honor for Monsignor

Buh, and it’s our last chance to celebrate his promotion in the afterlife. But please, if you’re sick, stay home, especially if you’re still coffin.”

Find more letters on page 6


the
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Letters from Readers

Americans need to wake up to what's really happening

From reading the letters in the *Timberjay*, it's hard to believe that there are people who can't remember how good things were under President Trump compared to current conditions. The mainstream media is working hard to divide us as Americans and cause our beautiful country to crumble right before our eyes.

I could go on and on for pages, but have people been in the "cattle car" so long they have forgotten how to think for themselves? It's interesting that when Trump announced he was running as a Republican, at first the mainstream media was all for him because they thought he would really mess up the Republican party. Then when he got the nomination, they turned totally against him and it has never stopped. The Republicans were NO help his first two years and that caused them to lose the House. Trump is not a Republican; if he was, he would have caved in a long time ago.

He stands up for the WE THE PEOPLE and gets us as "LEGAL Americans" the truth and justice we expect.

Both Democrats and Republicans ALL knew that the SYSTEM was corrupt. Look how bad the FBI, CIA, Secret Service, Justice system, etc. has turned out to be when they have illegally used lawfare against Trump. They constantly say Trump is going to do exactly what they have been doing all along. Rush Limbaugh said for decades, "Whatever the Dems are accusing you of is exactly what they are doing." We all need to wake up and realize that while it's Trump today, these same people can turn on you tomorrow and you will feel the wrath of the "deep state."

Look what they did to good ole Joe!

If you think the voting is fair, I can tell my story. For two years before the 2020 election, Facebook put us in jail (hardly anyone could see our comments favoring Trump, especially if it had a Christian slant) and then two weeks before the election we were TOTALLY kicked off. Is that the correct thing to do? What happened to the American idea that we debate different ideas on how things should be done? Could it be that if people heard the other side they may not agree with the deep state? Why would you promote mail-in ballots? Why would you not require an ID to vote? What would you think if the Republicans were promoting such nonsense?

This is way bigger than being a Republican or Democrat. This is about the overthrow of the USA and our Constitution. These people are using the Democratic party more than the Republican party to divide us as Americans and to raise money for their cause. If we Americans were to unite that would be their nightmare scenario. Whoever these people are behind the scenes, they are hoping to destroy us from within just like the Roman Empire. Trump is the only hope to stop this from happening and that is why they are determined to stop him, one way or another. We all need to open our eyes and look beyond what the mainstream media is telling us and use our own heads to see what is happening right before our eyes...

Gary Aubol
Soudan and Virginia

Vote to save our nation

They say history repeats itself, and I believe it to be true. A friend of mine lent me a book that sheds light on what that might mean for us today. It's a very short book that paints a bleak picture of what could be in store for us, pointing out events occur-

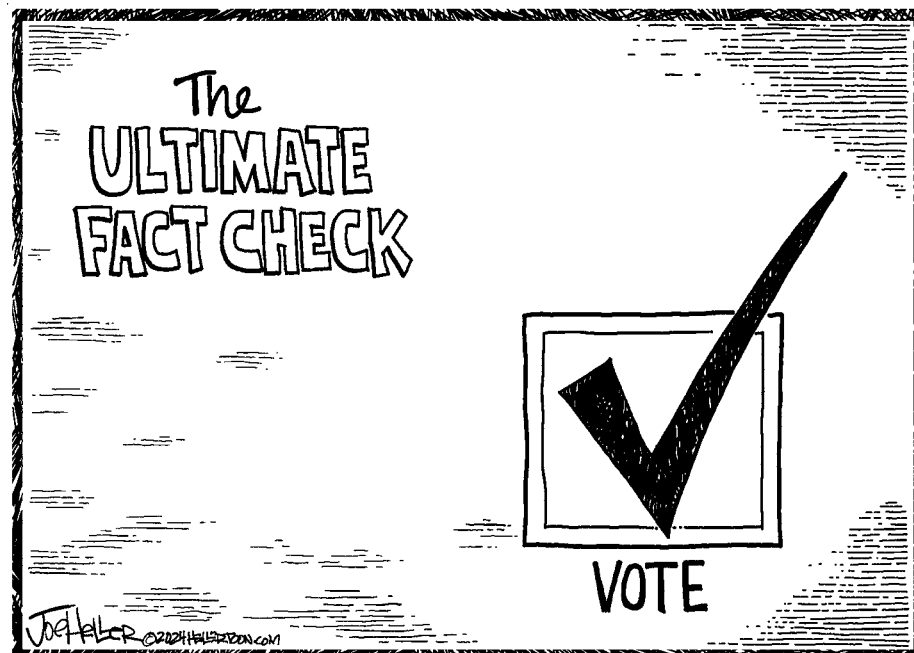
ring today that mimic what happened in Europe leading up to World War II, when dictators threatened, then overwhelmed the rule of democracy. We helped prevent that from happening to our allies as well as ourselves. This time, though, is different. We are the ones flirting with being on the wrong side of history.

We tend to think our nation is invincible, but nothing could be further from the truth. All nations rise and fall, some repeatedly. We are no exception. Our day will come. It could be soon. Today, especially, our nation is in great peril. We are at a crossroads, and the upcoming election will determine our fate in the coming decades. Our democracy will survive only if we open our eyes wide enough to see the obvious.

When they differ, actions speak louder than words. Actions that are consistent with words reveal the unvarnished truth. We have a presidential candidate who has openly said he will be a dictator. Some may think he was just being facetious. Look at his actions and think again. The best way to conquer a nation is to divide it. Has this candidate ever said anything to bring our nation together? Listen to his rhetoric. Everything that comes out of his mouth is divisive, and it is, indeed, dividing us. All it takes is for people to buy into it, and believe me, a good many of us are. There is one issue above all others to consider in this election: our continued existence in the democratic society we have known. Vote to save our nation!

By the way, if you're interested, the title of the book mentioned above is "On Tyranny — Twenty Lessons from the Twentieth Century," by Timothy Snyder; and again, it's a very short read.

Rich Floyd
Ely



Impact of wolves on wildlife

Wolves are predators and they are in other countries the world over. The DNR says they take only the weak and sick animals. Deer are not long-distance runners. If someone is running after you, you're going to be weak and tired after a distance. I am 86 years old. I grew up on a farm in Britt and spent a lot of time in the woods studying wildlife. Twice in my life I have seen deer taken down by wolves and it's not good to see.

When I was 11 years old, there was a thick ice crust on the snow. The deer's hooves would break through while the wolves could run on it. The deer did not have a chance to survive.

The second time at work at the Dunka Mine, near Babbitt, wolves chased a deer to the bottom edge of a surface dump and it was a repeat of what happened to the first one.

On a walking trail across the road from us, I was walking it six years ago when I saw a partridge with five chicks. I stopped to watch them when two wolves came out and got the chicks. They could not fly yet. A person on Lake Leander witnessed the same thing. We have not heard a partridge drum in the spring since then.

The DNR use to promote feeding the deer when we had harsh winters. They even charged extra on your hunting license.

Today, that money goes to study the wolves. The

wolves, and coyotes, and ravens, and foxes, were put on this Earth to eat up the ones that died of natural causes. And take the beef farmers. How many gave it up because it was a losing battle?

This summer I have not seen one deer between Britt and Cook and between Britt and Virginia. It's time for the hunters to hang up for a while. The DNR has earned the title: Do Nothing Right.

Harlan Pernu Sr.
Britt

Why are so many so willing to allow corruption?

I got in trouble for having a Harris Walz sign by my driveway. After 14 years doing business with a nearby repair shop, I'm now refused service because of it. And I guess I'm now officially "an enemy from within." Another person told me that I "don't get it." The "it" must be extremely important if allowing corruption and denial of freedoms is needed.

I'll be glad when this election is done and all the signs are gone, but only if Harris Walz are in the White House. I've prayed that Republicans won't succeed in overturning a free and fair election after they've again worked so hard to do just that.

If this election is stolen, responsible government will be replaced with dealing only for power and profit. The economy will be destroyed with tariffs causing trade wars. And the resulting high inflation will give cov-

er for corporations to price gouge again, driving prices even higher for us. With Republican corporate tax cuts, deficits will soar putting the U.S. credit worthiness at risk. Even cutting the programs we all depend on to balance the budget won't be enough. World peace would end with Republicans first abandoning Ukraine and then NATO. Like Hitler, Putin's Russia will be free to invade any country. Corrupting elections will give Republicans fascist control of the corporations who must be loyal to do business here.

I'd guess the "it" that prompts so many to defend this ruin is the pro-life religion. "Pro-life" is a lie justifying threats and harassment of women facing a profound question in their lives. Among other services, these medical clinics give pregnancy choice to women, including victims of rape and incest and as young as ten years old. Only at about 22 weeks of pregnancy should an unborn person have legal rights coequal to the mother. To require legal rights from the moment of conception is emotional religious extremism.

"Throwing the baby out with the bath water" fits these emotionally blind decisions to vote Republican. If Republicans get in the White House, forget about programs to help babies or anyone else. The religion these Republicans really have is that of Cain's: "Am I my brother's keeper?"

Erwin R. Rud
Fosston

== VOTE == JOHNSTON



- COOK MAYOR •
- Integrity
- Leadership
- Stability

Paid for by the candidate on his own behalf

Just Say NO to Stauber

Rep. Pete Stauber sure knows how to vote NO.

In the last six years Pete has been in Congress, he has consistently voted NO on legislation most Minnesotans care deeply about.

If you are concerned about affordable health care, Pete does not share your concerns. The Republican-sponsored Lower Cost, More Transparency Act (HR 5378) would lower the cost of health care and save billions of dollars. HR 5378 passed the U.S. House with Republican support. Stauber voted against it. The Affordable Insulin Now Act (HR 6833) caps the outrageous cost of insulin. Stauber voted NO. He voted NO to protecting Americans with pre-existing health conditions (HR 986). If you are a senior, take note that Pete Stauber is on the Republican Study Committee that published a report in 2024 to CUT Social Security and Medicare.

Pete voted NO on many other issues as well. The Fuel Price Gouging Prevention Act (HR 7688) would protect consumers from international oil companies artificially inflating gas prices. Stauber voted against it.

Stauber has voted NO on the Honoring Our Pact Act (HR3967), which expands health care to vets who were exposed to burn pits and other toxins during military service.

When Pete votes yes, it is equally disastrous for Min-

nesotans. He supported HR 5894 that CUTS funding for Head Start programs.

On Nov. 15, 2023, Stauber sponsored an amendment to HR 5894. This would have cut \$6 million from schools in our district had it passed. Fortunately, most House GOP and Democrats rejected his amendment.

Stauber has not respected the concerns of his constituents and actively voted against them.

Fortunately, Pete Stauber is on the ballot in our next election. You can say NO to Pete with your vote on Nov. 5.

Lucy Grina
Two Harbors

Schultz will replace Stauber's "No" with success

Help! We're looking for our Rep. Pete Stauber, last seen on the road he calls "Our Way of Life." Unfortunately, he lost his direction representing the people of his district. Bringing important benefits to the Eighth District has been hard for him because he likes to vote "No" to important legislation for his constituents.

"No" to the Honoring Our PACT Act (HR 3967), the largest health care expansion bill in decades for veterans suffering from toxic burn pit exposure.

"No" to the Affordable Insulin Now Act (HR 6833) to end price gouging of American diabetic patients

paying over \$250 for insulin manufactured for less than \$5.

"No" to the Women's Health Protection Act (HR 8296) allowing women, not the government, to make their own health care decisions.

"No" to the CHIPS and SCIENCE Act (HR 4346) to "re-shore" our microchip production for important jobs building "Made In America" manufactured goods.

"No" to the BIPARTISAN Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (HR 3684), bringing Minnesota approximately \$4.8 billion over five years in federal highway formula funding for highways and bridges. This included union projects he claimed credit for like the \$9.4 million for upgrades to 29 Eighth District airports and the huge \$1 billion Blatnik Bridge restoration.

Watch this 5-minute video and ask yourself why Stauber voted "No":

https://youtu.be/Vup-kUHqW2_w

The conservative Forum Communications editorial advisory board shares why they support Jen Schultz for Congress here:

<https://www.duluthnewstribune.com/opinion/editorials/endorsement-schultz-promises-stronger-leadership-for-8th-district>

Please vote for Jen Schultz, she'll say "Yes" to accomplishing important work for folks in the Eighth District!

Michael Overend
Two Harbors

WINDOWS INTO YESTERDAY

How streets in Ely got their names

by DAVID KESS
Ely-Winton Historical Society

Have you ever wondered how Sheridan Street got its name? Or where Main Street is? Do you know where Allaire Street is? In the main part of town, the streets were named for Ely pioneers, but over time, mining locations, enclaves, and side roads were incorporated into the city limits. Those street names were sometimes rather random, ones that were suggested by the residents who lived in the area.

To begin with, Main Street, north of Madison Street, was once part of the road to Winton. The information of just when the road was changed was not found at the historical society. Now, of course, we think of Sheridan Street as "Main Street." While Washington and Madison do have street markers, there is none for Main Street. Look for Pillow Rock as a marker.

James Sheridan and Asa Camp were among the original investors in the Chandler Mine, along with the Pattison Brothers and R. B. Whiteside. Pattison, Sheridan, and Camp had streets named after them in the original plat of Ely. Wh-



Asa Camp

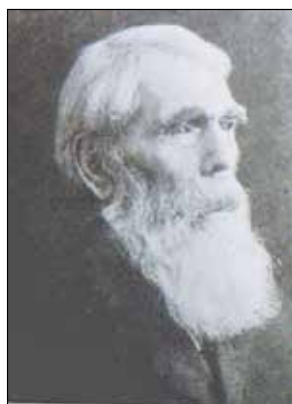
iteside did not - White Street was named after one of the town's original surveyors, Fred White. The city limits originally stopped at Conan Street on the south, Camp

Street on the north, Central Avenue on the west, and what is now Third Avenue on the east. Over time, many additions to the city boundaries have been made.

Dr. Pattison, a principal owner in the Pioneer Mine, was originally a medical doctor in Milwaukee. When he got interested in mining, he moved to Ely, but he did not practice medicine here. He later built an imposing home in Superior, Wis., and had a summer home on Pattison Island on Burntside Lake. The Whitesides lived in Duluth but donated the land in Ely that became Whiteside Park.

Captain Harvey was involved with mines on the Vermilion Range, including Ely, and was honored with one of Ely's street names. Chapman Street remains a mystery. Once source says Mr. Chapman was from Duluth but another says "chapman" is British slang for businesses.*

Street names in Ely now include Lookout Road, Ahola Road, Wilson Street, Allaire Street, and Boundary Street on the south side of town. In the main part of Ely are found James, Pattison, White, Conan, Harvey, Sheridan, and Camp streets.



James Sheridan

Washington, Madison, and Main streets are north of that.

Off Pioneer Road are W. Shagawa Road, Railroad Street, Lakeview Avenue,

and Newgord Drive (no marker). In the Chandler location are Klondike Drive, Yukon Drive, West Chandler Street, and West Vermilion Road. Moving past Miners Drive and down Pioneer Road are Sibley Road, Savoy Road, and Spalding Drive. The names in this part of Ely reflect geographic locations rather than historical figures from the town's past.

It is entirely possible that I have missed a few but here are more than thirty road names. Please call the historical society if you have any additions or corrections. Our hours are noon to 4 p.m., Tuesdays through Fridays. Our number is 218-365-3226.

* Editor's note: According to the Oxford English Dictionary, the word "chapman" is an archaic British noun for a merchant, trader, or peddler, whose usage dates back to the twelfth century.

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. 29: Updates from the Ely Chapter of the North Country Trail Association
- Nov. 5: No Tuesday Group on Election Day
- Nov. 12: New Elyites

Breathing Out

by Cecilia Rolando © 2024



tamarack yellowed
maple trees barren of red
frosted car windows

OKTOBERFEST

The Oktoberfest fundraiser for the Ely Winter Festival sold out at the Grand Ely Lodge last Friday, Oct. 18. The event featured German food, live music by the Largemouth Brass ensemble, raffles, a silent auction, a costume contest (upper left), steinhegen (stein holding) competitions (lower left), and dancing (below). photos by C. Clark



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

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 Ledgerrock 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

ADULT BASIC EDUCATION GED Study materials and pre-test available. Call 218-365-3359, or 1-800-662-5711.

CO-DEPENDENTS' 12-step support group, 4:00 p.m. Tuesdays, hosted by Well Being Development, Ely. This meeting is suspended temporarily while

Well Being Development's Northern Lights Clubhouse moves to its new home.

CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUPS:

Babbitt: 3rd Monday of Month: 6-7:30 p.m. at Carefree Living. Ely: 4th Monday of Month: 10-11:30 a.m. at Ely-Bloomenson Hospital. Conference Room B.

COMMUNITY EVENTS AND NOTICES

Babbitt Public Library

BABBITT- The November art kit for kids will be for oil pastel drawing. These will be available to take home starting Oct. 28, while supplies last.

"How to Say North with the Sutter Brothers" is a program coming to the library on Tuesday, Oct. 29, at 1:30 p.m. The program blends Ross Sutter's music and three-time Minnesota Book Award winner Bart Sutter's poetry.

The Friends of the Library have a raffle 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 library will be closed on Friday, Nov. 15 and Monday, Nov. 18 for carpet installation.

The "How to Say North with the Sutter Brothers" program will be at the Babbitt Library on Oct. 29 will also visit

the Ely Library on Monday, Oct. 28, from noon to 1 p.m.

The library will hold an online Kahoot trivia game on the first three books in the Bridgerton series by Julia Quinn. The Kahoot will start at 3 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 29, and end at 8 a.m. on Monday, Nov. 4. Participants must pre-register for the Kahoot so the library can email the link for the game.

Stop by the library on Thursday, Oct. 31 in costume to receive a fun treat. 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.

Drug Take-Back Day

ELY- Saturday, Oct. 26, is National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day. Safely dispose of unused or expired medications at the St. Louis County Sheriff's office at the Ely City Hall. A drug drop box will be staffed from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Medications for disposal should be in their original containers with any personal identifying information crossed off.

Anyone who can't access the drop box can contact Mag-

gie Myers at 218-471-738 or MyersM@stlouiscountymn.gov for help with alternative disposal methods, such as a free medication mail-back envelope or a DisposeRx kit.

Harvey Street Construction Meeting

ELY- St. Louis County will hold an informational meeting on the Harvey St. reconstruction project in council chambers at City Hall on Monday, Oct. 28, at 6 p.m. The county will be rebuilding the street between Central and Ninth Aves. during the warm weather months of 2025. The meeting will present the schedule for construction and the plans to reroute traffic.

High School Concert

ELY- The first Ely Memorial High School band and choir concert will be on Tuesday, Oct. 29 at 7 p.m. at Washington Auditorium, 600 E. Harvey St. Enter the public-school campus through door No. 1 and turn right after the double doors.

Home Buyers Class

ELY- Ely Community Education is offering a no-cost class on buying a home whether you're a new or experienced home buyer, on

Wednesday, Oct. 30., at 5:30 p.m. in the Media Center at the Ely Public Schools campus, 600 E. Harvey St. Enter through door No. 1 and turn right after the double doors. The Media Center will be on the right across from the new gym.

Medicare 101

ELY- Ely Community Education is offering more sessions of its popular, no-cost Medicare 101 class on Wednesday, Nov. 6, and Wednesday, Dec. 4. Both classes are from 5:30-6:30 p.m. in the Media Center at the Ely Public Schools campus, 600 E. Harvey St. Enter through door No. 1 and turn right after the double doors. The Media Center will be on the right across from the new gym. The class is for those wanting to learn more about making informed Medicare choices, including how to avoid costly sign-up mistakes as your 65th birthday approaches.

Holiday Boutique

ELY- The Ely Senior Center, 27 S. First Ave. W., will host a holiday boutique with local crafters and artists selling their wares, including candles, jewelry, baked

goods, textiles, home décor, art, pottery, woodwork, and more. The date is Saturday, Nov. 9, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information, call Dafne at 218-365-2263.

Free pet microchips

ELY- Contented Critters Animal Rescue will hold a microchip and nail trimming clinic on Saturday, Nov. 16, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Ely Flower and Seed, 145 W. Camp St. The clinic is for dogs and cats; no breeders please. The microchips are free, with no registration or annual fees. Trimming nails for dogs and cats is \$15 per pet; please do not bring any aggressive pets.

The Ely for Ely Leadership Workshop

ELY- Registration for the Ely for Ely Leadership Workshop runs through Nov. 11. Register 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.

SUPERIOR NATIONAL FOREST

LaCroix District open house touts forest projects

Several major initiatives move from planning to action, including 20-year LaCroix Landscape Project

COOK- When Superior National Forest LaCroix District Ranger Sunny Lucas took over as the leader of the Cook office two years ago, among her responsibilities was planning, lots and lots of planning for the future. To be sure, there was much to do learning all she could about the district and supervising the regular activities of staff, but there was always the planning of big projects for the future.

At an open house at the district office last Thursday, it was clear that the future is now, as numerous displays told of projects that are underway in the district, and Lucas's enthusiasm was on full display as well.

"We've got a lot of fun projects right now that we're getting going," Lucas said. "It's just really exciting because all of this is implementation. Planning is great, but it's really fun this time to be able to talk about what we're actually going to be doing on the ground in the next few years."

The first is the 20-year LaCroix Landscape Project, an approach to forest man-

agement that utilizes a multifaceted "flexible toolbox" approach to apply the right treatments on the right spots at the right times.

"We're going to start implementing that project this year," Lucas said. "We're only focused on the first five years right now."

One component of the project is timber sales, Lucas said.

"In particular, some of the first ones we'll be doing are right near Crane Lake, just southwest of Crane Lake, and we're going to be doing some timber sales as well as some fuels reduction projects in that area. I'm excited to get around Crane Lake and start working up in that part of our district."

A second initiative Lucas described is the Vermilion Fuels Reduction Project.

"On the north side of Lake Vermilion we've got various units where we're going to be doing mostly cutting and piling, cutting out the dead balsam and burning those piles. We just started that a couple of weeks ago with the partner we're going to be working with, Patriot



Visitors to the LaCroix District open house last Thursday in Cook spend time checking out the many resources available in the visitor center gift shop.

Restoration Ops."

Patriot Restoration Ops is a nonprofit that helps veterans find purpose and employment in the outdoor industry while contributing to important conservation efforts.

"They'll come back out and work on some other units, and will hopefully be talking to private landowners in that area to see if they are interested in working on some fuels reduction as well to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire."

The third project in the works, the Collaborative Wildfire Risk Reduction Program, was announced in September when Superior National Forest was awarded \$10 million, \$5 million for the LaCroix District and \$5 million for the Kawishiwi District, for addressing fuels reduction, community safety, and wildlife habitat.

"It's going to be about a four- or five-year implementation cycle, working with partners like Patriot Restoration Ops, Nature Conser-

vancy, the Ruffed Grouse Society, and also collaborating with the Bois Forte and Fond du Lac bands on some of those projects. For the La Croix district we're going to focus on our blueberry burns, areas where we're burning at low-intensity more frequently to create blueberry habitat for wildlife, which is also culturally important to the bands, and we'll be working on some shaded fuel breaks as well."

Lucas was hesitant to estimate tourist usage of the forest this year, as they have yet to run final numbers, and also because the LaCroix visitor center was open fewer days this summer.

"It's a little tricky because in the past we've been open seven days a week during permit season, May through September, but this summer due to staffing shortages we were only open six days a week," Lucas said. "I know that affected especially the Trout Lake day use permit users. We definitely heard that that was an issue, and so before next season we're exploring different ways that we can make per-

mits available seven days a week. We've got people who really rely on the front desk in the gift shop being open to pick up permits."

Lucas noted that the gift shop has a wide variety of useful outdoor-oriented items for children and adults, and said that perhaps the greatest resource is her staff.

"Our front desk staff is really knowledgeable," she said. "They're really good with questions about helping people figure out what's a good fit for them in terms of what activity they're interested in, if they want to do a day hike or a day canoe trip."

Lucas said that her transition to life in the North Country has gone well.

"We were just talking about the weather, and I'm not sure what a normal year is here yet, but the people are great," she said. "I have great staff to work with, the community is really great, and it's been really fun, especially the last year engaging more with partners and the community. It's just been really a welcoming area with so much passion and care for this land."

For Cook Public Library, it's so good to have friends

Support organization among many recognized during state's first official "Friends of Libraries Week"

by DAVID COLBURN
Cook-Orr Editor

COOK- The week of Oct. 20-26 marks the 19th annual National Friends of Libraries Week, but it's the first year that it's been officially recognized in Minnesota through a proclamation issued by Gov. Tim Walz.

It's a week of recognition well deserved for the local Friends of the Cook Public Library (FCPL) group, which since its founding in 2007 has been integral to the library's growth and success.

Mo Fontana is one of the group's original founders.

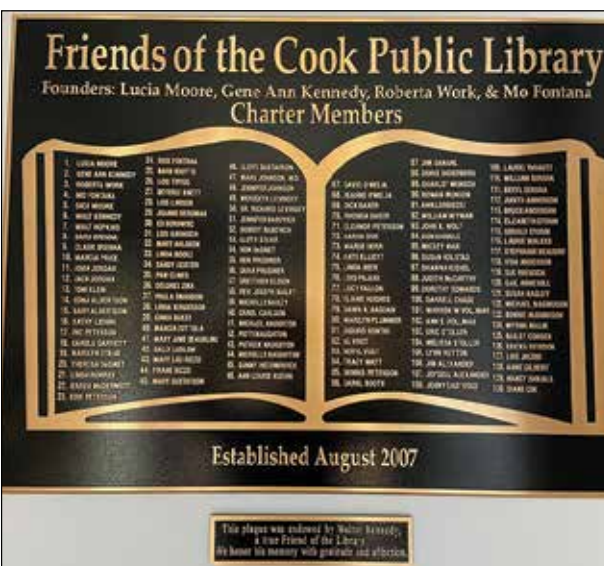
"Lois Larson was the librarian then, and I was one of the volunteers," Fontana recalled. "The idea was presented by three summer residents from out of state - they all had homes on Elbow Lake. They were Lucia Moore from Iowa, Gene Ann Kennedy from Tampa, Fla., and Roberta Work, she's from West Bloomfield,

Mich. They were the three, and they recruited me basically to do sign-ups."

The recruitment meeting was a fundraiser luncheon at the Harvest Moon Cooking Co., and according to a *Timberjay* article published at the time, 44 paid the \$5 fee to become charter members. "We would contact them each summer to renew," Fontana said. "We'd have fundraisers every summer."

And when her compatriots took off at the end of summers, Fontana was the one who kept things rolling. "The very first year, after Labor Day, these three gals left and said, 'Good luck!'" Montana said. "They were only here for sometimes one month, sometimes two or three. It was a part-time thing I could do when I was there at the library. It was a very loosely set up organization."

In those early years, aspirations for the group were modest - raise \$300-400 a year to buy books, Fontana



This large plaque in the Cook Public Library honors the charter members of the Friends of the Cook Public Library organization. -- submitted

said. But as the years went on, the Friends' contributions grew larger, particularly after the group started its popular annual book sale. From funding college students to do shelving during summer break, to paying for an assistant librarian, to providing

financial support for locally-sponsored events and the summer reading program, and of course more book purchases, all supported by an expanding array of fundraisers, FCPL transitioned from "extra" to "essential" for the library. To accommo-

date that growth, the group applied for nonprofit status in 2017, becoming a legal entity unto itself.

"We weren't expecting it to be the lifeblood that it's turned out to be," Fontana said.

And the impact of this local group of volunteers has not gone unnoticed, said Cook Public Library Director Crystal Whitney said.

"The Cook Library is known statewide because of our Friends group," Whitney said. "We've had many 'standout friends,' is what they call through the Minnesota Association of Library Friends. They've also won grants through that statewide organization, so people know where Cook is because of our Friends group. They're amazing."

Having an organization whose sole purpose is supporting the library has been wonderful, Whitney said.

And that support is helping the library to recover

from June's flood, contributing both time and physical effort to get the library back into partial operations. Specific plans and timelines for reconstruction are still uncertain, and Fontana said that the conditions will likely prevent FCPL from doing any fundraisers connected with the building the rest of the year, such as the holiday basket raffle.

"With the flood we've gotten a lot of donations, especially from out-of-staters hearing about it - it was a way they could do something for us," Montana said. "So we have money - we just don't have a library."

Montana said four members are qualified to work the circulation desk, and there are about 30 more who help out with "all sorts of things," so the group will be able to keep right on supporting the library and its various needs as the facility gets back up on its feet.

Cook-Orr Calendar

Cook Lions Halloween party will be on Oct. 31

COOK- Put on your spook-tacular best costume and head to the Cook Community Center on Thursday, Oct. 31 for the Cook Lions Club Trunk-or-Treat Community Halloween Party.

Food, prizes, candy, and boo-tiful animals from Cook's Country Connection will be on hand from 4-6 p.m., promising a good time for all.

Individuals or businesses who are interested in having a "trunk" at the event should contact Therese Cheney at 218-235-8729 or via email at therese.cheney@yahoo.com.

Area bookmobile dates set through December

REGIONAL- The Arrowhead Library System has announced upcoming dates for Bookmobile visits in the area through December.

The Bookmobile will be available on the Thursdays of Oct. 31, Nov. 21, and Dec. 12 at the following locations and times:

► Nett Lake, at the Com-

munity Center from 9:30-10:30 a.m.

► Crane Lake, at the Ranger Station from 12:30-1:15 p.m.

► Buyck, at the Vermilion River Tavern from 1:45-2:30 p.m.

► Orr at the Lake Country RE/MAX building from 3:15-4 p.m.

Library sponsors Sutter Brothers duo poetry/music show

COOK- The Cook Public Library invites the public to be entertained by attending "How to Say North with the Sutter Brothers" on Monday, Oct. 28 at 3:30 p.m. at Cook Community Center.

The Sutter Brothers program blends poems from Bart Sutter's new book, Cotton Grass, with songs from Ross Sutter. Enjoy music from American, Celtic and Scandinavian folk traditions.

This free program is 50 minutes long and geared toward adults.

This project was funded in part or in whole by a grant from the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

Native artists and art sought for NWFA exhibit

COOK- Northwoods Friends of the Arts (NWFA) is inviting Native American artists and art owners to participate in an upcoming exhibit.

"Native American Art: Past and Present" will be featured from Thursday, Nov. 7 to Saturday, Nov. 30 at the NWFA Gallery, located at 210 S River St. in Cook.

Are you a Native American craftsman or artist or do you have Native American Art you would be willing to share with the public? Examples are beading, painting, weaving, sculpture, birch bark baskets or pottery for the exhibit.

If you have art to exhibit, call or text Lyn Reed at 218-780-3633, Malita Spears at 218-944-1517, or Shawna Kishel at 218-780-6510. Whatever you have created or want to share will be welcomed at NWFA Gallery. Leah Rogne, George Strong, and Darren Landgren are also helping to reach local artists or art owners for participation, to coordinate deliveries, or make arrangements to pick

up art objects between Friday, Nov. 1 through Monday, Nov. 4.

A public reception will be hosted at the gallery honoring the artists and the art-

work on Friday, Nov. 8 from 5-7 p.m. During November the NWFA Gallery is open Thursdays and Fridays from 10 a.m.- 4 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. For

a special occasion on Saturday, Nov. 9, the gallery will be open from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. along with many businesses in Cook for the "Fall into Christmas" shop local day.

SMALL GROWER, BIG GOURD



On the same day, Sept. 28, that the National Pumpkin Weigh Off in California recognized a 2,453 lb. pumpkin from Oregon as this year's winner, the Orr Lions were honoring the best and biggest from local growers. The first place winner, above, was Fae Laakkonen Gaylord with a pumpkin weighing 118 pounds. The Timberjay was unable to confirm rumors that Fae got some assistance from second place winner Curt Laakkonen. Fred Gutzman won third. submitted

Week of October 21

Monday

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

Tuesday

Tower Area Food Shelf- Open on the third Tuesday of every month from 2:30-5 p.m. New location in the old St. James Church building. Next food shelf day is Nov. 19.

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

Thursday

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

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

**TSHS weekly winner**

TOWER- The Week 6 winner of the Charlemagne's 52 Club \$100 cash prize is Matt Carlson of Hibbing.

History Tidbit: On the 12th of March 1884 mining Superintendent Elisha Morcom arrived in Tower closely followed by a force of about 120 miners many of them bringing their families. The population at the mines then, including the carpenters, was nearly 200.

TSAA Fall Auction set for Nov. 14

TOWER- The Tower-Soudan Athletic Association annual fall fundraiser auction will be held on Thursday, Nov. 14 starting at 5 p.m. at the Wilderness at Fortune Bay.

Tickets are \$30 in advance, and \$35 at the door (if any seats left). Reserve your ticket by calling Jodi at 218-753-2950 or stop by the Timberjay office in Tower (tickets must be paid in advance). Seating is limited to 60 people, and the event has sold out the last few years. Over half the seats are already reserved. The ticket price covers the cost of the hot and cold appetizer buffet. Drinks are available to purchase at the bar.

This fun-filled evening includes a social hour, karaoke with LuAnn, raffles, plinko, games, and a live and silent auction. There will be many amazing items to bid on, including lots of great gift ideas for the upcoming holidays.

Donations are needed for prizes and the silent auction. Please drop by the Timberjay office in Tower or call Jodi at 218-753-2950 to arrange a pick-up. Also, anyone interested in volunteering can also contact Jodi.

This annual fundraiser raises needed money for Tower-Soudan Elementary's PTO, Tower-Soudan youth baseball, Vermilion Country Charter School, and other youth educational opportunities. The event is sponsored by TSAA, Friends of Vermilion Country School, and the Tower-Soudan PTO.

Halloween events in Tower start on Sunday



Don't miss the pumpkin carving fun at the civic center on Oct. 27.

HALLOWEEN**Halloween carving party on Sunday, Oct. 27**

TOWER- A community pumpkin carving party is set for Sunday, Oct. 27 at the Lamppa Civic Center in Tower. The event is being sponsored by the Tower Fire Department Relief Association, along with help from local businesses and private donations. Pumpkins, carving tools, and decorations will be provided. Please RSVP to Paige Olson (via Facebook messenger to Paige or the Tower Fire Department), or text 218-780-7217. Donations can be dropped off at Tower City Hall or mailed to Tower Fire Department Relief Assn, PO Box 576, Tower, MN 55790.

Trick-or-Treat on Main Street and Halloween Party on Oct. 31

TOWER- Tower businesses will once again be handing out treats to children on Thursday, Oct. 31 starting around 3 p.m. until businesses close for the day. Participating businesses will have signs on their doors welcoming trick-or-treaters.

The Tower Fire Department will also be sponsoring a Halloween Party at the Lamppa Civic Center from 3:15 – 5:30 p.m. There will be games, prizes, and food. The party is sponsored by the Tower Firemen's Relief Association.

Scenic Rivers in Tower offering kids Halloween coloring activity

TOWER- Families in the Tower-Soudan area are invited to stop by the Scenic Rivers Medical Clinic in Tower to pick up a children's Halloween coloring page. Completed pages that are returned will be on display at the clinic, and all those who return a page will receive a treat bag!

VERMILION COUNTRY SCHOOL

Tiny beads, bigger lessons

Students at Vermilion Country School spent an afternoon learning some beading techniques, last week, as part of Indigenous People's Day activities led by Adrienne Whiteman (left), the school's Indigenous Cultural Program Director. As students carefully threaded a tiny needle and strung tiny colorful seed beads, one by one, they watched and learned how to create a beaded lanyard, while some students worked on creating simple images from nature, such as flowers, carefully anchoring beads to felted black fabric. The school also hosted a drum group, and a guest speaker, Fond du Lac spiritual advisor and language and culture teacher Ricky DeFoe, who spoke to the students about the Seven Grandfather Teachings, a set of principles that guide Anishinaabe people in how they live their lives and treat others and the earth.

Pictured clockwise from top left: Adrienne Whiteman shows Logan Kainz how to get started on his project, also pictured are Iliana Gillette-Olson, Remy McDonough, and Amara Patterson. Vials of colorful seed beads. Iliana Gillette-Olson picks out colors for her lanyard. Remy McDonough stretches out his thread. Cassius Morrison wraps beads around his lanyard rope. Amelia Swanson works on a beaded design. photos by J. Summit

COMMUNITY NOTICES**Help maintain the ski trails on Nov. 2**

TOWER- Volunteers are needed to help prepare the Howard Wagoner Ski Trails for the winter season. The goal is to get the trails ready to groom as soon as it snows! Volunteers will meet at the south trailhead at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 2. We will be removing rocks and filling in holes. Wear sturdy boots/shoes and gloves. Bring shovels/rock bars if you have them. If someone has an old truck to haul dirt, that would be helpful. The Howard Wagoner Trails Club fall meeting is on Tuesday, Nov. 19, at 5:30 p.m. at the Lamppa Civic Center.

Food Shelf taco dinner fundraiser on Nov. 1

TOWER- The Tower Food Shelf is hosting a taco fundraiser dinner on Friday, Nov. 1 from 5 – 8 p.m. at the Tower Civic Center. There will be a silent auction and antique bike auction. Donations can be mailed or brought to the Tower Food Shelf, 302 Spruce St., PO Box 533, Tower, MN 55790. Call Kate with any questions at 763-528-5396.

St. Martin's Christmas Bazaar set for Nov. 9

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.

Tower Holiday Craft Sale set for Saturday, Dec. 7

TOWER- The annual Christmas Craft Show will be held on Saturday, Dec. 7 from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the Lamppa Civic Center. Tables are available for \$25, paid in advance. The Tower-Soudan Civic Club will be selling coffee, treats, and lunch.

To reserve a table, contact Jodi at 218-753-2950 or mail your table fee to

Friends of VCS, c/o Jodi Summit, PO Box 636, Tower, MN 55790.

Prayer and reflection on Election Day at Immanuel Lutheran

TOWER- Immanuel Lutheran Church in Tower will welcome the community to visit the church for a time of prayer and reflection on Election Day, Nov. 5. The sanctuary will be open from 7 a.m. – 8 p.m., during voting hours. There will be time for individual meditation, candle-lighting, and prayer before or after voting. Immanuel Lutheran Church is located at 304 Spruce Street in Tower. People of all faith traditions are welcome.

Tower Food Shelf collecting backpacks and winter weather gear

TOWER- The Tower Food Shelf is seeking children- and adult-sized backpacks for their new "Fill the Pack Drive for the Needy." Backpacks can be dropped off at the Tower Food Shelf building, or call Kate with any questions at 763-528-5396. The food shelf will be filling the children's backpacks with snacks for children to have over the weekend, and the food shelf will be open on Fridays to hand out the backpacks. They will also be filling adult-size backpacks with supplies to hand out to needy adults.

The food shelf is also collecting cold weather gear to hand out to food shelf clients this fall.

Subscribe to the
TIMBERJAY!
Call
218-753-2950



CAMPAIGNS...Continued from page 1

70,000 miles seeking out the concerns of district voters, she's hosted over 50 meet and greets and marched in 34 parades. Her campaign has sent over 30,000 postcards and knocked on thousands of doors with hundreds of volunteers, she said.

"We've had over 2,000 people sign up to volunteer just for our campaign," Schultz said. "It's pretty amazing that there's a huge grassroots movement in the district."

Schultz said that she saw a boost in fundraising and volunteers when Kamala Harris became the party's presidential nominee and Tim Walz was selected for vice-president but noted that she'd already had a strong response before that.

"People were so motivated to unseat Pete," Schultz said. "More people want to door knock for everybody on

Eighth District debate set for Tuesday

Those looking for a head-to-head comparison of the candidates will have their one and only opportunity on Tuesday, Oct. 29, when Stauber and Schultz face off in a 6:20 p.m. candidate's forum on WDIO.

The 40-minute debate at the station's Duluth studio will be moderated by WDIO's Baihly Warfield and Darren Danielson.

The debate will be broadcast live on WDIO and it will be streamed on wdio.com, the WDIO YouTube channel, and the WDIO Facebook page.

the ticket. Now they're excited about Tim Walz, too, to have one of our own as VP."

Affordable housing, affordable and accessible child care, and lower health-care costs are recurring themes Schultz has heard from voters, she said.

"Also, there's a lot of veterans and folks who are dependent on Medicare and Social Security in our district, so those programs are import-

ant to protect and strengthen," Schultz said. "They're very worried about reproductive rights, and frankly, our democracy. They're worried about what will happen the day after the election, and honestly, they're worried that if Republicans are in control of the U.S. House, they won't certify the election in January. My opponent still doesn't admit that Biden is our president. So, I don't have a

lot of faith that he's going to certify the election if he has the opportunity."

If there's been one frustration for Schultz, it's the lack of attention the Eighth District race has gotten from the state's major media outlets. With election prognosticators like the *Cook Political Report* projecting the Eighth as "solidly Republican," Schultz believes the media has overlooked the level of support her campaign is getting.

"We've raised \$1.2 million on our own," she said. "These are individual folks, some union donations, but no PACs, no national party. We are doing it on our own and that's how motivated people are. We have just not been getting the press coverage on this race. We got 43 percent of the vote last time in 2022 just running for a few months. I need seven points to win,

and that is completely doable when people are so upset with Stauber."

Schultz hands out her cellphone number everywhere she goes to be readily accessible to voters, and she said she recently heard from a Republican.

"He has only voted Democrat once, but he's unhappy with Stauber and he wanted to ask me questions about the national debt," Schultz said. "I'm pretty sure he's going to vote for me. There are a lot of Republicans and independents upset with Stauber, and I wish the press would cover it. But they think that this is really a Trump district and that I don't have a shot, so they're contributing to the status quo. If they don't cover it, I have less of a chance to flip it. But me and my mighty team are doing everything we can to win."

The *Timberjay* also reached out to the Stauber campaign, and while no one from the campaign was available for an interview, Stauber sent the following statement:

"From campaign rallies to public forums to door knocking households across the Eighth Congressional District this summer and fall, I visit with Minnesota voters every day who are fed up with an economy that is killing the American dream for working families and a Biden-Harris administration that is an abject failure on every front," Stauber said. "From skyrocketing prices to an open southern border to chaos abroad, Minnesotans have had enough and we can turn the page on four years of the Biden-Harris disaster, if we vote."

ORDER...Continued from page 1

where the parties agree on a date for a hearing. The Silver Rapids scheduling conference lasted an hour as the attorneys for the five parties disagreed on just about everything except the date for the Nov. 27 hearing.

The judge picked Nov. 27 to give the parties in the suit "enough time to punch something out" if any of the parties wish to file motions for summary judgment, which must be submitted 28 days in advance of a hearing.

Judge Hylden added, "That will also give everybody an opportunity to file a removal (of judge request) if they don't want me on the case.

If that happens, then I'll find some other unlucky judge who is going to give up their day before Thanksgiving."

Restraining order

Much of the scheduling conference was taken up by attorneys arguing what sort of document the judge should issue to prevent work on the Silver Rapids property before the Nov. 27 hearing, with arguments for or against writs versus restraining orders. Many of the comments strayed into the legal arguments of the two lawsuits.

Paul Shapiro on behalf of CARD pushed for a writ and Robert Torgerson on behalf of Silver Rapids held

out for a simple temporary restraining order "to put on the brakes until the court's judgment." The writ that Shapiro advocated would have been a more complicated and stronger restraint on the resort that Silver Rapids would need to "answer" at the upcoming hearing to lift it. He was also in favor of some kind of action against Lake County to prevent the planning commission from repeating its actions of Sept. 4.

Because none of the parties could agree on the nature of the restraint that Judge Hylden should issue, Hylden directed the attorneys involved to submit their own

proposals by Oct. 18. He added that he would then consider their arguments and decide on the type of order he would issue.

His determination issued on Tuesday morning stated, "Defendant Silver Rapids Resort LLC's proposed order addressed the situation more appropriately, and the Court is adopting it with some modifications."

The temporary restraining order prevents any construction work related to the CUP while allowing the resort to perform other work "including but not limited to maintenance and upgrades on existing buildings and structures at

the resort."

Consolidation

The CARD and DNR suits are similar, but the CARD case is more complex and involves more than the DNR's suit. Because of the differences, Peter Wenker speaking for DNR made a statement at the conference against consolidation, while conceding that consolidation is up to the judge.

"Our case is a simple appeal of this decision," Wenker said. "We don't involve anything like a writ of mandamus or any MERA (Minnesota Environmental Rights Act) claims in (the CARD case), so we think judi-

cial efficiency would not come into play for consolidation."

Wenker did agree that a shared track for scheduling and initial hearings made sense.

Torgerson argued in favor of consolidation, which was expected given the similarities of the CARD and DNR suits. A consolidated case would favor his Silver Rapids client since one case is easier, quicker, and less expensive to argue than two.

Judge Hylden did not issue any order regarding case consolidation on Tuesday.

Skraba

MN HOUSE



Rep. Roger Skraba (R), DNR Commissioner Sara Strommen, Conservationist Dennis Udovich, Rep. Rick Hanson (DFL)

It was a fast-paced first session serving as your representative in St. Paul as I worked hard to make sure the priorities and interests of our communities were heard loud and clear at the legislature. Thank you for your support, encouragement and the hundreds of conversations I had with you, your family, and your neighbors about the ways we can strengthen Minnesota.



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- ✓ **\$2.37 million** for Silver Bay Trailhead
- ✓ **\$8 million** in Inflation Relief for Two Harbors and Silver Bay School Construction Projects
- ✓ **\$2.2 million** for Water Quality and Sewer Upgrades in Babbitt
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Public Safety

ATV-deer crash leads to airlift

ALANGO TWP- A man was airlifted to a Duluth hospital on Saturday after his ATV struck a deer and flipped in Alango Township.

The St. Louis County Sheriff's Office responded to the crash at 4:42 p.m. in the 8500 block of Ralph Road, approximately eight miles southwest of Cook.

According to witnesses, the ATV was traveling about 30 mph when a deer ran into the road. The vehicle struck the deer and overturned, throwing the driver into the middle of the road.

The driver was described as a man in his 50s who was not wearing a helmet at the time of the crash.

He was transported by Life Link helicopter to a Duluth hospital with possible internal injuries. His name was withheld pending family notification.

The sheriff's office was assisted by Cook and Virginia ambulance services, the Minnesota State Patrol, the Minnesota DNR, and U.S. Forest Service law enforcement.

Virginia man dies in single-vehicle crash on Cty. 21

PIKE TWP- Anthony Hall, age 22, of Virginia, died in a car accident here, Oct. 18, when he lost control of his vehicle and hit a tree. Hall was traveling on County Rd. 21 at approximately 7:30 a.m. when his vehicle left the road and rolled before striking the tree.

The incident remains under investigation by the sheriff's office and Minnesota State Patrol. The Pike-Sandy-Britt First Responders/Fire Department and Minnesota State Patrol assisted at the scene.

Ely alley fight goes to trial

ELY- A Grand Rapids man charged with felony assault in Ely has chosen a jury trial on the grounds of self-defense. At a hearing in Virginia on Monday, Dana Alan Middleton, age 41, was scheduled for a trial starting Feb. 11, 2025. Middleton is charged with one count of third-degree assault causing "substantial bodily harm" for his actions during a late-night incident in downtown Ely late on July 14.

Witnesses interviewed by law enforcement said Middleton had been in a fight with one other person in the alley behind 11 Central Ave. S. After the other party fell unconscious, Middleton allegedly continued to strike him and was restrained by bystanders, as reported in the Aug. 16 edition of the *Timberjay*.

The other person in the fight had visible blood and wounds on his

forehead and left-hand knuckles. He was transported to Ely-Bloomenson Community Hospital, where he was intubated and then airlifted by North Memorial Air Care to Essentia Health in Duluth. Middleton was taken into custody by St. Louis County Sheriff's Office deputies shortly afterward "without incident."

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

Middleton has a record of past offenses dating back to 2000. His previous felony convictions include fleeing from a peace officer in March 2023; possession or sale of a controlled substance in Aug. 2017; two counts of second-degree assault with a deadly weapon in Feb. 2014; fourth-degree assault of a peace officer in Sept. 2012; a pair of charges for terroristic threats and burglary in Jan. 2004, and a third-degree assault in Nov. 2000.

Lost hunters rescued north of Orr

ORR- Law enforcement personnel rescued a father and son who became lost while grouse hunting in a remote area north of Orr on Saturday.

At 5:22 p.m., dispatchers received a 911 call from the hunters, who reported they were lost but not in need of medical assistance. Dispatchers were able to obtain their GPS coordinates, locating them between Black Duck Lake and Sheep Ranch Road.

St. Louis County Sheriff's Office deputies, the St. Louis County Rescue Squad, the Minnesota State Patrol, a Minnesota Department of Natural Resources conservation officer, and U.S. Forest Service law enforcement responded to the scene.

A St. Louis County deputy and a state trooper found the hunters and guided them back to their ATV.

CLAIMS...Continued from page 1

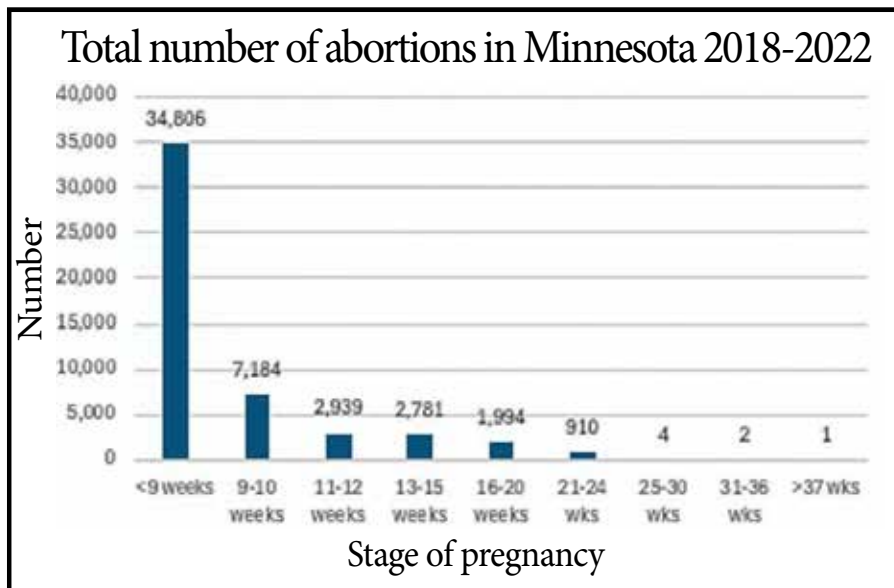
has made wildly inaccurate claims, including alleging that states like Minnesota allow for the execution of babies after they are born.

Anti-abortion groups have picked up on the theme. Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life, or MCCL, the state's oldest anti-abortion organization, has run political advertisements claiming that Minnesota now allows infants born alive, whether prematurely or as a result of an abortion, to be left to die. Those claims have been included in recent letters to the editor and social media posts, including some to the *Timberjay*. Because the *Timberjay* makes efforts to fact-check letters, those letters have not appeared in this newspaper.

While the Legislature and Gov. Tim Walz did make changes in Minn. Statute 145.423, it appears that groups like MCCL are misrepresenting those changes. Among the claims by MCCL and others is that the changes to law eliminated the right of infants born alive to receive medical care and have claimed that health care providers are now only required to provide the infant a blanket.

In an ad produced by MCCL, the group claims: "every Minnesota House DFL incumbent on the ballot voted for abortion up to birth and leaving babies to die."

That claim appears to be false on its face. The changes made to what is known as the "Born Alive Infants Protection Act," did include the repeal of certain definitions in the act as



well as detailed descriptions of disciplinary action that could be taken against health providers, the legal status of infants born alive, and protection of privacy in related court proceedings, the changes do not appear to have affected the recognition that any infant born alive is entitled to full legal status as a human being.

The language approved by the Legislature in 2023 (in Minn. Stat. 145.423, Subd. 1) states: "An infant who is born alive shall be fully recognized as a human person, and accorded immediate protection under the law. All reasonable measures consistent with good medical practice, including the compilation of appropriate medical records, shall be taken by the responsible medical personnel to care for the infant who is born alive."

The *Timberjay* reached

out to MCCL with questions regarding the inconsistencies between the organization's claims and the actual language of the statute at issue, but the organization's communications director only referred the newspaper to an explanation on the group's website.

The explanation claims that under the new language, viable, living babies can be "allowed to die," but it remains unclear how the change in language would enable family or health care providers to make such a decision, given the requirement that "all reasonable measures consistent with good medical practice" be taken to care for an infant born alive.

MCCL notes that the changes approved last year eliminated a requirement that medical personnel take all appropriate steps to "preserve the life and health" of an infant

born alive.

Yet, DFL Rep. Tina Liebbling, who authored the changes, argued at the time that the old law limited the ability of health care providers and family to make decisions on whether life-saving care is justified. "Whether life-saving care is warranted really depends on the situation," said Liebbling during floor debate on her proposed changes. "Just like at the end of life,

there might be a situation where someone is terminally ill, or there is a bad accident and the chance of surviving is so low that the family decides not to proceed [with medical intervention]. There are many situations and every situation is unique. The issue here is that what care should be provided should not be decided by you or by me but by those people most closely involved, namely the person who just gave birth and their family and whoever they choose to rely on in the most difficult situations that people face."

Such cases are extremely rare

The entire debate centers around a vanishingly small number of abortions that occur in Minnesota after what is considered the point of viability, generally considered to be 22-24 weeks for a healthy infant with full medical intervention, including months in intensive care.

Yet, abortions of a healthy baby late in pregnancy are very difficult to obtain in Minnesota, except in cases where the life or health of the mother is at serious risk.

Pregnancies in the so-called third trimester, considered from weeks 26-39 of a pregnancy, are almost non-existent in Minnesota. The *Timberjay* reviewed Minnesota Health Department data from 2018-2022 (the most recent available), and over that five-year period, a total of seven third trimester abortions were reported in the state, or an average of 1.4 per year.

Of the 50,621 abortions reported during that five-year period in Minnesota, 69 percent were performed at under nine weeks, 83 percent were performed at ten weeks or less, and 98 percent were performed at 20 weeks or less.

Given the grievous fetal abnormalities that invariably accompany abortions late in a pregnancy, Liebbling argued that parents should have a right to decide how they wish to spend time with an infant that may only have hours to live outside the womb.

"If infants are going to die, should we be forced to whisk it away and have a tube shoved down its throat?" asked Liebbling. "Minnesotans do not want us deciding what

BIGFOOT...Continued from page 1

advertising bigfoot swamp tours, a cryptid face-painting booth, and bigfoot plush toys for sale.

Bigfoot does not make an actual appearance in the film, in case anyone is wondering.

The main actors in the movie are professionals, but some area talent was hired for smaller roles. Filming was expected to wrap up in Ely by Oct. 23, Huber said. Producers had to rearrange some of the shooting schedule due to a COVID outbreak among the

cast and crew. Those working at the civic center last week were all wearing masks, except during the actual filming.

Huber is familiar with the Iron Range, having moved to the region two years ago after establishing herself as a Hollywood producer, with several films to her credit, including the 2021 award-winning "Hollywood Fringe," which took the audience choice award at the Minneapolis St. Paul International Film Festival. She also filmed a

movie in Park Rapids, titled "Three-Day Weekend."

Many extras were on set, and were enjoying the experience of watching a movie being made, though they admitted their day was mostly spent waiting.

Two retired women from Ely said they had brought things to do, but mostly were keeping busy making new friends with the other extras. And the fire hall, adjacent to the civic center, was set up as a canteen for those on set.

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BABBITT

Two vying for open four-year Babbitt Mayor seat

by JODI SUMMIT
Tower-Soudan Editor

BABBITT- Interest in Babbitt city government is running high this election season, with two running for the open mayor seat, and six running for the two open council member seats in the upcoming Nov. 5 election.

Current mayor Duane Lossing did not file for re-election as mayor and is running, instead, for a council seat, against incumbents Glenn Anderson and Paul Hoheisel. In addition, Terrance Switajewski, Craig Warlog, and John Fitzpatrick are running for the two open, at large, council seats.

Current council member Joseph White, two years into his four-year term, along with former council member and former mayor Andrea Zupancich are running for the open mayor spot.

At a debate, sponsored by the *Babbitt Weekly News* on Oct. 14, the two mayoral candidates mostly agreed on the issues, though both would bring different backgrounds and experience to the job.

Both are parents and grandparents and have raised their families in Babbitt.

Zupancich has been a business owner in Babbitt for 22 years, served eight years on the council, and then served as mayor. She then ran for a state senate seat in 2022, but lost the race to Sen. Grant Hauschild. She owns zUp North Realty and sits on planning and zoning boards for both Babbitt and St. Louis County, and volunteers with many nonprofits.

White has lived in Babbitt the last 12 years. He served in the military for over 20 years, and he received the Purple Heart after being wounded in action. He told the audience of over 25 at the Babbitt Community Building that this is the only medal that he truly feels pride for receiving.

White works for NewRange Copper Nickel (a PolyMet and Teck Resources partnership), and is Babbitt's assistant ambulance director as well as a fire department captain. He is the commander of the



City council member Joe White and former Babbitt Mayor Andrea Zupancich at the debate on Oct. 14. photo by J. Summit

American Legion in Babbitt, and he has served as District 8 Commander for the VFW.

The debate

The two agreed on almost all of the issues brought up by debate moderator Nick Wognum.

Both felt the current community building, which houses city offices, police, library, and others should be renovated and modernized, as an alternative to constructing a new building.

"We have an asset here," said White. "We don't need to build new things." White added that the city is close to paying off the building, which used to house the elementary school. He said the council has budgeted an additional \$50,000 for the building fund in its upcoming budget, and said the council is looking at options for renovating part of the building to house a daycare facility.

Zupancich said the cost of new construction is "insane" right now.

"I'm for utilizing what we have," she said. "Do I think this is the ideal location? Not exactly. But it's not worth it to move to a new location."

The lack of affordable housing, as well as the growing number of short-term rentals in Babbitt, also brought consensus. Both agreed that more housing is needed, but neither were sure about how to

make that happen.

"We used to have about 20 homes for sale in Babbitt," said Zupancich, "now it's three or four."

Zupancich noted that some of the people coming to stay at short-term rentals are testing out whether or not they want to move to the community permanently. She said there are also many tourists who don't want to stay at a hotel or resort.

White said the city might want to look at limiting the number of short-term rentals.

"We have around 800 homes," he said. "We can't have 50 of them being Airbnb's." But White also said he was concerned about having the city limiting homeowner's rights to operate a rental. He also talked about the need for workforce housing, and wondered if the city could work with potential employers, including mining companies like NewRange and Pulsar, to see what housing needs they envision in the near future.

Since his election to the council, White said he had been working to get the council to work better together, repairing relations with the library board, and working to find funding for upgrading the ice arena, noting the city had just received \$1.5 million in state funding for that project.

"We need to be putting money into recreation," he said. "Recre-

ation stuff is not cheap."

Zupancich said one of her goals would be to make the city more attractive, "so people want to move here." She said she is seeing more young families in Babbitt, a welcome change.

"There is so much potential in Babbitt," she said. "We are on the brink of expanding. She said they shouldn't want to just become a suburb of Ely.

Both were in support of the current council's three-percent levy increase, saying the city had to keep up with inflation.

"Inflation is hurting everybody," White said. "If we don't deal with the levy now, we will have to raise it higher in a few years."

Both also agreed the city needs to have a more proactive economic development policy, and that the city's economic development authority needs to do a better job of marketing available land in the city and looking at places to expand development.

Talk of a city-owned marina property did not receive support from either candidate.

"We finally got the budget balanced," said White. "That is why I voted no."

The city recently opened up a new city-owned campground, which was built using a \$2 million state grant, that Zupancich helped secure when she was mayor. Both candidates support this project, and White noted the campground, in its second year, turned a decent profit of about \$50,000.

Zupancich said the marina proposal posed too many questions.

"I really think it should be a private entity," she said.

Both were in support of the city adopting an ordinance to allow chickens in town.

The candidates spent a little time on the question of whether or not Babbitt should support joining the regional ambulance service proposed by Ely-Bloomenson Community Hospital.

Zupancich said she was not "super up to snuff on this," and said the city was currently doing an amazing job with their ambulance

service.

"I know funding is hard, but I would like to see us keep our own service. This will be a very hard decision," she said.

White said that this was an issue he was acutely aware of. I could take up another hour talking about this," he said.

The biggest issue for the service right now is not the budget, he said, but the staffing.

"Our ambulance department is at the point where we have to look at ways to improve it, so it can provide a living wage," he said, "or else we are going to have to look at going with Ely.

White said he works 50 hours a week, and then comes home and takes 40-60 hours of on-call time each month for the ambulance.

"You'll find me at your house at all hours," he said.

Everyone on the service is working a full-time job, he said.

His biggest concern about the regional service is that once the city gives up their ambulance service license, they won't get it back, no matter what the city wants, he said.

He said the plan to house only one ambulance in Babbitt was also an issue.

White said that Ely needs to get a much more detailed proposal out before any decision is made.

"If we are forced to join that," he said. "I am worried that down the road they will be asking for lots of money to maintain an ambulance here."

The hospital is hosting a working session on the joint proposal on Oct. 18, and White urged interested parties to attend the meeting.

Both urged Babbitt residents to get involved with city government, and to talk to their council members. "Your voices count," said Zupancich.

"Our vision is for our city to grow," said White, who urged residents to call with questions and concerns "If you call me, you will get a return call," he said. "We are here to listen to your concerns."



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FOOTBALL

Ely out in the first round of playoffs

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

BRAHAM—The Timberwolves largely held their own in the early going of their Section 7A playoff opener here, but a big Bombers' third quarter put a cap on a disappointing season for Ely.

"We played a hard-fought first half," said Head Coach Louie Gerzin in the wake of the 46-8 shellacking, which ended the Wolves season at 1-8. "The second half, Braham started to throw the ball and we had a hard time keeping up with that."

The Wolves showed some ability to move the ball but maintaining a

Timberwolves end a disappointing season with 46-8 loss to Braham

drive proved to be the same challenge for Ely that it's been all season. The Wolves' defense showed some promise in the first half, holding Braham to 14 points as of the break.

Seniors Brady Eaton, Garrett Rohr, and junior Jesse Oelke put the hurt on the Bombers' offense with ten tackles apiece, while seniors Alex Merriman posted six and Kohner Baltich five.

But the Bombers regrouped during the half and came out fast, putting up 22 points in the third quarter. They added ten more in the fourth, while Merriman took it home

for Ely in the final stanza on a 20-yard pass reception from Brady Eaton. Baltich wrapped up his high school football career with a five-yard pass to Merriman good for the two-point conversion.

Merriman had one of his best performances of the season on offense, rushing for 82 yards along with his touchdown and conversion receptions. Eaton added 28 yards rushing for the Wolves.

"Overall, I'm very happy with our effort," said Gerzin.

Playing at Milaca last Wednesday, it was more of the same for Ely as

Milaca ran roughshod over the Timberwolves, winning 44-6.

"We came off the bus really slow," said Ely Head Coach Louie Gerzin. "It took us a few drives to get into the game and by that time it was too late."

Milaca racked up 16 points in the first quarter and coasted to a 23-0 lead by halftime. They added another seven in the third and two more touchdowns in the fourth. The Timberwolves went scoreless until late in the game, when Sean Merriman, who rushed for 25 yards in the game, took it in for six.

"We had a couple guys who played well but overall we didn't play our best football," said Gerzin.

Senior Brady Eaton had a strong night, racking up 30 yards rushing and 12 tackles. Fellow senior Alex Merriman led the way offensively with 48 yards rushing, while adding eight tackles. Junior Jesse Oelke added 11 tackles and caught Ely's only completed pass, a strike from quarterback Max Brandriet good for 17 yards. Senior Garrett Rohr notched seven tackles while senior Tory Hughley tallied five.

Grizzlies bow out in Littlefork slugfest

by DAVID COLBURN
Cook-Orr Editor

LITTLEFORK—If ever the North Woods Grizzlies had it too good in Tuesday's 42-38 sectional playoff loss to Littlefork-Big Falls, it might have been on their next to last possession of the game.

After the Vikings scored to go up 34-30 with 5:52 left in the game, the Grizzlies' Aidan Hartway made a scintillating return of the kickoff to the L-BF 35, and a Vikings personal foul at the end of the play gave North Woods the ball at the Vikings 20. Two minutes and 20 seconds and five quick plays later, North Woods went back on top when Nick Abramson plunged into the end zone from the one-yard line. Kaden Gornick's two-point conversion gave the Grizzlies the lead once again, 38-34.

But as the Grizzlies' fans celebrated the team's quick comeback and second lead of the night, the Vikings with their potent misdirection ground game still had 3:27 on the clock. Enough time, as it turned out, for a game-winning 53-yard drive.

Starting from their own 47-yard line, a short run and two big sweeps took the Vikings to the North Woods 29. Then running back Anthony Boorman found a crease in the middle of the line and outraced Grizzlies defenders for the go-ahead touchdown with 1:11 remaining. The two-point conversion made the score 42-38.

North Woods had one final shot to pull the game out, and with the aid of a pair of L-BF penalties quickly moved from their own 35 to the Vikings 33 with 55 seconds remaining. A holding call on the Grizzlies moved the ball back to the 41, and dreams of one final comeback were dashed when quarterback Talen Jarshaw dropped back to pass and L-BF rushers knocked the ball loose and covered the fumble. The Vikings ran out the clock for the win.

The finale took the shine off what was the Grizzlies' gutsiest performance of the season, taking blow after blow from the Vikings and punching back in kind.

After the Vikings opened the game with a 55-yard scoring drive, North Woods responded with the equalizer, a 57-yard bomb from Jarshaw to Trajan Barto for the



Left: The Grizzlies' Kaden Gornick evades leaping Vikings defenders on the way to a second quarter touchdown.

Below left: As James Yernatich looks on, the Grizzlies' Nick Abramson fights through a tackle for extra yards on Tuesday.

photos by D. Colburn

down pass from the Grizzlies' 20-yard line falling incomplete.

Grizzlies Head Coach Joel Anderson acknowledged after the game that the team's inability to punch in conversion attempts was the difference maker.

"Offensively, we played well," Anderson said. "It came down to two-point conversions- they got two more than we did. But we played well - at times there, we were really rolling with it. We ended up getting a turnover at the end, and unfortunately, that was the end of the game."

Anderson said that reading L-BF's misdirection on offense was a challenge in getting stops in the first half.

"Part of their deception is that they want you to look and chase the wrong guy," Anderson said. "You see it on film when the film guy is filming the wrong person a lot. At halftime, we made adjustments. We moved some people around a little bit, tightened our ends up, and it worked out well for us there in the second half."

In the end, the Grizzlies just didn't do enough to get the win, Anderson said.

"We've got to limit our own mistakes, penalties and everything else along the way," he said. "We shot ourselves in the foot more than they stopped us. It's something that we've been working on all year and we just weren't able to clean it up enough here tonight."

Game statistics were not available by press time. The Grizzlies finished the season with a record of 3-6.

Cook County

The Grizzlies went on the road to Cook County for their final regular season game on Wednesday, Oct. 16, and despite big offensive performances by Abramson, Gornick and Jarshaw, came home with a 26-14 loss.

Gornick carried the ball 19 times for 111 yards, and Gornick rushed for 90 yards on 19 carries with a two-point conversion. Jarshaw scored the team's two touchdowns, gaining 84 yards on 16 carries. Jarshaw also had a good game through the air, connecting on five of ten passes for 70 yards and one interception. Barto was his favorite target, pulling in four receptions for 43 yards, and James Yernatich had one reception for 27 yards.

touchdown. In a theme that would repeat itself too often, the two-point conversion try failed, leaving the score knotted at 6-6.

Trailing 14-6 going into the second quarter, Abramson and Gornick took turns running the ball from the Grizzlies 45 to the L-BF 14, and Gornick swept around the left end for the score. Again, the conversion attempt was no good, leaving North Woods trailing 14-12.

The Vikings made it three in a row with a touchdown on their next possession, a ten-play drive with two fourth-down conversions capped by an 18-yard Boorman touchdown and a successful conversion for a 22-12 lead.

North Woods needed only 55 seconds to respond after recovering an onside kick at the 50-yard line. On third-and-four from the L-BF 44, Jarshaw found daylight and took the ball to the house for the score. And for a third time, the conversion attempt was no good, leaving the score at 22-18.

The Vikings struck back on the ensuing kickoff, with kick returner A.J. Knaeble running through multiple North Woods tacklers for an 80-yard touchdown return and a 28-18 lead.

After the half, the Grizzlies seized the momentum. Covering the opening kick at their own 43, North Woods engineered an eight-play scoring drive with Gornick bulling



in for the score from the nine-yard line, but for a fourth time the Grizzlies failed on the conversion, making the score 28-24.

Then the North Woods defense stepped up, with Louie Panichi leading a wave of Grizzlies tacklers to snuff out a L-BF drive on a fourth-and-one at the North Woods 42. Two

plays later, Gornick raced around the left end and gave the Grizzlies their first lead of the night with a 57-yard touchdown. Another failed conversion left the score at 30-28.

The Vikings were threatening again as the end of the third quarter approached, but the North Woods defense held again, with a fourth-

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CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

Environmental trust fund amendment more than meets the eye

by DAVID COLBURN
Cook-Orr Editor

Ballot question doesn't describe proposed changes to law

REGIONAL- Minnesota voters may not realize when they vote on a constitutional amendment reauthorizing the investment of lottery proceeds in the state's Environmental and Natural Resources Trust Fund through 2050 that they're also voting to approve several changes to the popular funding program that are not specified in the ballot question.

The ENRTF was initially authorized in the state's constitution in 1988 and reauthorized a decade later through 2025. Over 1,800 projects have received over \$1 billion in grants since the fund was established. Voting yes on the amendment will ensure that 40 percent of the state's lottery proceeds will continue to flow into the trust and be used for environmental concerns.

"It's really one of those things that no matter who you're voting for atop the ticket, whether you're a Democrat, Republican, everybody enjoys our outdoors, everybody likes parks and trails, everybody wants clean water," Conservation Minnesota's Marcus Starr told *MPR News* in September. "It's really hard to be against this."

But several changes not seen in the amendment ballot question voters will see are found in the enabling legislation for the bill and will be enacted if the question is approved. Notably, those changes include:

- The percentage of funds to be appropriated annually from the fund's market value will be raised from five-and-a-half percent to seven percent.

- The additional 1.5 percent, estimated to be about \$22 million

next year, will be designated for a separate ENRTF Community Grant Program operated by the Department of Natural Resources that falls outside of the traditional process of review and recommendation of proposals by the Legislative-Citizens Commission on Minnesota Resources, or LCCMR.

- Priority for funding for DNR grant proposals will be for census tracts that are "overburdened or underserved, including communities disproportionately affected by agriculture loss, building loss, wildfire risk, low incomes, high energy costs, rates of asthma, rates of diabetes, rates of heart disease, low life expectancy, high housing costs, lack of green space, lack of indoor plumbing, presence of lead paint, proximity to hazardous waste and related facilities, particulate matter exposure, linguistic isolation, or unemployment."

- The new DNR grant program will be overseen by a new advisory board consisting of a minimum of 11 members which must include two members of the Ojibwe tribe, two members of the Dakota tribe, and four members who identify as members of a community of color. The DNR commissioner may appoint up to eight additional members to the board if it is determined necessary to ensure sufficient representation of various Minnesota communities.

- While the actual amendment language continues the focus of the trust for "protection, conservation, preservation, and enhancement of the state's air, water, land, fish, wildlife, and other natural resources," it specifically prohibits the use of any funds for any costs related

to wastewater systems, although it does allow money to be spent on wastewater research.

The constitutional amendment legislation, authored by Rep. Athena Hollins, DFL-St. Paul, was debated and passed in the 2023 legislative session for inclusion on the 2024 general election ballot. Hollins explained in a House committee hearing in 2023 why the new community grants program for the DNR was not included in the ballot language.

"The question that's really coming before the public is, do you want these lottery proceeds to be dedicated to the ENRTF," Hollins said. "The community grants is a subset of that. It still has the LCCMR deciding the vast majority of the money that goes into the ENRTF. It is a small subsection of the funding that would be going to the community grants, and it's still for the exact same purpose. So, the underlying purpose of what the funds are dedicated to still has to match that purpose."

Rep. Marion Rarick (at the time, O'Neill), R-Maple Lake, expressed her objection.

"But you're still making a significant change for how the money is used and to whom it's appropriated," O'Neill said. "I just would think that if we're going to put this before the voters, they should fully understand that. It's a pretty significant change, even though it's maybe not today, a lot of money. Things change throughout the years. I think this goes till 2050 so that's a long time."

Rarick also pushed back on the move to exclude wastewater projects from ENRTF funding.

"If you're going to protect streams, rivers and drinking water, one of the best ways to do it is to make sure that the effluent from a wastewater treatment plant is as clean as it possibly can be," Rarick argued. "Helping especially small cities and even large cities manage their wastewater is a huge impact."

Hollins and other proponents of the change have emphasized that wastewater infrastructure projects have been and can still be funded through bonding bills, and that excluding them from ENRTF funding will prevent attempted raids on the trust for such projects and preserve the money for other environmental initiatives.

In recent months, Republicans have voiced an objection that the amendment would completely remove the Legislature from the approval process, although Sen. Steve Green, R-Fosston, acknowledged in a statement that, "The LCCMR already decides what projects are funded through the ENRTF, and the Legislature approves the projects that are picked," a process that would continue for roughly 80 percent of the funding. What is true is that the amendment will lock in those lottery funds for the ENRTF for 25 more years, funds that would otherwise return to the general fund for the Legislature to allocate as they see fit without the amendment.

During debate on the House floor, Republicans again objected to the DNR community grant program. But Rep. Sydney Jordan, DFL-Minneapolis, countered that the program would make funds accessible to organizations and groups that haven't been served in the past.

"I'm excited by the prospect of these community grants for an additional 1.5 percent of the trust fund going towards expanding access for these projects across Minnesota," Jordan said. "Like so many of you, I've heard from organizations that have a really hard time applying for these grants, and by setting aside these community grants, we know that we can expand this access so that people who have never had an opportunity to benefit from the great outdoors can do so."

In a statement of support for the community grants program, Friends of the Mississippi River spelled out why the program is important to assist smaller nonprofits.

"Securing ENRTF funding is a lengthy, complex, time-consuming and resource-intensive process, meaning grant awardees are mainly large, well-established organizations," they said. Case in point - over the past five funding cycles, nearly 70 percent of available LCCMR funds were distributed to state agencies and universities."

With widespread popular support in the past and a group of over 150 organizations and businesses supporting the measure through the Minnesotans for Our Great Outdoors campaign, chances for passage are again favorable, but the amendment can't be considered a shoo-in. Historically, constitutional amendments on the ballot in presidential election years have been less successful than those in off-year elections, and voters in favor must be sure to check the "Yes" box on their ballot. If the question is left blank, that effectively counts as a "No" vote, as over 50 percent of ballots cast must register a yes vote for passage.

GREENWOOD

Questions voiced on whether or not Birch Point Extension is a township road

by JODI SUMMIT
Tower-Soudan Editor

GREENWOOD TWP- A resolution that would have officially claimed Birch Point Extension as a township road was not approved by the Greenwood Town Board on Oct. 8. That delay came after questions arose about the legal description of the roadway, and whether the township had gotten proper legal advice on the issue.

"Is what we are doing tonight establishing a township road?" asked supervisor Rick Stoehr.

"It already is," said chair Lois Roskoski. "We

are deeming it as a township road.

"We should have a resolution on the books so future boards know it is a township road," she added. The resolution was drafted by township attorney Mike Couri.

Supervisor Paul Skubic questioned whether the legal description in the resolution was enough to clarify that the township road designation did not include the very end of the extension, which is more like a private driveway.

"We should send our attorney a copy of the plat and show where we have stopped maintaining it," Skubic said.

The township has been maintaining this section of road for over 30 years, even though it was not originally designated as a township road. The road was platted in four separate plats as the land was originally developed and lots were sold, though the actual route of the road does not always follow the original plat. The attorney's legal opinion to the township, dated Aug. 15, 2024, notes that once a township assumes maintenance of a platted and publicly dedicated road, it must maintain that road in a safe and passable manner indefinitely. It also discussed the fact that some of the road's path does not follow the plat map, but since the township has maintained it for more than six years, the township does have legal right-of-way to that land.

But others disagreed with the resolution for a different reason.

Stoehr told the board that a township resident, Steve Lenertz, who has tried to help with the process of researching the history of the road, had state statutes that he felt had not been followed in the reasoning from the at-

torney. Lenertz has repeatedly told the township he does not think the road qualifies as a township road.

"MAT (Minnesota Association of Townships) should be consulted," Stoehr said. "Attorneys give opinions, but courts make the law. Were all the statutes reviewed?"

Stoehr went on to cite state statute 164.07, which covers the "Establishment, Alteration, or Vacation of Town Road."

"Did Mike Couri tell you," Stoehr said, talking to Roskoski, "that we are going to ignore state statute?"

The state statute cited by Stoehr reviews the process required to petition to establish a new road or alter or vacate an existing road, which includes public hearings and notices, surveys, and a right to appeal, among other things. It does not appear to address the issue of ownership of a road after a township has maintained it for at least six years.

In Couri's legal opinion to the township, he notes "these consistent actions of the town board in performing both summer and winter maintenance over the entire length of the road over more

than 30 years will undoubtedly be deemed the township's acceptance of the road for maintenance purposes."

Stoehr maintained that, "until the township takes this matter to a court and a judge makes a decision...until then it is a crapshoot...Let's clear this up and do it right this time."

Stoehr asked for permission to have Lenertz speak to the board, but this was denied by Roskoski, who asked if Lenertz was an attorney, which he is not. During public comment Lenertz told the board, "you are going down a road that is very costly."

"We've spent thousands of dollars on this," said Roskoski. "Now we vote on it."

Roskoski was the sole affirmative vote on the resolution, with Skubic, Craig Gilbert, and Stoehr voting against, and John Bassing abstaining, since he has a conflict of interest (owning property on the road in question).

A motion by Stoehr, to have the board review and adopt the language of the 164.07 statute, and 160.04 statute (which covers road widths), failed for lack of

support. He also asked the board to review the MAT publication which covers the creation and extinguishment of town roads (MAT publication TR 4000). This publication does cover the issue of "Dedication by Use," which explains the criteria for such adoption, including use by the public, maintenance by the township, continuous maintenance for a six-year period, among other criteria, which seems to affirm the advice given to the township by their attorney.

The board then discussed quotes received for brushing the road in question. The narrow roadway has brush and trees encroaching over the roadway, making access difficult for emergency vehicles. Gilbert told the board the fire engine needs at least 16 feet of clearance, and also talked about keeping ditches wide enough to accumulate plowed snow.

The board had received one quote from Calgaro Tree Service, which they felt was a fair price, but opted to call for quotes again, with more specific requirements on the height and depth in the ditch that need to be cleared.

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Ely School District awards Ice Arena repair contract

by CATIE CLARK
Ely Editor

ELY- ISD 696 will spend \$84,000 for a temporary foundation repair to the Ely

Ice Arena, awarding a contract to Lenci Enterprises Inc. of Virginia. The repair, which must be completed by Nov. 26, will make the arena safe for the winter and the upcoming ice hockey season. Lenci beat out two other construction firms for the work.

Engineers with SEH discovered cracks and spalling in three foundation piers at the arena during an assessment of the district's athletic facilities in August.

Knowing that a permanent repair to the arena's foundation would not be possible before winter, the school board decided to go forward with a temporary repair to ensure the integrity of the foundation piers

through the winter. At a special meeting on Sept. 17, the school board directed SEH to design a temporary repair, which will use temporary foundation piers and footing to reinforce the arena's support columns. The board also approved soliciting bids for the work.

The temporary repair would allow the safe use of the ice arena during the upcoming 2024-25 ice hockey season. The repair work will ensure the stability of the structure even in the event of "a design-level snow event or heavy snow season."

School board member Tom Omerza asked how badly the repair would impact the district's general fund

balance going into the next fiscal year. "We have a tax refund and \$2 million from the Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board for anything concerning our facilities, so we can use those," responded Superintendent Anne Oelke. "I think we'll be able to stay away from the general fund, but that dips into (the IRRR money) which we had earmarked for other things."

The special meeting had one additional action item. The school board voted to reschedule its regular meeting on Nov. 11 because of the Veteran's Day holiday. The meeting was moved to Tuesday, Nov. 12, at 6 p.m., in the media center.

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Obituaries and Death Notices

**Richard A. Viita**

Richard "Rick" Arvo Viita, 79, of Cook, passed away on Sunday, Oct. 13, 2024 with his family by his side. A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 26 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Alango. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service. Arrangements are with Mlaker Funeral Home of Cook.

Rick was born in Virginia on Sept. 7, 1945, to Arvo and Linda Suomu Viita. He grew up and attended school in Virginia. He joined the U.S. Army in 1965 and served his country honorably for two years. He then went on to attend the agricultural school in Grand Rapids.

Rick was a man whose passion was to work. He was proud to be a shovel operator at Inland for over 30 years; he also operated and owned Viita's Blackdirt. He was adamant about producing the perfect dirt (no sticks or rocks allowed). His work ethic was amazing, and he passed that down to his son. He and his son would

have hours of conversations about farming, crops, gravel pits and tractors. Rick was a rock for his family. He was calm and never got excited. In Rick's mind, everything would be okay.

Rick was a stoic Finlander, but his heart grew huge when he met his grandchildren. If they were participating in something, he became an expert on it. He thought the absolute world of them, and they fiercely loved him back.

His grandchildren can say it best about their grandfather, "Grandpa loved a lot of things. His beautiful property, his green tractor, but most of all his grandkids. There was never a question what his favorite thing in the world was, my brother and I. His heart was pure gold. He had the best listening ears but also had no problem saying his opinion (which almost always, he was right). My Grandpa was known for spending a lot of time in the card aisle. His cards were always so heartfelt, and they were so important to him. If he could send cards from heaven, I know he would. When I had any exciting news, my grandpa was the first person I would want to tell. He made me feel like I was the most important person in the entire world. My grandpa was 100-percent Finnish. He was stubborn, hid his feelings, and had more love for life than anyone else I knew. Grandpa made squeaky cheese "Leipajuusto" for every holiday or event. My brother and I thankfully were taught his secrets."

"Grandpa was always

known for being stoic. So, it never ceased to amaze us at how sentimental his birthday/Christmas cards were. If he wasn't farming at home, he was doing something that involved his grandkids. It didn't matter if it was traveling to my basketball games, Macy's events, or doing research on a question that he couldn't answer for us. He was someone who always had time for us. He never complained about how tough it was to get anywhere for Macy and I, he just did it. People didn't really know him for his sense of humor, because he was pretty quiet, but he was very comical every once in a while. He was also known for knowing everything. This was a combination of him being very intelligent, researching everything on his computer, or just giving a very confident wrong answer, that he would argue until you gave up."

Rick was loved beyond measure and will be dearly missed by his family.

Rick is survived by his son, Rick; daughter-in-law, Amy; two amazing grandchildren, Spencer (Jenna Ramberg) Viita and Macy Viita (Zach Cheney); sister, Lynne Hilde and her family; and family dog, Benelli, whom he loved.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and beloved dog of 15 years, Hunter.

Marilyn M. Kegler

Marilyn M. Laxen Kegler, 90, of Babbitt passed away on Friday, Oct. 11, 2024, at Milaca Elim Meadows Health Care Center. A Mass of Christian Burial was

held on Wednesday, Oct. 23 at St. Pius X Catholic Church in Babbitt. Father Charlie Friebohle was the celebrant. Interment was at Argo Cemetery. Funeral arrangements were entrusted to Kerntz Funeral Home of Ely.

She is survived by her children, Kurt (Stephanie Flug) Kegler of Kenai, Alaska, and Lynn (Robert) Hoheisel of Zimmerman; five grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

**James H. Sipola**

James Henry Sipola, 90, passed away on Monday, Sept. 16, 2024, at the Solvay Hospice House in Duluth. Come share your stories and memories with his family at the home of Donovan and Cindy at 301 5th St. South in Virginia at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 16. Coffee and a light lunch will be served. Arrangements are with Landmark Funeral Home in Virginia.

He was born on March 4, 1934, to Henry and Hilma Sipola of Embarrass. He married Helvi Ann Holappa

on Sept. 24, 1955, and they shared their life journey together for 61 years. Jim enjoyed his family, singing, dancing, playing harmonica, yodeling, operating his Allis-Chalmers loader, watching Vikings football, and driving to have his morning coffee with his sisters, brother, and his children in the area.

Jim worked at WS Moore mining before he joined his brother Bill on the dairy farm delivering milk products. He then retired from Thunderbird Mining plant in Eveleth of 22 years.

Survivors include his five children, Tim (Alicia) Sipola of Babbitt, Deborah Killoran of Virginia, Cindy (Donovan) Berggren of Virginia, Mike Sipola of Tower and Mark (Penny) Sipola of Coon Rapids; 12 grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; sister, Doris Sipola of Minneapolis; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Henry and Hilma; wife, Helvi; grandson, Ryan Ranisate; brother, Bill Sipola; and six sisters, Harriet Mattson, Betty Hill, Jeanette Mattson, Ruth Alaspa, Miriam Gornick and Margaret Skube.

Trista A. Miller

Trista Alysia Miller, 39, of Babbitt, passed away peacefully at her home on Sunday, Sept. 1, 2024, surrounded by her family and close friends. A celebration of life was held at Fish Tales Tavern in Babbitt on Saturday, Oct. 19. Arrangements were with Landmark Funeral Home in Virginia.

She is survived by her mother, Claire Miller; children, Alysia Miller and Ashlyn Struna; sister, Kristina Demaris; Ashtyn's father, Jeff Struna; and many nieces, nephews and friends.

Raymond A. Plantz

Raymond Arnold Plantz, 80 of Ely, died on Saturday, Oct. 19, 2024. There will be a celebration of life at a later date. Family arrangements have been entrusted to Kerntz Funeral Home in Ely.

He is survived by his wife, Jayne Klemeyer Plantz; twin brother, Roy of Istanbul; sister, Pam (Terry) Murphy of Phoenix; children, Chuck (Mary Lou) Plantz, Dickie Plantz, Bill Plantz, Kate (Rob) Besemann, Beth (Mark) McKenna and Anna (Ted) Krueger; fifteen grandchildren; a first great-grandson on the way; and numerous extended family and friends.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Prescription drug turn-in events set for Oct. 26

by DAVID COLBURN
Cook-Orr Editor

REGIONAL - National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day, a day for people to safely dispose of unused or expired medications, is Saturday, Oct. 26, with two drop boxes staffed and available in the North Country from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. for drop-offs.

Medications to be disposed of should be brought in in their original containers with any personal identifying information crossed off to either the St. Louis County Sheriff's Office in Ely at 209 E. Chapman St. or the sheriff's office in Virginia at 300 S 5th Ave.

Needles, syringes, lancets, thermometers, and medications from businesses are not accepted at these locations.

Acceptable items include prescription medications in any form from households, pills and capsules, blister packs, creams and gels, inhalers, IV bags, liquids, patches, powders, sprays and vials.

National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day takes place twice a year to highlight the importance of getting rid of medications that are no longer needed. Proper disposal of prescription and over-the-counter medications in a local drop box

helps prevent accidental poisoning, reduces the possibility of medication misuse, and prevents water pollution and other environmental threats.

Meanwhile, two locations in Ely, the Ely Police Department and Essentia Health Pharmacy, have ongoing drop boxes available on weekdays. Other law enforcement agencies and pharmacies in St. Louis County offer secure disposal boxes as well - a complete list is

available online at stlouiscountymn.gov/medwaste.

While take-back programs are the best way to dispose of old drugs, transportation and access issues may make it difficult for some people to discard medications. Anyone who is unable to access a local drop box can contact Maggie Myers at 218-471-738 or MyersM@stlouiscountymn.gov for information about alternative disposal methods, such as a

free medication mail-back envelope or a DisposeRx kit.



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Outdoors

Our lives in the Northwoods

WINTER OUTLOOK

Forecasters predict a more-or-less average winter

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

REGIONAL— The North Country is in the midst of one of the warmest and driest autumns on record, but will that trend continue as we head into winter?

Probably not, at least according to the official 2024-25 winter outlook released last Thursday by the National Weather Service. The outlook, which covers December-February, notes that winter weather in North America is heavily influenced by ocean temperatures, which warm and

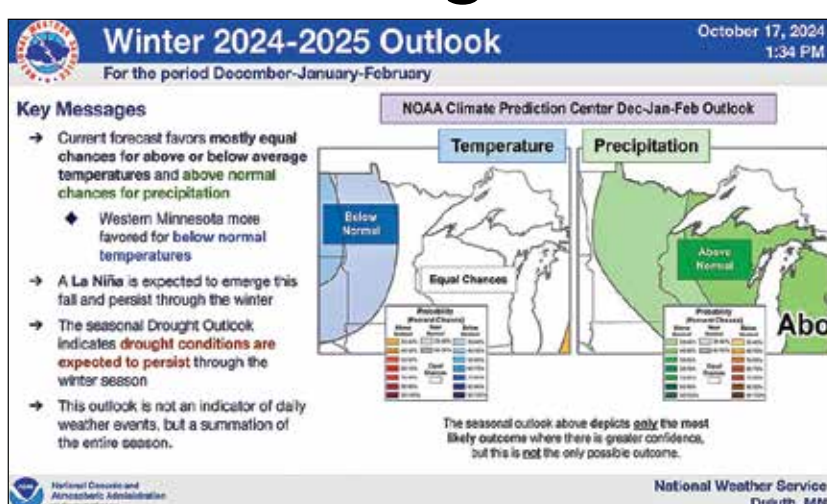
cool on sometimes unpredictable cycles. Warm currents, known as el Niño, can bring warmer and drier winters to northern Minnesota, while cool currents, known as la Niña, can often bring colder winters with more snow.

Forecasters expect la Niña conditions to develop heading into winter and persisting through the winter, but they're largely hedging their bets as far as what that could mean in northeastern Minnesota. While the outlook predicts a likelihood for colder temperatures in western Minnesota and much of the

northwestern U.S., the outlook calls for equal chances of above or below average temperatures in the Arrowhead.

The outlook does call for a likelihood of above normal precipitation in all but far western Minnesota, yet that probability rating is not strong. Meanwhile, the National Weather Service notes that the seasonal drought outlook is calling for a continuation of drought conditions through the winter. While recent rains helped reduce fire danger in

See WEATHER...pg. 5B



MANAGING DEER: Part Two

It's tough to find a link between declining deer numbers and wolves

Editor's Note: This is the second in a two-part series on the deer population. Last week's installment focused on the impact of declining habitat quality. This week, we look at the impact of wolf predation and the quality of the DNR's deer population modeling.

Above: Wolves at Voyageurs National Park.
photo courtesy Voyageur Wolf Project

correspondence, he requested more information on the deer population modeling that the DNR undertakes every year as part of establishing bag limits for the fall hunt. He asked for specific mortality estimates from the model for several deer permit areas in northeastern Minnesota, including some in our area, and it was clear that the mortality rates that the DNR model employs don't line up at all with the mortality rates their own 2020 study suggested.



MARSHALL HELMBERGER

Step into any bar in the North Country, buy a guy a beer, and ask him what's ailing the region's deer population. Nine times out of ten, he won't even hesitate to identify the problem—wolves. In some ways, your new barstool buddy would have a point, albeit an incomplete one.

A 2020 DNR study of deer mortality in two locations in northern Minnesota, including near Elephant Lake north of Orr, research biologists Glenn DelGiudice and Bradley Smith found that wolves took an average of 30 percent of adult does annually during the course of three winters. Their take of adult bucks and fawns was presumably higher than that.

Even the researchers expressed surprise at the high percentage of wolf kills.

For critics of the DNR and its deer management, the study results provided evidence that the agency was underestimating deer mortality in its population modeling. I mentioned Randall Tlachac in last week's installment and as part of our ongoing

ing mortality that lines up with the findings of the 2020 study. Granted, it's one study with a relatively small sample size (based on GPS-collared female deer), but it should have prompted a re-examination of the DNR's modeling.

Tlachac certainly isn't the only one who sees the apparent disconnect between the model and the facts on the ground. In a 2016 review of the DNR's deer management, the state's legislative auditor concluded that the model was basically sound but

See DEER...pg. 5B

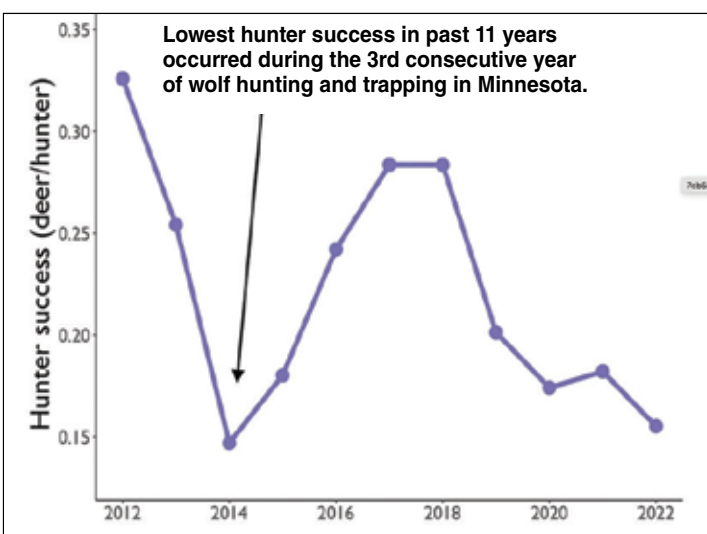


Figure 1: Deer hunter success (deer harvested per hunter) in northeastern Minnesota over the past 11 years per Minnesota DNR data. The lowest deer hunter success rates were in 2014 after two years of wolf hunting/trapping. The highest deer hunter success over the past 11 years was in 2012, just before three years of wolf hunting/trapping.



Figure 2: A map showing the six deer permit areas in northern St. Louis and Lake counties, along with eastern Koochiching County (outlined in pink) along with Canadian deer permit areas just across the border in northwestern Ontario (in yellow), where wolf hunting has been allowed for decades. Over the past 12 years, hunter success rates have been virtually identical in the permit areas on either side of the border.

Outdoors briefly

DNR urges hunters do their homework for a successful deer hunt

REGIONAL— As 400,000 hunters prepare for the firearms deer hunting seasons, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is reminding hunters about some ways to be safe and successful.

“Know before you go so you can focus on having a great season,” said Barb Keller, Minnesota DNR big game program leader. “It’s easy to use our website to find out what you need to know.”

The Minnesota DNR’s online DPA lookup tool (mndnr.gov/deerhunt) provides a comprehensive step-by-step list of information hunters need to consider before heading to deer camp. Hunters can walk through the steps to consider, including knowing the hunting regulations, planning for deer processing, getting their deer sampled for chronic wasting disease, being safe and making the most out of their hunt. To use the online tool, all hunters need to know is the deer permit area number or DPA numbers where they intend to hunt, which they can find on the interactive deer map (mndnr.gov/deermap).

In Minnesota, the regular firearms deer season gets underway on Saturday, Nov. 9, with various closing dates depending on a hunter’s permit area. Muzzleloader season begins Saturday, Nov. 30, and continues through Sunday, Dec. 15.

Take safety precautions when hunting or fishing around cold water

REGIONAL— As the leaves fall and the nights grow cooler, the water temperature in lakes and rivers across the state has started dropping as well.

Whether they’re hunting, fishing, or paddling, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources offers this reminder to anyone still using the water: Your safety is your responsibility. Even for strong swimmers, unexpected falls into the cold water this time of year can turn tragic quickly. Considering there are fewer people on the water to help in the case of an emergency, it is vital people take steps to ensure their own safety.

“This time of year, the water is particularly unforgiving,” said Capt. Adam Block, DNR boating law administrator. “Unfortunately, in the past few weeks we have seen a number of people on the water either not wearing life jackets, or not even having them along. If there’s one thing you can do to ensure you make it home safely at the end of your trip, it’s wearing a life jacket.”

While more boating-related accidents occur during the busy summer season, a higher percentage of cold water incidents are fatal. In addition to wearing a life jacket (foam is better than inflatable during the cold-water season), other steps people can take to stay safe include:

- Distribute weight evenly across the watercraft.

- Abide by manufacturer’s weight limits.

- Tell someone on shore where they’re going and when they plan to return, and carry a communications device.

- Keep an eye on the weather.

For more information, including how to survive a fall into cold water, visit the Minnesota DNR’s cold water safety webpage (mndnr.gov/safety/boatwater/cold-water.html).

DEER...Continued from page 4B

recommended that the agency “improve its resources for estimating deer populations; specifically, DNR should conduct field research to collect and utilize more information about Minnesota’s deer, and to validate DNR deer population estimates.”

The 2020 DelGiudice study was undertaken in response to that recommendation, but it appears that the study’s findings have not been incorporated in any meaningful way into the DNR’s population modeling. DNR officials claim that the model’s use of the winter severity index reading does account for wolf mortality, but even under the worst WSI reading, it does not appear the model incorporates anything close to the mortality identified in the 2020 study, which was done during a period of relatively average winters.

The DNR, back in June, announced that it is undertaking a new study in St. Louis County and several other northern Minnesota counties to try to better determine deer densities in these areas to see how well they align with the DNR’s modeling. They are also planning to explore how deer populations might differ on public lands versus private, since those lands are currently managed differently, as I discussed in last week’s installment in this series.

We will certainly be reporting on the results of that research once it’s available.

Does it matter?

If the DNR’s modeling is, in fact, underestimating deer mortality in our region, it could mean that the DNR is setting bag limits that are higher than the population can support. Yet I spoke to Eric Michel, the DNR’s modeler, who told me that bag limits are determined mostly by area wildlife managers, based on several factors, including harvest data from previous years, previous winter severity, field reports, and hunter observations. “We’re not relying on the population model for what we’re going to do in the fall,” he said.

Yet the debate over the model could well be a distraction in the overall discussion about wolves and deer, particularly if it doesn’t play a major role in determining the bag limits for the fall hunt. And here in our region, the DNR has already accounted for the recent relatively high mortality (from all sources) in our region, by shifting to bucks-only, which sharply reduces the population impact from hunter harvest.

Finding the variable

What we know for sure about the deer population in our region is that it has varied tremendously over the past 20 years. Back in the mid-2000s, we had record numbers of deer in our region, while numbers have dropped considerably (but nowhere near record lows) in more recent years.

In determining the causes for such fluctuations, it is useful to look for a variable or variables that fit those population trends. As I demonstrated last week, there appears to be a strong correlation between the deterioration in deer habitat that I documented through inventory data and the resiliency of the deer population.

To claim that wolf predation was the primary cause of the decline in our region’s deer population from record



Figure 3: A graph comparing hunter success in the six Minnesota deer permit areas north of the border, where wolf hunting is legal.

numbers in the mid-2000s to the lower numbers we see today, we would need to have data that would correlate the trends we’ve seen in the deer population with similar changes in the wolf population. For example, we would need to show that wolf numbers have increased significantly in our region over that time frame, since presumably the average wolf here isn’t eating any more deer than it did in the past. If anything, they’re eating fewer because deer are scarcer.

While range expansion has had impacts in some areas, mostly on the southern and western fringes of wolf range, the data from numerous surveys and population estimates from both state and federal researchers simply does not show an increase in wolf numbers in our region over the past 20 years.

The wolf population in northern Minnesota has been studied intensively since the 1970s and the DNR regularly collects data on about 40 GPS-collared packs, determining the size of the packs and their territories. Those data show that pack size in Minnesota has been remarkably stable at around five wolves per pack on average.

The number of packs did grow initially as bounties were ended and federal protection took effect in the 1970s. By the end of the 1980s, the data show the number of wolf packs statewide at 233. By 2003-04, the number of packs had grown to an estimated 485, but have remained within a relatively narrow range since and have shown no upward change.

The growth in the number of packs has occurred almost exclusively from the expansion in wolf range that occurred in the 1980s and 90s, with only marginal expansion since. In our region, virtually all of the landscape has been occupied by wolf territories more or less at carrying capacity since at least the 1990s. Perhaps not surprisingly, the DNR’s highest estimate of the wolf population occurred in 2003-04, at right around 3,000. That coincided with the highest deer densities we’ve seen in the region in decades.

None of this is a surprise. Voluminous research on predator-prey relationships show that predator populations have a limit that is defined largely by the density of their prey populations. When deer numbers decrease, as they have recently, we would expect to see wolf numbers fall as well.

Indeed, that’s what researchers with the Voyageurs Wolf Project stated just last week in their annual report. For the second year in a row, the researchers found that the wolf population within their study area (which encom-

passes 24 pack territories) had declined, this year by about 15 percent. Given the recent reductions in the deer population, this would be expected.

Wouldn’t a wolf hunt help deer?

Many deer hunters have argued for a wolf hunting season, believing that is the best way to help boost deer numbers. While it’s certainly a popular idea with many hunters, there is virtually no science to suggest it would prompt a noticeable increase in our deer population. Wolves have a reproductive capacity that generally far outstrips their actual reproduction, which is typical of predators at the top of the food chain. The limits of prey availability and pack dynamics combine to limit wolf populations to the carrying capacity of the

landscape they inhabit.

Randomly removing 20 percent of wolves a year from the Minnesota population might please many hunters, but fewer wolves (and fewer mouths to feed in a given pack) would generally allow for greater pup survival the following year and ultimately have little impact on deer numbers. Again, it’s about carrying capacity.

We don’t have to speculate on this. Keep in mind, Minnesota did have a wolf season for three years, from 2012-2014, during which a total of 923 wolves were registered by hunters or trappers. A total of 413 wolves were registered in the fall of 2012, a number equal to about 15 percent of the estimated wolf population at the time. That following winter was moderately severe based on the winter severity index, but was mild compared to the 2013-14 winter, which took a real toll on deer. Did the 2012 wolf hunt help the deer recovery? Based on harvest data from the fall 2013 hunt, the answer is a clear no. Indeed, deer registrations in Zone 1 fell from 58,947 in 2012 (before the impact of the wolf hunt) to 49,156 during the 2013 hunt. In other words, we took 15 percent of the wolves off the landscape heading into a moderately severe winter and saw hunter success decline by 16 percent the following year.

Another 238 wolves were removed in the fall of 2013

and yet we saw the deer population collapse following the historically severe winter 2013-14 winter. (See Figure 1). That shows a clear correlation to winter severity, but no apparent correlation to wolf population.

There’s more data as well. We have an excellent comparison population right across the border in northwestern Ontario, where there is similar habitat and similar density of deer as what we see in our area. The only difference is that wolves have been hunted on the Canadian side of the border for decades. Yet as we can see from Figures 2 and 3, the hunter success in the area just north of the border tracks almost exactly with hunter success in the six deer permit areas in northern St. Louis, Lake, and Koochiching counties. Again, wolf hunting versus wolf protection appears to make little discernible difference to hunter success. I know that many advocates for wolf hunting don’t want to hear this, but it is what the data shows.

What’s the right number of deer?

All that we’ve reported here over the past two weeks is written from the perspective of a deer hunter. For those of us who hunt, more deer is generally seen as better. But that’s far from a universal opinion. Farmers and gardeners will have a different perspective. Insurance companies, who pay out millions in Minnesota every year in deer collision

claims certainly aren’t going to advocate for more deer, nor are many drivers who’ve had literal run-ins with a whitetail.

As part of my background work for this series, I spoke to John Pastor, a retired UMD biology professor, who noted the impacts that our still relatively robust deer population has on our region’s forests. The presence of deer has made the white cedar little more than a legacy species that will eventually disappear from our landscape since it is almost impossible to regenerate in the presence of deer due to heavy browsing of seedlings. The restoration of white pine is also severely complicated for similar reasons.

The mid-2000s peak of the deer population also coincided with the start of the sharp decline in the region’s moose population. That’s no surprise given that deer are carriers of at least two parasites that are debilitating or fatal to moose. Given lower deer numbers in recent years, we see the moose population has stabilized.

While the DNR generally focuses on the desires of hunters, who pay license fees that support the DNR’s work, it’s worth remembering that fewer than ten percent of Minnesotans hunt deer. There are many more Minnesotans who have differing desires and values when it comes to the management of wildlife in the state. To what degree do the roughly 92-percent of Minnesotans who don’t hunt deer have a voice in this debate? It’s food for thought.

LAKE COUNTRY FORECAST

from NOAA weather

Day	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
Icon					
High/Low	51 28	50 32	55 42	61 46	61 45

Station	Ely	Emb.	Cook	Orr	Tower
Hi	52	46	52	45	47
Lo	28	29	27	30	32
Prec.	0.00	0.29	0.00	0.00	0.12
Sn.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
YTD Total	22.75	25.66	25.62	NA	27.23

CAREER & TRANSFER FAIR

Minnesota North College

Vermilion Campus

1900 E. Camp St, Ely, MN 55731

Wednesday, October 30, 2024

11:30AM-1PM

Questions? Contact Molly Franz at molly.franz@minnesotanorth.edu

WEATHER...Continued from page 4B

much of the area, the latest U.S. Drought Monitor map still lists most of northeastern Minnesota in severe drought.

The annual outlook does not forecast specific weather events but offers a general summary of trends in the upcoming season.

The *Farmer’s Almanac*, meanwhile, is predicting a cold

winter with average snowfall, although almanac has shown a roughly one-in-five probability of accuracy in recent years. The publication had predicted a cold winter with average snowfall last year as well. Minnesota, of course, experienced the warmest winter in the state’s history.

READ THE TIMBERJAY!

PUBLIC NOTICE

EMPLOYMENT

EAGLES NEST TWP NOTICE TO VOTERS IN MAIL BALLOT PRECINCTS IN ST. LOUIS COUNTY 2024 GENERAL ELECTION VOTING PROCEDURES

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

Notice of State General Election: November 5, 2024. All persons registered to vote on September 20, 2024, in MAIL BALLOT precincts will automatically be sent a ballot at least 14 days prior to the election.

Voted ballots may be returned by mail (stamped return envelopes are included with each MAIL BALLOT packet) or in person at one of the below listed locations.

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

Auditor, St. Louis County Courthouse 100 North 5th Avenue West, Room 214, Duluth, MN 55802 (218) 726-2385

Virginia Government Services Building 201 South 3rd Ave West Virginia, MN 55792 (218) 749-7104

Published in the Timberjay, Oct. 4, 11, 18, 2024

KUGLER TOWNSHIP Notice of General Election

Notice is hereby given to all qualified voters of Kugler Township, County of St. Louis, State of Minnesota. General election will be held Tuesday, November 5, 2024. Polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Kugler Town Hall, 9072 Hwy 135 N., Tower, MN 55790.

(One) Board Supervisor A – four-year term (One) Board Supervisor B – four-year term (One) Township Clerk – four-year term

Please call the Kugler Town Clerk Christopher Suikonen with any questions, 218-248-0606.

Published in the Timberjay, Oct 18 & 25, 2024

KABETOGAMA TOWNSHIP MEETING CHANGE NOTICE

Kabetogama Township has changed their November meeting to Wednesday, November 6, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. The meeting location has not changed.

Mary Manninen, Clerk

Published in the Timberjay, Oct. 25, 2024

EMPLOYMENT

VERMILION COUNTRY SCHOOL MIDDAY ROUTE VAN DRIVER

Vermilion Country School in Tower is seeking a daily midday van driver from 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. to drive from Tower to Virginia and back, Monday thru Friday when school is in session, \$20/hour. Contact 218-248-2485 if interested

EMPLOYMENT



Executive Director of Development Permanent, Full-Time

This position provides leadership, strategic planning, integration, and direction to the agency in general, and specifically it's Business Development division. The incumbent in this position is responsible for coordinating and implementing all agency business development incentive programs and must lead in developing complex financing proposals designed to attract and retain businesses within the Department's service area.

Learn more and apply online at mn.gov/careers Job ID: 80952

Facilities and Operations Manager Permanent, Full-Time

This position oversees the management of all the agency's properties and facilities that are owned, occupied and leased at Eveleth, Biwabik – Giants Ridge, Chisholm – Mineland Reclamation and Minnesota Discovery Center. This position directs long-term plans, goals and strategies for site management, new construction and development planning, maintenance and repairs of real property and assets consistent with the agency's mission and objectives.

Learn more and apply online at mn.gov/careers Job ID: 80941

Application deadline: November 4, 2024 GREAT BENEFITS PACKAGE INCLUDED

AA/EOE, Veteran Friendly

Published in the Timberjay, Oct. 18, 25 & Nov. 1, 2024

Program Accountant Closes: 11/04/2024

Position Purpose: The Program Accountant is responsible for setting up, maintaining, and monitoring all general ledger accounts, funds, and budgets in the accounting system relative to State, Federal and Tribal contract/programs including preparing adjusting journal entries under the direction of the Program Accounting Supervisor.

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https://boisforte.com/jobs/

Published in the Timberjay, Oct. 11, 18, 25 & Nov. 1, 2024

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STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF ST. LOUIS SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT FILE NO: 69DU-PR-24-348

Case type: Probate In Re the Estate of: Nancy M. Blodgett Decedent (Deceased Person)

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

It is ordered and notice is given that a hearing will be held as follows: Date: November 19, 2024 at 1:30 p.m.

Location: Zoom recorded from the St. Louis County-Duluth Courthouse, Duluth, MN For the formal adjudication of intestacy and determination of heirship of the Decedent, and for the appointment of Kayla Dhala, 624 E. Elm Rd., Oak Creek, WI 53154 as Personal Representative in an unsupervised administration.

Any objections to the petition should be filed with the Court before, or raised at, the hearing.

tion should be filed with the Court before, or raised at, the hearing.

If proper and no objections are filed or raised, the personal representative will be appointed with full power to administer the Estate include the power to collect all assets; to pay all legal debts, claims, taxes, and expenses; to sell real and personal property; and to do all necessary acts for the Estate.

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

Dated: 10/08/24 BY THE COURT Jill Eichenwald District Court Judge

ATTORNEY FOR PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE Alex Spitzer Heritage Law Office 757 N Broadway, Ste 300 Attorney License No: 0504293 Phone: 414-253-8500 Email: alex@heritagelawoffice.com

Published in the Timberjay, Oct. 18 & 25, 2024

NOTICE OF PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST

City of Tower, County of St. Louis, State of Minnesota

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public accuracy test of vote counting equipment to be used in the November 5, 2024, General Election will be held on Tuesday, October 29, 2024, at 10:00AM at the Tower Civic Center, 402 Pine Street, Tower, MN.

Published in the Timberjay, Oct. 25, 2024

LEIDING TOWNSHIP CAMP FIVE TOWNSHIP Notice of General Election

Notice is hereby given to all qualified voters of Leiding Township and Camp Five Township, County of St. Louis, State of Minnesota. General election will be held Tuesday, November 5, 2024. Polls will be open from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Leiding Town Hall, 10707 Hwy. 53, Orr, MN 55771.

Marie Milan, Town Clerk

Published in the Timberjay, Oct. 25 & Nov. 1, 2024

LEIDING TOWNSHIP CAMP FIVE TOWNSHIP Notice of Public Accuracy Testing

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public accuracy test of vote counting equipment to be used in the November 5, 2024, General Election will be held on Monday, Oct. 28, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. at the Leiding Town Hall, 10707 Hwy. 53, Orr, MN 55771.

Marie Milan, Town Clerk

Published in the Timberjay, Oct. 25, 2024

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

VERMILION LAKE TOWNSHIP Notice of Public Accuracy Testing

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public accuracy test of vote counting equipment to be used in the November 5, 2024, General Election will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 29, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. at the Vermilion Lake Town Hall, 6703 Wahlsten Rd.

Frank Zobitz, Town Clerk

Published in the Timberjay, Oct. 25, 2024

GREENWOOD TOWNSHIP NOTICE OF ELECTION

THE GENERAL ELECTION will be held on Tuesday, November 5, 2024

POLLS will be open from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm at GREENWOOD TOWNSHIP HALL 3000 County Road 77, Tower, MN View your ballot at Greenwood Township office or go to the Minnesota Secretary of State website – myballotmn.sos.state.mn.us

Published in the Timberjay, Oct. 25 & Nov. 1, 2024

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Pop singer Celine
5 "It's c-c-cold!"
8 Cicatrix
12 Vicinity
13 Fib
14 Sharpen
15 Huge kudos
17 Assess
18 Blue
19 Shadowed
21 Pretended
24 Decorate
25 Rapsclallions
26 Campus cafeteria offering
30 Carnival city
31 Long skirts
32 Oklahoma tribe

Grid for King Crossword with numbers 1-53 indicating starting positions for across and down words.

- 33 '80s arcade game
35 Castle defense
36 Eyeglass frames
37 Smooths, as wood
38 Source of gum arabic
41 Numerical prefix
42 Composer Bartok
43 Performance bonus
48 Japanese noodle
49 "Rocks"
50 Rights org.
51 Head, to Henri
52 Fine, at NASA
53 Detail
8 Tempura choice
9 Furnace fuel
10 Pay to play
11 Clarinet insert
16 Scepter
20 Feels unwell
21 Mattress option
22 Writer Kingsley
23 Music genre for BTS
24 Piano's state
26 Abba-inspired musical
27 Lake bird
28 Slightly
29 Forget-me- (flowers)
31 1102, to Nero
34 Esoteric
35 Rum cocktail
37 Hindu honorific
38 Border on
39 Give up
40 Oodles
41 Arduous journey
44 Author Umberto
45 Agt.'s cut
46 Hearty brew
47 "Tasty!"

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

9x9 Sudoku grid with some numbers pre-filled.

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

Grid for Super Crossword with answers filled in.



TIMBERJAY CLASSIFIEDS

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

AUTOMOTIVE

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SUPPORT GROUPS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

ELY WOMEN'S OPEN AA MEETING- Every Monday at noon at Ledgerrock 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.

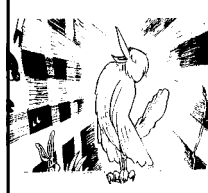
Solution time: 23 mins.



CryptoQuip answer

Even though both beasts of burden are covered in dense fur, that one is the hairier carrier.

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

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

GARAGE SALE

5-PARTY RUMMAGE SALE. Kugler Town Hall. Friday, Oct. 25 from 3-6 p.m., and Saturday, Oct. 26 from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. 10/25p

LAND FOR SALE

REMOTE 85 ACRES off Doig Road, 6 miles west of Babbitt. Easement access to your own private wilderness. Asking \$43,000. Call Robert 651-982-2808. 11/8

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LAKE VERMILION, TOWER
Located two miles southwest of Tower on Hwy. 169
Fall Hours:
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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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Super Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Messiah of Christianity, in Italy
- 5 Broody music genre
- 8 Club welders' org.
- 11 Fire hydrant attachment
- 15 Beast of burden
- 18 Tolkien monsters
- 19 Flight routes
- 21 Pizzazz
- 22 Simian beast
- 23 Search for hidden objects
- 25 Owing no money
- 27 Old Greek region
- 28 In the past
- 29 Firearm safety feature
- 31 Sam Spade's cover-up
- 34 Spot in la mer
- 35 See 109-Down
- 36 Pottery oven
- 37 Some milk dispensers
- 40 Stork relative
- 43 Blue-eyed cat
- 47 Rolled the dice at a casino, say
- 50 Loafing sorts
- 51 Sean of films
- 52 Dressed in
- 53 Singer Lana Del —
- 54 French composer Édouard
- 55 Purview
- 57 1860s White House nickname
- 60 Oprah of TV
- 62 Statement that might follow "Come on in"
- 66 1920s White House nickname
- 67 Part of SST
- 68 Qatari capital
- 69 Qatari, e.g.
- 71 Spanish appetizers
- 75 Cpl., e.g.
- 77 2022 Tom Cruise sequel
- 80 Poseidon and Neptune
- 84 Stew sphere
- 85 Architect Saarinen
- 86 Italian money
- 87 Young lady
- 88 T. — Price
- 90 Young lady
- 92 Messes (up)
- 94 Procedure to evaluate heart health
- 98 Roughly shaped
- 99 K.P. veggie
- 100 La Forge of "Star Trek: The Next Generation"
- 101 Clock datum
- 102 Be rife (with)
- 105 Pro bono TV ad, for short
- 106 Nauseous from motion, to Brits
- 112 Look at yet again to make sure
- 116 Barley brew
- 117 Steve of country rock
- 118 "Clever plan!"
- 119 What is found divided at the starts and ends of nine answers in this puzzle
- 122 Former Fox competitor
- 123 Pop diva Celine
- 124 Copying a pig
- 125 Regarding
- 126 Lean- (crude sheds)
- 127 Part of SSE
- 128 String after Q
- 129 la. neighbor
- 130 Plug tightly
- 33 Go left, e.g.
- 38 Libyan cash
- 39 Skiing stuff
- 41 Frozen drink brand
- 42 Vodka brand
- 43 Sediments
- 44 It's north of Nevada
- 45 — wrench
- 46 Copying a cat
- 47 Small British cafe
- 48 Actor Close
- 49 Capitol body
- 51 Politico Ross
- 56 Scarlet, say
- 58 Lover boy
- 59 Heartfelt
- 61 Suddenly worsen
- 63 Harmonious union
- 64 Look awed
- 65 Makes docile
- 70 Drinking site
- 72 Second-century pope
- 73 Lot divisions
- 74 Teensy bit
- 76 Former Laker Lamar
- 78 Played Fortnite, e.g.
- 79 Loudness
- 80 Cpls.' bosses
- 81 Frontier sheriff Wyatt
- 82 Attu's islands
- 83 Big drink
- 89 Tusked beast
- 91 "That so?"
- 93 Brunch staple
- 95 Proficient
- 96 Fail to win
- 97 Farm vehicle
- 98 Easily deceived sort
- 101 "That's what I'm — about!"
- 103 Skip over, as a syllable
- 104 Newspapers, TV, etc.
- 107 Oven shelf
- 108 Indian wraps
- 109 With 35-Across, player of Granny on "The Beverly Hillbillies"
- 110 Actress Bow
- 111 — One (vodka brand)
- 112 Certain bolt holder
- 113 Many a seized auto
- 114 Co. honchos
- 115 Reality TV's Jenner
- 120 Acct. accrual
- 121 Abbr. of primary colors

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.

INKW GJML

ATLGTQKNJHNVKV NH KWT

ZOHX, IT WODT O WOLX KNBT

LTOQWNHC ATLGTQKNJH.

— OXOB RJHTV

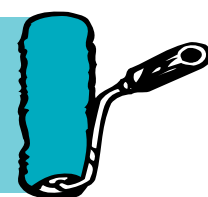
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Weekly SUDOKU Answer

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



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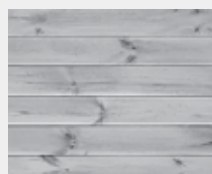
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CryptoQuip

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: C equals B

RZRS GWPMIW CPGW CRYTGT

PJ CMFQRS YFR UPZRFRQ LS

QRSTR JMF, GWYG PSR LT GWR

WYLFLRF UYFFLRF.

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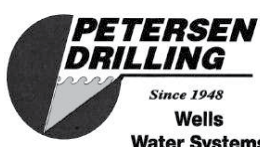
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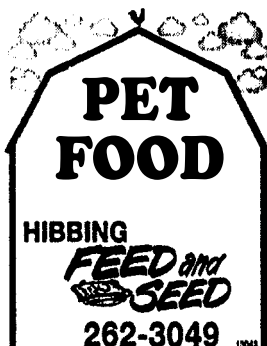
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