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Time TIMBERJAY

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STATE OF THE BAND

Chaos in D.C. worrying Bois Forte officials

Tower-Soudan Editor

V E R M I L I O N RESERVATION- Tribal Vice-Chair Shane Drift didn't have answers for tribal members concerned about possible cuts in federal funding, but he did describe the efforts tribal leaders are making to ensure Bois Forte is in a position to serve its community in the year ahead. Drift, a District 1 repre-

sentative, was named acting tribal chair after the retirement of Cathy Chavers at the end of January. Tribal elections have been set for this spring, with an April 17 primary to winnow down the six candidates. The top two primary vote-getters will square off in a general election set for June 17. Candidates for the seat include Peter "Chief" Boney, Marty J. Connor, Carlos A. Hernandez, Rhonda Hoaglund, Mildred R. Holmes, and Travis Morrison.

"This is an unpredictable and tough time," Drift said, speaking during the March 1 "State of the Band" event at Fortune Bay. The day-long

event featured information booths and networking opportunities with tribal departments, a financial update for band members, and then the afternoon presentation by tribal officials followed by a buffet dinner in the Woodlands Ballroom.

Drift said he has been seeing all the concerns expressed by tribal members Right: Acting Tribal Chair Shane Drift gave the State of the Band address last Saturday, March 1.

photo by J. Summit

and employees on social media. He said the tribal council was relieved to see that the threatened freeze on

See...**BAND** pg. 10



MEDIA

New WELY owners outline plans for the station

by CATIE CLARI

ELY- The new owners of WELY radio have big plans to restore the iconic station's community focus, although they urged patience during the

process of returning the station to the airwaves. "Right now, we're testing the station and its equipment,' said Kory Hartman, the vice president of broadcast operations for Civic Media, the Wisconsin-based company that recently acquired the station. The new owners did briefly return the station to the

airwaves last week, playing a

mix of music, but it was just for

testing noted Hartman. "This is

not an official launch," he said. Hartman told the *Timberjay* that the station will appear and disappear on the airwaves over the next several weeks as Civic's engineers work to fix the station's FM transmitter troubles. "We found that the AM can run at full power," Hartman said last week, "but the FM has some problems and it will take some real effort.

See...STATION pg. 10



VOYAGEURS NATIONAL PARK

Protesting park cuts

Fired VNP worker invited to attend President Trump's address to Congress

by DAVID COLBURN Cook/Orr Editor

REGIONAL- When

President Donald Trump addressed Congress on Tuesday, former Voyageurs National Park Ranger Kate Severson was in attendance, representing hundreds of National Park Service employees who have been axed by Elon Musk's Department of Government Efficiency.

Severson, a longtime conservationist and former manager for interpretation, outreach, and partnerships at the park, was a guest of Democratic Above: Nearly 50 protestors turned out at VNP's Rainy Lake Visitor Center last week to protest major cuts to the National Park Service workforce.

Right: Kate Severson was among VNP staff recently fired by Elon Musk.

submitted photos

Minnesota Sen. Tina Smith at the presidential address. Severson, who was hired late last summer and remained a

See...PROTESTS pg. 10



CITY OF ELY

City council backtracks on WICOLA grant support

Fear support of pollution control grant could be seen as anti-mining

by CATIE CLARK

ELY—In a stunning about-face, the city council here voted 5-2 to send a letter to the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources in opposition to a grant application by the White Iron Chain of Lakes Association, better known as WICOLA, and two environmental engineering firms. The grant request, if approved, would fund a pilot plant designed to reduce sulfate pollution on the Dunka River using large containers filled with sulfur-consuming

This action reversed the council's 4-2 vote, on Feb. 18, to draft a letter of support for WICOLA's grant proposal. The city clerk was to write the draft letter and the council was expected to approve it at Tuesday's meeting.

Instead, the council voted 5-2 to send a letter of opposition to the WICOLA grant request, signed by the mayor. City council members Al Forsman, John Lahtonen, and Jerome Debeltz advocated for the change, claiming that the grant was based on bad data and was an attack on regional mining and mining jobs.

Mayor Heidi Omerza joined them. "I am so upset with the way this has happened," Omerza said. "We have better things to support. This is for something that's not even in our county."

See REVERSAL..pg. 9

TARIFF IMPACTS

Trump tariffs will jack up the cost of getting around

by DAVID COLBURN Cook/Orr Editor

REGIONAL-President Donald Trump sent the stock markets spiraling downward early this week when he followed through on his threat to

impose 25 percent tariffs on imported

goods from Mexico and Canada, an

additional ten percent tariff on goods from China, and a ten percent tariff on Canadian energy products. Investors and economists alike reacted to the inflationary pressures certain to come as a result of the action, particularly with the economy showing signs of slowing overall.

The Budget Lab at Yale, a increase will come in transportation

non-partisan policy research center that analyzes the impact of federal economic policy proposals, has estimated that should Trump's tariffs remain in place through the end of the year, they would cost the average American family between \$2,700-3,400. And a significant portion of the

costs. Prices for gasoline, auto parts, and new car and truck purchases are all expected to soar with the new

The U.S. imports nearly 4 million barrels of oil per day from Canada, roughly 60 percent of the country's net oil imports. About 70 percent of that oil goes to refineries in the Midwest, including Minnesota's two oil refineries, the Flint Hills Resources Pine Bend Refinery in Rosemount and the St. Paul Park Refinery, and the much smaller Cenovus Energy refinery in Superior, Wis. All three refineries

See...TARIFFS pg. 9



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Community notices

P.E.O. Chapter ER meeting on Saturday, March 8 in Cook

COOK- The next meeting of P.E.O. Chapter ER will be held on Saturday, March 8 at 10:30 a.m. in the St. Mary's Catholic Church community room. St. Mary's is located at 124 Fifth St. SE in Cook. All P.E.O. members in the area are welcome to attend.

Ladies of Kaleva Soinnuttaren Tupa 32 and Knights meeting on March 13

VIRGINIA- The Ladies of Kaleva Soinnuttaren Tupa #32 and the Knights will be meeting on Thursday, March 13 at 6 p.m. at Kaleva Hall. This is our first meeting of the year so let's have a good turn out. Anybody interested in Finnish culture is invited. Coffee an' will be served.

Movie night at Friends of the Boundary Waters on Friday, March 21 in Ely

ELY- Join the Friends of the Boundary Waters on Friday, March 21 at 7 p.m. for a showing of "Leave No Trace." This rare film was made in 1992 with cooperation from the Forest Service. It provides an engaging glimpse into the Boundary Waters tripping experience 30 years ago while eloquently explaining why Leave No Trace Ethics are invaluable to the preservation of wilderness character. Friends of the Boundary Waters is located at 8 E. Sheridan St. Snacks provided.

Friends of the Boundary Waters announces summer Featured Artist Program

ELY- Are you an artist inspired by the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness? This summer, in the Friends of the Boundary Waters office in Ely, we want to provide a space for people to showcase the personal impact of this one-of-a-kind landscape. Five artists will be selected to showcase their work on the walls of our office for a month. Check out the details about the program below and learn how you might become a Featured Artist this summer.

Wilderness areas like the Boundary Waters have a way of becoming incredibly personal. People return every year, many for a lifetime, to the same rocky shores and crystal lakes that enchanted their childhoods. Through that deeply personal connection, people develop stories, traditions, and inspired expressions of what this special place means to them.

The program will run for our summer season, May through September. Finalists will have their work showcased for one month. Finalists will have their work showcased on a single wall of our office alongside an artist biography, a story of what the Boundary Waters means to that Featured Artist and how it has inspired them, along with contact information.

Applications will be accepted through March 31. Finalists will notified before April 14 with further details about the program and the month they have been chosen for display.

To apply to the program, fill out the online form at https://tinyurl.com/FriendsofBoundaryWaters and include three example photos of your work or a link to a website showcasing it; or call 218-235-3233 for more details.

Art can be of any media - though it must not restrict travel through the office space by protruding more than 12" from the wall.

Friends of the Boundary Waters is unable to facilitate the sale of artwork, but artists are encouraged to list their contact information and pricing alongside their displays.

Any artist with a personal connection to the Boundary Waters is eligible to participate - professionals, amateurs, and enthusiasts are encouraged to apply to the program.

Friends of the Boundary Waters will not make any monetary payouts or reward beyond the exposure received. Finalists will be featured at our discretion, and Friends of the Boundary Waters Staff gets the final say in the artwork put on display.

History Happy Hour happening in Ely

ELY-History Happy Hour delves into the rich history of the Ely area with pint-sized stories that are informative and entertaining in less than a half an hour. The next History Happy Hour is on Wednesday, March 19 at 5 p.m. in the Lookout Lounge at the Boathouse Brewpub in Ely. The Lookout Lounge is open from 4:30 to 6 p.m. with full service.

March's theme highlights Women's History Month with the various women who helped make our Ely Area towns the thriving communities they are today. Whether they were showing that women were just as capable as men in the wilderness, helping immigrant workers become American citizens or leading our fair town of Elywe'll cover as many of these leading ladies as possible in 30-minutes. Join host Jess Edberg, executive director of the Dorothy Molter Museum, as she scratches the surface of a local history topic, inspiring listeners to take a deeper dive on their own.

This program is offered as a free, in-person, 30-minute or less presentation October through May, typically on the third Wednesday of the month at 5 p.m. at the Boathouse Brewpub & Restaurant in Ely.

History Happy Hour is supported in-kind by the Boathouse Brewpub, Ely's Heritage Preservation Commission, the Dorothy Molter Museum, Boundary Waters Connect and the Ely Folk

CLASSICAL MUSIC EVENT

Classical music concert by The Piatigorsky Foundation

COOK- The Piatigorsky Foundation will host a classical music performance on Tuesday, March 18 at 7 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church in Cook, located at 231 Second St. E. The one-hour program of classical music will be an intimate and enchanting concert, featuring masterpieces performed by two outstanding foundation artists: Katsuya Yuasa, clarinet and Mary Au, piano. There will also be an opportunity for attendees to meet the artists following the performance.

The Piatigorsky Foundation was established by Evan Drachman in 1990 in honor of his grandfather, Gregory Piatigorsky. Piatigorsky deeply believed in the healing and inspirational power of classical music and for



Classicalists Mary Au and Katsuya Yuasa

over 34 years, the Foundation's commitment to artistic excellence and public outreach has fascinated many avid concert goers as well as curious first-timers.

Last season, the Foundation presented a tour of eight concerts in Minnesota, reaching over 350 people in Arlington, Bernidji, Bigfork and Cook. Likewise, this year, the Piatigorsky Foundation aims to reach hundreds of listeners in communities across the state and increase awareness and appreciation of classical music. The Foundation is committed to carrying out Piatigorsky's mission by evoking cultural curiosity through educational and accessible live performances. The program is sponsored in part by Northwoods Friends of the Arts (NWFA) and free will donations. For more information, contact 218-780-6510.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Democracy on display for Township Day

REGIONAL- Minnesota's 1,776 townships will hold their annual meeting on Tuesday, March 11. Known as Township Day, these annual meetings are held every year on the second Tuesday in March and sets townships apart from other forms of local government. At this meeting, residents of the townships will meet to voice their opinions about local issues with other

township residents and also vote directly on their annual tax levy - direct democracy in action. Citizens attending annual meetings also often discuss and vote on other local issues.

In addition, many of the state's townships will hold their township officer elections on Tuesday's Township Day.
"Township Day 2025 will

put grassroots democracy on dis-

play. We encourage all residents to show up, express themselves, and weigh in on topics like their tax levy and local elections," said Minnesota Association of Townships Executive Director Jeff Krueger. "If you live in a township, please participate in your township's annual meeting on Tuesday, March 11. You can find the location and time by checking the published notice

in the local newspaper, township website, or by contacting the township clerk," continued Krueger.

"Townships today include over 900,000 Minnesota residents, and we represent an extraordinary form of local government. Township Day annual meetings are your chance to participate in grassroots government," concluded Krueger.

NORTHLAND ECONOMICS

Second Harvest Northland announces \$20 million public phase

DULUTH- Second Harvest Northland (SHN) kicked off the public phase of its \$20 million Nourish the Northland Capital Campaign today with an announcement, public gathering and tours at its new facility.

Since purchasing its new facility in 2022, SHN has secured \$11 million of the \$20 million needed to complete its facility construction and renovation project.

"The vision for this project is to increase the amount and variety of food available to our agency and community partners and neighbors experiencing hunger," shared SHN President/CEO Shaye Moris. "Our goal is to increase our food distribution from 11 million meals annually today to more than 16 million by 2032 throughout our 15-county region. This is our food bank of the future."

As part of the public gathering, \$1.05 million in matching gifts to SHN's capital campaign were announced. Karen and Royal Alworth, long-time friends and support-

ers, announced their personal contribution and match of \$500,000 for any individual gifts donated to SHN's campaign. Patrick Miner, President of Super One Foods/Miner's Inc. and SHN Board Member, announced their corporate and family match of \$500,000 for any corporate gifts donated to the campaign. And Board and Capital Campaign Committee Chair Kate Dean announced an anonymous \$50,000 match from a volunteer who agreed to match contributions to the

campaign by volunteers. In

addition, lead gifts have also been contributed by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), St. Louis County, Minnesota Power Foundation, Essentia Health, the Northland Foundation and other public and private supporters. The need for a new facility

was identified by SHN and its board in 2019. Plans were put on hold with SHN's emergency response during the pandemic, which only exasperated its need for a new facility.

Construction of a \$4.2 million 13,600 square foot freezer/

cooler increased SHN's fresh and perishable food capacity by 300 percent and the new facility itself increased dry food capacity by 210 percent. Plans for completion include the construction of a Volunteer and Community Engagement Center to increase SHN's volunteer engagement and capacity. It also includes the construction of a market where neighbors experiencing hunger can shop for food in a grocery store-style setting. This will complement drive-through food access, which was constructed prior to

Moris closed the public gathering stating, "Together, we can end hunger and 'nourish the Northland' for generations to come." She also asked the public to contribute to its regional campaign. For more information about Second Harvest Northland call 218-727-5653, email info@secondharvestnorthland.org or visit www. secondharvestnorthland.org.

moving in.

LIVE MUSIC AND ART SHOW

CHAIR to host artist open house and blues concert

Cultures, Humanities, and Arts on the Iron Range (CHAIR) is currently featuring the paintings of James Ellis and will host an open house with Ellis on Saturday, March 8 at 6:30 p.m. The evening will also feature a concert at 7:30 p.m. by traditional blues and folk musician Jon Edwards, who is making a return engagement to the Iron Range by popular demand. The event will take place at CHAIR, 510 Chestnut Street in Virginia. Free will donations will be collected to support of CHAIR.

"I follow the painting style

rooted in 18th and 19th century realism or naturalism. As an artist, I explore an historical and natural journey through time along the North Shore of Minnesota from Duluth to the Canadian border. Each landscape illustrates my interpretation in oil of the Arrowhead of Minnesota's physical features, past and present," Ellis said.

His featured works tell the stories of Lake Superior and its impact on the shoreline and man's desire for progress versus the elements. Select works tell stories passed down through oral tradition depicting the significance of natural elements to the Ojibwe People.

"Although my work encompasses more than the North Shore, my primary focus and philosophy has been to preserve

the natural composition that the North Shore of Lake Superior provides and document places that, in time, will be lost or forgotten. It is my sincere hope that my art may occupy a space in your home for friends, family and you to linger and remember very special places," Ellis said.

Edwards has made major headway in forging a successful musical career over the past year in Duluth and across the region. He plays both 12 string and resonator guitars, and got his start playing old-time string band music before branching out from there.

Influenced by artists such as Lead Belly, Dave Van Ronk, Spider John Koerner, John Prine, and Paul Germia, much of Ewards' work is compared to Duluth blues legend Charlie Parr. He has shared the stage with Parr on several occasions and they have released recordings together.

Tickets are not required for the show at CHAIR, but free will donations will be collected on behalf of the organization.

Cultures, Humanities, and Arts on the Iron Range (CHAIR) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose mission is to provide opportunities pertaining to humanities, cultures, arts and education to people of all ages across the Iron Range.



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BOIS FORTE

Ishkode cannabis dispensary is now open at Vermilion

by DAVID COLBURN Cook-Orr Editor

VERMILION RESER-VATION - After months of clearing legal hurdles and playing the waiting game on a supplier and transporter of marijuana, the new Bois Forte cannabis dispensary, Ishkode, opened for business last Friday.

Spiritual advisor Vern Adams braved the frigid wind and snow as he stood outside on the deck prior to the ribbon cutting to smoke a ceremonial pipe, surrounded by others protecting the pipe from the wind.

Once inside, Adams offered a blessing to the spirits, followed by Bois Forte Acting Chair and District I Representative Shane Drift cutting the ceremonial ribbon to officially declare Ishkode open.

A line of more than a dozen customers waited patiently as their information was put into the dispensary computer system, and then milled about looking at and choosing merchandise, assisted by enthusiastic Ishkode employees.

"It's finally happening, we are finally open," Drift said as he looked around the shop. "It's been a long process with all the hurdles that we had to jump through to get our dispensary open. It is a great day for our band members, it's a great day for our band, it's a great day for our future."

To say that Bois Forte Development Corporation (BFDC) CEO Drew Ebert was thrilled would be an understatement.

It took countless hours of hard work under much pressure for Ebert, along with BFDC Innovation Manager Taneesha Dupree and Ishkode Retail Manager Paxton Goodsky, to get the business open.

"It's really exciting for the team," Ebert said. There were a lot of people collaborating, working hard on this. We had help on the corporate side and we had help with the government, and having





this finally live is a beautiful thing. We were able to put this together from approval to today in under six months. A lot of the other dispensaries that we've seen, not just in this state, but in others,

tended to take a lot longer. And we were also able to do it for a significantly lower price point, a third or more of what a lot of other dispensaries used.

The estimated

Interim Bois Forte Tribal Council Chairman Shane Drift cuts the ribbon to signal the opening of the Ishkode cannabis dispensary.

A stylish display of Ishkode-branded merchandise.

photos by D. Colburn

2,000-square-foot building has retail counter space where guests can purchase items such as real cannabis flower and pre-rolls and a variety of products, an office, and ample storage for products. There is also a seating area with a large flatscreen TV for customers to enjoy.

Ebert said a lot of thought and research went into creating the dispensary's upscale motif.

"We pulled inspiration from the kind of casino mall setup that you see in Vegas," Ebert said. "And what did that flow look like? What it said was luxury. We wanted it to be a place that is calm

and welcoming, but at the same time a luxury experience because we want the look of our place to reflect the quality of our product."

Ebert credited Goodsky for adding essential elements to the development of the dispensary.

'We needed someone with high charisma and knowledge of the industry, and after we went through all of our interviews Paxton was the obvious standout. He talked about expansion ideas specifically related to retail, which is what we were looking for. He was really able to complement a lot of the structure, organization, and legwork that we had completed."

Important, too, Ebert said, was finding the right

"We were really looking for heart," he said, "because we can train them in some of the other aspects. But we wanted to make sure these people had passion for being here with us because that's who we want on our team. I would say our ultimate technique has been relationship management with and amongst ourselves, helping each other and maximizing our potential by complementing each other so that we could make this beautiful product."

Tribal Council Secretary Treasurer Tara Geshick also participated in the ribbon cutting and said that the blessing given by Adams will be an important part of the dispensary's success.

"Look at how we started out with our spiritual advisor, really putting our hearts into praying for this business, praying for the people who are working here, praying for customers and making sure that this is really a good way to go," Geshick said. "Sometimes that's the factor. We haven't done that for some of our other ventures. Not everybody believes, but I think there is some truth to when you put your heart into something that it works well."

Success was surely on the mind of Ebert as well.

'Ultimately, it's part of my job and a much-needed boost to the tribe," said Ebert. "If things go as planned, this will be the first successful business since the 2006 acquisition of the Y-store."

In Ebert's eyes, Ishkode has a bright future and endless possibilities.

"We have thoughts on expansion for retail, and hopefully a consumption and entertainment area in the future along with a grow (facility) if the tribal council steers that direction," said Ebert. "These are exciting times for the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa, and I'm pleased to be part of this team."

The business, which is located near Fortune Bay Resort Casino's RV Park, will be open from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., seven days a week. Until Bois Forte gets its own grow operation, the dispensary will obtain its marijuana from other tribes in Minne-

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OPINION

OF SPEECH, OR OF THE PRESS;" The First Amendment of the United States Constitution

"CONGRESS SHALL MAKE NO LAW...ABRIDGING THE FREEDOM

e-mail: editor@timberjay.com

Editorial

Medicaid cuts

Will Stauber support planned cuts that would harm hospitals, nursing homes, clinics?

This year will tell North Country residents whether U.S. Rep. Pete Stauber represents the people of the Eighth District, or the interests of the nation's bil-

In supporting passage of last week's House budget resolution, Stauber has given every indication it's the latter, but the proof will come down the road as the framework approved on a narrow party line vote is fleshed out over the next several months.

In short, the resolution calls for \$2 trillion in federal cuts over ten years to help pay the \$4.5 trillion cost of the extension and expansion of the Trump tax cuts, which overwhelmingly favor the wealthy.

The resolution is proof positive that none of the haphazard cuts currently being engineered by Elon Musk's mis-named Department of Government Efficiency are intended to reduce the federal budget deficit because the revenue giveaways planned by Republicans are more than double the spending cuts they hope to achieve. As is typical whenever the GOP is in charge in Washington, the deficit will only increase under their plan.

The far larger concern for our region, however, is the fate of Medicaid, which is the federal program that is currently keeping the doors open at many of northeastern Minnesota's health care providers. That includes the community health care clinics operated by Scenic Rivers, which are heavily dependent on Medicaid reimbursements it receives for the patient care they provide.

The House Energy and Commerce Committee, which oversees Medicaid among other programs, has been tasked with finding \$880 billion in cuts over ten years and that goal is virtually impossible to meet without hefty cuts in the Medicaid program. The GOP is currently divided between those wanting to slash Medicaid to the bone and those looking for slightly less draconian cuts.

Either option looks ugly from the perspective of health care in the North Country. The Medicaid expansion included as part of the Obama-era Affordable Care Act, or ACA, enabled community health centers, like Scenic Rivers, to open new clinics, such as the one in Tower, and expand services to its patients. Cuts in Medicaid will, inevitably, lead to more patients without health coverage, which will lead to more uncompensated care for community health centers in the region. That, combined with cuts in other federal grant programs that such centers rely on, will

inevitably lead to reductions in services or the closure of clinics altogether.

It will also affect our region's hospitals for the same reasons. Those who lack health insurance can't be refused care at emergency rooms and those places will become the provider of last resort for a growing segment of the population. Thanks to the ACA and its expansion of Medicaid, the number of uninsured Americans fell under the Biden administration to just over eight percent, the lowest in U.S. history. Before implementation of the ACA, nearly one-in-four Americans lacked health coverage, and that percentage is almost certain to rise, even before any cuts in Medicaid, because the Trump administration will cut the outreach efforts to populations that need the coverage.

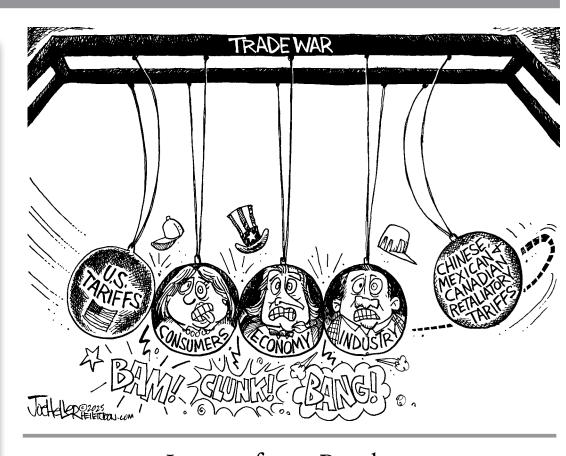
The impact on nursing homes could be even worse. Fully two-thirds of the payments that most rural nursing homes receive come through Medicaid. With most rural nursing homes already facing financial crisis, any cuts to Medicaid would be disastrous and would inevitably lead to closures. That would devastate families and cost valuable jobs in our small communities.

As we noted in last week's editorial, the cuts to the federal workforce are a veritable drop in the bucket when it comes to cutting spending. That's why Medicaid is expected to be on the chopping block, one way or another, as the GOP pushes its perks for the wealthy.

As we have noted for years, when it comes to politics, everything comes down to priorities. For Trump and the GOP, the priority is the same as its always been: tax cuts for the wealthy, paid for by cuts to the safety net that benefit children, working families, veterans, and the elder-

Rep. Stauber, in recent responses to constituents, has suggested that slashing the safety net and gutting the federal workforce is necessary to address the nation's deficit. But the budget resolution Stauber voted for last week exposes that as nonsense. It's about funding tax cuts, not addressing the deficit.

And residents, and voters, of the North Country should keep that in mind if and when their local health care options become increasingly limited due to Medicaid cuts, and their neighbors begin losing their jobs at the local clinic, hospital, or nursing home. Serving rural folks, or enriching the already wealthy? It's all a matter of priorities.



Letters from Readers

Get ready to bend over

As Elon Musk (or "Dick" Musk, as Sen. Tina Smith prefers) recklessly and incompetently attempts to dismantle the federal government, it's well to acknowledge that the so-called "deep state" - largely comprised of important agencies created and funded by Congress, and by extension we citizens - is the administrative infrastructure that makes us a first world, rather than a third world, country. Is there fat to be trimmed? Certainly - in any large organization, public or private. But you don't trim fat with a chainsaw. DOGE is not about saving taxpayer money. It's about shifting power to an oligarchy of billionaires, who GOP congress members have just offered another big tax break. You, on the other hand, will just have to bend over.

Peter M. Leschak Side Lake

We support Bradach, Thompson, and Option B

We support Steve Bradach for Greenwood Township Supervisor and Paul Thompson for Treasurer as well as Option B. Option B means the five elected supervisors of Greenwood Township will interview and hire the treasurer and

First, we know Steve and Paul as good neighbors. We read a definition that good neighbors are considerate, respectful, helpful and willing to assist when needed. We find this to be true of both Steve and Paul and we think these characteristics will carry over to their positions at Greenwood

While Steve would be new to the board, he is not new to Greenwood Township. He has been coming to Lake Vermilion beginning with visits to the family cabin on Birch Point as an infant.

In 1991, he purchased property on Isle of Pines. Steve will bring impressive governance skills to his position. He served on the Biwabik City Council for eight years and was the mayor for two years. Steve is analytical (he has a degree in civil engineering), even-handed and is willing to listen to opposing viewpoints.

Paul has become very involved in Greenwood Township as an advocate for outdoor recreation, including pickleball and bocce ball. He chaired the committee which did the fundraising and then supervised the construction of the new pickleball courts. He has become a regular at township meetings. If Option B is adopted, Paul will be in a unique position. If he becomes the treasurer he may not fulfill the position since it will be filled by the township board. Yet, he advocates for Option B because he thinks it is the right thing for our township.

Our thinking has changed over the years on Option B, having voted against it before. Recently, we decided we feel more comfortable with the treasurer and clerk being accountable to the board. The positions will be posted and filled using state statutes and professional guidelines. If the persons hired do not fulfill their duties the board we will still have our voices heard since we vote for the supervisors.

Please vote on March 11 (or absentee before then) for Steve Bradach for Supervisor, Paul Thompson for Treasurer and for Option B.

Peter and Elaine McGillivray Greenwood Township

Trump deportations running behind Biden-era levels

During the campaign, the Trump media coverage was all about getting the criminal element undocumented immigrants out of the country. I recall there were "millions" of such individuals. There has been little in the news about progress in the deportations since Trump took office.

Recently, the Reuters news agency reported that 37,660 migrants had been deported in Trump's first month. That doesn't sound like a lot. Especially since Biden's monthly average was 57,000 month after month over his four years. Doing the math of 57,000 per month for four years Biden therefore deported about 2,736,000 over his term.

Apparently, it's easy to sit on the sidelines and complain when someone else is in the game, and very different when you're in the game. Kinda embarrassing since that was a key promise during the campaign.

Keith Steva

Real patriots need to start reading history

Patriots like to be known for their love of their country. "I would do anything for my country" is a favorite phrase. Well, my fellow patriots, here is a small thing you can do for your country: read up on its history. Start with the mid-1930s or better yet, the 1850s, and while you are at it, read up on labor history as well.

As a fourth generation Iron Ranger, the story of labor and the struggle for workers' rights is part and parcel of who we are. If you think the Trump Administration's attacks on federal workers are someone else's problem, think

No informed person in their right mind can honestly think these billionaires have your best interest in mind.

If you really love your country, you had better start reading, because in this case the past is prologue.

species, like bull trout in

the Big Lost River and the

Yellowstone cutthroat trout

anywhere. A recent study in

Montana determined that 20

percent of all trout caught

and released will die with-

in six days, even with sin-

gle barbless hooks. I always

cringe when I hear other an-

glers brag about spending a

day doing just catch-and-re-

was surprised that rainbow trout are catch-and-release

Moving to Minnesota, I

Tim McKenzie

COMMENTARY

Catch-and-release has never made sense to me

evitability that a column written by an angler will, sooner or later, be about fish. Of course, the usual wisecracks about the mundanity of everyday life versus the glories of fishing need their airing, so let's get that out of

the way right now. It is true that the worst day fishing is always better than any day working or even any day off and cleaning the house. I am reminded of this every other Tuesday night, while covering Ely City Council meet-



CLARK

around the time that one of the older city council members is waxeloquently about why Ely doesn't need a dumpster beautification ordinance. You don't think that sort of thing happens at city council meet-

ings? I can send you the link to the minutes of that meeting if you don't believe me. I grew up fishing for a

wonderful thing called flounder, one of those New England coastal fish that's flat as a crepe with both eyes on

the topside. Flounders are a pain to clean, but they are great with light breading and baked in butter. Yum.

As a kid, I also went through the trouble of getting a scuba certification. No kidding, this has to do with fishing. Well, to be honest, it has to do with lobstering. If you have a scuba certification in Connecticut, you can get what's known as a personal use lobster license, which allows you to scuba dive for lobster. It has the added benefit of allowing you to run up to 10 personal not-for-com-

mercial-sale lobster pots. Getting a personal use lobster license with a scuba certificate is the only way a non-commercial fisher can run lobster pots in Connecticut. For this reason, scuba classes were very popular where I grew up. I was diving for lobster as soon as I was old enough to take and pass the scuba class. Grabbing and wrestling a lobster from 30 feet down in the rocks up to the surface is an amazing experience – and a lot of work. The first time I did it, I tossed my lobster into my 15-foot runabout only to watch in horror as the wily crustacean promptly scrambled into the bow and flung itself back into the water. To be honest, I caught most of my lobster in the four lobster pots I built myself. As anyone who fishes can tell you, it's only one step down from heaven to catch your own and eat it fresh within hours.

My experience of catching aquatic things to eat in my youth engrained in me the concept that the purpose of catching fish is to eat them. By the time I started fishing in Idaho, I realized that many people do this thing called catch-and-release. I've never seen the point. My worldview is built on a foundation that you catch fish to eat I can cope with catch-

and-release to protect an en-

dangered species or rebuild

a fishery. In Idaho, you must

release certain threatened

only for the streams that feed

lease for fun.

Lake Superior. The rainbow is the most famous native of Idaho, and the upper

See CATCH...pg. 5

March 7, 2025 5 THE TIMBERJAY

Stauber is not representing his constituents

Health care facilities will close and Minnesotans will lose access to medical care as a result of the budget resolution/reconciliation bill passed by Congress.

The resulting spending bill is likely to include cuts to Medicaid. Currently, 29 percent or 198,121 residents of Minnesota's Eighth Congressional District receive Medicaid for their health care, totaling more than \$1.8 billion in federal dollars, according to the Minnesota Department of Human Services. The state matches the federal money for Medicaid to provide health care to children, the disabled, and the elderly. Rural health care in America is already hanging on by a thread due to many factors including reimbursement rates from Medicaid and Medicare. If this bill becomes law, we will see many of our rural hospitals closing due to financial insolvency. The loss of our community hospitals will have disastrous consequences for everyone in rural Minnesota.

I work on an inpatient mental health unit with the majority of our patients receiving their healthcare from Medicaid. In Minnesota, patients already suffer due to the shortage of available acute mental health beds. The sad fact is, without Medicaid funding, the unit I work on will most likely close. The demand for inpatient mental health care will then dramatically increase as patients will not be able to afford outpatient care. If this happens, we will see even more mental health patients boarding in emergency rooms around the state. More mentally ill patients will end up in our jails and prisons as well. These are the impacts of cutting Medicaid in just one area of nursing. Nursing homes and community health clinics will also lose funding and close.

The day the House budget resolution bill passed, I traveled with other northeastern Minnesota nurses to St. Paul to voice these concerns with state Reps. Roger Skraba, Natalie Zeleznikar, Cal Warwas and Spencer Igo. We also met with Sens. Grant Hauschild and Robert Farnsworth. Reps. Skraba and Zeleznikar and Sen. Farnsworth told us not to worry about the federal reconciliation bill, because it was not going to pass. They said that it would be political suicide to dramatically cut Medicaid. Rep. Igo was not able to meet with us for an unknown reason. Rep. Warwas shared our concern about Medicaid and agreed to speak to U.S. Rep. Pete Stauber, who ultimately voted for this bill. He also planned to talk to Rep. Stauber about DOGE withholding federal grant money from Scenic Rivers Hospital in Cook, which was struggling to stay open without these funds.

Pete Stauber voting for

this bill is a betrayal of the rural Minnesotans who voted for him to be their voice in Congress. He voted for it, not because it is good for Minnesotans, but because of fear. The Republican Party under Trump no longer values our republic or our constitution it is a party of fear. This is not how political discourse

in a democracy is supposed

to work. How we treat the most vulnerable among us is the true judge of our morality and humanity. Allowing our current federal government to cut health care for the most vulnerable Americans in order to pass permanent tax cuts for the wealthy is blatantly wrong. And the fact that many of our elected officials claim to be Christian makes their actions horrific heresy - stealing from the poor to give even more to the

> Wayne Garrett, RN Tracy Garrett, RN Angora

Time for an economy that serves everyone

Serviceberry," written by the author of "Braiding Sweetgrass," Robin Kimmerer, teaches us to imagine an alternative way of understanding relationship and exchange in economics. The wisdom of Indigenous gift economics is found in relationships, the serviceberry tree of wealth, serves as metaphor for freely sharing its "fruit" with the community which it depends on for its

Transactional econommanufactures scarcity, creates instability and funnels accumulation of wealth to a few. Corporate capitalism's drive for profit extracts wealth from nature without giving back. People are dehumanized as objects and commodities. Domination and exploitation separate people from the land, each other and from themselves through alienation, authoritarianism and extreme inequality.

Transformative economics is based on the currency of reciprocity, recycling and gratitude to create abundance in the natural world where "all flourishing is mutual." A gift economy gives freely in an interconnected web for well-being derived from the reward of sharing. Economics based on ecological principles of relationship found in the natural world teaches us about values of cooperation, equity and justice.

Zero-sum thinking (my loss is your gain) turns us against each other and does harm to what we hold dear, embrace, and love. The sole purpose of economics ought to begin with respect, caring and giving back. For centuries, capitalism has extracted resources without return, exploited human labor and now stripped of all humanity, predatory monopolies concentrate power in the hands of ruthless oligarchs.

To Indigenous people,

Letters from Readers

this human bond and relationship with nature is sacred and inseparable, with all parts integrated into wholeness of being.

Earthly reverence requires balance and reciprocity of sustainable practice that replenishes, recycles and regenerates to enable nature's resilient power. Nature's web of life offers all of the foundational principles necessary for an economy that serves all people and sustains earth-

Harold Honkola Stillwater

Support those who will support the fire department

In response to the misinformation that Greenwood supervisor candidate Sue Drobac gave to the Timberjay in her interview stating, "We had to go through some very tough, but necessary steps to make the fire department a better environment. We had only a few dedicated people going on calls, and the equipment was in disrepair.'

WHAT township fire department is she talking about?

Did she know that we had 15 fully trained firefighters, and I believe every one of them served Greenwood Township, thru wind, snow, hail, lightning, rain, freezing temperatures, fire, day and night, land and water, far longer than she and her two cohorts tried to serve the community. Instead, they decimated one of the best and largest fire departments around. We were committed, had great camaraderie and a good reputation, except for one person.

And what were those necessary steps for a better environment? The first thing she/they did was fire our fire chief, our assistant fire chief, and our safety officer without any written reprimands, warnings, or meetings. As a department, we asked for a meeting, we protested with signs on the highway outside the town hall before and during a town board meeting.

Not one member, except that one person, signed up for any of those positions until we could hash it out with the board. It never happened. But what did happen was what we all expected, they hired their one person as interim chief. The only person that not one firefighter would have voted for. We asked him not to accept but he wouldn't give up that position. And now look at what has happened with him?

As long as I was on the fire department, I believe we responded to every fire 911 call for Greenwood and all mutual aid calls for other communities. We never got any complaints from other fire departments, EMRs, or victims of unfortunate circumstances but rather many compliments and praises and even donations from appreciative persons.

And what was our reward from these newbie supervisors? After we tried, in a number of ways, to set up negotiations, all of which failed, they fired or terminated some of us and voluntarily quit nine of us. Yup, you read that right. How can anyone voluntarily quit someone else? I asked a Circuit Court of Appeals Judge what he thought of that. He laughed and said take them to court and we would win for sure. We didn't want to take money from our citizens! So, after Sue's necessary steps, there were only four qualified firefighters left and two had full time jobs.

Please don't think that Sue is a bad person because she is not. She has been steered the wrong way and I think there is a better choice. I want to thank Paul Skubic, Carmen DeLuca, and Mike Ralston for their wise decisions and continued support for our fire department.

Please vote for Steve Bradach for supervisor and community leader extraordinaire Paul Thompson for Treasurer! And of course, vote for Option B!

Jet Galonski **Greenwood Township**

Carolyn would be a valuable addition to the Morse town board

I will be writing in Carolyn Dehnbostel for Morse Township Board's election on Tuesday March 11.

Carolyn is creative. She has a good sense of humor and boundless energy.

With years of experience as the owner of a family counseling business, she is a good listener and takes others' opinions to heart. She follows through with what she starts. She is a skillful teacher and participant in group dynamics.

Carolyn will be a valuable member of the Morse Town Board.

Emily Brown Morse Township

Trump dances to Putin's tune

As he did at Helsinki in 2018, Donald Trump is once again shamelessly sucking up to the world's most evil man, our sworn enemy, whose sole purpose in life is to restore the Russian empire and weaken the United States and its allies as much as possible. Trump's treatment of an ally, a man literally fighting for the life of his country. was an embarrassing, outrageous, unprecedented display of bullying – in the Oval Office, on national TV, IN FRONT OF THE WHOLE WORLD! - all undoubtedly choreographed to please Vladimir Putin, his partner in

Plain and simple, history will view Donald Trump a coward, and even worse, a traitor, his name to be mentioned in the same breath with the likes of Vidkun Quisling and Benedict Arnold. For those who still cling to the absurd notion of a man with the best interests

of his country at heart, it's time to wake up and smell the coffee. It takes a special kind of delusion to not see the obvious truth in all this.

Lynn Scott Soudan

Don't throw stones at glass houses

I am a fairly new resident to Greenwood Township, living here now for 2.5 years. The most recent board meeting was the first that I have attended in person. What came as shock

to me after attending the most recent township meeting, was how some of the grown adults behaved that are currently seated on the board. Also shocking to me, that someone is getting paid to be a deputy treasurer, and is not providing a report of the finances. JoAnn Bassing did not provide a monthly treasurers report to the board, so why did she get paid? What did she do to earn that paycheck?

JoAnn Bassing made the accusation in last week's Timberjay, that Steve Bradach attempted to mislead voters by saying that he worked for the U.S. Senate. He never claimed to be a Senator in Washington, D.C. as Joann implied, perhaps she was too busy laughing at the meeting, rather than listening. I was listening.

I ask that the voters in Greenwood Township do their homework in regard to the candidates that are currently running for elected positions. I know I certainly

What I do know, is that JoAnn Bassing is not in a position to hurl accusations and claim to be a pillar of integrity and honesty as her letter in the paper claimed. A simple Google search of her name will lead to a report from the state of Minnesota that will show what kind of person JoAnn is/was. Please do your homework. Is this the type of person that you want in charge of the finances of our beautiful township? I would hope not.

Remember the old saying.... "People who live in glass houses shouldn't throw stones.'

This is why I am supporting Steve Bradach, Paul Thompson, and Option B for the upcoming March 11th Election. Your vote matters.

Amy LaMotte Greenwood Township

Perhaps Trump should be thanking Zelensky

Here are the stats: Trump said the U.S. gave Ukraine \$350 billion in aid. That's not true. In fact, the U.S. contributions are \$66 billion in military, and \$54 billion in non-military aid, totaling \$119 billion. The European Union gave more— \$73 billion in military, and \$53 billion in non-military assistance, totaling \$126 billion. By contrast, we spent al-

most \$5 trillion on the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, \$120 billion in Vietnam, got reimbursed nothing and lost 53,000-plus American lives. We lost over 100,000 American lives combined fighting communism in Korea and Vietnam, the same communism that Vlad Putin represented as a dreaded KGB officer and a brutal dictator.

It is also Russia who gave hundreds of billions worth of weapons to our adversaries to kill American troops and it was Putin who paid a bounty to the Taliban to kill Americans and paid Russian mercenaries to attack American bases in Syria in 2022. Now we see it is Ukraine that is spilling its blood to protect its freedom and democracy against the defacto communist regime of Putin and his dream of restoring the Soviet empire.

Zelensky has offered \$35 billion in mineral royalties to pay for its aid. But since they are the ones paying and dying to protect freedom and democracy, perhaps Trump should be kissing his behind. For it is Zelensky who is a Ukrainian Winston Churchill and is carrying the torch of liberty and freedom that we once carried.

James Aker

More letters to the editor on page 9



TIMBERJAY

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CATCH...Cont. from page 4

Snake River is full of them. The Snake runs through the middle of the town in eastern Idaho, where I still own a house. It's a bad day if you can't walk down to any of the bridges in town and not go home with at least two rainbows for dinner.

Trout are my favorite inland fish. I try not to fish where I might catch a fish on an endangered list because of the one-in-five chance of it dying afterward. Landing fish is fun, but I fish to eat. I've been fishing in Miners Lake for trout since I moved to Ely, and this last weekend, I was ice fishing for lake trout on Knife Lake out in the Boundary Waters. When we got out to our camping spot, I discovered that my ice fishing gear didn't follow me to our campsite, but our guide had enough stuff

to lend me. I'm the one with

the fishing gear in the family since I'm the angler, and my husband describes himself as a proud eater of what I catch.

We caught five big, plump lake trout. We had fish chowder for dinner out on the ice and now I have a freezer full of fillets. The only thing wrong with the trip was that our guide caught two and my husband - who hardly ever goes fishing - caught three. The only thing I caught was a pulled muscle in my upper back from jigging with a rod longer than I like to use for ice fishing.

Idaho has managed to revive the sturgeon fishery in the lower Snake River, which now has a limited lottery-based season. The rules on sturgeon are tight. Anything caught in Idaho that's over 100 pounds has to be released, even during Sturgeon season. I'd love to

catch a sturgeon someday. I was excited when we moved to Minnesota to discover that the state has a sturgeon season. I've been plotting my St. Croix River or Red Wing trip to try to catch one. The Idaho catch-and-

release rules on sturgeon affected one of my most memorable fishing trips. My fishing buddy, Bob, and I were out where the Snake widens out into American Falls Reservoir, wading the shallows in one of our spots for brookies. It wasn't a great fishing day. The only thing either of us caught all morning was a bunch of undersized yellow perch.

In the afternoon, Bob's stepson Chase joined us. Things picked up once Chase showed up. He caught a pair of almost-new bull-nosed pliers and a 10-foot towing chain - on a 10-pound test

line, no less! I've got pictures if you don't believe me. Then Bob did a crazy cast and hooked Chase in the hand. It took five minutes to safely get the hook out. The Idaho Fish and

Game Conservation Officer was working our fishing spot that day. He was offshore in his boat but close by. I looked at Bob, and Bob looked at me, and we both looked at Chase, who's a tall, beefy guy. Idaho's rules on catchand-release on anything over 100 pounds are strict because of the sturgeon fishery in the lower Snake River, and we didn't want to get into trouble with that state CO watching us from his boat. So, Bob and I hooked Chase under the arms and threw him back into the river since he fell under the catch-and-release

Week of March 10

Monday

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

Tower City Council- 5:30 p.m. on March 10

Tuesday

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

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

Annual meeting day. Townships are holding annual meetings. Times vary depending on whether or not there is a township election.

Thursday

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



TSHS weekly winners

TOWER- The \$100 winner of Week 25 Charlemagne's 52 Club is Steven Anderson of Tower.

History Tidbit: In 1937, the Soudan Study Club was organized by Miss Emily Sovde. The study club's guiding theme is as follows: "My community wants my citizenship - not partisanship, My friendship - not selfishness, My cooperation – not distraction, My sympathy - not criticism, My intelligent interest - not indifference." The club has a history of involvement in numerous community projects and with young people. Charter members included Ina Carlson, Adele Arola, Ila Korpi, and Fanny Branwall.

Correction

In last week's story about the Breitung Town Board, the Timberjay incorrectly identified the Breitung Fire Chief. The chief is Trevor Banks, not Tim Officer. The Timberjay apologizes for the error.

Little Church annual meeting set for Saturday, March 8

VERMILION LAKE TWP- The Little Church of Vermilion Lake Township will hold their annual meeting on Saturday, March 8 at 10 a.m. The meeting will include election of officers and discussion of work projects for 2025. This group always welcomes anyone and are looking for people interested in keeping The Little Church preserved and maintained in our community. The group hosts a men's group that meets every Thursday at 9 a.m. for coffee and conversation. All are welcome. The Little Church is located on Cty Rd. 26/Wahlsten Rd. Any questions, contact/leave message, Len Hujanen at

Get Informed! Get the Timberjay!

218-749-2014.



ST. MARTIN'S

Mardi Gras: games, food, and smiles all around



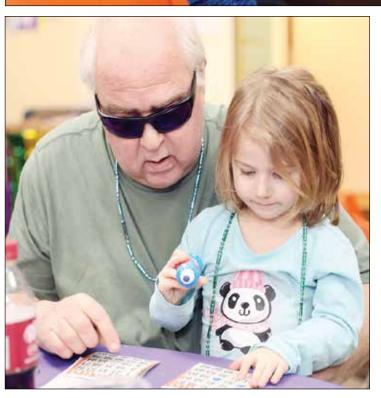






There was food and fun for all ages as St. Martin's threw its annual Mardi Gras community party on Feb. 28. Pictured (clockwise from top left) Evelyn Riihiluoma and Corrine Winger in their Mardi Gras masks. Rosie Daniel Broten watched as her big sister and grandmother Brenda Broten played bingo. Margaret Baumann was all eyes. Nina and Carmela Mitrovich played bingo with grandparents Tony and Kathy Zavodnik. Janice Morin hoped for a lucky bingo card. Olivia learned some bingo strategy from her Poppa Allen Schramm. Alex Kladivo ate the best part of his cupcake first. photos by J. Summit







COMMUNITY GATHERING

Cabin fever night at the Tower Café on Friday, March 7

TOWER- The community is invited to stop by the Tower Café on Friday, March 7 from 4 - 6 p.m. for an enchanting evening of games, creativity, and community. This family-friendly event offers something for everyone including cribbage, a book and puzzle exchange, board games, and card games like Uno. People are welcome to bring their own games. If anyone wants to come with coloring supplies or artist's sketchbooks, please do.

The café will be serving a limited menu of soups, cinnamon rolls, muffins and beverages.

"With the chaos we have going in our busy world, it's heartwarming to come together with kind individuals seeking community and connection," said café owner Jen Mc-Donough. "Whether you're looking for a night out alone, with friends, or family, our event offers a family-friendly environment that serves as a peaceful retreat for all ages." McDonough hopes the event will be a chance to make new connections and possibly new friends. "We plan to seat guests together, encouraging everyone to mingle and make new friends," she said. "Please anticipate sharing a table with fellow community members, turning strangers into friends."

People are welcome to drop

in anytime between 4 and 6 p.m., please note that the café will be closing right after 6 p.m. "We kindly ask guests to conclude their visits by this time and appreciate your understanding as we tidy up and get ready to welcome you back bright and early," Mc-Donough said, noting they need to get the café ready to reopen at 6 a.m. on Saturday morning.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Township elections set for Tuesday

REGIONAL- Greenwood, Vermilion Lake, and Breitung townships are holding elections on March 11. All three have one supervisor and one treasurer seat on the ballot. In Greenwood, residents also have the opportunity to vote on Option B. A yes vote majority will mean the township will switch to a hired treasurer and clerk.

A no vote will keep both

positions as elected. Vermilion Lake Town-

ship: The two incumbents up for reelection, Tim Hughes for supervisor and Steve Lotz for treasurer, both filed and are running unopposed.

Breitung Township: The two incumbents, supervisor Tim Tomsich, and treasurer Jorgine Gornick, are both retiring. Newcomers Steve Tekautz filed for supervisor and Teresa Dolinar for treasurer.

Greenwood Township:

Neither of the two incumbents, supervisor Rick Stoehr and treasurer Jeff Maus, filed for office. Steve Bradach and Sue Drobac filed for the supervisor seat, and JoAnn Bassing and Paul Thompson filed for the treasurer seat.

Local students named to Minnesota **North College**

Fall Dean's List REGIONAL - Minne-

sota North College announc-

es the following students from our area who are recognized for academic achievement during the Fall 2024 semester. Congratulations to over 900 students that completed 12 or more credits while earning a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.25 or higher. **Embarrass**

Maria Aluni Cazimiro Carlson April Drueen Isaac Layman Aubree Minier

Colton Rebarich

Maria Lindquist

Soudan

Tower

Chance Colbert Lilly Jola Vincent Kajala Elsie Larson Neva Levens Maija Mattson Wyatt Mattson Maija Peterson Valerie Stanisich

ELY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

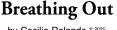


Notes on Ely High School Choir

BABBITT- The Ely Memorial High School Choir was the smallest vocal ensemble in the Minnesota State High School League Music Competition at Northeast Range School in Babbitt. The six-person choir is young, with no students older than 10th grade.

The group gave an impressive performance of a three-part version of the famous Pachelbel's Canon, and missed taking home a trophy by only two points.

The Ely Memorial High School Choir. From left-to-right: Riley Nielsen, Lindsay Israel, Kara Cheney, Chezne Nickolson, Aurie Smith, and Violet Franciskovich. Photo by C. Clark



by Cecilia Rolando © 2025

In Brief

schedule

Tuesday Group

ELY - Hosted by

Boundary Waters Connect,

the Tuesday Group com-

munity educational lun-

cheon gathering meets ev-

ery Tuesday at noon at the

Grand Ely Lodge. Partici-

pants have an opportunity

being a host, or who have a

speaker suggestion, contact

Lacey Squier by email at

ElyTuesdayGroup@gmail.

com or call her at 218-216-

Upcoming Tuesday

►March 11: Meet New

➤March 18: Southern

Utah Wilderness Alliance

with Christopher Riccardo

For those interested in

to order lunch.

Group speakers:

9141.



sensing a free outdoor meal

pleasing to observe

"Star Wars: Anangong Miigaading" at Ely's **Historic State Theater**

ELY- "Star Wars: A New Hope" dubbed in Anishinaabemowin opened last Friday at Ely's Historic State Theater. Anishinaabemowin is the Indigenous language of the Great Lakes region. The film was a joint production of the Star Wars Franchise and the Government of Canada.

The project is part of the initiative to revitalize the Anishinaabemowin. Perry Drift of the Bois Forte Band spoke on the reservation's participation in these efforts at the opening show on Friday night. He explained that the revitalization programs include more than just "Star Wars: Anangong Miigaading." Other endeavors include locally-made Anishinaabemowin board games and other kid-friendly teaching tools. Most of the voice actors in "Star

Wars: Anangong Miigaading" are part of the regional Ojibwe community surrounding the Great Lakes on both sides of the border. Ajuawak Kapashesit was the director of one of last year's Ely Film Festival shorts, "Language Keepers," about the language revitalization efforts. Kapashesit played the voice of Han Solo in the film. 'Star Wars: Anangong Miigaading"

has several more showings through Sunday, March 9. Showtime information and tickets are available through elystatetheater.org.

COMMUNITY EVENTS AND NOTICES



March is a shamrock man.

The bingo is free. The prizes

a free adult watercolor

painting class every Tues-

day through March 25,

from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. No

experience necessary. All

skill levels welcome. Call

218-827-3345 or stop by

the library to sign up. Par-

ticipants are encouraged to

attend all sessions but only

sign up for the ones you can

attend please. The session

on March 11 will be water-

color seascapes. Walk-ins

are welcome if there is room

every Wednesday at 10:30

a.m. All library events are at

the Babbitt Public Library,

Preschool story time is

The library will hold

The February Ely for Ely Workshop at the Community Hub on financing a business. photo by Boundary Waters Connect

plies last.

are books.

available.

Artistic Design Workshop

ELY-The Northern Lakes Arts Association will hold a workshop this Saturday, March 8, at 10 a.m. at the Vermilion Fine Arts Theater, 1900 E. Camp St. on "Designing the Landscape," hosted by award-winning artist Paul LaJeunesse. This worksop focuses on 2D design theory and how it applies to landscape interpretations in art. Attendees will attend an insightful lecture and presentation by LaJeunesse. Tickets are \$15 at northernlakesarts.org. Talk on solar power

and batteries ELY- The Ely Climate

Group invites all interested parties to their meeting at 4 p.m. on March 11 at the Ely Field Naturalists Resource Center, 41 E. Chapman St., above the Elv NAPA store. The speakers will be Bill Schnell and Art Norton, who were prime movers in the large-scale solar power and battery project in Grand Rapids. Come and learn how it helps their community and to consider if Ely should have a similar endeavor. This program will also be available by Zoom using

the link at elyminnesota.

com/elyclimate. Ely for Ely

ELY- The Ely for Ely series of monthly workshops to build local business and community will meet again next Tuesday, March 11. at 7:30 a.m. The workshop is free and welcomes all interested participants. Light breakfast nosh is part of the program. This month, business broker Nick Dunnom will speak on "Entrepreneurship: A Force for Good." The event will be at the Community Hub, 760 Miners Drive. Ely for Ely is sponsored

by the Entrepreneur Fund and Boundary Waters Con-**Retirement Planning** ELY- Ely Community

Education will hold a "Five keys to retiring fearlessly"

on the right. **Babbitt Public Library**

class on Wednesday, March 12, from 5:30-6:30 p.m. in the Elv Public Schools Media Center. The class is free. Ely Public School's Media Center is on the Ely Public Schools Campus, 600 E Harvey St. Enter the through the center door (door No. 1) and turn right after the double doors. The Media Center is across from the new gym,

BABBITT- The take

and make kit for kids for

discussion is "Hamnet" by Maggie O'Farrell. You do not need to be a member of

71 South Dr., unless otherwise noted. **Ely Public Library** ELY- The Friends of the Library Book Club will meet on Monday, March 10, at 3 p.m. The book for

the Friends of the Library to

attend. The Library Scien-

tists group for all ages will

Take one home while sup-13, to investigate magnets. Please register in advance so The library will hold the library can order enough a session of book bingo on supplies for participants. The library is holding Monday, March 10 at 1 p.m.

meet on Thursday, March

another of its fabulously fun murder mystery events on Saturday, March 22, from 1:30-4 p.m. This event is for adults and students in grades 9-12. The theme of the event will "Death at the circus." Participants must sign up and choose a character for this event in advance. Participants must register by noon on Tuesday, March 18. 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. **Elyite Dean's List**

Honors MANKATO- The Minnesota State University Mankato named four Elvite students to its Dean's List. Ava Skustad and Maxibillion Thompson were placed on the honors list and Grace LaTourell and Lilian Tedrick were placed on the high honors list. For the honors list, students must earn a 3.5

to 3.99 grade point average.

Students on the high honors

list must have a grade point

average of 4.0.

DULUTH- The University of Minnesota Duluth has announced its Dean's List for the fall 2024 semester. Students on the Dean's List have achieved a grade point average of 3.50 or higher while earning a minimum of 12 letter-graded credits. The following six students from Ely have been named to the Dean's List: Lily Dirks, Dylan Fenske, Sidney Marshall, Deegan Richards, Harry Simons, and Brynn Vollom. HIBBING- Minneso-

ta North College has announced its Dean's List for the fall 2025 semester. Students named to the Dean's List completed 12 or more credits while earning a grade point average of 3.25 or higher. Students from Ely on the list are: Chase Anderson, Samuel Axelsson, Wayne Bach, Max Cochran, Elsa Ellerbroek, Sam Favet, Maggie Fetterer, Aubree Gerlovich, Gunnar Hart, Brendan Hill, Matthew Johnson, Rena Johnston, Jason Kalar, Desiray Lawrence, Tyler Mattila, Anya Moger, Ella Perish, Lillian Rechichi, Lauren Rehbein, Chase Sandberg, Isabelle Schiltz, Silas Solum, Jade

Starkman, Ava Sundell, and

Bethany Thompson

∟ibraries

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ELY WOMEN'S OPEN AA - Monday at noon at

Ledgerock Church, 1515 E. Camp St., Ely. BABBITT AA - 7 p.m. Thursdays, Woodland

Presbyterian Church. AL-ANON - Sundays 8-9 p.m. at St. Anthony's

Catholic Church in Ely. **BABBITT AL-ANON -**Thursdays, 7 p.m., at Woodland Presbyterian **CO-DEPENDENTS'** 12-step support group, 4:00 p.m. Tuesdays, hosted by Well Being Development, Ely. This meeting is sus-

pended temporarily. **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

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COOK CITY COUNCIL

Will fire in the sky fly for this year's Timber Days?

Safety concerns for Lund Rd. properties prompt further study of fireworks issue

Cook-Orr Editor

COOK-There were muted fireworks about fireworks at last Thursday's Cook City Council meeting as a resident on Lund Rd. appeared to reiterate concerns she expressed to the council last summer about burning fallout from the Cook Annual Timber Days fireworks show above the nearby baseball fields.

Colette Huisenga spoke to the council last June after the Timber Days fireworks show, bringing with her a bag of pieces of shell casings and pictures of the debris that fell on her house, in her yard, and in the woods. She voiced her concerns about the possibility of fires igniting in dry conditions and asked the council to look into solutions. It was agreed that a committee would be formed to look into the issue, but it was revealed last Thursday that the committee was never formed.

Timber Days committee spokesperson Carrolle Wood was present at Thursday's meeting to get the council to sign off on the routine permissions needed to conduct the festival every year, including permission for the fireworks display.

Before voting on the approvals, City Administrator Theresa Martinson noted that there was a resident with concerns about the display, and Mayor Dan Manick invited Huisenga to speak.

"That fallout area includes all of these woods, and behind it is private property and that fallout falls within my yard," she said. "I have had hot fireworks coming down in my yard a couple of years, so I have concerns about it. At one point it was

suggested 'We can put a fire truck by your yard in case there's a fire.' No, no, no, no, no, we're not going to put a fire out when we can prevent it. and I don't know that any permission has been granted by the landowners for the fallout area to be there.'

Huisenga also mentioned that Lund Rd. is a dead end and that if the woods would catch on fire and it jumps the road, the people that live on that side of the fire would have no way out. Wood came prepared for the conversation by bringing Mark Hansen of J&M Displays, the company that has done the display in the past and would do it again this

Hansen said he follows the National Fire Protection Association rule for determining the fallout zone, which is 70 feet per inch of shell size. Hansen uses four-inch shells for the Cook show, which makes the required fallout zone 280 feet.

Manick asked for clarification if that was for a calm day, but Hansen said that even if it's calm at ground level, "we could have prevailing winds up here that could push, so it's very likely she had stuff in her yard." Hansen addressed Huisenga when he said, "If this is a concern for you, we can definitely come over and check your yard and we'll rake it up. That's what our guys do, they clean up their area when they're done."

"Well, that hasn't happened since 2020," Huisenga said. "It's been falling in my yard every single year, and in fact last year it crossed over Lund Rd. Do you have permission from the landowners for that fallout area between



Fireworks at Cook's Timber Days are beautiful, but according to the National Safety Council they also start an average of 19,000 fires a year. Cook City Council members are looking at options for another show while also addressing safety concerns of nearby residents. file photo

the park and Lund Rd.?"

'We can get letters of permission from them and we can also put them on additional insurance in case there is an incident," Hansen

Council member Ron Bushbaum asked Hansen about debris coming down

"There's always as chance - it's fire," Hansen said. "We do have fire-

works that are less prone to do that and that's something we could incorporate more here."

However, Huisenga suggested another area should be considered for the show. When the former Cook school was suggested, Wood indicated the committee couldn't afford the cost of using that space. When Cook Airport was suggested, Wood was clearly against

"If we have to do it out of town we just won't do it," she said. "You know, it's a shame, we probably get 1,500 people up here to watch the fireworks - it's a huge event on Timber Days, but if we have to take it out of town we probably won't

When asked if others had complained about the fallout, Huisenga said yes,

"They have not brought it to the city council," she said. "Nobody wants to be the one in Cook to say no to fireworks. But I don't want my property damaged. I don't want individuals that live on Lund Rd. at risk of not being able to get out when it's dry and it flames up.'

Manick struck a conciliatory tone.

"You know, I attend the fireworks all the time, and I don't remember if the fire trucks are sitting up here," he said. "I think he (Hansen) kind of made some promises that hey, they clean up the yard. That's a great gesture, I think. I think a committee would be good to look at this. I get it. A lot of people come to town to see this."

The council decided to assign the issue to the blight committee, with the addition of Shane Johnson representing the fire department. Johnson said they could increase coverage on Lund Rd. by placing a truck and a ten-

"We should have somebody back there," he said.

Huisenga said she would appreciate that, but that she still had concerns about liability in case of roof damage

"I just don't want to

lose my property due to fireworks, and I don't want anyone else to be in harm's way due to fireworks," she said.

Council member Jody Bixby tried to pull various threads of the conversation

"I'm trying to come to a workable solution for both parties," she said, "not just say no, we're not going to have fireworks. What can we do so we can have fireworks? The fire department said they could do x, y, and z. He (Hansen) has insurance. He's going to use a different kind of fireworks. Those are all like giving and taking and having a conversation about it." With an agreement to explore the issues and look for a solution, the council moved ahead with approving the rest of the Timber Days requests, with the festival to

be held June 13-15. In other business, the

➤Approved the 2025 ambulance budget and putting Rig No. 2 up for sale.

➤ Heard a report that the city's new online bill payment system is now operational, and that the system has the capability to send emergency alert messages to people who have signed up for the system. Deputy Clerk Dawn Kehoe explained that credit card transactions on the system incur an extra charge of 2.7 percent of the payment, while ACH transactions cost 99 cents. Kehoe encouraged Cook customers to sign up for the service.

Look for more news from the Cook City Council meeting in next week's edition of the *Timberjay*.

ROBO-GRIZ





The North Woods School Bear Bots robotics team tested their mettle against 53 other squads in the Lake Superior Regional of FIRST Robotics held at the DECC in Duluth last week. The Bear Bots got off to a good start and ranked as

high as 11th before mechical problems caused them to slip. They finshed the tourney ranked 32nd. Above: Team members include, first row, left to right-

Connor, Jackson, Tysen, and Gus; second row, Alice, Amber, Ray, Josh, Lincoln and John.

Top left: John and Lincoln work on the robot between rounds.

Bottom left: The robot in competition.

Team sponsors include: Cook Lions Club, Cook VFW Post 1757, US Steel, Cirrus Aircraft, Paul Bunyan Communications, Cook Building Center, Spring Bay Resort, B.I.C. Realty, North Star Credit Union, Lake Country Power, St. Mary's Catholic Church Women's Club, St. Mary's Catholic Church, SisKnits, and ISD 2142. Grants were awarded to the team by Medtronic, FIRST Robotics, and St. Cloud State Technical and Community College.

Community items

Lions Club breakfast fundraiser coming up on March 16

COOK- The annual Cook Lions Club breakfast to raise funds for the Cook Food Shelf will be Sunday, March 16 from 9 a.m.noon at St. Mary's Catholic Church, 124 5th St. SE.

Pancakes, fruit topping, scrambled eggs, sausage, coffee and orange juice will be on the menu, and take out is available. A free will offering will be accepted.

The fundraising breakfast is supported by donations from Homestead Mills and Cook Zup's.

Contact Steve Kajala at 218-750-0310 or Colette Huisenga at 612-213-7603.

NWFA photo contest voting begins COOK- Vote for the

winning photos at Northwoods Friends of the Arts annual photo contest in Cook during the month of March.

The NWFA Gallery opens on Thursdays and Fridays at 10 a.m. and voters can linger until 4 p.m.

deciding on their favorites. Saturdays the hours are 9 a.m.-1 p.m. The gallery is located at 210 S. River St.

Your vote may decide

which lucky photographer takes the \$100 first prize or who claims \$50 for as the runner up in the "A Shot In The Dark" photo contest. Contest voting contines through noon on March 28.

Enjoy a gala reception Friday March 28th. The contest voting ends at noon Friday the 28th and the celebration and announcement of winners begins at 5 p.m. until 7 p.m.

Prescribed burns set for **Voyageurs wetlands**

INTERNATIONAL FALLS- Voyageurs National Park staff plan to conduct prescribed burns in selected wetlands in and near Black Bay and Cranberry Bay on Rainy Lake during March.

Activities include burning floating and rooted invasive hybrid cattails as well as other wetland areas to remove dead vegetation, rejuvenate wetland plant communities, and reduce woody plant encroachment.

Burning operations will only occur during daylight hours. Operation will be dependent upon ice conditions that allow access to burn areas. Visitors are reminded that smoke will be generated by the burning operations and to avoid areas of active burning.

Hybrid cattails have invaded approximately 500 acres of wetlands in Voyageurs, displacing native communities of plants such as wild rice, sedges, rushes, and native cattail. The Voyageurs Wetland Restoration Project is a long-term project to improve habitat for wildlife, provide enhanced fishing opportunities, and support natural wetlands through increased native plant diversity.

Grizzlies to perform "Alice in Wonderland"

FIELD TWP- Local theater lovers won't want to miss a delightful re-telling of the Lewis Carroll classic "Alice in Wonderland" at North Woods School on Friday, March 7 at 6 p.m. The Wonderland adventures of Alice, the Cheshire Cat, North Woods School - adthe White Rabbit, the Joker venture awaits!

and more will be brought to

life by North Woods' third

to ninth grade students under the direction of North Woods senior Amber Sopo-

ci and Assistant Principal Crystal Poppler. So take a leap and come tumble down the rabbit hole with the young thespians of

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Vote no on Option B

I am writing to encourage everyone to get out and vote. Vote NO on Option B. Democracy is messy. The clerk and treasurer have job duties defined by state statute. They are not at the beck and call of board members. Something the current board majority do not understand. The board represents the people, all of them.

The recent barrage of editorials by some folks that have not lived here for a couple of decades, proves they do not know, or care about our untidy history. It is not wise to have five board members that agree on everything, that's equivalent to one-party rule.

What they did to Jeff Maus is reprehensible. It was the previous fire department leadership that left the fire hall a pigpen, the attorney was wrong. Jeff Maus and Rick Stoehr cleaned up for weeks. Rick has a video, you could contact him if you want.

The treatment by some

board members towards the Bassings and Maus is reprehensible. Many things would be found to be false if the accusers were under oath.

Vote for Sue Drobac as supervisor, her attention to detail is a great asset, and she knows more about township governance than most. JoAnne Bassing did a great job as clerk, and will do a thorough, professional job as treasurer.

Do not vote your rights away on Option B!

Barbara Murray Lofquist **Greenwood Township**

Greenwood needs a change

I am writing in support of Option B for Greenwood Township. The most compelling argument for Option B is that Option A has clearly NOT been working as intended.

I have regularly attended board meetings for the last few years and have witnessed theatrics, rudeness, incompetence, and the inability to work together for the good of our township. It has become extremely clear that a different approach to filling the roles of treasurer and clerk is needed.

More Letters from Readers

It is important to note that the clerk and treasurer positions have a defined list of duties and do NOT get to vote on board matters. Hiring these positions (Option B) vs. electing them will ensure that the clerk and treasurer have the required skills to do their jobs, foster accountability, and support to the board, and set the board up to make progress on the important issues!

We get to exercise our right to vote in electing five board supervisors and can trust they are capable of hiring qualified people for the skilled and supporting positions of clerk and treasurer. The board would hold these appointed positions accountable, unlike the current situation where folks are elected and get to remain in their position until their term is up, regardless of their job performance.

Please vote for Option B and the candidates that support it: Paul Thompson for treasurer and Steve Bradach for supervisor. Let's restore competency, civility, and pride in our local government!

Karen Saarela **Greenwood Township**

Keep elected, local treasurer and clerk

Recently, Greenwood Town Board Chair Lois Roskoski sent a letter out to some citizens in Greenwood Township, and of course, it was filled with falsehoods. When Roskoski was elected. she was not interested in learning that her position as chair only meant that she would run the meetings and sign checks.

Option A, which Greenwood Township now operates under and which the Minnesota Secretary of State refers to as the regular plan, the clerk runs the office and must fulfill statutory requirements as the treasurer must also. They do not have to run their

offices to what the board tries to bully them into. Option A which is used now, is by far the most prevalent. All that needs to be done is look at nearby townships - Eagles Nest, Breitung, Kugler, Vermilion Lake, Morcom, Leiding, and many more use Option A. Option B allows a clerk to be appointed, who is not a resident. Yet, when a supervisor vacancy occurs, the clerk votes on the interim supervisor. Someone from outside Greenwood Township, possibly Virginia or Cook, should not choose our supervisor. Keep your right to vote! It is true that in 2021,

when Deb Spicer was clerk and Belinda Fazio was treasurer, the Board of Audit numbers did not match, and the State Auditors report was not sent in. In 2022 and 2023, the clerk's and treasurer's numbers matched exactly, and the Board of Audit numbers were unanimously passed by the board. This is contrary to what Roskoski wants you to

This year the Board of Audit failed miserably - it was destined to. The clerk's beginning balance did not match the bank balance by nearly \$10,000. The treasurer's report for the same time period did match the bank balance exactly. Think of it this way, your checkbook can't have \$10,000 more than the bank balance.

Another item, at the February board meeting, chair Roskoski should have stopped the tirade from the two men harassing a board member. They, Paul Thompson and Steve Bradach, are running to be part of the Greenwood Town Board. What an outburst. There should be some loyalty to all board members by the chair.

Also, Mike Ralson has many falsehoods in a letter to the editor.

Sue Drobac Candidate for **Greenwood Supervisor**

TARIFFS...Continued from page 1

are heavily dependent on imported Canadian crude, supplemented by oil from North Dakota.

When Trump first announced the tariffs a month ago, petroleum analyst Patrick DeHaan at Gas Buddy, said that northern parts of the country would bear the brunt of the tariff increases.

'And who will be impacted? Primarily motorists in the Great Lakes could see gas prices shooting up in excess of 20 cents a gallon. A lot of that Canadian crude oil flows directly down into areas like the Great Lakes, the Midwest, the Rocky Mountain regions, where it may be difficult to find different sources of crude oil."

DeHaan has since revised that estimated increase to a range of 10 to 25 cents per

The *Timberjay* contacted Edwards Oil in Virginia for more insight, but owner Bob Skalko said it was too early to tell and declined to speculate.

What's certain is that the gasoline futures market has jumped since last Friday. Quoted in price per gallon before gasoline is blended with ethanol, the futures price jumped from \$1.9703 on Friday to \$2.1942 at the close of trading on Monday, an 11 percent increase that falls in line with Trump's ten percent tariff.

It's likely that drivers will also see increased maintenance costs for their vehicles, as well over half of auto parts imports come from Mexico (40.4 percent), Canada (10.3 percent), and China (9.2 percent). Some parts, such as transmissions, use metals sourced from Canada and are partially built in the U.S., then shipped across the border to Mexico for completion, incurring the Trump's tariffs on both the raw materials and completed transmission. This multi-country production is reflected in everything from electric switches and circuit

boards to brake parts.

And since cars and trucks made in the U.S. are built with parts from the same complex supply chain, it won't be just the 22 percent of cars imported from Mexico and Canada that will be hit with price hikes, as there is no such thing as an all-American automobile anymore. On Tuesday, FOX Business reported on an analysis by the Anderson Economic Group (AEG) that concluded manufacturing costs for a crossover utility vehicle would rise by at least \$4,000 due to the tariffs, while a large SUV with a significant amount of content from Mexico would rise by about \$9,000. AEG

estimated pickup truck manufacturing prices would go up \$8,000, and electric vehicles would see the biggest cost increases of all, over \$12,000.

Kelley Blue Book, producers of the industry standard pricing guide, reported last week that prices of both new and used vehicles would go up if tariffs were enacted, as the higher prices on new vehicles would increase demand for more affordable used ones. KBB also reported that another study found that car insurance rates will also spike.

The administration may have reacted to the plummeting stock market when, on Tuesday, U.S. Commerce

Secretary Howard Lutnick said that the tariffs might be reduced, but not eliminated, as early as Wednesday.

"I think he's (Trump) going to work something out with them," Lutnick said on FOX Business. "It's not going to be a pause, none of that pause stuff, but I think he's going to figure out, you do more, and I'll meet you in the middle some way, and we're going to probably be announcing that tomorrow."

The original tariffs were still in place as the Timberjay reached its press time.

REVERSAL...Continued from page 1

City Council member Angela Campbell stated she could not support the grant after contacting WICOLA with further questions. She said Dave Holt at WICOLA could not provide her with answers she said she needed to evaluate the validity of the grant's claims.

Council members Adam Bisbee and Emily Roose, who voted against the opposition letter, said they did not interpret the WICOLA materials as attack on mining, but rather an attempt to reduce sulfate and mercury contamination in the Dunka River as well as demonstrate the viability of a low-cost technology for treating sulfate pollution.

Originally for WICOLA?

The start of this saga was on Feb. 18, when Holt, acting president of WICOLA, made a presentation to the city council on a joint grant proposal in partnership with environmental engineering firms Bay West and Clearwater Biologic. Because of the well-known correlation between sulfates and mercury in fish, the project aimed to hopefully reduce the bioaccumulation of mercury in the river. The project site would be a mile below where WICOLA says untreated mine drainage enters the Dunka from the Northshore Mine through Langley Creek. That pollution discharge has been well-documented by test data accepted by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

Anti-mining? Freshman city council member Lahtonen remarked that he interpreted the grant as an attack on local mining. "I read this article provided by WICOLA numerous times. It is obvious that these anti-mining articles are nothing more than an attack on mining but also attack on a way of life. (These people) are not only going after copper-nickel mining, but they are going after taconite mining ... Before this council even considers supporting a study like this, we need to consider the possibility of losing hundreds of mining jobs."

Debeltz echoed that sentiment. "If a letter of support means we are saying we're against mining, I totally have a problem with that."

Bisbee pointed out that the council had an alternative in addition to letters of support of opposition. "There is a third option, and that's not to do anything for or against." His suggestion was rejected by the five council members who seemed to want to punish WICOLA for asking for the city's support.

Residents Ozzie Rief and Nora DuBois asked to speak at the public forum at the end of the meeting. They both expressed dismay at the WICOLA vote.

'I'm concerned," said DuBois. "The project is outside our jurisdictions. It is confusing to vote to disapprove of the grant instead of not saying anything at all. That seemed like that was the middle ground."

"I'm confused why this happened, why the city voted against clean water."

Won't waive dog park fees

The city council received the report from the Ely Board of Adjustment that it granted a conditional use permit, or CUP, to the Ely Dog Park. The details of the permit were reported in the Feb. 28 edition of the Timberjay. Police Chief Chad Houde expressed concern that the terms of the permit and lease specify the requirement for rabies vaccination. City Attorney Kelly Klun stated that the condition for specifically requiring a rabies vaccination could be included in the lease agreements when she drafted it.

The council then declined a recommendation from the Board of Adjustment to waive the \$250 CUP application fee for the Ely Dog Park group because they were a nonprofit. At a Feb. 19 meeting, Board of Adjustment member Joe Prioreschi moved that the board recommend the fee waiver to the city council, a measure that received unan-

imous approval. At Tuesday's meeting, city council members Forsman and Roose both made state ments against waiving the fee. "I don't like setting a precedent to waive fees. We've never done anything like this," Forsman stated during the

Mayor Heidi Omerza commented, "We as a city need to pay our bills, too, and fees are one of the few things

we can do for that." The vote was 6-0 not to waive the fee. City council member Angela Campbell abstained because she is on the board of directors of the

Ely Dog Park nonprofit. In other business matters,

the city council: ➤ Approved the recommendation from the Ely Sanitation Committee to not advance the dumpster enclosure ordinance as suggested by the Planning and Zoning Commission, or P&Z. The dumpster ordinance has been bouncing in and out of P&Z, sanitation, and the city council since summer 2024. Forsman asked Roose, who was the P&Z chair when the commission first sent the proposed ordinance to the city council about the impetus for the measure. Roose said it was a letter of complaint about trash blowing out of dumpsters but couldn't recall exactly when the letter arrived.

➤ Approved two ordinance updates to the definitions of camping areas-RV parks and resorts as recommended by P&Z.

➤ Set the date of Spring Clean Up Days for May 2-3.

➤ Approved the second reading of Ordinance 388, to amend the city's land use laws to conform to a Federal Emergency Management Agency requirement with a March deadline. Passing the ordinance before the deadline will enable Ely landowners in flood zones to obtain flood insurance and federal emer-

gency flood relief in the future. Approved the hire of Cody Lehn as an equipment operator pending a pre-employment physical, testing, and background check. The council also approved keeping Josh Pohlman on the hiring list for one year if a position opens for an equipment oper-

ator trainee.

> Approved the rightof-way vacation for Warren Johnson, property owner at 1003 S. Second Ave E., who requested that the city vacate a platted but unimproved street right-of way, described on E. 10th St. Ss from S. First Ave. E. to S. Third Ave. E. in the Tower View Estates Addition Plat, "from Block 1 Lot 5 to Block Lot 4 (sic)." The right-of-way is next to the radio station antenna on

Beacon Hill. ➤ Approved a \$17,500 note and mortgage for Kannas Real Estate LLC for the commercial renovation loan at 224 E. Harvey St. to install new energy efficient windows. The vote was 6-0 in favor with city council member Emily Roose

➤ Approved a recommendation from EUC to amend the city's fixed sewer rate. The sewer fixed rate will be increased by \$1 instead of the \$2 recommended by the utilities rates subcommittee. The council directed the city's staff to schedule a public hearing for March 18 at 5 p.m. to hear testimony on the proposed

change to the rates.

➤ Approved the first reading of Ordinance amending Chapter 20, Section 20.2.41 of the Ely City Code regarding the sale of lots in the Plat of East Spaulding First Addition Plat. This ordinance will allow the sale of two city-owned lots for \$38,000 total. The sale was approved by the city council in January. Because the ordinance affects city property, the city council scheduled a public hearing for the law change, which will be

held on March 18 at 4:45 p.m. ➤ Approved the following claims for payment: \$393,458 for the city of Ely and the Ely Utilities Commission through March 4; pay estimate No. 7 from Max Gray Construction for \$193,222; and an AES2 general consulting invoice for \$1,524.

➤ Approved the appointment of Laurie Kess as a representative from the Northern Lakes Arts Association on Gardner Humanities Trust.

➤ Approved change order No. 2 for the Ely Regional Trailhead Building site date. The current completion date was March 1. The revised

completion date is now June

> Approved change order No. 4 for the Ely Regional Trailhead Building. During the discussion, Forsman brought up that while he would vote for the change order, he also noted it was necessary because the architect made a mistake in the design of the building. He added that the city's clerk-treasurer, Harold Langowski, should pursue discussions with the architect the change order to fix the design for the solar panel

attachments and add fixtures

in the vestibule is \$4,557. > Approved a residential rehab loan application for Adam Bisbee at 1004 E. Chapman St. for up to \$6,000 to install a high-efficiency propane furnace, pending proper paperwork and fees. City council member Adam Bisbee abstained from the vote but did comment during the brief discussion that a furnace breaking down when it was 15 degrees below zero

Gardner Humanities Trust

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Apply online at: gardnertrust.org

APPLICATION DEADLINE: March 26th

For help with applications contact: Peter Schamber, Executive Director

info@gardnertrust.org | 218-365-2639 Office hours (in City Hall) Fri 3pm—5pm or by appointment

READ THE TIMBERJAY!

March 7, 2025 THE TIMBERJAY

BAND...Continued from page 1 -

federal funding for the tribe did not happen, at least not yet. "But we are still monitoring the situation," he said. Drift said he has been pushing the council to build up tribal reserves since he was first elected back in 2018, and he said this was something the council needed to continue to work on.

On a more optimistic note, Drift talked about the opening of the new cannabis dispensary, Ishkode, located on the grounds of Fortune Bay. The dispensary opened its doors on Feb. 28, and Drift reported the business recorded \$15,000 in sales its first day.

"I've always believed in the cannabis business," he said. The band is not growing their own product but is purchasing from other tribal growing operations in Minnesota. Drift estimated it would cost \$7-\$8 million to set up a growing operation. It cost around \$2 million to get the dispensary up and running.

"Cannabis business is our future," Drift said. "It is a huge game-changer for our band."

Drift said the band needs to use profits from the dispensary wisely, and said they are looking at opening an off-site dispensary at the Nett Lake Convenience Store, which could potentially make that business profitable. Right now, the convenience store is



Band members filled their plates at the buffet dinner held as part of the State of the Band festivities.

subsidized with profits from Fortune Bay, he said.

Drift highlighted other issues as well, including the tribal council's lobbying at the state level to preserve the increased 1854 treaty payments, begun in 2023, that expire this year. They are also working with the state to make sure tribal interests are part of a taxing agreement for helium mining, which isn't part of the current mineral royalty tax system and not covered in the 1854 treaty. They're also concerned about a reduction in tax payments for land stewardship that are helping the tribe repay its loan for its recent purchase of 28.000 acres of land.

Drift also discussed ways the band needs to continue

working to preserve their language and culture. He would like to see the band build two round houses, one in Nett Lake and one in Vermilion, to use for ceremonies and gatherings. "We need to bring back our traditional ways," he said. Drift talked about

recent tragedies and deaths of band members. "It's been a hard year," he said. "We've had a lot of our band members passing away." The State of the Band

was originally set to be held earlier this winter but was rescheduled due to a death of a band member.

He also talked about a personal loss, the death of his significant other, Christina Premo Hujanen, who lost a long battle with cancer last

"She helped me become a better man, father, boyfriend, leader, and writer," he said.

"We need to be holding healing ceremonies and talking circles," Drift said. "A chance to come together, to grieve together, and heal together."

The State of the Band was opened by Miranda Lilya, the newly promoted executive director for Bois Forte. She talked about her background in tribal government, starting back in 1997 working as a background investigator, then working in human resources and the judicial services. Lilva introduced some of the many people working as senior managers for the band.

Drew Ebert, CEO of Bois Forte Development Corporation, spoke about the process of opening up the new dispensary, building an entirely new business from scratch in six months.

'We have built a strong foundation for success," he said, and playing off the name Ishkode, which means "fire" in Ojibwe, "This business will be igniting new opportunities. There is no limit to what we can achieve."

Melissa Wright, the judicial services director, talked about how the band was modernizing and digitizing its

court records, contributing to national databases, and developing a strategic plan. She said the band is holding more community notification meetings regarding sex offenders. They are also collaborating with substance abuse and mental health providers, noting that many who come in contact with judicial services have underlying needs.

"We are working on a more holistic approach," she

The department will be celebrating the 50th anniversary of its judicial court on May 22, and will be dedicating the courtroom in Nett Lake to Lucille Morrison, who was the court clerk for 34 years.

District 1 representative Perry Drift talked about the reasons he ran for office, including the preservation of wild rice, the Ojibwe language, and the band's land, as well as a desire to make the band's businesses successful.

"Everything around us is spiritual," he said, and then directing his talk to the younger band members in the audience, "Follow your dreams, believe in yourself, learn your language, and get that degree.'

Perry will be traveling to Washington, D.C. next month to speak on behalf of Bois Forte.

"This administration is

attacking us," he said. "They are seeing what they can take.

Perry said the band must persevere. "We didn't know they could take our funding," he said. "We need to get back

to our old ways." Secretary-Treasurer Tara Geshick thanked all those attending the event.

"Seeing our elders congregate on this special day means the world to me," she

She talked about progress made during 2024 and said that Bois Forte "can be on the cusp of greatness in 2025." She said the band has been

updating software, getting

caught up with its financial

auditing, and is looking at a potential source of federal funding that would cover the cost of maintaining the band's 20 buildings. Geshick said new guidelines are being put in place

regarding the purchase of existing businesses by the band to make sure they are profitable and that their land can be put into trust.

She said the band is creating a plan in case federal funding is cut.

"We must all unite and come together for the common goal of growth and prosperity," she said. "We must focus on standing with other Minnesota tribes and never waive our sovereignty."

STATION...Continued from page 1-

We turned the station off this afternoon. It's in the hands of engineers right now. If you tune in, you might hear programming and you might not. The official rebirth is yet to come."

Local focus

"Our focus is local radio,"

Hartman said. Local radio means local community, local news, local programming and, of course, high school sports, he said. "We plan to bring back the Twins," which is certain to please area baseball fans.

"We also have new tech planned for the station, like

streaming on the internet, an app, and video. We'll be looking for people to help run the station, for programming and selling ads. There will be separate programming for the dual station but also some ites like Trader Craig Loughery and Polka Ron Forsman would have the opportunity to return to the air.

'We are committed to what it will take," Hartman concluded. "It's not our station, It's the community's

Civic Media, which now owns nearly two dozen stations across Wisconsin, does air some political commentary, described as "center-left" by Hartman, on some of its stations. But he said that's programming that Civic doesn't intend to bring to WELY.

Hartman said Ely area listeners can expect the station will be ready for its official relaunch in late spring or early

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simulcast on the AM and FM." Hartman said local favor-

probationary employee, was

terminated along with more

than 1,000 other National

Park Service employees in

one of Musk's controversial

decision to fire all proba-

tionary federal employees-

including those working

in national parks—has left

places like Voyageurs severe-

work tirelessly to keep us

safe in some of Minnesota's

most wild and extreme areas,

including Voyageurs National

Park," Smith said in a state-

ment. "Elon Musk indiscrim-

inately fired masses of federal

workers that serve essential

roles to keep our communities

safe, including Kate, all to pay

for tax breaks for billionaires

than a decade working in

conservation, serving as a

park ranger in Texas and

Colorado before taking on

her role at Voyageurs. Her job

involved leading the park's

curriculum-based education

program, facilitating rang-

er-led programs, developing

exhibits and ensuring positive

visitor center experiences,

maintaining the park website

and social media, and public

the release as saying that the

recent cuts will have a notice-

able impact on national parks

across the country.

Severson was quoted in

"As Americans, we all

Severson has spent more

and big corporations."

"Park rangers like Kate

According to Smith, the

employee purges.

ly understaffed.

PROTESTS...Continued from page 1 sured places that are so rich in beauty and history-despite the fact that they are understaffed and underfunded," Severson said. "This recent loss and betrayal of our newest cohort of Park Service employees weakens our ability to protect these parks and pre-

serve them for our children." She added that she doesn't believe the cuts were truly about saving money.

"I do not for one second believe these cuts were made to save the taxpayers money," she said. "Parks have well-documented benefits to the economy. Instead, these cuts were designed to make government agencies vulnerable, strip away the protections and services in place for the public good, and open the way for those looking to exploit our resources."

Smith said that the loss of park employees means fewer staff to maintain trails, clean facilities, and manage visitor safety - issues that could make parks less accessible and enjoyable for the public.

"The story that Kate and Voyageurs National Park represent is one of absolute chaos for Americans since Donald Trump has taken office," Smith said. "He unilaterally appointed Elon Musk to one of the most powerful positions in the government without oversight. I'm glad she has the opportunity to share her story, and I'm grateful to have her by my side at this address to Congress."

For now, Severson said

she hopes to shed light on what's happening behind the scenes at America's national parks and push for a return to full staffing and support.

"This isn't just about jobs," she said. "It's about keeping our parks open, safe, and protected for generations to come."

Protest at VNP

Last Saturday, 42 demonstrators gathered at the VNP Rainy Lake Visitor Center boat launch to join thousands of other protesters across the country at 433 National Park Service sites to demonstrate against the Trump administration's ongoing decimation of the national parks' workforce.

While the crowd at VNP was far smaller that those at Joshua Tree National Park in California, where an estimated 400 attended, or at Rocky Mountain National Park, where protesters lined the entrance road for half a mile, they were no less enthusiastic in trying to raise awareness about the mass firing of new park staff, planned reductions in federal service positions, and the removal of protections for public lands.

According to Jesse Gates, who works as an education specialist for the park's nonprofit partner Voyageurs Conservancy, demonstrators traveled from Bemidji, Duluth, and as far away as Minneapolis to join the protest at VNP. Starting at noon, they held signs and American flags, engaging with passing vehicles

and discussing the potential consequences of losing park employees. Conversations centered on preventing further staff cuts, protecting parks from pollution linked to proposed resource extractions, and addressing how federal actions could directly impact

Jeff Hardwig, a retired physician from International Falls, emphasized the importance of protecting the park and its employees at the protest.

International Falls.

"This small gateway town sits on the edge of Voyageurs National Park. It's a national treasure that must be preserved for current and future generations. Park employees are valued members of our community, and their loss affects us all," Hardwig said. "This park belongs to the people, not the billionaires who would exploit it for personal profit. Billionaires don't need help from us but fired workers and the parks do need protection from those who prioritize tax breaks for the wealthy over environmental stewardship. Fire billionaires, not workers.'

Beyond environmental concerns, protesters also voiced worries about how proposed Medicaid budget cuts could strain local charitable resources, such as food pantries, and how recent foreign policy decisions were affecting cross-border relations with Canadian family members, neighbors, and businesses.



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PUBLIC SAFETY

Babbitt man charged with threats of violence in Ely

ELY- A Babbitt man was charged with felony threats of violence after suggesting he would shoot a woman in the face with a handgun last Friday evening at the Grand Ely Lodge. Hotel officials alerted the Ely police around 8 p.m. and officers later observed Carter John Manning, age

30, in the hotel's pool area, leaning against a wall. Hotel staff told officers Bradley Roy and Charles Petersen that they had tried to convince Manning to leave the facility, but he refused.



Carter Manning

While Petersen was talking to hotel staff, a woman approached Roy and told him that Manning had approached her with his hand in the shape of a gun. According to the arrest report, Manning put the "barrel" against her head and asked "Do you want to know what a nine millimeter feels like straight to the face?"

Roy reported that the woman was

visibly frightened while speaking to him. That's when the two officers took Manning into custody. He was later booked into the St. Louis County Jail.

Manning was enrolled in the conditional release program, which allows a release from jail without bail after agreeing to a set of binding set of conditions while undergoing the judicial process. He agreed to supervision by a parole officer, to not possess or handle firearms, and avoid all possession, purchase, and use of non-prescription mind-altering substances and places where alcohol and other drugs are sold. He was released on Monday of this week. His first hearing is next Monday, March 10.

ENTERTAINMENT

Full lineup on tap at third annual Ely Film Festival

by CATIE CLARK

ELY- The third Ely Film Festival starts next week at Ely's Historic State Theater at 238 E. Sheridan St. This year's event is even bigger than before and starts next Wednesday, one day earlier in the week than last year. For those wanting to attend, some shows have already sold out. Tickets and festival passes are available at elystatetheater. org/ely-film-festival/.

Because of the demand,

the festival has now scheduled additional showings of the first eight shows to sell out on Wednesday and Thursday, March 19-20. "Please let festival pass holders know that the passes will include any of the showings we've added on those two days," festival director Jacob White told the Timberjay.

Boundary Waters

"Anyone wanting to see 'Boundary Waters," Jacob cautioned, "should consider getting their tickets soon. The

film has less than 50 tickets left spread between the two showings on Wednesday and Saturday."

The Saturday showing of the indie film will be followed by a Q&A with Tessa Blake, the film's director. "Boundary Waters" was filmed on location in Ely almost two years ago, and features Ely locations and local extras.

Festival events

This year's festival includes 109 original films including 24 feature-length movies. The programming is a mix of 31 showings of features and blocks of shorts.

"We'll have over 45 filmmakers attending this year," White said. "We'll have 14 Q and A's with filmmakers after showings and a track of panels free for the general public at the Ely Folk School across the street from the theater."

The festival schedule includes a dozen extra events like the free panels at the folk school and mixers for pass holders with filmmakers. The extras are spread around downtown, with locations at St. Anthony's, the Ely Senior Center, and local restaurants.

"All the programming is online and in the festival schedule," White stated. The schedule is a 44-page newspaper-sized booklet which will be available at the theater next week.

New booking system

This year's film festival features a new ticketing system on the website. "You don't need to print every ticket and bring them with you anymore," White explained. "Pass holders only need their lanyard and pass with its QR code, and we have their tickets stored in the system. All they need to do is show up.

"Every online ticket purchase will be confirmed with an email, and the email will be good too as proof of a ticket ... Frankly, all a person really needs to do is tell us their name at the door and we'll find their tickets or pass-holder reservation to a show."

FEDERAL CLOSURES

Shuttering of Indian Health Services office could impact region

by DAVID COLBURN

Cook-Orr Editor REGIONAL- The potential termination of the Indian Health Service office lease in Bemidji by the Trump administration drew strong pushback on Tuesday from Minnesota U.S. Senators Tina Smith, a member of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, and Amy Klobuchar, both Democrats. In a strongly worded letter to Health and Human Services Secretary Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. and General Services Administration (GSA) Administrator Stephen Ehikian, the pair highlighted the impact this decision could

Americans across the region. "Thousands of members of federally recognized Tribal Nations receive health care within the Bemidji Area Office's purview," they wrote. "This includes emergency care, substance use disorder treatment, mental health care. primary, specialty, and dental

have on the health and well-be-

ing of thousands of Native

care, and much more. Without an operational area office, recipients of this care will face immediate disruptions in care and health consequences. It is unconscionable to risk the health care of children and families in this way."

The Bemidji Area Office is responsible for health care services for 34 Tribal Nations in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin, and four urban Indian health programs in five states. It also operates direct services for the Leech Lake, Red Lake, and White Earth bands – Cass Lake Hospital, Red Lake Hospital, and White Earth Health Center.

In the letter, Smith and Klobuchar underscored that IHS services are provided under the federal government's trust and treaty obligations to tribal nations and that any disruption in operations could jeopardize essential medical services. They demanded clarity on whether GSA intends to terminate the lease and if so, what plans exist to prevent service disruptions.

This follows on the heels

of another controversy with IHS, the termination of about 1,000 health care workers in the so-called "Valentine's Day Massacre" in which thousands of probationary federal workers were fired. The IHS layoffs were rescinded within hours of the action, with Kennedy vowing to

strengthen the service during

"My father often complained that IHS was chronically understaffed and underfunded," Kennedy said. "President Trump wants me to rectify this sad history. Indians suffer the highest level of chronic disease of any demographic. IHS will be a priority over the next four years. President Trump

wants me to end the chronic disease epidemic beginning in Indian country." Without any of the details demanded by Smith and Klobuchar, it appears that the closure of the Bemidji office runs counter to that promise.

The Bemidji lease is part of a large push by the Trump administration to cancel agency leases all over

the country and count those as savings for DOGE, although there is no accounting for the costs of relocating and housing the personnel and services employed by those agencies. DOGE has also targeted many federally owned buildings in Washington, D.C. and around the country for sale.



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12 March 7, 2025 THE TIMBERJAY

FINNISH HERITAGE

Sisu Heritage annual meeting features local award-winning ethnic cook

by JODI SUMMIT

Tower-Soudan Editor

EMBARRASS- Crystal Schlueter, of Babbitt, received quite a bit of publicity last fall after winning a nationwide recipe contest sponsored by Campbell's Soup. But her passion for cooking lies closer to her own family's ethnic roots and traditions, rather than crafting new recipes using processed

Schlueter was the featured speaker at the Sisu Heritage annual meeting on Feb. 23. She talked about her Finnish roots, her great-grandparents' journey to northern Minnesota, and the family recipes she treasures and is trying to pre-

Her great-grandmother paid her way to America by working as the ship cook. She married a fellow Finn she knew from her hometown, who had also recently immigrated. They settled in Cloquet and soon had five children. Her great-grandfather died young, leaving his wife with five children under the age of 10. Schlueter's great-grandmother struggled to feed her family, sometimes feeding her children pancakes made out of livestock feed because she couldn't afford flour. She remarried. and had a few more children.

Schlueter's grandparents moved to the Babbitt/Ely area in the early 1960s, eventually building a home on Blueberry Lake Rd. in Ely.

The cooking gene passed down to Schlueter, who demonstrated a variation of her great-grandmother's Finnish flatbread recipe.

"In Finland, they would use a sourdough starter made from stale bread," she said. "But you can also use dry yeast."

Traditionally, these flatbreads were made from rye and barley flour, cooked up once a week, and then hung up to dry. They were served with butter, cheese, or soup. Finns did a lot of drying to preserve their food, and they also made a lot of fermented foods, which kept for long periods.

Schlueter likes to use the rye flour from Homestead Mills in Cook.

"They make a really good rye flour," she said. "It's a little lighter than what is used in Finland."

This recipe is one of the simplest breads she knows of, and it can be mixed easily by hand or in a stand mixer. It is adapted from her family's recipe.

Schlueter said that preserving these old recipes is important for many reasons. She is currently working on a cookbook, that will be published by the Minnesota Historical Society Press, featuring ethnic recipes and their stories from the Iron Range.

"There are a lot of great cookbooks on the Range," she said. But many of the old cookbooks, especially church-published cookbooks, don't translate well for modern cooks.

"Many just say bake in a hot oven until done," she

She is also working on updating ingredients that are no longer readily available.

Schlueter is still actively



Above: Crystal Schlueter demonstrated how to make a traditional Finnish rye quick bread. Left: Ron Sutton takes a sample of the Ruisreikäleipä.

photos by J. Summit.



seeking ethnic recipes and stories from area residents. Anyone interested in sharing recipes can email her at crschlueter@gmail.com.

Her new cookbook will be titled "End of the Road Cookbook," and will feature recipes from the many ethnicities found on the Iron Range, and some of the recipes she has shared with readers in a column she publishes in the Ely Echo and Babbitt Weekly.

"A lot of family recipes have gone away," she said, but adding that luckily many Iron Range families have been preserving their family recipes.

"I am so fortunate to come from a family of cooks and bakers," she said.

"I love sharing people's stories," she said. "I want to hear about their grandmothers. This is making more memories for future generations."

Schlueter noted that often times the recipes she publishes don't exactly match what people remember.

"It may never be as good as what your grandmother did," she said.

But Schlueter also has struggled with something many might understand, a relative's reluctance to give up a cherished recipe.

"I am super passionate about potica," she said. "But my grandmother won't even give me her recipe! It's a super secret."

Schlueter said she found a hand-typed potica recipe in a "dusty old cookbook" she bought at an estate sale.

"It's the closest I've found to my grandmother's." "I don't think recipes

should be kept secret," she

Schlueter said her cookbook will include more stepby-step instructions, something that old recipes often lack Her cookbook draft is due to the publisher this fall, so it's expected to be published next year. Schlueter also does her own food styling and photography. Once published, you can expect to find the cookbook at the Nelimark Homestead Museum shop, which features a nice selection of books, items made by area artisans, ethnic gift items, as well as fresh-baked ethnic breads and treats. The shop is open weekends in the summer, as well as two special weekends in November and December for holiday shopping. The Farmstead Artisan group helps staff the Nelimark, and coffee an' is always available when the shop is open.

Schlueter's Simple Finnish Flatbread

This type of flatbread called Ruisreikäleipä (usually just shortened to reikäleipä) in Finnish. Ruis means rye, reikä means hole, and leipä means bread.

3 cups rye flour

2 cups lukewarm water 1 packet active dry yeast

(can use sourdough starter

1 TSP apple cider vinegar (omit if using sourdough

1 tsp salt

Combine all ingredients. The batter will be very sticky. Wet your hands and form four round disks, about 1/4" thick, on two parchment-covered baking sheets. Score each disk into 8 wedges, and pierce well with a fork dipped in flour so it doesn't stick. This helps the crisp bread stay flat. Cut a small hole in the center using a cookie cutter or small glass. Let rise 30 minutes. Bake at 450F for 15-18 minutes, or until brown on the edges. Can be eaten warm. The bread will crisp up as it dries out, and traditionally was strung up to dry out.

Sisu Heritage annual meeting

Sisu Heritage's president Marlin Bjornrud reported on the historical society's work in 2024 and plans for 2025. The group is sponsoring live music at the Apostolic Lutheran Church and the Seitaniemi Housebarn, as well as the annual Sauna Day celebration on June 7.

Bjornrud talked about upcoming renovations at the Seitaniemi Housebarn. The group received bonding money from the state which will almost complete the exterior renovations of the building, which is on the National Register of Historic Places. Work will include repairing and replacing the exterior siding, painting the building, finishing the haybarn loft, installing doors on the haybarn, and reconstructing the privy on the first floor of the building. Bjornrud said they still will need to find funding for the reconstruction of the dormer over the building's root cellar.

This summer, some Seitaniemi relatives from Finland will be visiting Embarrass, and some other living relatives from the Upper Peninsula of Michigan will also be visiting.

The public can tour the building during Sisu's Community Night Out on Sept. 7. Last year, attendance topped 175, and besides hosting live music, attendees could purchase chili and homemade

Attendees at this summer's FinnFest, in Duluth, will also be touring the historic log buildings in Embar-

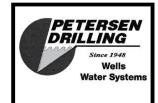
Other 2025 plans include offering field trips to area schools, doing further restoration work at the Nelimark and Hanka homesteads, along with work at the Apostolic Lutheran Church. Bjornrud reported on the

group's finances, which are stable, with income mostly matching expenses. The Apostolic Church, a historic building recently taken over by Sisu, has been self-supporting, thanks to a generous donation. The church has been used to host live music events, and can be rented out as a wedding venue. The church hosted its first wedding last year. Sisu members reelected

Ron Sutton, Tom Sheehan, and Bruce Sweeney to the board, along with newcomer Winnie Koivisto, who is taking the seat of long-time board member and treasurer Cindy Scherer. Board member Mickey White was once again appointed as the group's representative to the St. Louis County Historical Society Board of Directors.

Memberships in Sisu Heritage are \$10 per year, or \$250 for a lifetime membership. The group currently has 144 members, which includes 33 lifetime members.

For more information, visit sisuheritage.org or call 218-984-3402. Memberships can be mailed to Sisu Heritage, PO Box 71, Embarrass, MN 55732.



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Ely Chamber of Commerce holding job fairs

ELY- The Ely Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring two additional job fairs in March. One job fair will be in Tower, at the Herb Lamppa Civic Center, 402 Pine St., on Wednesday, March 26 from 4-6 p.m. This event is also open to the public.

The other job fair is for high school students only from the Ely, Winton, Tower, Soudan, and Babbitt areas. The event will be held at the Ely Public Schools campus

in the cafeteria on Thursday, March 20 from 8-10 a.m.

These job fairs offer an opportunity to connect with local employers, explore career options, and learn about current job openings.

Businesses that would like to participate at the job fairs, please contact Eva at 218-365-6123 or email her at director@ely.org.



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SPORTS

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GIRLS BASKETBALL

North Woods pushes **Chisholm in** tourney loss

by DAVID COLBURN Cook-Orr Editor

CHISHOLM- While the NCAA men's basketball tournament has made legends of No. 12 seeds upsetting No. 5s, the truth is that the higher seed wins that matchup two out of every three tries.

With the odds stacked against them, the 12th-seeded North Woods girls gave fifth-seeded Chisholm all they could handle for 31 minutes before the Bluestreaks pulled away at the end for a 71-48 home win on Thursday.

Chisholm was up 3-0 when the Grizzlies' Tatum Barto cut down the lane for a score and was fouled. She made the free throw, and after a Chisholm trey, Sierra Schuster responded with a shot in the lane. Corra Brodeen kept the Grizzlies in the thick of the battle with a putback of a blocked shot to stay within two at 9-7. When Chisholm went up by five, Barto drained a three to get the Grizzlies back within two at 12-10. The Bluestreaks followed their fifth trey of the game with a free throw to go up 16-11, but the Grizzlies refused to buckle, getting scores from Barto and Brynn Chosa to close the gap to 16-15.

Chisholm pulled out to a 23-15 advantage with just under nine minutes left in the half, but North Woods cut the deficit to four twice

See NW GIRLS...pg. 2B

BOYS BASKETBALL

Grizzlies no match for Deer River

by DAVID COLBURN

DEER RIVER- The North Woods boys learned why Deer River is rated the second-best team in all of Class A on Friday when the Grizzlies were overwhelmed 95-55 in their regular season finale here.

The Warriors came into the game smarting from a loss to Mt. Iron-Buhl that snapped an 11-game win streak, while the Grizzlies were riding the high of consecutive comefrom-behind wins against Chisholm and Ely.

Trajen Barto gave the Grizzlies early hope when he sliced down the lane for a layup that gave North Woods a 2-1 lead, then hit a 12-foot bank shot for a 4-1 lead. But the North Woods advantage disappeared

See GRIZZLIES...pg. 2B



GIRLS BASKETBALL

Better than expected

Ely bows out in semifinals as it wraps an impressive season

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER

HIBBING- After graduating three top senior players last year, the Ely Timberwolves could have come into the 2024-25 season with expectations of a rebuilding year. But the team and new coach Tomi Cole had other ideas, as they wrapped up their photos by D. Colburn regular season at 17-8 and made an impressive run to the semifinals in the Section 7A tournament.

But the Wolves' playoff run, and their season, came to an end here on Tuesday, as they fell 57-32 to Cromwell-Wright.

The second-seeded Cardinals provided the bookends to Ely's season, having also outpaced the Wolves 52-32 in their season opener. As they did in that first game of the season, the Cardinals found a way to shut down the normally well-balanced Ely offense.

Above: Ely's Lydia Shultz looks for room in the paint.

Right: Clare Thomas dribbles towards the basket.

With a number of weapons, the Wolves had consistently managed to outpace opponents

without relying too heavily on any one scorer.

But the Cardinal's quick defense, left most of Ely's weapons untapped. Sophomore Amelia Penke was the only Ely player to reach double digits, with 15 points, while fellow sophomore Lydia Shultz added eight. "They

made it incredibly hard to get good looks at the basket," said Ely Head Coach Tomi Cole. "Everything we attempted just didn't fall.

"Cromwell certainly knows how to turn it up that extra notch this time of year."

That intensity helped the

See ELY GIRLS...pg. 2B

ELY WOLVES

Three-balls sink Ely in regular season finale

by Marshall Helmberger Managing Editor

CLOQUET - Under most circumstances, against most teams, the Timberwolves would have headed home from here last Friday night with another game in the win column.

"We actually played okay offensively," said Ely Head Coach Tom McDonald. Ely senior Caid Chittum poured in 35 points, one of his best performances in weeks, while two other Ely players reached double digits. But a never-ending barrage of three-balls made the Ojibwe unstoppable as they outpaced the Wolves 97-79.

"We had no answer to their three-point shooting," noted McDonald. "They were 18 of 28 on threes and it didn't matter what defense we played they just shot the ball so well and every one of their starters shot well. We had only six turnovers so it was a pretty clean game for us and we shot okay, but not like they did."

Chittum was red hot for Ely, shooting 15 of 20 from two-point range, but it wasn't enough to keep pace with Fond du Lac's outside shooting. Junior Jack Davies added 14 points for Ely, while junior Drew Johnson added 12. "Junior Tyler Fritz came off the bench to go three-for-three on threes to finish with nine," said McDonald.

With the loss, Ely wraps up its regular season at 16-9. good for eighth seed in the Section 7A boys basketball playoffs. The Wolves were set to host 11th-seeded McGregor on Wednesday evening, after the Timberjay's weekly press time. With a win, the Wolves would likely face a major challenge against three-seed Mt. Iron-Buhl on Saturday, March 8, at Esko High School. The Rangers were set to face 14th-seeded Nashwauk-Keewatin on Wednesday.

CRANE LAKE CHALLENGE



The skies were blue, temperature chilly, not cold, and the track smooth and fast for the Crane Lake Challenge staged by the Straight Line Speed Association on Saturday. At least two world records were set, but the event is always as much about the fun of going fast and the variety of snowmo-biles and riders that are there.as it is setting records. Though records are nice, too. photos by D. Colburn



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DOG TRAINING

The key to a happier, easier life together

Training isn't just a bonus if you have a dog; it's a game-changer. A welltrained dog makes life easier, whether you're navigating everyday interactions athome, heading out for a walk, or taking them on adventures. Training isn't just about obedience; it's about building a solid relationship based on trust and communication.

Why bother training?

Let's be honest—an untrained dog can make life stressful. Behaviors like pulling on the leash, jumping on guests, and stealing food off the counter can get old fast. Training helps your dog understand what's expected of them, making daily life smoother and more enjoyable for both of you.

It's not just about fixing problem behaviors, either. Training gives your dog mental exercise or enrichment,



Nicole Wiebusch

which can be just as important, if not more, than physical exercise. A welltrained dog tends to be more confident, relaxed, and engaged with its people. When you spend time training together, you strengthen your bond, which makes everything else easier in the long run.

While plenty of training can happen at home, taking a class has some real benefits. A class provides:

- ➤ Expert Guidance A good instructor helps you troubleshoot issues and ensures you use effective, positive
- ➤ Distraction Training Your dog learns to focus on you even when other dogs and people are around.
- ➤ Consistency & Structure A set schedule keeps you motivated and on track
- ➤ Community & Support You're not in this alone. A class lets you connect with other dog owners working on similar goals.

What Can You Do at Home?

Even if you don't take a class, you can do a lot on your own. The key is to keep training fun and build it into your everyday routine.

- ➤ Teach the Basics Sit, down, stay, recall (coming when called), and loose-leash walking all make life easier.
- ➤ Work on Manners Simple things like waiting at doorways, not jumping, and staying calm around food can make a big difference.
- ➤ Play Training Games Eye contact games, hand targets, and impulse control exercises make learning fun and
- ➤ Keep It Short & Sweet You don't need marathon training sessions. Five minutes here and there adds up fast.

A stronger bond

At the end of the day, training isn't just about having a dog who listens—it's about building a relationship. The more time you spend training, the more in sync you'll be with your dog. Whether you

take a class or work on skills at home, training is one of the best investments you can make in your life together.

Grab some treats, make it fun, and enjoy the journey - your dog will love

Nicole Wiebusch, CPDT-KA, is a certified professional dog trainer who lives in Aurora with over 20 years of experience helping dogs and their people build strong, positive relationships through training. Whether working with pet dogs on essential manners or coaching competitive teams in dog sports, Nicole's training philosophy is centered around clear communication, positive reinforcement, and making training fun and effective for both ends of the leash. More information is available on her website at https://goldenpawsdogtraining.com/.

GREENWOOD

Board agrees to pay Maus his paid-on-call

by JODI SUMMIT

Tower-Soudan Editor

GREENWOOD TWP- At a special meeting on March 4, the Greenwood Town Board agreed to pay Jeff Maus for 14 hours of paidon-call time at \$25 per hour, plus a penalty of \$80.70 for late payment. State law requires the township to have paid any salary due immediately after terminating employment, chairman Lois Roskoski told the board.

The calls took place in January and February, while he was on paid administrative leave, but after Maus was cleared to work by his orthopedic surgeon. The board did not choose to pay Maus for three calls between Feb. 5 and 8, saying that Maus had informed the board he had "limited availability" during that time, and was having the deputy treasurer perform his duties.

"Our township attorney suggested we have a special meeting to vote on this," she said. The township had paid Maus for the time he spent having the township-required physical, which involved his driving to Grand Rapids. That doctor cleared Maus to return to duty. They had also paid for two calls he responded to on Jan. 8 and 9.

Supervisor John Bassing noted that Maus had responded to 109 calls

A list of calls, assembled by Roskoski, showed 19 calls between Jan. 19 and Feb. 17. All were EMSrelated, except for one structure fire call. The board approved payment for 13 calls, all one hour except for the structure fire, which was for two

But the board was split on how to deal with Maus's failure to return all of his fire department related equipment, keys, and files to the town hall. Maus had returned his radios and fire gear, but the board said the township-issued laptop, fire hall keys, and some call logs from 2023 were still not at the hall.

The township, after terminating Maus on Feb. 18, ordered him to return all his fire gear and related equipment by the following day. The township attorney also sent Maus a certified letter with this information. Roskoski said.

"Didn't he (Maus) tell the previous firefighters who were voluntarily quit, terminated, that we would call the cops if they didn't return their items?" asked supervisor Paul Skubic. "He returned the other stuff, at what point is it theft?"

Roskoski told the board that Maus had submitted reimbursement claims that totaled nearly \$1,000.

"We can't withhold this check," Roskoski said, referring to the payment due for his paid-on-call. "But we can withhold the check for expenses. We need to get that laptop

Clerk Debby Spicer asked if the board should make a motion to refer

the matter to the sheriff.

A motion by Skubic to hold onto the reimbursement check until the items are returned passed on a 3-2 vote, with Roskoski, Craig Gilbert, and Skubic voting yes, and John Bassing and Rick Stoehr voting against.

"When does it become criminal if the laptop doesn't come back?" asked Gilbert.

In other business, the board voted to add the fire department's EMRs to the death/disability policy they had approved for department firefighters. The cost is \$10 per person for the year, plus a \$4 fee for processing a new employee.

FBI INVESTIGATION

Fortune Bay recovers all of scammed cash

by DAVID COLBURN

Cook/Orr Editor

FORTUNE BAY- All of the \$110,000 taken from Fortune Bay Resort Casino in an attempted November scam has been recovered, according to an announcement last week by the Bois Forte Tribal Council.

On Nov. 11, a Fortune Bay employee removed \$110,000 from a vault and took it off the property. Resort staff immediately contacted federal and tribal law enforcement, and \$108,000 was recovered at the time.

Last week the council announced that the remaining \$2,000 had been paid back to Fortune Bay. The employee involved in

the incident was terminated, and the case remains under investigation by the Minnesota U.S. Attorney's Office.

While the band did not report details of the incident, numerous Native casinos

around the country have reported scam operations targeting casino cage employees. The National Indian Gaming Commission issued a warning to tribal gaming operators in July 2023 about "impostor scams" where scammers claimed to be vendors, state or tribal officials. They would try

to convince an employee that there was some emergency that required an immediate cash payment and get them to take the cash off-site for transfer.

Immediately after the incident, the Bois Forte Tribal Council imposed strict vault controls, including requirements for recordkeeping,

limitations on vault access. and restrictions on the use of vault funds. The council also approved updated policies and procedures for vault staff and requested the National Indian Gaming Commission to review its vault procedures.

LOCAL ART

Ely uniting art and nature

and Nature" is a photography exhibit and naturalist presentation about the current owl irruption that will run March 8-31 at the Art & Soul Gallery in Ely. Artists see a strong connection between art and

ELY- "Uniting Artists nature. They are inspired by Ely Field Naturalists: March nature to create nature's story, through observation of our natural surroundings.

There will be two presentations, by photographer Larry Ricker of LHR Images and naturalist Bill Tefft of

14 and 15, both from 12 - 2p.m., at the Art & Soul Gallery. These presentations are free and open to the public.

Check our website, event list for more information, www.elysartandsoul.com.



NW GIRLS...Continued from page 1B

before a pair of Barto free throws made the score 28-25 with a minute remaining. The Grizzlies couldn't get any closer in the waning seconds, as Chisholm canned a trey and a two to lead 33-25 at the half.

The Bluestreaks took command with a 10-0 run to start the second half, with Brodeen finally cashing in on a ten-foot jumper to make the score 43-27. Both teams went cold from the field for an extended period of play, but the Grizzlies kept working hard and cut the lead to ten at 48-38 on a Chosa trey with 6:41 remaining. Three consecutive charities by Schuster cut the Chisholm lead to 50-43 with 5:27 remaining, and the Grizzlies were

back in the hunt for the upset.

Those hopes, however, evaporated down the stretch, as Chisholm suddenly erupted with a stunning 21-5 run to advance to the next round of tourney play with the 71-48 win.

Barto carried the Grizzlies scoring attack with 23 points as North Woods saw its season come to an end with a record of 6-21.

GRIZZLIES...Continued from page 1B -

when Cale Jackson scored the first of his game high 28 points on a triple to put the Warriors up 6-4. Deer River moved out to a 13-point edge, but a Barto trifecta and an Aidan Hartway bucket cut the lead back to single digits at 27-19 with about eight minutes left in the half. However, the

Grizzlies couldn't hang with the Warriors as they closed out the half on a demoralizing 15-4 run to carry a 53-29 edge into the locker room.

Now on track, the Warriors never looked back in the second half, going up by 31 at 65-34 with just over four minutes elapsed in the period. Deer River was ahead 84-46 when the running clock kicked in with nine minutes remaining, and both coaches went deep into their benches to close out the contest.

Deer River was nearly unstoppable in the paint, hitting 59 percent of their shots in close and scoring 50. They

started out shaky and let the

held North Woods to just 33 percent shooting for the game, and the Warriors dominated the boards, outrebounding the Grizzlies 57-35.

Barto topped North Woods in scoring with 15, followed by Panichi with 12.

The loss left the Grizzlies with a 13-13 record for the enough to earn the eighth seed in the Section 7A tournament and the right to host a home opener against No. 9 Northland, who enters post-season with a 12-14 record. The Eagles won't be intimidated playing on foreign hardwood, as they scored a

regular season, just good

77-65 win at North Woods in December. The game was scheduled for Wednesday, with the winner almost certainly having to face off against No. 1-ranked Cherry on Saturday at Esko.

ELY GIRLS...Continued from page 1B -

Cardinals dominate the boards as the Wolves managed just 27 rebounds, barely half their rebound total from their quarterfinal contest with Bigfork.

The Wolves, seeded sixth in the tournament, reached the semi-finals after an impressive showing against the third-seeded Huskies, who the Wolves held to just 33 points, the Huskies' lowest point total of the season. Ely controlled the boards much of the night, as they racked up 46 rebounds, including 30 defensive boards, along with 12 steals.

Penke again led the way offensively, pouring in 15 points, while notching 10 defensive rebounds as well, for a double-double. Junior Zoe Mackenzie added nine points, all on three-balls, while Shultz tallied six points and ten boards.

Sophomore Audrey Kallberg grabbed a dozen rebounds, while senior Clare Thomas notched five points and five boards. Maija Mattson notched four points and four

The Wolves made it to their quarterfinal bout with the Huskies in the wake of their 67-38 pummeling of South Ridge in Ely. The Wolves

height-advantaged Panthers gain the early momentum and a seven-point lead midway through the first half. It was a quiet time in the Ely gymnasium and a reminder that Ely had nearly let the Panthers rally for a win the previous Friday. "We definitely started shaky," said Ely Head Coach Tomi Cole. "But I think once we got settled, it was more the game that we wanted to play."

Indeed, the momentum shift was palpable, and the Wolves took full advantage with an unanswered 25-point run that left them firmly in

control the rest of the way.

By the time South Ridge finally found the basket, several minutes into the second half, it was too little, too late for a rally.

"We gave up a lot of a lead last Friday and so we knew we just kind of had to put the pedal down and go," said Cole. Otherwise, they were going to chip away because they're athletic. No team wants to lose at this time, and they've got some height, too."

The Wolves posted a solid offensive attack with three players in double figures. Shultz led the way, pouring in

18 points, including three treys, while connecting on seven and 11 chances at the charity stripe and grabbing nine rebounds. Kallberg notched 14 points and grabbed 11 boards for the only double-double of the night. Thomas added 13 points, while Penke added nine along with five boards. Mackenzie added eight points to the effort. Despite Tuesday's loss,

Cole said her team has a lot to be proud of. "It was certainly expected to be a rebuilding year, so I thought how we ended up was far beyond expectations.'

And Cole is optimistic about the years ahead, particularly given the consistent strength of the team's several sophomores and lone junior, all of whom can be expected to return next season. "We relied heavily on our underclassmen this year," said Cole. "We will certainly miss our two seniors. who brought a lot to our effort, but I think our sophomore group shows a lot of promise I'd say Ely has a lot to look forward to."

March 7, 2025 3B THE TIMBERJAY

Obituaries and Death Notices

Mary Ann Henderson

Mary Ann Henderson, 90, of Lake Vermilion-Tower, died peacefully in her sleep on Wednesday, Feb. 26, 2025, in Eden Prairie. A memorial service will be planned for July 2025 in Tower.

Mary Ann was born in Virginia on June 11, 1934, to Rudy and Mary Simonich. She and her sister Theresa grew up on the northside. She graduated from Virginia High School and attended two years of junior college before marrying the love of her life, Jack W. Henderson, on June 4, 1955, in Virginia.

Mary Ann was a loving mother to three children, Mary Beth, Cathleen (Rick Clevette) and Julie (Emmanuel Takgbajouah); proud grandmother to Kevin and Jackie Clevette, Mary and John Takgbajouah; and great-grandmother to four beautiful children. She will be missed.

Elizabeth I. Lundin

Elizabeth "Betty" Irene Lundin, 77, of Orr, passed away on Sunday, Feb. 9, 2025, in Libby, Mont. There will be a private family memorial service in the spring.

Betty was born on March 16, 1947, in Kansas, to Mabel Laverne Banks. In 1948, her mother married Louis Udovich, and he was known as Betty's dad. They moved to Silverdale in 1948. Betty married Albin Zakrajshek on Sept. 11, 1965, and remained with him until his death in 1989. She and Albin had three children together. In 1993, Betty married Fritz Lundin of Orr.

Betty loved going to Montana, gardening, flowers, berry-picking, visiting with friends, and swapping

recipes. She also loved to talk about her beloved dog Simon. She worked at the Orr IGA and as a mail lady; everyone who knew her loved her.

Betty is survived by her husband, Fritz Lundin of Orr; children, Melissa (Robin) Ashley of Kalispell, Mont., and Michael Zakrajshek of Silverdale; grandchildren, Anthony, Amanda, Alan and Ajay Zakrajshek and Brandon Ashley; great-grandchildren, Michael, Gracie, Andrea, Zieva, Eliana and Zaylee; sister-in-law, JoHanna Udovich; stepchildren, Judy Boothman, Debbie Flegel, Jeffrey Lundin and Charlene Redd; and numerous step-grandchildren, cousins, nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her first husband, Albin; parents, Louis and Mabel Banks Udovich; brothers, Donnie and Harold; sister, Rose; grandson, Tyler; and an infant daughter.

Mark E. Drift Sr.

Mark Edward Drift Sr., Mi-Zin-Ni-Ga-Boo ("walks on clear ice"), of the Bear Clan, 58, of Eveleth, originally of Nett Lake, passed away unexpectedly at the U of M Hospital in Minneapolis on Sunday, March 2, 2025. A wake was held on Wednesday, March 5 and a Traditional Service was held on Thursday, March 6, both at the Nett Lake Government Services Center. Spiritual advisors were Billy Blackwell and Vernon Adams. Pallbearers were Shane Drift, Brent Chosa, Perry Drift, Erik Halvorson, Josh Sherman, Dexter Sherman, Kaiden Chosa and John Carlson. Arrangements were with Mlaker Funeral Home in Cook.

He is survived by his

wife, Sandra Drift of Eveleth; mother, Karen Drift of Nett Lake; daughters, Nina (Everett) Villebrun of Cook, Alanna (Josh) Sherman of Tower and Jeanette Long of Tower; stepdaughter, Kendra Carver of Eveleth; sons, Mark (Isabel) Drift Jr. of Nett Lake and Phillip Long of Hibbing; sisters, Farrah Drift of Nett Lake and Karlene (Donald) Chosa of Baraga, Mich.; brothers, Peter (Lori) Drift of Mahnomen and Bart Drift of Nett Lake; grandchildren, Kaiden, Colt, Evan, Ellie, Dexter, James and Elora; and numerous nieces, nephews and friends.

Javid D. Spaulding

Javid Donald Spaulding, 52, of Duluth, passed away on Sunday, Feb. 23, 2025, at Bayshore Residence after bravely fighting a lengthy period of multiple health issues. There will be a simple graveside service in May at the Alango Cemetery on Hwy. 22 for family and friends. Arrangements are with Mlaker Funeral Home in Cook.

He is survived by his sisters, Monique Grandy, Randie Spaulding and Tricia Williamson; and brothers, Bill Spaulding and David

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Fred W. Gabrielson

Fred William Gabrielson, 29, of Orr, passed away on Sunday, Feb. 23, 2025. Funeral services will be held later in the spring. Arrangements are with Mlaker Funeral Home in Cook.

He is survived by his parents, Fred and Kathleen, and sister, Laura, all of Orr.

James P. Heglund

James "Jim" Perry Heglund, 58, of Cook, passed away on Thursday, Feb. 27, 2025. There will be a family gathering at a later date. Arrangements are with Mlaker Funeral Home in Cook.

Martha L. Nosie

Martha Louise "Mar-Shermer Nosie, 68, of Rauch, passed away peacefully on Saturday, March 1, 2025, after a brief illness. A celebration of life will be held on Friday, March 7 at the Cook Community Center. There will be a short service from 4 to 4:30 p.m. followed by fellowship and food until 6 p.m. Arrangements are with Mlaker Funeral Home in Cook.

She is survived by her daughters, Chris (Terry) Novak, Katie (Jimmer) Pastore



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and Billie (Chris) Lemieux; granddaughters, Jaida Lemieux, (DJ Bialke) and Breanna Pastore; siblings, Dennis (Sharon) Shermer, Irene Semon, Cliff (Mary) Shermer, Mark (Karen) Shermer, Ruth (John) Huismann, James (Becky) Shermer, Joe (Amy Nelson) Shermer and Kay (Tim) Cornelius; aunts, Mavis Hubble and Elaine Forbes; uncle, John (Marianne) Hall; and numerous cousins, nieces and nephews.

Keith A. Aho

Keith Alan Aho, 85, of Cook, went to his eternal home with Jesus on Friday, Feb. 21, 2025, at his childhood home with the love of his life, Carol, by his side. A celebration of life memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, March 28 at the Cook Community Center. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service. In memoriam, the family appreciates charitable donations to Guided Hope Ranch in Berthoud, Colo., the Cook Lions Club or a charity of your choice. Arrangements are with Mlaker Funeral Home in Cook.

He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Carol Louise Johnson Aho; children, Kaarin (Guy) Scoma, Kraig (Jannet) Aho, Kristian (Jillian) Aho and Kurtis (Rachael) Aho; and 15 grandchildren, Felicia, Christopher, Katelyn, Tucker, Kira, Jessika, Kristian, Regan, Victoria, William, Jedidiah, Hannah, Olivia, Rebekah and Saarina.





2024 Lights of Love Donation List

The Virgie Hegg Hospice Foundation would like to thank all of the donors and supporters of our annual Lights of Love Campaign

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March 7, 2025 4B THE TIMBERJAY



WILDLIFE RESEARCH

Region's moose population shows continued stability



by Marshall Helmberger Managing Editor

REGIONAL -Northeastern Minnesota's moose population remained stable for another year, continuing a trend that has now lasted more than a decade. The DNR's annual moose survey results pegged the northeastern Minnesota moose population

LEft: Two moose make their way through the Pagami **burn.** file photo

REGIONAL BOOKS

last year's estimate of 3,470, although well within the normal variability for wildlife surveys.

Results continue to suggest that after a steep decline from a population estimate of approximately 8,000 moose in 2009, Minnesota's moose population appears to have stabilized. Since hitting a low estimate of 2,760 moose in 2013, the survey has consistently pointed to a more stable population at around 3,800 animals.

This year's number is

simply a point estimate within a wider range, reflecting the degree of uncertainty around any wildlife population estimate. The DNR's latest survey results point to a population of between 3,130-5,390 moose, with 90 percent certainty.

This year's survey continued a trend of apparently better moose reproduction, with a calf-to-cow ratio of 0.41, the sixth highest ratio in the past 21 years. Lower calf-to-cow ratios in the late 2000s and early 2010s seemed to herald the decline in the region's moose numbers.

The northeastern Minnesota moose population is estimated annually through an aerial survey generally conducted in January when deeper snow cover makes it easier to spot moose from the air.

While recent estimates suggest continued stability in the population and reproductive success, Minnesota DNR researchers point out that Minnesota moose remain

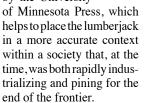
See MOOSE...pg. 5B

A new take on the era of the lumberjack

EGIONAL - The folk hero Paul Bunyan, burly and bearded, wielding his oversized ax, stands astride the story of the Upper Midwest— a manly symbol of the labor that cleared the vast Northwoods.

The era of the lumberjack, much like the era of the cowboys, has been

the subject of American myth for generations, and it's one that a fascinating new book, "Gentlemen of the Woods: Manhood, Myth, and the American Lumberjack," by historian Willa Hammitt Brown, helps to correct. history, published by the University



Throughout, it paints a dramatic picture of the scale and the impact of the logging era in the Great Lakes states, which leveled tens of millions of acres of pristine, mostly white pine, forest, over the span of just several decades. Brown also explores the ways in which the timbering industry, once dominated by many small start-up companies, morphed over the decades into one led by a handful of large trusts that deployed enormous

amounts of capital to industrialize the clearing of the forests. The implications of that change were dramatic as the wealth generated from the exploitation of the Northwoods increasingly went to the few lumber barons at the top.

The lowly lumberjacks, often recent immigrants, lived in unpleasant condi-

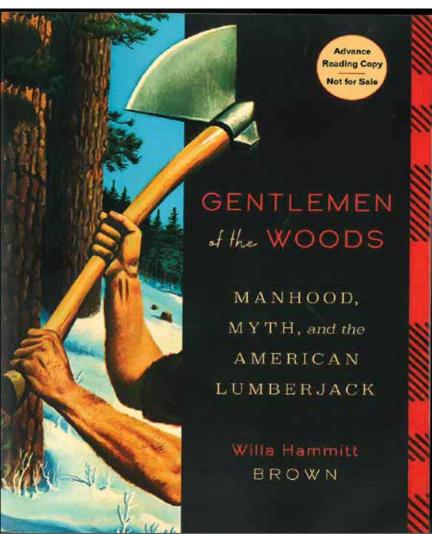
tions as Brown describes in one particularly vivid scene from a bunkhouse, as the men took off and hung many of their sweaty clothes and socks to dry overnight. "As the clothes dried," writes Brown, "they that one reporter

claimed was 'so heavy that our blankets were wet and you could hardly see across the room.' The putrid stench of up to a hundred unwashed men sleeping amid a mist created by their own steaming socks belied description and perhaps belies imagination."

MARSHALL

It could have made the 'jacks long for daybreak and the fresh air of the great outdoors, except for the dangerous and back-breaking nature of the their work. Felling the enormous white pines was only one of the dangers that the 'jacks faced during the course of the day. While most didn't die, it was a rare 'jack who avoided serious injury.

That was even more





Lumberjacks gather for a game of dice in the bunkhouse at Joe Dunning's Camp 2, located forty miles north of Grand Rapids, circa 1903. courtesy MN Historical Society

so for the so-called "river hogs," who were charged with keeping the logs moving during the spring river drives. The dangers were constant for these men, and escalated

whenever the logs hung up, often creating vast jams that could involve tens or even hundreds of thousands of logs. Brown writes: "When a jam occurred, the work grew

exponentially more arduous and difficult. With thousands (if not millions) of logs floating on the icy, rapid current,

See HISTORY...pg. 5B

MAKE A LITTLE GREEN

DNR doubles payments for black spruce, jack pine cones

by Marshall Helmberger Managing Editor

REGIONAL - If you've ever considered harvesting pine and spruce cones to earn extra money, now is your chance. Officials with the Department of Natural Resources say the seed cupboards are bare and so they've doubled their payments for those willing to go out and gather cones for the seeds contained inside.

The DNR uses seeds from a variety of trees for direct planting on logged sites, or to grow seedlings for bare root planting. The agency either directly plants trees under contract or sells seedlings to private landowners for their own planting projects.

But without seeds, the DNR can't plant anything, which is why they're making

a last minute push to obtain

black spruce and jack pine

cones and they're willing

Right: Black spruce cones are about the size of the end of your thumb and are usually found near the top of the tree. They are purple when first ripe, but turn coppery brown later in the season. courtesy MNDNR

to pay top dollar - \$200 a bushel for black spruce cones and \$60 a bushel for jack pine. As you might imagine,

See CONES...pg. 5B



CLIMATE

DNR seeking rainfall monitors

by Marshall Helmberger Managing Editor

REGIONAL-Want to help the state's climatologists better understand Minnesota's climate patterns? Then consider becoming a volunteer monitor with the the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail and Snow, or CoCoRaHS, network.

It's part of a national network of more than 20,000 volunteers and here in Minnesota it's run by the DNR's climatology office.

Volunteers use a standard four-inch rain gauge to measure precipitation in their backyards and report their results online.

The data from backyard rain gauges are a critical source of information and it's beneficial to add more volunteer weather observers each year, even in areas where there are already volunteers.

Rainfall and snowfall amounts can vary widely over a short distance, so a variety of reports is helpful in the same community or area," State Climatologist Luigi Romolo said. "We have some areas in greater Minnesota that have very few reporting stations. The more we have across the state, the better information we all have.'

Volunteers are particularly needed outside the immediate Twin Cities metro area. Volunteers receive training on how to observe weather trends and how to submit their precipitation and weather event reports. All training material is available online. Participants must purchase or provide a standard 4-inch diameter rain gauge (available at a discount through CoCoRaHS) and have internet access to submit reports.

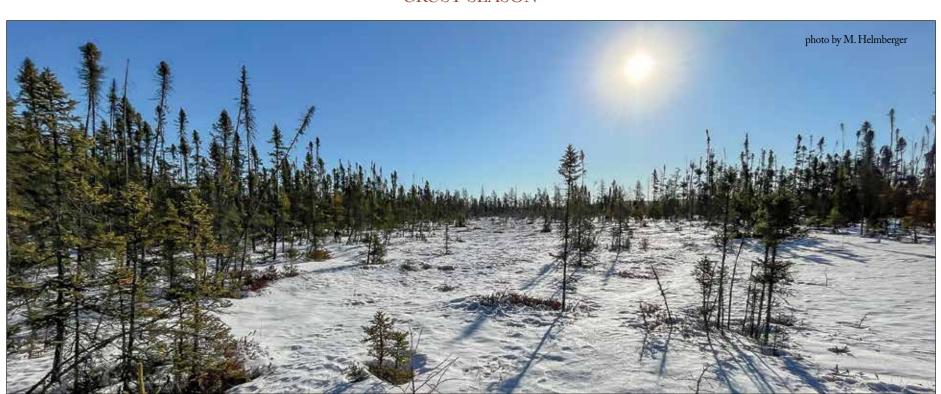
"Over time, as more volunteer reports make our precipitation maps more accurate, these observations provide critical guidance on Minnesota's changing climate," Romolo said. "This is also a great educational activity for families with kids and a rewarding hobby for anyone interested in weather or climate.' For the past five years,

Minnesota has won the "CoCoRaHS Cup" for recruiting the most new volunteers of any state during the March national recruiting drive.

"Year after year. Minnesotans are the best in the nation at stepping up and joining this important effort. Let's keep the cup in Minnesota as we continue to improve our state's precipitation recording,' Romolo said.

March 7, 2025 5B THE TIMBERJAY

CRUST SEASON



Last week's warm-up followed by colder temperatures has created a late winter crust that makes it easy traveling by ski in area bogs and swamps. It's a good time to explore.

Friday

02/24

02/27

40 na

39 na

34 28

37 26

03/02 18 na

0.03

0.07

0.03

0.00

CONES...Continued from page 4B₋

harvesting cones could be dangerous, since most cones grow near the tops of trees. That's why it makes sense to contact your nearest DNR forestry office, who can direct you to recent logging sites that have the type of tree species you're looking for.

You'll need to take care if you go to make sure you're picking the right species of cone and to pick the cones cleanly, without any green needles or branches attached. DNR offices are likely to reject your cones if they aren't clean. Keep in mind, if you want the green, pick

Once picked, store your cones in a breathable bag or cardboard box. Don't keep them in a plastic bag.

For black spruce, the picking season runs from Sept. 15 through the end of winter. March is often a good time, particularly as the snow melts, exposing the tops of recently cut black spruce.

Before picking cones, be sure to contact your local DNR area office for more information or visit the DNR's website at www.dnr.state.mn.us/forestry/nursery/cone-seed-collection.html to watch a short video and read a tip sheet on picking cones.

Phone numbers for area DNR offices are: Tower (218-300-7800), Orr (218-757-3274), Hibbing (218-231-8484), or Littlefork (218-888-9050).

MOOSE...Continued from page 4B -

at risk. Presently, the longterm survey trends indicate the moose population has declined approximately 60 percent since the mid-2000s. Climate change, parasites, and predator impacts on calf survival all play a part in the long-term survival of the

Band of Lake Superior Chippewa and the 1854 Treaty Authority are full partners on the moose survey and contributed funding and personnel for the 2025 annual survey. The survey is available on the Minnesota DNR's moose management



LAKE COUNTRY FORECAST

Saturday

02/24 41 28 02/27 37 27

39 26

0.00

Cook Prec. 0.00 02/24 40 0.04 0.04

02/28 39 28 0.01 0.00

Sunday

0rr 02/24

02/27 36 27 40 28 0.01 0.3" 35 0.01

Prec. Sn.

Monday

40 14

myth, Brown offers new

from NOAA weather

Tower Hi Lo

02/24

Tuesday

HISTORY...Continued from page 4B

02/28

these jams could be enormous. The largest spanned miles. Toward the front, where the combined pressure of millions of logs was at its strongest, jams could tower ten or even twenty feet high over the river, multistory jumbles of wood."

The groaning of the logs from the pressure of the slowly shifting mass could be heard for miles and would force the skilled river hogs to spend day after day, often for a key log that would loosen the flood of timber," writes Brown.

The smiling visage of Paul Bunyan bears little relationship to the reality of the era, notes Brown. Far from heroes, in their day, most 'jacks were frowned upon in the communities near their camps, as amoral transients, many of whom couldn't speak English and largely lived for the moment. Most, in truth, had little to look forward to, particularly in the later years when timbering was dominated by large corporations which left little opportunity for a humble, illiterate immigrant to advance.

The attitude of the newer immigrants, mostly Scandinavian, made them the target of derision and prejudice. "As Yankee-born lumberjack Horace Glenn rather more pointedly put it in a correspondence from camp: 'There are probably fifteen

Swedes." In many camps, the Scandinavians had to be separated from the other men in cabins of their own, since most "white" 'jacks wanted nothing to do with them.

white men here and sixty

It was much the same with the Native Americans who worked in the camps. Like the Scandinavians, the Ojibwe workers faced discrimination and were often left with the lowest-paying or most dangerous jobs. As outsiders, many of

the 'jacks developed their own unique culture that a newcomer could find difficult to enter. That culture defined masculinity in terms of risk-taking and demonstrated skill, rather than restraint and control, which was the dominant ethos of the time among those Americans considered

Along with its more accurate portrayal of lumberjack life and its analysis of the creation of the lumberjack

insight into the intersections of race and social class in the logging enterprise.

In addition to Brown's engaging narrative, the book includes 110 historical photographs along with other illustrations that provide context to the story.

Willa Hammitt Brown, who lives in Minneapolis, first had her picture taken with Paul Bunyan when she was four years old in Akeley and she grew up spending summers on Deer Lake in northeastern Itasca County. She holds a PhD in history from the University of Virginia, where she has taught. She is also a writer and historian specializing in American cultural, gender,

You can order the book in hardcover at the University of Minnesota Press for \$29.95. To learn more or to order, go to www.upress.umn.edu.

and environmental history.





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PUBLIC NOTICE

KUGLER TOWNSHIP OPENING OF ANNUAL MEETING REGULAR MEETING NOTICE

Kugler Township will hold their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, March 11, 2025, with the opening of their Annual Meeting to follow at the Kugler Town Hall.

In case of inclement weather, both meetings will be postponed to one week later, Tuesday, March 18, 2025 at the same time and place.

Brianna Broten, Town Clerk

Published in the Timberjay, Feb. 28 & March 7, 2024.

GREENWOOD TOWNSHIP ABSENTEE BALLOT VOTING

The Greenwood Township annual election of officers will be Tuesday, March 11, 2025.

Absentee voting is available February 7 thru March 10.

Greenwood Town Hall office during business hours, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 9 am - 1 pm or on our website: www.greenwoodtownshipmn.com

Return a completed and signed application to: Greenwood Township, 3000 County Rd. 77, Tower MN 55790

Attach to an email to: clerk@greenwoodtownshipmn.com or

Voting absentee may be done in person at the office during regular business hours and on Saturday March 8, 2025, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm and Monday, March 10, 2025, from 1pm to 5pm.

Debby Spicer-Clerk 218-753-2231

Published in the Timberjay, Jan. 24, Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28 & March 7, 2025

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 erro Clue: A equals G

MW Q BGSL YQEE EGAH

DYSVRYVSG MD YHCCEMTA

GTRHVTYGS YVUNEMTA NEHRXD.

REIL Replacement

FOR BIDS CITY OF ORR ORR, MINNESOTA **PAPI AND REIL** REPLACEMENT

City of Orr (Owner) is requesting Bids for the construction of the following Project:

General Notice

ADVERTISEMENT

PAPI and REIL Replacement

Bids for the construction of the Project will be received at the located at the office of the City Clerk, 4429 Highway 53, Orr, MN 55771 until Wednesday, April 2, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. local time. At that time, the Bids received will be publicly opened and read.

The Project includes the following Work:

Remove and replace all existing Runway End Identifier Light (REIL) and Precision Approach Path Indicator (PAPI) equipment and associated electrical components, including constructing new foundations and site grading and res-

Bids are requested for the

NOMELTARES

solution

 $\sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}\sqrt{\frac{6}{5}}\sqrt{\frac{2}{5}}$

Keep it Clean, ST. LOUIS COUNTY

1 4/3 3/₅\(\frac{3}{5}\)

> $\sqrt{5}$ 6

GREENWOOD TOWNSHIP

PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST NOTICE

Pursuant to MN Statute 206.73, the Township Clerk and Judges will conduct a test of the automatic tabulating equipment

so that the equipment will correctly count

the votes cast for all candidates on the

ballot for the March 11, 2025 Township

The test will be held at the Greenwood Town Hall, 3000 County Road 77, Tower

MN, on Saturday, March 8, 2025 at noon.

Published in the Timberjay, March 7, 2025

CryptoQuote

Food is not just

sustenance. It's a way of

opening up entire worlds

and new cultures in your

little kitchen. Molly Yeh

Subscribe to the

TIMBERJAY!

Call 218-753-2950

following Contract: PAPI and

Obtaining the Bidding **Documents**

Information and Bidding Documents for the Project can be purchased online at: www.bollig-engineering. com under the bidding tab through the designated website QuestCDN.com for \$40.

Bidding Documents may be

downloaded from the designated website. Prospective Bidders are urged to register with the designated website as a plan holder, even if Bidding Documents are obtained from a plan room or source other than the designated website in either electronic or paper format. The designated website will be updated periodically with addenda lists of registered plan holders, reports, and other information relevant to submitting a Bid for the Project. All official notifications, addenda, and other Bidding Documents will be offered only through the designated website. Neither Owner nor Engineer will be responsible for Bidding Documents, including addenda, if any, obtained including from sources other than the designated website. The Issuing Office for the Bidding Documents is: Bollig Inc

Prospective Bidders may

1721 Technology Drive NE, Willmar, MN 56201

obtain or examine the Bidding Documents at the Issuing Office on Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. and may obtain copies of the Bidding Documents from the Issuing Office as described below. Bidding Documents may also be examined Partial sets of Bidding Documents will not be available from the Issuing Office. Neither Owner nor Engineer will be responsible for full or partial sets of Bidding Documents, including addenda, if any, obtained from sources other than the Issuing Office.

Bidding Documents may also be examined at the Orr City Office located at 4429 Highway 53, Orr, MN 55771, Monday through Friday between the hours of 8am and 4pm.

Printed copies of the Bidding Documents may be obtained from the Issuing Office by paying a deposit of \$100.00 for each set. Bidders who

return full sets of the Biddina Documents in good condition within 10 days after

receipt of Bids will receive a full refund. Non-Bidders, and Bidders who obtain more than one set of the Bidding Documents, will receive a refund of \$60 for documents returned in good condition within the time limit indicated above. Make deposit checks for Bidding Documents payable to Bollig inc.

Pre-bid Conference A Pre-bid Conference will not be held for this project. Wage Rates State of Minnesota and

Federal Davis-Bacon prevailing wage rates apply to this contract. Instructions to Bidders For all further requirements regarding bid submittal, qualifications, procedures,

and contract award refer to the Instructions to Bidders that are included in the Bidding Documents.

This Advertisement is issued by: Owner: City of Orr Angela Fabish City Clerk

March 7, 2025

Published in the Timberjay, March 7, 14, 21, 2025

Title:

Super Crossword —

Answers TOOEASY HEADTHERIGHTWAY MORTARERGCSIERESHIP O S S O A A R F E E T A A V E R S E T O S H O U L D E R T H E B U R D E N ACLUEBRALLEANANA RESALESRIALLEDKOCH TRACIO HIO AN PACKRAT C A S E E M O A V A L A D E N B A C K T H E W R O N G H O R S E O B A M A E R A I S O I I T T H A N D NORAHS GPS VAL ATERAW T O E T H E P A R T Y L I N E E N D E A R S M A E R O S O L

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218-750-3474 3.14



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> Learn more and apply online at mn.gov/careérs Job ID: 84291

Application deadline: March 17, 2025 GREAT BENEFITS PACKAGE AA/EOE, Veteran Friendly

Published in the Timberjay, Feb. 28, March 7 & 14, 2025

Wanted: Tractor Trailer Delivery Drivers looking for a Local Caree

CDL Class A. Year round work. Home every night Tractor Trailers based in these areas: Hibbing, Grand Rapids, Virginia, Esko - and we need 4 drivers to fill them. Min 75000 miles OTR, clean record, no accidents, safety attitude Tanker and Hazmat work, but we train for these.

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If you are a quality Class B driver living in these areas: Ely/Babbitt, Virginia, Hibbing, Silver Bay We have work available close to home

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Contact: Krissy/recruiter at 218.741.9634 · kwarwas@eoctrimark.com or our website: edwardsoilandpropane.com/careers.
Edwards Oil and Propane, 820 Hoover Rd, Virginia, MN 55792

Sat: 12:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Tues thru Sat: 9 a.m.—3:30 p.m.

HBGS, M DVCCHDG WHEXD UQL

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11391 Ash River Trail

COOK TRANSFER STATION

2134 S. Beatty Rd.

Cook

COUNTY 77 CANISTER SITE

2038 County Rd. 77 **Greenwood Twp**

KABETOGAMA LAKE **CANISTER SITE**

10150 Gamma Rd

ORR CANISTER SITE

4038 Hwy 53

PORTAGE CANISTER SITE

6992 Crane Lake Rd, Buyck

Thu, Sun: Noon-5 p.m.

WINTER HOURS

Mon: 10 a.m.—6 p.m.

WINTER HOURS

HOURS

HOURS Wed: noon — 4 p.m.

Sat: 8 a.m. - noon

WINTER HOURS

Tue, Thu: 9 a.m.—noon Sat: 8 a.m.—noon

WINTER HOURS

Tue, Sat: 1 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

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ST. LOUIS COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

218-749-9703 | OFFICE HOURS MON - FRI 8 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.

Winter hours effective October 1 - April 14



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SUPPORT GROUPS

AA OPEN GROUP MEETINGS- in person meetings, Wednesdays & Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. 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

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

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

AL-ANON FAMILY GROUP-Are you troubled by some-one'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-

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 alco-

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

ELY WOMEN'S OPEN AA MEETING- Every Monday at noon at Ledgerock Community Church, 1515 E Camp St., Ely.

IF YOU THINK YOU HAVE A PROBLEM WITH DRUGS, give yourself a break. There is a way out with the help of other recovering addicts in Narcotics Anonymous. We have been there. For meeting or other information call 218-728-3199. (Narcotics Anonymous is a non-profit organization.)

HIV/AIDS? For confidential compassionate local support call the Rural AIDS Action Network, toll-free 1-888-647-RAAN(7226).

A L C O H O L I C S 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.

King Crossword —





CryptoQuip If a very tall Lego

structure is toppling over, I suppose folks may encounter tumbling blocks.

Get

Results!

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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.

6





Crane Lake, MN

ACROSS

1 Hair salon

workers

8 Visits briefly

15 Sharp-image

20 Very fast cat

21 Not challeng-

ing enough

e.g.

22 Balcony

window,

perhaps

23 Be on track

transport

26 Bricklayer's

27 Unit of work

CBS "Cyber"

blend

28 2015-16

series

30 — buco

"Ruff!"

33 Greek "H"

31 Kin of

29 Send again,

as a parcel

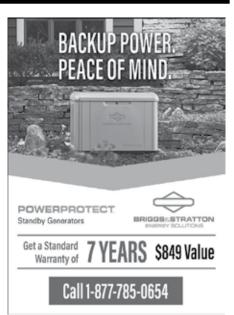
25 D.C.

flat-screens,

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36 "-, vidi, vici"

maximum

38 Forest den

39 Fatty tissue

40 — -Cuban

of film

43 Ogden's

state

48 Male lead

49 Brand of

— Ray

come?"

58 Bureau

60 Apostle

62 Couple

65 Dadaist

Jean

68 Bangkok

native

70 Take a risk

69 Impede

71 No-frills

shirt

64 "I've got it!"

53 Email giggle

54 Superb serve

51 Actor

55 "How

120-Down

42 Misplaced

of animals

(jazz genre)

41 Joel or Ethan

37 Fixed

BODILY ACTIVITY

79 Wood-

shaping tool

80 At that time

82 Discusses

in detail,

with "out"

Remini

"Ta-da!"

90 Zig or zag

91 Vast time

spans

senator

92 Former

Gary

94 On hold

99 Tiny tree

100 On a train

101 Singer

or plane

Wilson of

Wilson

Phillips

102 Farm carts

103 Rule over

104 — Island

Ferry

108 Ancient serf

110 Thin iPods

111 Resided

114 Mani- -

118 Model

109 Come to light

116 Church nook

Banks

96 Make damp

85 Actress

86 French

Super Crossword 97 Film director

98 Weighed

politically

ams Family"

107 "The Add-

cousin

holding

- Infinite

(2008 film)

no cooked

119 Kriss Kringle

120 Conform to

group

123 1989 Disney

princess 124 Captivates

125 Kind of spray

126 Latin "that is"

128 Paternity

prover,

Playlist"

aid

food

purchase

York mayor

a triple **63** Chinese

66 — Brothers ("It's Your

67 Do speaking motions voicelessly

81 12.5%

Sothern

35 Repulsed by **37** Assume an 87 Capital of onerous duty

40 "I haven't --' ("No idea") 44 Strapped

garment 45 Meadowland

46 Pop's mama

47 Pay 50 Café addition

52 Lobster limb

99

105

112

119

123

126

57 — Lanka 58 Everyone

56 Second

59 1978-89 New 61 Like a player who has hit **105** 2009-17,

temple

Thing" group) 108 Poker

112 "Nick and 71 Actress

Bingham of "Baywatch" 113 Car navig.

75 Akron native **76** Collector of 115 Actor Kilmer useless items 117 Consumed

fraction 83 Actress

84 Cavaliers, on sports tickers

Saudi Arabia 88 Fencing sword

89 Enthusiastic 91 Focus on

what you'll get if you win 93 Bulk beer

buy

perhaps

DuVernay

3 Decade parts down (with) 99 Support one 4 Caused who ultimate-**5** Jazz singer ly fails James

6 Enthusiastic **7** Hen or heifer 106 Equal: Prefix 8 Mix together

2 Baltimore

ball team,

for short

9 Wearing dapper duds, with "out" 10 "- -la-la!"

11 Dog or cat owner's

concern 12 Toothy tools **13** Bible book before

Jeremiah 14 Big Apple team, on sports tickers

15 Four-bagger 16 Fixtures for displaying wedding one's political

gowns, say 17 Donated

10% 18 Cinéma -(filmmaking

technique) 127 Really foolish 19 Apply messily

24 Renovates, in brief

29 Partial refund

72 Split 73 Census stat

77 Actress

74 King-trapping situations

120 Steeped drink Sedgwick

121 "Bali -78 FBI attack 16

122 "Super cool!" 117 18

King

≧

20 21 22 23 25 26 30 31 33 34 35 32 136 41 42 44 45 46 48 49 50 52 53 54 56 59 60 63 66 67 68 75 80 72 73 76 79 74 78 81 83 84 88 91 89 90 192

CryptoQuote is LONGFELLOW

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

◆ Easy ◆ ◆ Medium ◆ ◆ ◆ Difficult

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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.

PLLB TR ILD HSRD RSRDXIYIEX. TD'R Y JYK LP

LNXITIM SN XIDTOX JLOZBR YIB IXJ ESZDSOXR TI KLSO

> ZTDDZX CTDEUXI. WLZZK KXU

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Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

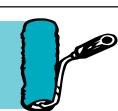
95 Angsty music DOWN 32 Judge's garb 34 Notify genre 1 Joe 11 12 13

93 95 |96 97 98 100 101 103 102 104 107 108 109 110 111 113 114 115 116 121 120 122 124 125 127 128

8B March 7, 2025 THE TIMBERJAY



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Weekly SUDOKU

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆



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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Rug cleaner,
- briefly 4 500 sheets
- 8 Nursery cry
- 12 -de-France
- 13 "Prometheus" actor Idris
- 14 Tehran's
- country 15 Pottery
- 17 Dweeb
- 18 Ecol. watch-
- dog 19 Church meet-
- ups
- 24 Calendar
- abbr.
- 25 Train unit
- 26 Actress Cattrall
- 28 Rural buildings
- ical
- 36 Cranny
- 37 "The Stranger" 60 Scatters seeds 11 Common
- author
- 39 Drone
- 41 Roman 1006 **DOWN**
- 42 Judge in
- 1995 news 44 Polite denial
- 46 Height
- 50 Sunbather's goal
- 51 Part of N.B. 52 Mob bully

12 15 16 18 19 22 25 26 29 30 32 33 34 35 36 38 42 43 44 46 47 48 49 50 21 Mellow yellows 52 54 56 57 58 59 60 61

basics

- 56 Composer Stravinsky
- 32 Pharmaceut- 57 Baltic feeder
 - 58 Big bird
- 34 Crosses (out) 59 Brady and
 - Hanks
 - 61 Filch

- 1 London's Old 21 Outlet letters
- 2 Pub serving
- 3 Part of the
- brain
- 4 Comment
- 5 Inventor Whitney
- 30 PBS science show

23 Half dozen

27 "Whatever"

29 Lothario

31 Nonfat

- 6 Grade-school 33 Fender instruments
- 7 Brick worker 35 Heat source
- 8 SUV's kin 38 "Rugrats" dad
- 40 Engines 9 Location 10 Crumbly earth 43 Two-tone
 - cookies
 - conjunctions 45 Scratch
- 16 Mimic 46 Tizzy
- 47 Takeout 20 Male swan
 - request
- 22 Actress Kate 48 Physics bit 49 Within (Pref.)
 - 53 Hardly any

 - 54 Punk-rock
 - subgenre 55 Massage
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