



the TIMBERJAY



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LOCAL ICON

Cook eatery brought community together

Montana Café set to close permanently on Nov. 18

by LEAH ROGNE
Contributing Writer

COOK - “The tourists are the logs, but the locals are the kindling.”

Rachel Fultz captured the special mix that keeps Cook’s iconic Montana Café going, creating a warm, hospitable gathering place for both local residents and seasonal visitors from across the country.

As the Montana Café prepares to close on Nov. 18, Rachel and her mother, Montana owner

Valerie Ohotto, talked about the feeling of community the café provides and what the restaurant has meant to their family.

The Montana typically closes for the winter months, but this fall the Ohotto family is finishing its two-decade run as operators of the popular downtown café due to Val’s recent health issues. The building and the business are for sale.

On a recent visit to the café, Val made the rounds, visiting with customers, getting hugs, and (as always) sharing a radiant smile.

“People come from all over,” Val said. “They stop in and tell us, ‘We heard about you all the way from (name a state).’ And people stand outside and have their pictures taken with the sign.”

“Somebody came in from Indiana on his way to Canada,” said Rachel. “He said he’d gone in to see his optometrist and told him he was going through Northern Minnesota. The optometrist told him, ‘Oh, you

See...CAFE pg. 10



Valerie Ohotto, and daughter Rachel Fultz, are preparing to permanently close the Montana Café on Nov. 18 after decades as Cook’s meeting place. photo by F. Schumacher

MAJOR LEAGUE EATING COMPETITION

And the winner is ...



Record crowd witnesses Indian Taco eating contest

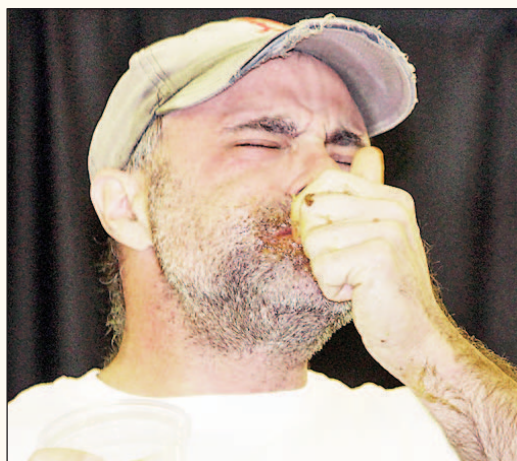
by JODI SUMMIT
Tower-Soudan Editor

TOWER- The mood was electric. The crowd was on the edge of their seats. Background music was thumping the room. The competitors were milling about, trying to take the edge off their nerves. The emcee was pacing back and forth on the stage, revving up the crowd—a world record was at stake. The Woodlands Ballroom at Fortune Bay was close to capacity. It might have been a world

Above: Sam Barclay, emcee of Major League Eating, announces Geoffrey Esper as the winner of the Indian Taco eating contest Saturday night at Fortune Bay Resort Casino. The fourth-ranked Esper beat Joey Chestnut, who holds 43 MLE world records. Right: Esper ate 29 tacos, one more than Chestnut. photos by J. Summit.

heavyweight prize fight, but wait a minute.

See...TACOS pg. 11



DEVELOPMENT

Standing Bear Marina under new ownership

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

TOWER— The Twin Cities-based firm known as Your Boat Club is the new owner of the Standing Bear Marina in Tower. The boat club and the former owners of the facility, Ralph and Ellen Hilla, closed on the sale on Wednesday.

Your Boat Club currently operates 13 marinas across Minnesota, which serve members of the company’s boat rental club as well as the general public. Boat club principal Luke Kujawa said his company plans extensive renovations of the Standing Bear Marina, which has fallen into disrepair over the years.

“There’s a lot of work to do, but our goal is to bring it up to a truly Class A facility. We won’t settle for anything less,” Kujawa said. While the full renovation is likely to take a few years to complete, Kujawa said he expects to have the marina up and running by next spring. “From there, we’ll start building our clientele.”

Once completed, the marina will offer full service to the general public, including boat service and maintenance, docking, fuel, winter storage, a ship store, and daily boat and pontoon rentals. That’s in addition to the boat club service that the marina will offer to a growing number of

See...TOWER pg. 11

ELY CITY COUNCIL

After rough transition, Ely public access TV back on the air

by KEITH VANDERVORT
Ely Editor

ELY – The city of Ely had a few “stumblings” last week, according to Mayor Chuck Novak, in transitioning to a new provider for Ely’s public access television operations.

After advertising for proposals to manage the public access television operations last summer, the city’s Telecommunications Advisory Board recommended a change in management, and with the City Council’s approval, the city of Ely ended the nearly 10-year relationship with Ely TV and Michael Jankovec. Todd Crego assumed management of the local public television access channels on Nov. 1.

“On the morning of Nov 1, we discovered there was no material on the server running out to the feed,” Novak told city council

members Tuesday night. “The material was all backed up and recovered back into the system, so we are getting back in shape.”

Novak introduced Crego, who was busy recording the council session. Crego said he was happy for the opportunity and will take programming sug-

gestions from the public through the City Clerk’s office.

Novak went on to thank Jim Robins from Voltz Electronic for assisting in the back up and recovery of the recorded material that suddenly disappeared

See... ELY pg. 9



Check out Poetry at the top of the stairs!

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COUNTY SCHOOLS

Engebritson tapped for interim super

by MELISSA ROACH
Staff Writer

REGIONAL-In a 5-2 vote on Monday, the St. Louis County School Board approved the hiring of Reggie Engebritson as the district's interim superintendent.

Engebritson has some familiarity with the district

already, serving for the past ten years as the executive director of the Northland Learning Center, a special education cooperative with eleven area independent school districts. She also serves on the 2142 Administrative Team, and said she has built relationships with the district's principals and special edu-

cation teachers over the years. She described her management style as one that focuses on leadership development for principals and teachers, focusing on student-centered classroom focus-with rigor.

"Clarity, integrity, collaboration, continuity, as well as a sense of humor, are what I consider impor-

tant tools for management. This is about providing academic excellence, what's best for the kids. Kids don't get a do-over when we have a teacher who is underperforming."

Engebritson studied special education and received her master's degree as well as her Administrative License

from St. Cloud State University. She went on to obtain her Doctor of Education in Educational Policy and Administration from University of Minnesota.

Board member Pat Christianson told other members he had received some calls and emails with concerns about

Engebritson being approachable, which board members had expressed was an important role of the superintendent position. A meeting to negotiate a contract will be held later this month. The board also interviewed former transportation director Ed Dorman and Kim Belcastro.

GOVERNOR'S RACE

Otto calls for two years free public college

Proposal would also phase in increase in minimum wage to \$15/hour

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

REGIONAL— State auditor and DFL gubernatorial hopeful Rebecca Otto is proposing a two-part plan to increase the skills and the wages of workers in Minnesota. The plan includes providing Minnesota residents two years of public college or vocational training as well as a phased increase in the state's minimum wage to \$15.

"A high school education isn't enough anymore," said Otto, who released her latest proposal last Thursday. "We need equality in opportunity and we need to address the skills gap," she said, noting that when workers lack needed skills, they end up working two or three jobs and barely making enough to raise a family. At the same time, said Otto, businesses are struggling to find qualified candidates for higher-skilled jobs with much higher pay and benefits. "We

have good jobs that aren't being filled," she said. "This is about recommitting to the common good, to the notion that if you work a 40-hour week, you should be able to support your family."

Otto's proposal is the third in a five-part series of proposals that she said encompass her broader vision to renew Minnesota.

Otto said that during her recent listening tour around the state, she heard regularly about the struggles of families, but also their hopes and dreams for the future. "After identifying those issues, I've worked to put together a comprehensive plan, that all fits together. This is not just a laundry list of ideas."



Rebecca Otto

More than one political observer has noticed the similarities between Otto's vision, which includes a major commitment to the advancement of clean energy, universal single-payer health care coverage, and free public college for up to two years, and the proposals offered by Independent Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders during his 2016 presidential bid. Sanders proved overwhelmingly popular with Minnesota DFLers, who favored Sanders over his rival Hillary Clinton by a wide margin and Otto is clearly hoping her progressive vision will set her apart from her other rivals in the race, including St. Paul Mayor Chris Coleman, House Minority Leader Paul Thissen, First District Congressman Tim Walz, and Minnesota Reps. Erin Murphy and Tina Liebling.

Otto said it's critical to reinvest in rural parts of the state, particularly in improving the skills of the workforce. According

to her campaign, Otto knows of northern Minnesota businesses, for example, with vacant positions paying \$70,000 a year that are going unfilled due to a lack of qualified workers. "This is about valuing work, and recommitting to rural communities," said Otto. "People don't want low wages and government supports. They want good-paying jobs."

Otto proposes to improve the skills of the state's workforce through her plan for free access to two years of public college or vocational training. That would include public community colleges in northeastern Minnesota, such as Vermilion, Mesabi, Hibbing, and Rainy River.

Otto said providing free tuition to those institutions would increase state spending by about \$229 million in a biennium. "That's about one-half of one percent of the budget," she said.

Otto said the failure to make this investment has long-term

consequences in terms of lost opportunity for future generations. "This mountain of college debt is going to leave a whole generation behind," she said. But while Otto said her plan makes a commitment to help Minnesotans develop their skills, it also requires those benefitting from the education to make a commitment as well, including that they agree to work fulltime for at least four years in Minnesota, to participate in a mentoring program, and to provide 25 hours of community service.

On the minimum wage increase, Otto said she would take a phased approach, implementing the higher wage over five years, or seven years in the case of very small businesses. "We also recognize that in greater Minnesota, it might take more time," she said.

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ELY SCHOOLS

More details on Ely rec complex released

by KEITH VANDERVORT
Ely Editor

School Board may consider project later this month

ELY—A 12-page draft report made available last week by a sub-committee the Ely Regional Community Complex board offers more details on the proposed recreational complex, including operating revenue and construction financing, for the \$12 million project.

Board member Kurt Soderberg said the report was not officially released, but made available to attendees of a meeting held last Monday.

“The problem with just releasing the document is that there was a lot of explanation and questioning that came along with the draft and we have even agreed that this will never actually go the Board before major editing,” Soderberg said.

The draft document is the sub-committee’s formation request attempt of a formal request and

final report on the feasibility of building the 50,000-square-foot complex on the west end of the ISD 696 campus.

School Board members requested the report and indicated that no decision will be made without more details and a formal request. Board members may discuss the project and later this month. No timeline for a decision has been indicated.

The report attempts to address questions and concerns of school board members and outlines a plan to raise \$12 million for construction of the facility and \$2.5 million endowment to offset operating costs

The report begins, “The ERCC formally requests that the School Board becomes a partner with the ERCC Board to finalize planning for the construction of a multi-use recreational facility

on the grounds of the Ely schools. Final consent by both the School Board and the ERCC Board would be made when final plans and specifications are approved and funding is established.”

The huge advantage that the ERCC has over similar projects around the state, according to the draft report, is the unconditional grant of \$5 million provided by an anonymous donor. “This is an immediate match toward a Bonding Request,” according to the report.

In addition the report estimates that the Ely School District will pay \$70,000 per year to use the facility. Despite this proposed contribution the initial estimate is an operating loss of about \$120,000 per year. “Before construction contracts are let, the ERCC intends to have made significant progress toward a fund

for future operating costs,” according to the report.

The ERCC has used the services of the same firm that provided the pro forma for the Grand Marais facility – Ballard King and Associates, based in Colorado specializing in sports, recreation, and wellness facilities. The pro forma is under review and will continue to be developed as the project moves along. However, given the experience of Grand Marais and other facilities, it is very likely that the pro forma will indicate that the project will show a deficit. The ERCC Board recognizes this and has no intention to move forward without having identified funding sources to cover the annual deficits prior to making a final recommendation to build the ERCC.

“Our fundraising efforts

would be toward both capital and construction costs, as well as the development of a dedicated fund should revenues not meet expenditures. We do not intend to ask the School District to pay an ongoing subsidy, but there are other avenues that we are pursuing who may be willing to provide ongoing support,” the report said.

Why have the ERCC on school grounds?

One question to be addressed is the reason that the ERCC has selected the school site as its first choice for location of this complex. When the site was selected there were five primary considerations—adequate space, a central location, accessibility to utilities, conflicts with other uses on that site, and the overall usability of the site, including

See REC CENTER...pg. 5

SERVING FAMILIES

Little Eagles Childcare plans open house Tuesday, Nov. 14

TOWER—Parents of pre-school age children will be able to check out the new Little Eagles Childcare Center this coming Tuesday, Nov. 14, from 3-6 p.m. The newly-opened, state-licensed facility is located in the former 4th grade classroom at the Tower Elementary School.

The center opened last week and still has plenty of openings for children ages 31-months through the start of kindergarten, for full- or part-time childcare slots and for drop-ins. The center provides

well-trained and caring staff, federally-approved lunches, and a curriculum based on learning through play.

The open house will offer snacks, drawings for door prizes, and a chance to visit with staff and enroll. The center is asking parents to register even if only for occasional drop-in use. Parents are encouraged to bring their children so they can take advantage of all that the center has to offer.

The center will have information on signing up for the St. Louis County childcare

assistance program for those families that qualify for the income based assistance.

For more information on the center, contact Director Amy Richter at 410-7077 or email at littleeagleschildcaremn@gmail.com.

You can visit their website at www.littleeagleschildcare.com.

Right: Story time this week at the new childcare facility located at the Tower Elementary.
photo by M. Helmberger



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OPINION

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e-mail: editor@timberjay.com

Editorial

Honoring veterans

Take a moment on Saturday to remember the sacrifices of so many

by AMY KLOBUCHAR
US Senator from Minnesota

Last week I attended the Change-of-Command Ceremony where we honored Lieutenant General (Brevet)(Retired) Richard Nash for his decades of service and saw him pass the leadership torch to Major General Jon A. Jensen, who was sworn in as the new adjutant general of Minnesota's National Guard. As Lieutenant General (Brevet)(Retired) Nash said earlier this year, “Our Minnesota National Guard and the entire state has contributed greatly in a period of history that will be looked back upon as a remarkably important time.” He continued, “We were always ready, always there.”

He was right. Our servicemembers are always there for us. And we, in turn, must honor their service. At a time marked by the volatility of our politics, our commitment to our servicemembers and veterans remains steadfast. We stand united, regardless of our politics: our veterans fought for our freedom and we need to be there for them.

When our servicemembers put their lives on the line to serve our country, we need to make sure they are getting the healthcare they need when they come home. Amie Muller of Woodbury enlisted in the Air Force in 1998. After two deployments to Balad, Iraq, where she was stationed next to one of the war's most notorious toxic burn pits, she returned home. Shortly after, she was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer at age 36—half the average age for this form of cancer. When Amie passed earlier this year, she left three small children and her loving husband Brian behind. Since then I've gotten to know and work with Brian. He's made one thing clear to me: we can't let these toxic burn pits become another Agent Orange.

So as part of Amie's legacy we are working to create a Center of Excellence within the Department of Veterans Affairs to deal with the mounting evidence that thousands of veterans have gotten sick after being exposed to toxic substances burned in the large pits in

Iraq and Afghanistan. This isn't a partisan issue, so I am working with one of my Republican colleagues to pass the bill.

And while our National Guard and Reserve Component members often serve with their active duty counterparts on the exact same missions, they are not always ensured the same compensation and benefits for their service. When they return home, our National Guard and Reservists are often denied the education and healthcare benefits they counted on during their deployments. We need to close that loophole and make sure that members deployed on the same missions, who take the same risks, receive the same benefits.

And just as we have made a commitment to serving our servicemembers, we have made a commitment to looking out for their families.

Since September 11, 2001, the Minnesota National Guard soldiers and airmen have deployed more than 26,000 times. Those deployments can take a toll on their families—especially their kids. That's why it's important for schools and teachers to know which students' parents are servicemembers, so they can help make special accommodations like setting up Skype during the school day so a young girl can talk to her dad who might be serving abroad. That's what happens for students whose parents are in the active duty military, but not for those whose parents are Guard or Reserve members. We need to fix this and I am leading bipartisan legislation to make sure that our Guard and Reserve forces and their families are treated equally.

On Veterans Day, we are reminded of the exceptional commitment and extraordinary service that our democracy demands and of all the brave men and women who have stepped forward to protect it. That same democracy demands we fight for our servicemembers as they fought for us. As Lieutenant General Nash said, they were “always there” and we must be too.



Letters from Readers

Thanks to all who helped with the rescue of Lindsey

Last week there was a nice story about the rescue of Lindsey, a cattle dog cross who had been missing for several weeks near the Boundary Waters. I just wanted to express my thanks to the scores of

people who helped with her rescue, either directly or indirectly with feeding stations, donated food, making signs to post, posting flyers all around town, and invaluable advice and counsel. A special shout out to the folks at the VCC Outdoor Learning Center for making the final capture a reality.

The Retrievers is a non-profit organization dedicated

to finding lost dogs in Minnesota, and I'm proud to say I'm now a part of this wonderful group.

The story focused mainly on me, but I couldn't have trapped Lindsey without all the help from folks near and far. Thanks all for caring so much about a little lost dog.

Lisa Foss
Ely

COMMENTARY

Making a difference through local government

How many times have you felt frustrated with some government policy or lack of a policy and felt helpless to do something about it? If you're like me, it happens pretty often.

But if we know what the various levels of government do and how they make decisions, we can try to make a difference. And it's empowering when you can actually make it happen, as it transpired this summer with the St. Louis County Commission. Here's how it happened.

I have long been concerned about the losses to bee populations due to the increasing use of pesticides.

Bees and other pollinators, vital to food production, are seriously harmed by pesticides called neonicotinoids, which are commonly used by plant and seed producers and end up in the plants' pollen and nectar.

During the local nightly news last year, a segment informed us that the city of Duluth had passed a bee/pollinator resolution limiting the use of neonicotinoids on the lands it controls. I silently wondered: “Why can't that resolution be extended to cover all of St. Louis County?”

A short search of the Internet yielded a copy of Duluth's resolution. I downloaded a copy and basically just



changed the wording from “City of Duluth” to “County of St. Louis,” keeping all the other wording.

After a phone conversation with my area county commissioner, Tom Rukavina, about the method for introducing such a resolution, and meeting with our Northern Progressives group, several of us attended a regular meeting of the county commission at the Hibbing City Hall.

There is time at every meeting for citizens to raise an issue before the commission. In the few minutes I was given, I introduced the resolution and gave a short talk on the importance of pollinators and the hazards they face in the environment.

Early this year I contacted Tom again, and he initiated meetings between me and Mark Weber, Land Commissioner of St. Louis County Land and Minerals Department. Mark handed the resolution negotiations to his Deputy Land and Minerals Director Jason Meyer. We held several meetings at the Land Department building in Virginia. Each meeting we dis-

cussed the language and the impact this would have upon the management practices of the county. After each meeting Jason would distribute the meeting results among the various county departments that would be effected by future implementation.

This is the perfect method to bring all parties into the process and obtain buy-in. In actuality, the lengthy process brought about a more robust resolution than when we first had the initial meetings. In addition, a side conversation pertaining to the seed mix the county currently uses for roadside repair, gravel pit reclamation, and winter road logging seeding yielded an awareness of pollinator food needs throughout the summer and how the county can meet some of those needs with an enhanced seed mix.

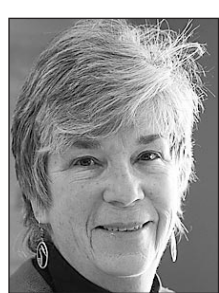
Upon obtaining a final bee/pollinator resolution wording agreement by all parties, Commissioner Rukavina and Commission Chair Jewell brought forth the resolution at the Aug. 8, county board meeting at the Chisholm City Hall, just about a year since we first raised the issue at their meeting in Hibbing.

I gave a short talk high-

See LOCAL...pg. 5

Thinking on science and the aurora borealis

Like many humans, I'm fascinated with the auroras, named borealis in our northern latitudes, the pulsating sheets and streaks of light that we may see if we're lucky or persistent enough. I receive emails from spaceweather.com about upcoming solar events and on Monday I received an email that said: “GEOMAGNETIC STORM PREDICTED: On Nov. 6, Earth will cross through a fold in the heliospheric current sheet—a vast system of electrical currents that ripples through



BETTY FIRTH

interplanetary space...a fast-moving stream of solar wind is expected to engulf our planet, sparking geomagnetic storms on the 7th and 8th.”

We're crossing through a fold? Sounded like something out of “A Wrinkle in Time”, so I clicked on the highlighted “heliospheric current sheet” to learn more. It said, “The heliospheric current sheet separates regions of the solar wind where the magnetic field points toward or away from the Sun. The complex field structure in the photosphere simplifies with increasing height

in the corona until a single line separates the two polarities at about 2.5 solar radii. That line is drawn out by the radially accelerating solar wind to form a surface similar to the one shown in the graphic.” Raise your hand if you understood that. Be honest, now.

The graphic drew me in: it showed soft, deep, spiraled curves, like in a pompadour favored by Katherine Hepburn and Ava Gardner in the 1940's. For you word buffs, the updo was named after King Louis XV's mistress, the Marquise da Pompadour, in the mid-18th century and was worn in wigs by both men and women. So we're traveling through a cosmic pompadour.

Scientific descriptions of intriguing phenomena can make my teeth ache because I want so badly to understand what they mean, and I ask myself, “Why didn't I take more science classes when I had the chance?” Well, actually, I do know a couple of reasons. Mr. Tilden (a pseudonym), my junior year high school chemistry teacher, was less than adequate, very close to retirement, and threatened by students smarter, or at least more clever, than he was, which meant most of us. So, of course, we played pranks and mocked him; yes, even me, the perennial good girl. He got so upset when I

See SCIENCE...pg. 5

Briefly

Bill to reinstate Twin Metals leases advances to vote by the full House

REGIONAL— A bill by Sixth District Congressman Tom Emmer that would reinstate mineral leases for a proposed copper-nickel mining project

near Ely and cancel an ongoing study of the impacts of sulfide mining near the Boundary Waters has advanced through the House Natural Resources Committee.

The bill, H.R. 3905, would also require congressional approval for any future withdrawal of lands for mineral uses in the Superior National Forest, effectively stripping the President of authority previously granted

under the Antiquities Act, at least within the Superior National Forest.

Environmental groups have reacted with alarm at the proposal. An earlier version of the bill, introduced in July, also had the backing of Eighth District Congressman Rick Nolan, but Nolan is not listed as a co-sponsor of the current bill. Nolan has faced strong criticism in recent

months for his adamant support of copper-nickel within the watershed of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.

The proposed bill would threaten the world-class hunting and fishing of the Boundary Waters, eliminate the President's authority to establish new national monuments in Minnesota, and put the future of Minnesota's public lands in the hands of a

foreign mining giant with a history of environmental violations, according to a statement issued by Sportsmen for the Boundary Waters, a group created to oppose the proposed Twin Metals mine, which would be located within the Kawishiwi River watershed, a major tributary to the BWCAW.

LOCAL...

Continued from page 4

lighting the dangers of neonicotinoids and the true value of all pollinators to our ecosystem, economy, and our food supply. Missy Roach of Cook also addressed the board in favor of passage of the resolution along with Commissioners Jewell, Rukavina, Nelson, and Boyle. When the vote took place it was passed unanimously.

So, with a little initiative—and persistence—by a county citizen, St. Louis County joins many state, cities, school districts, and other counties in Minnesota spotlighting the perils that our bees/pollinators face in our current environment and adopting policies that will help their populations survive.

Don't forget: government belongs to all of us, and you can make a difference.

**George Pliml
Citizens for
Civic Education
Cook**

SCIENCE...Continued from page 4

innocently whispered a question to my neighbor that he yelled at us, threw his arm out in a dramatic gesture, hitting the chalkboard with his wrist so hard, his watch crystal exploded in a cloud of sparkling dust—and he pretended nothing had happened. He didn't like that I had to leave his lab for occasional Student Council meetings, and he liked it less when I told him that the other chemistry teacher had offered to help me after school. I thought he'd be glad I was making up lost lab time without bugging him, but he didn't want to help me, and he didn't want anyone else to, either. To compound matters, I had the class clown as a lab partner. He got a kick out of tossing together whatever chemicals were on hand, just to see what happened. He never blew us up but neither did we learn much.

At the time, I was more intrigued by Mr. Tilden's behavior than by the interactions of chemicals in a test tube; his lack of rapport with his students or disinterest in teaching creatively surprised and disappointed. His enmity toward me was puzzling; as a good, conscientious student, I was used to being regarded favorably by my teachers. We were all harmed by his uninspired teaching of a fascinating subject that should have had us on the edge of our lab stools, eager to explore and learn. As it was, we were just perched, counting the minutes until the end of class. We

were given a poor foundation for future classes that would have benefitted from a better understanding of chemistry and basic scientific principles, such as physics, which I simply avoided. In more recent years, I again lamented my deficient comprehension of all things chemical when I started creating and firing with pottery glazes. Alumina, silica, fluxes, molecular weights? Oh, my. I did take a weekend intensive in the chemistry of glazes for potters, gaining a bit more understanding, but it was skimming a tablespoon of soup off the top of a rich, nutritious bowlful, and I hungered to digest more. In another effort for left-brained enlightenment, I found a promising book titled "Physics for Poets", but it was quickly beyond me, too.

In any event, my natural inclinations took me in other directions at an early age. While I considered possible careers as a veterinarian, doctor, lawyer, or business woman, I always leaned in the direction of studying people: psychology, sociology, anthropology, and child development. All those -ologies attempt to observe and explain human behavior while literature, another favorite of mine, wraps up the whole kit and caboodle with many variations on the dramas of our inexplicable species.

In spite of decades of observation, reading, analyzing, interacting with, writing about and attempting to understand people,

we remain perplexing creatures who can surprise and delight with unbounded generosity and courage or confound with thoughtlessness and malice. When the latter occurs, that's when I yearn for a "hard" science to give me some answers I can rely on. Where are my formulas of carbon chains to explain deceit? Where is my π r2 to reveal the shape of a psyche? I have no doubt there are legions of scientists and bankers scurrying to find refuge in their laboratories and counting rooms when perplexed by a spouse or betrayed by a friend or colleague.

As we have seen, time and again, many theories brought forward through "hard science" have later been proven wrong as more is learned, but they provided some reassurance and a beacon forward at the time. Poets and philosophers also created stories to explain our own behavior and the world around us, sometimes foreseeing the future quite clearly. The aurora borealis and aurora australis have inspired many such myths.

The Mandan of North Dakota thought the northern lights were fires where their dead enemies simmered in enormous pots. The Menominee Indians of Wisconsin had a friendlier vision of torches used by friendly giants to spear fish at night. An Algonquin myth says Nanahbozho, creator of the Earth, traveled to the north after he finished creation and built large fires to remind his people that he still thinks of them.

The Salteaux Indians of eastern Canada and the Kwakiutl and Tlingit of Southeastern Alaska thought the auroras were dancing human spirits while Eskimos who lived on the lower Yukon River thought they were animal spirits, especially those of deer, seals, salmon and beluga. The Finns said the lights were caused by a mystical fox that threw sparks into the sky with its tail while the Chinese saw dragons. Some Russians thought a fire dragon came out of the sky at night to seduce women whose husbands were away. Swedish sailors thought the lights were reflections coming off large schools of herring, forecasting a good day of fishing ahead. A 1992 TV episode of Northern Exposure created its own myth, portraying Japanese tourists visiting Cecily, Alaska, hoping the Northern Lights would aid fertility and give wisdom to any child conceived.

Even though our minds hold the scientific explanation that electrons from the sun interact with the gas particles in the atmosphere, producing light, our hearts dance with the pulsating mystery, lifting us a bit higher, helping us feel that perhaps our feet are not quite so mired in the clay. This week auroras have been observed as far south as Illinois, Iowa and Nebraska, and should our skies clear, we'll also have a peek into the mystery as we travel through the fold. Are you watching?

REC CENTER...Continued from page 3

options for partnering.

The city of Ely recommended three sites, including the school site, the old public works facility, and city-owned property near the hospital. The Board of Directors of the ERCC unanimously selected the school site since it met all of the criteria, plus it allowed for unique accessibility by the school and children both during and after the school day.

"Since that decision was made in 2016 the reasons for considering the school site have been expanded due to the feedback from school staff, parents, and those who provide services for children during and after the school day such as Ely Community Resources," according to the draft report. "Neither of the other sites is as centrally located or as convenient for use by children and programs related to children."

According to Emily Marshall, executive director of the Cook County Y, there are significant benefits to the children of Cook County School District because the Y is located next to the school. She explained that when the end-of-day bell rings, the Y "is flooded" with kids coming from the school.

In the draft report, she named a number of after-school programs and activities that the Y provides, including: open gym, open swim, dances, junior varsity team practices, activities in the afterschool lounge where kids do homework and use the computers, and weight lifting and cardio equipment (primarily high school

athletes). There are also special needs programs available for kids including private lessons.

"The Y is a place where kids can participate in positive, social and individual activities," Marshall said. "Having the Y next to the school makes it possible for all kids to participate because many barriers such as transportation and access do not exist."

Some of the other synergies that exist between the school and the Y to support the mission of educating youth include:

► Shared resources - One example of this is that the school does early childhood screening at the Y.

► Collaboration - One example is the school and the Y work together closely to help the children with disabilities (60 percent of the children in the childcare program have Individual Education Plans).

► Expanded educational offerings - One example is the school offers swim classes during the school day eight times per year; its PE staff is trained to teach swim lessons. Marshall noted the school plans to increase the number of swim classes in the future.

► Cooperation - One example is the kids have priority over the community for using the gym, and the community supports this priority.

► Communication - Marshall meets with the school superintendent regularly to discuss ways the facility and Y staff can best serve the community's youth.

"I can't imagine the Y not being located next to

the school," Marshall said. "The synergies with the school are tremendous, and Cook County children benefit greatly because of it."

According to the draft report, "The ERCC Board strongly believes that our youth would receive the same positive benefits received by the youth in the Cook County School District as a result of having the ERCC located next to the school and that we, too, would agree with Marshall's sentiment that we couldn't imagine the ERCC facility being located anywhere else."

Leasing and use agreements

The ERCC would propose to enter into a long-term lease for use of the school property, most likely at least for 20 years, with the option to renew for an additional twenty years if the ERCC met all of the requirements set by the district.

The reason for this would be to meet the initial requirements of the State of Minnesota if Capital Project (Bonding) monies were to be used on the project.

If requested by the School District, the ERCC may be willing to allow the School District to request for ownership after the initial 20-year lease is complete according to the draft report. The management agent may also request ownership, but whatever the arrangements need to be, the Ely School Board would be involved in those negotiations.

The ERCC would propose to lease the prop-

erty for a market-based rate on an annual basis. The rate would be determined using a professional appraiser to recommend to the parties.

Similarly, the ERCC would propose to charge market rates to the Ely School District for use of the space within the facility. "Such rental costs can be offset by in-kind or other actual services that may be provided to the ERCC," the report said. Consideration can also be made for assistance given during the development and construction of the facility. Billing would be completed on a quarterly basis.

For the purposes of the pro forma, the estimated usage cost by the district would be approximately \$70,000 per year. "This is approximating the time that various components might be used by the school for its programming. These are only estimates and would be subject to negotiations between the ERCC and the Ely School District, based upon rental rates and actual usage needs and the needs of the management agent. These actual dollar costs could also clearly be offset by in-kind services or other considerations," the report said.

Formal request

The ultimate financial feasibility of the ERCC facility cannot be known without the ERCC board partnering with an organization that will provide a place for the recreational facility and a professional management organization. "We envision these three entities working together

to finalize costs and facility design while, in parallel, the ERCC works to procure additional funding," the report said.

"The ERCC has no intention to proceed with a final project without it being financially viable and if there are operating shortfalls potentially present, the ERCC will

provide solutions to address them. We have met with the Ely School Board and its representatives in good faith and have addressed as many open questions as can be answered at this time. The question now is: 'If we can ultimately deliver a financially viable project will you accept its location on your site?'"

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HOLIDAY GIVING

Start thinking about Operation Santa

Donations needed by Dec. 8: toys, gift cards, and cash welcome

TOWER- This year's Operation Santa toy drive is officially underway. Operation Santa is a local fundraiser which purchases Christmas gifts (toys, gift cards, and warm winter items) for children whose families use the Tower Food Shelf. Last year we served over 150 area children.

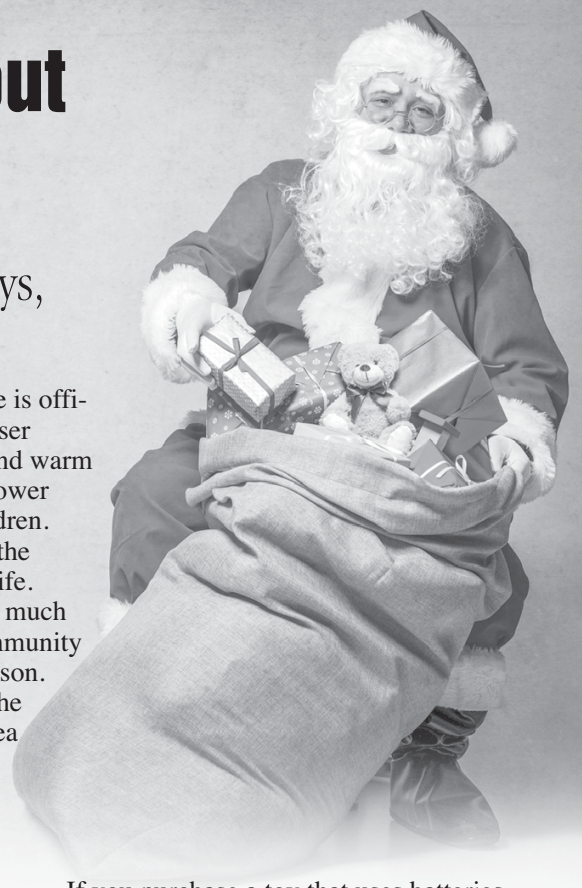
Take advantage of the great deals offered over the upcoming holiday to bring some joy into a child's life.

We have started to receive some donations, but much more is needed to make sure every child in our community receives gifts and warm clothing this Christmas season.

The effort is organized by The Timberjay and the Tower Soudan Civic Club, with help from many area groups, churches, organizations, and individuals. If your group or church is planning to donate this year, please contact Jodi at 218-753-2950. (This helps with planning!)

Lake Country Power's Operation RoundUp® program has once again made a very generous donation to the Tower Soudan Civic Club (formerly the Tower Women's Club), to help cover the cost of purchasing warm items for the children.

We are looking at donations of toys, games, art supplies, and sporting equipment for children, and gift cards to either Target or Walmart for our teenagers (\$10 or \$15).



If you purchase a toy that uses batteries, please also send a spare set!

We also accept gently-used holiday decorations and gifts for the adults who use the food shelf.

Donations can be dropped off at the Timberjay in Tower, and will be distributed at the food shelf on Dec. 19.

VERMILION COUNTRY SCHOOL



A spooky fun time at VCS

This year's Dinner with a Witch at Vermilion Country School was fun for all ages. Above: Head witch (aka kitchen manager) Cindy Pettinelli dishes up a spooky plate with help from volunteer witch Bailey Pratt. Right: VCS student Shaylin Peliska handed out poison (aka caramel) apples. Below: Young eaters enjoyed their meal. photos by J. Summit



Veterans Day program on Nov. 10

TOWER- Tower-Soudan Elementary is hosting their annual Veterans Day program on Friday, Nov. 10 at 9:30 a.m. in the school gymnasium. All area residents, and especially veterans, are invited to attend. Coffee and refreshments will be served after the program.

Men's Breakfast at Soudan Baptist on Saturday, Nov. 11

SOUDAN- This month's men's breakfast is a special event where spouses are encouraged and invited to attend. The men's breakfast is set for Saturday, Nov. 11 at 8 a.m. at Soudan Baptist Church. Every is welcome to attend, and the focus this month will include having the group share things they are thankful for.

Movie night at St. James on Nov. 12

TOWER- Spend an evening at St. James Presbyterian to enjoy a showing of The Light of Freedom on Sunday, Nov. 12 at 6 p.m. In the movie, the year is 1861. As President Lincoln calls 75,000 men to join the Union army, the nation teeters on the brink of the Civil War. Meanwhile, a more covert battle waged by the Underground Railroad has been raging for decades. Stationmaster William Hanby helps runaway slaves reach freedom, dangerously defying the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850 and putting his own family in peril. The risk doubles when a bounty hunter shows up determined to make money by capturing escapees and returning them to their masters. The Light of Freedom is an inspirational family film and will educate and entertain you as it follows the stories of runaway slaves longing to be reunited with their families, and real-life historic heroes who risked their lives to save them.

Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service Nov. 19 at St. Martin's

TOWER- Join us for an Ecumenical Thanksgiving service on Sunday, Nov. 19 at 6 p.m. at St. Martin's Catholic Church in Tower.

Thanksgiving Dinner at St. James on Thursday, Nov. 23

TOWER- A Community Thanksgiving Dinner will be held at St. James Presbyterian on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, Nov. 23 at 2 p.m. Carry-out orders may be picked up at 2:30 p.m. only. You must call 218-753-6005 to reserve a spot or to order a carry-out to be picked up at the church. Please call by Monday, Nov. 20. Everyone is welcome.

Northern Red Hat Belles will meet Thursday, Nov. 16

TOWER- The Northern Red Hat Belles will meet at Benchwarmers on Thursday, Nov. 16 at noon. They will be ordering off the menu. Please RSVP to Pam at 218-753-3006 or Kathy at 218-753-2530.

Tower Soudan Civic Club meets Wednesday, Nov. 15

TOWER- The November meeting of the Tower Soudan Civic Club will be on Wednesday, Nov. 15 at 7 p.m. at the Tower Civic Center. Krista Harrington will be the guest speaker and will give an informative talk on happenings at Ely's International Wolf Center. This facility in northern Minnesota is home to many beautiful wolves of various ages and is staffed by a group of well-trained individuals whose job is to help maintain the health and well-being of these wild animals. Hostesses for the evening will be Kathy Lovgren and Linda Haugen. Julie Luczak will supply the attendance prize. Coffee and dessert will be served. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Going away party for Pastor Berhanu on Nov. 12

SOUDAN- A going away party for Pastor Berhanu will be held on Sunday, Nov. 12 at 4 p.m. at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Soudan. Bishop Tom Atkins will be present. A light meal will be served.

Cook VFW

Open Daily at Noon
CLOSED on TUESDAYS

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Bar Menu & Pizza Available

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Progressive Prizes

Friday 4:30-7 p.m.
Hamburger Special

Take-Out 666-0500

VETERANS

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2017

TODAY WE PAUSE TO HONOR THE BRAVE MEN AND WOMEN WHO HAVE MADE GREAT SACRIFICE TO PROTECT OUR FAMILIES, OUR COUNTY, AND OUR FREEDOM.

WE SALUTE ALL OUR VETERANS ON THIS SPECIAL DAY!

STOP BY FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10, FOR COFFEE AND COOKIES ON US!

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Christmas Bazaar

Saturday, November 11
10 AM - 2 PM
St. Martin's Catholic Church • Tower

Tupperware, Pampered Chef, Norwex, Baked Goods, Home Canned Goods, Custom Embroidery, Hand Crafts, Homemade Candles, Gift Wrapping, Handmade Soaps, Christmas Cards, Wreaths, Recycled Sweater Mittens, Boiled Wool, Paper Crafts, Christmas "Elephant" Sale

Just For Kids
Make & take Christmas decorations,
Gift shop-for their Christmas shopping, Candy Cane Tree

Café
Various homemade soups, Assorted bars, Caramel rolls, Coffee, Tea, Lemonade-Bottomless Cups

Bucket Raffles, Quilt Raffle, 50/50 Cash Drawing
Be sure to bring your address labels!

VIRGINIA ROTARY

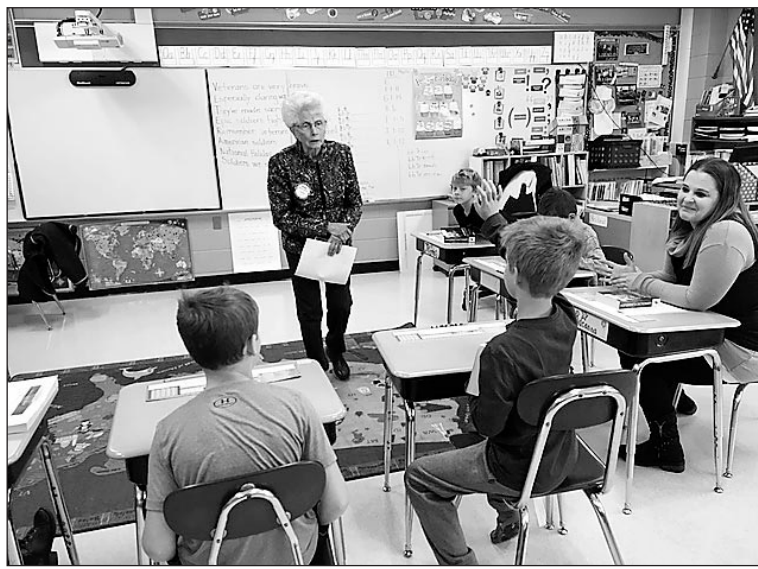
Virginia Rotary delivers dictionaries to Tower-Soudan third-graders

REGIONAL- The Virginia Rotary Club is celebrating its 10th year of presenting dictionaries to third-graders. A total of 2,856 dictionaries have been given to five local schools. These dictionaries empower children to become active readers, excellent writers, creative thinkers, and ultimately good citizens. However, "The Student's Dictionary" is much more than a traditional dictionary. It contains information on weights and measures, science elements, the Constitution, sign language, countries, states, presidents, planets and more. The book is a very useful tool to feed any student's curiosity and imagination.

One might wonder why children still need to learn using dictionaries when we can find everything electronically. Today, instead of using a dictionary, we simply Google a word to find the meaning or ask Siri how to spell it. Instead of using a cookbook, we use our iPads. White Pages.com will give us a person's phone number and it's quicker to locate a business online than to look it up in a phone book.

Students who have used only the Internet for research are taken from one virtual place to another by way of links and apps and have little experience or patience for lectures or step-by-step logic. They process information differently.

Our educational system strives to provide students with vital skills needed to move forward in this



Marge McPeak of the Virginia Rotary Club encourages the students of Mrs. Horvat's third-grade class in Tower to look up the answers to her questions in their new dictionaries. submitted photo

ever-changing world. Students must learn how to think for themselves and how to solve problems. Dictionaries point students to the educational basics of reading, writing and arithmetic and provide the solid foundation needed to accomplish these objectives.

Rotary is an international organization of business and professional leaders who provide humanitarian service to build peace and goodwill. There are 1.2 million Rotarians in over 200 countries. Their six areas of focus include: Growing Local Economies; Supporting Education; Saving Mothers and Children; Providing Clean Water; Fighting

Disease; and Promoting Peace. This dictionary project speaks to the objective of Supporting Education.

The Virginia Rotary Club has 45 members who provide service to local communities with events like Dictionaries for Third Graders; the Kid's Fishing Contest on Silver Lake in Virginia each June; the ODC Bowling event for disabled adults each fall; and a meal at the Salvation Army Supper Club each month. Rotary is seeking new projects and new members. For more information, call Linda Myklebust at 218-753-4090.

ST. MARTIN'S CATHOLIC

St. Martin's Christmas Bazaar on Saturday, Nov. 11

TOWER- St. Martin's Catholic Church is hosting their annual Christmas Bazaar on Saturday, Nov. 11 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Social Hall. We are very excited about this year's event. At present we have fifteen private vendors participating. In addition to the vendors, there will be bucket raffles, a quilt raffle, and

cash drawings—be sure to bring your address labels.

There will be some activities for kids only—a make and take table (there will be a variety of decorations to choose from) and a Christmas Gift Shop for kids to do their own Christmas shopping.

Tickets for the quilt raffle cost

\$5 and no more than 200 tickets will be sold. The quilt is on display at Jeanne's Card and Gift Shop. Tickets may be purchased from Jeanne as well as at the bazaar. The quilt raffle is sponsored by our quilt ministry. As always, there will be a lunch available for purchase.

BREITUNG POLICE

September 2017

Calls: 139
Assist other agencies: 19
Traffic stops: 36
Arrests: 2
Citations/Formal charges: 13
Warnings: 28
Monthly mileage: 2,522 (gold Tahoe 494, Charger 807, Explorer 1,221)



March Police Report

Breitung Police Chief Jesse Anderson

month of September. Current end of the month mileage for the Gold 2012 Chevy Tahoe (Tower) is 58,222. Current end of the month mileage for the Blue 2008 Dodge Charger is 87,538. Current end of the month mileage for the Black 2017 Ford Explorer is 3,831.

Call summary

Citations/Formal charges/Arrests: (1) (GM) 3rd Degree DWI Test Refusal- Charges Requested/Jailed; (1) (GM) Obstruct Legal Process- Charges Requested/Jailed; (1) (GM) Driving After Inimical Cancellation- Charges Requested/ROR; (1) (GM) Prostitution in a Public Place- Charges Requested/Jailed; (1) (M) 4th Degree DWI (.08)- Cited/ROR; (6) Speed-

Cited/ROR; (1) Driving After Suspension- Cited/ROR (1) No Seatbelt Use- Cited/ROR

Assist other agencies:

(9) Tower Ambulance; (5) St. Louis County Sheriff's Office; (3) Bois Forte Police Department; (1) Minnesota State Patrol; (1) Greenwood Fire Department

Call categories:

(36) Traffic Stops; (27) Business Check; (19) Agency Assists; (6) Community Engagement; (4) Suspicious Activity; (4) Found Property; (4) Vehicle Info; (3) Alarm; (3) Theft; (3) Informational; (3) Disturbance; (3) Animal Complaint; (2) Check Residence; (2) Call Back; (2) Threat; (2) Trouble Unknown; (2) Public Assist; (2) Check Hazard; (1) Damage to Property; (1) Funeral Escort; (1) Property Damage Accident; (1) Trouble Neighbor; (1) Extra Patrol; (1) Gas No Pay; (1) Unwanted Person; (1) Motorist Assist; (1) Trouble Kid; (1) Fraud; (1) Predatory Offender Check; (1) Assault.

Additional shifts

During the month of September the Breitung Police Department did not work any Toward Zero Deaths (TZD) shifts.

Training

During the month of September we had our yearly mandatory training. This included training for firearms, Taser, defensive tactics, handcuffing, and use of force.

Squads

We did not have any mechanical issues with our squads during the

Transfer station

Soudan Canister

Expanded hours year-round

Monday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Wed. 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

For info: 1-800-450-9278

Hwy. 77 Canister

Winter hours now in effect

Thursday 12 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday 12 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Recycling canisters available daily at the Greenwood Town Hall. For info: 1-800-450-9278

Bookmobile Schedule

Wednesday, Nov. 29, Dec. 20

Bois Forte Boys/Girls Club 11:00-11:30 a.m.
Greenwood Town Hall 12:00-12:30 p.m.
Soudan Fire Hall 1:45-3:00 p.m.
Tower Civic Center 3:15-4:15 p.m.
Embarrass, Four Corners 5:15-6:00 p.m.

For further information call the Arrowhead Library System at 218-741-3840 or www.arrowhead.lib.mn.us

AEOA Senior Dining Menu

TOWER- Vermilion Country School and AEOA sponsor a senior dining site at the charter school in Tower. All meals include salad bar, fruit, choice of beverage and dessert.

Reservations are appreciated the day before, or morning of, but walk-ins are always welcome. Take-outs available. Seniors age 60 and older who have registered for the program and their partners qualify for special pricing of \$4 per meal, but all ages are welcome at the regular rate of \$5.75. There are no income guidelines.

Meals are served from 12:30 - 1 p.m. on days when the charter school is open. Call the school at 218-753-1246 ext. 1003 for reservations, or call AEOA at 1-800-662-5711 ext. 7323 for the one-time registration process.

Week of Nov. 13

Monday- Italian Meatball Sub
Tuesday- Sloppy Joe with Wholegrain Bun
Wednesday- Tater Tot Hot Dish, Dinner Roll
Thursday- Turkey Dinner!
Friday- Pizza, Fruit Salad

Week of Nov. 20

No school all week

Week of Nov. 13

Monday
TOPS - Immanuel Lutheran Church, Tower, at 9 a.m.

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

Tower City Council- 5:30 p.m. on Nov. 13

Tuesday
Tower Area Food Shelf- Open on the third Tuesday of every month from 2:30-5:30 p.m. Located in the back of the Timberjay building on Main Street. Next food shelf day is Nov. 21.

Greenwood Fire Dept.- Meetings on the first (drill) and third (business meeting) Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m.

Breitung Town Board- 1 p.m. on Nov. 14

Greenwood Town Board- 6:30 p.m. on Nov. 14

Wednesday

St. Paul's Bible study-meets from 2-3 p.m. at the Soudan Apartment activity room.

Tower AA- Open Basics- 7 p.m. at St. James Presbyterian Church. Questions, call 753-2332.

Thursday

Vermilion Country School Board- Fourth Thursday of the month at 5 p.m. (except near holidays). Meetings posted online at vermillioncountry.org.

AA Meeting- Lake Vermilion 12x12 (Open). 6:30 p.m. at Immanuel



Read the news from all three Timberjay editions each week

www.timberjay.com

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the TIMBERJAY

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

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VETERANS DAY SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH

We will be open Friday, November 10th

Join us from 10am-3pm for Coffee & Treats as we honor servicemen and women, both past and present.

All Veterans who visit either of our branch locations will be entered into a drawing for a \$50 VISA gift card at each location!

Thank you, from your friends at



Cook Branch 24 S. River Street Cook, MN 55723 218-666-5940	Nashwauk Branch 401 Platt Ave. E. Nashwauk, MN 55769 218-885-1600
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COMMUNITY SUPPORT

ECR selected to receive '100-plus Women' funds

ELY – Last Sunday, nearly 100-plus women got together at Hidden Valley to make something wonderful happen for the Ely community.

Donations were made at the 100+Women Who Care event and Ely Community Resource was

the fortunate non-profit selected at this event.

The amount of donation for this year has not been finalized, however, an awards event is planned for Wednesday, Nov. 15, beginning at 5 p.m. at the Ely Rec Center.

Last year, Northern

Lakes Arts Association received \$7,000 from the group.

This is how it works. Each member and each team pledged to donate \$100 to the 501(c)(3) public charity selected at the event through a process of nominations and votes.

Once a charity is selected, members write donation checks directly to the charity. By a group of women joining together and donating a significant sum at one time, the selected charity will be able to provide services and programs they may otherwise

be unable to afford.

Donations are welcome at: 100+Ely Women Who Care, PO Box 216, Ely, MN 55731.

Formoreinformation.go to:Info@100ElyWomenWhoCare.org.

ELY CROSS COUNTRY RUNNERS HEADS TO STATE



Three Ely Memorial High School Cross Country runners qualified for the State championship last weekend. From left, Luke Olson, Ryne Prigge and James Schwinghamer gathered for a photo with coach Jayne Dusich before the races. photo courtesy of Mary Schwinghamer

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Call 218-753-2950

News In Brief

Tuesday Group Schedule

ELY - The upcoming Tuesday Group schedule (subject to change) is listed below. All talks are at 12 noon on Tuesday at Grand Ely Lodge, unless noted.

Nov. 14 – Shawn Otto – “The War on Science”

Nov. 21 – To be announced

Nov. 28 – Peg Jesme – Northern Lights Clubhouse

Artisans wanted for holiday craft fair in Ely

ELY - The Ely Arts and Heritage Center is pairing with Stone Soup Events to host the Holiday Fantasy Arts and Craft Fair, Nov. 24-25. The event will be held at the city of Ely’s Pioneer Mine site.

Invitations are offered to area artists and artisans to reserve booth space. In 2016, over 700 visitors came to see the toy trains, automatons and holiday decor in the Miners Dry House, just off Pioneer Road.

For more information, call Janine LaMontagne, 218-340-1211.

Breathing Out

by Cecilia Rolando © 2017



two snow birds playing raven calling out a squawk walking in the snow

Agent Orange effects topic of AAUW meeting

ELY - The Ely Branch of American Association of University Women (AAUW) will hold their regular monthly meeting at 6:45 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 14 in room CL 124 at Vermilion Community College.

Linda Olson Bergam, MD, will present a program on the effects of Agent Orange on Vietnam veterans. “Due to the recent passing of the Veteran Access to Care Act of 2014, more veterans are able to receive their healthcare at non-VA affiliated healthcare facilities,” Bergman said. “Because of this, the number of veterans seen by non-VA facilities is expected to rise. Many family physicians caring for patients who served in Vietnam may not be fully aware of the impact of Agent Orange and its correlation to Diabetes Mellitus Type 2.”

Bergam said the 7.2 million Vietnam veterans living in the United States currently comprise the largest group of veterans in the country. Research has found that veterans exposed to Agent Orange and similar herbicides have a higher prevalence of diabetes, several types of cancer, and many other chronic diseases.

“Many veterans have not received healthcare for their Agent Orange-related

diseases, such as Type 2 Diabetes, because they are unaware that it is now covered by the VA,” she said.

The Agent Orange Act, passed in 1991, allowed the treatment of many diseases caused by Agent Orange exposure to be covered by the VA. Type 2 Diabetes was not added to that list of diseases until the year 2000. “Many Vietnam Veterans applied for coverage for their Type 2 Diabetes prior to the year 2000, and were denied,” Bergam said. “Many of these individuals have not been informed of the policy change that occurred in the year 2000.”

The presentation will address current research, of which Bergam was a participant, about the chemical known as Agent Orange, how it causes adverse health effects in humans, and the health conditions that are associated with exposure to Agent Orange.

The meeting is open to the public. AAUW Ely Branch promotes women’s pay equity, provides educational opportunities to girls in order to encourage involvement in STEM fields, and provides scholarships to area girls. Area women interested in joining are encouraged to attend the Nov. 14 meeting.

Ely Memorial High School students present ‘Footloose’

ELY - Ely Memorial High School students are cutting loose with their fall musical “Footloose. Two performances will be presented on Friday, Nov. 10 at 7 p.m. and Sunday, Nov. 12 at 4 p.m. in the Washington Auditorium. All tickets are \$5.

In the play, the main character, Ren (Blaise Lah), and his mother (Emma Terwilliger), starting a new life, have to move from the big city of Chicago to Beaumont, Texas. “The culture shock is enough to ruin Ren’s life,” Director James Lah said. “He learns that this town has outlawed dancing because of a past tragic accident.”

Reverend Shaw Moore (Jasiah Wigdahl) is the de facto mayor and enforcer of the “no-dancing” law. In doing so he alienates his daughter Ariel (Erika Mattson) and his wife Vi (Danielle Krostue). Ariel rebels and finds Ren quite attractive. Vi retreats, but by the end finds her voice.

Ariel and Ren lead the high school on a quest to reverse the dancing law. In doing so, Ren helps the Reverend let go of the past, which secures his support of dancing. “The play ends in a dance sequence that has the whole cast pounding the boards,” Lah said.

Northern Lakes Arts Association meets Nov. 13

ELY – The Northern Lakes Arts Association Annual Meeting will be held Monday, Nov. 13, beginning at 7 p.m. in Room CL 104 at Vermilion Community College.

The meeting is for its entire membership and will include a review of 2016-17 activities, upcoming events for 2018, voting for new board members, fellowship and refreshments.

Winter Farmers Market will be open Nov. 14 in Ely

ELY – The Ely Farmers Market will be open Tuesday, Nov. 14, and every other Tuesday in the basement of Grace Lutheran Church, 301 E. Conan St., from 5-7 p.m. The Ely Farmers Market is looking for vendors who grow produce in the winter, bakers, artists and crafters. For more information, call Brian Naykki at 218-410-5600.

Libraries

Ely library

Hours: Monday – Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Saturdays – 8 a.m. to noon
Closed on Sundays
Phone: 365-5140

Babbitt library

Monday Noon-6 pm
Tuesday Noon-6 pm
Wednesday Noon-6 pm
Thursday Noon-6 pm
Friday Noon-5 pm
Phone: 827-3345

Support groups

AA - Alcoholics Anonymous

AA - 7 p.m. Mondays, First Lutheran Church, 915 E. Camp St.

WOMEN'S AA - Noon

Mondays, Ledgerock Community Church, Ely - use 15th Street entrance

BABBITT AA - 7 p.m.

Tuesdays, Woodland Presbyterian Church.

AL-ANON - Sundays 8-9 p.m.

at St. Anthony's Catholic Church in Ely. For persons who encounter alcoholism in a relative or friend.

BABBITT AL-ANON -

Thursdays, 7 p.m., at Woodland Presbyterian Church.

CO-DEPENDENTS' 12-step

support group, noon Fridays, St. Anthony's Catholic Church, Ely.

ELY AREA FOOD SHELF - third

Wednesday each month. 15 W. Conan St.

ADULT BASIC EDUCATION

GED Study materials and pre-test available. Ely Community Center Thursday 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Tower by appointment.

CAREGIVER SUPPORT

GROUPS: Babbitt: 3rd Monday of Month: 6-7:30 p.m. at Carefree Living

Ely: 4th Monday of Month: 10-11:30 a.m. at Ely-Bloomenson Hospital

Conference Room B

the TIMBERJAY

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IRON RANGE YOUTH IN ACTION



Ely Memorial High School students involved in Iron Range Youth in Action recently organized a food drive at school. Each grade in the high school, middle school and elementary school collected food for just one week and more than 1,000 pounds of food was donated and delivered to the Ely Area Food Shelf last Friday. submitted photo

TRAVEL LOG

The Ely Traveler: Horse racing in California

ELY - Come late fall here, which is the middle of October, I have visions of horses jumping in my head. Well, maybe not quite jumping, more like running. Yes, running horses means race-track time at the Golden Gate Fields Race Track in San Francisco, Calif. Fortunately, my brother, Jack, lives in Alameda, Cali. not too far from the wonderful race track on the San Francisco side of the bay. So, every fall I head west to crash at brother Jack's house, sleep on the futon in his living room, and contribute to the household with trips

to the grocery store and other menial tasks to maintain my room and board, and two Sunday trips to Golden Gate Fields. Fortunately for us, another chap who lives in the same building complex knows horse owners and gives us passes for the racing events. Thus, I spent two wonderful Sundays on Oct. 22 and 29, and suffice it to say, this time I did quite well. Since I'm not the type to bet \$10 a crack, my \$2 show bets on a horse don't sound like much. But, depending on the odds, things can look pretty good even if

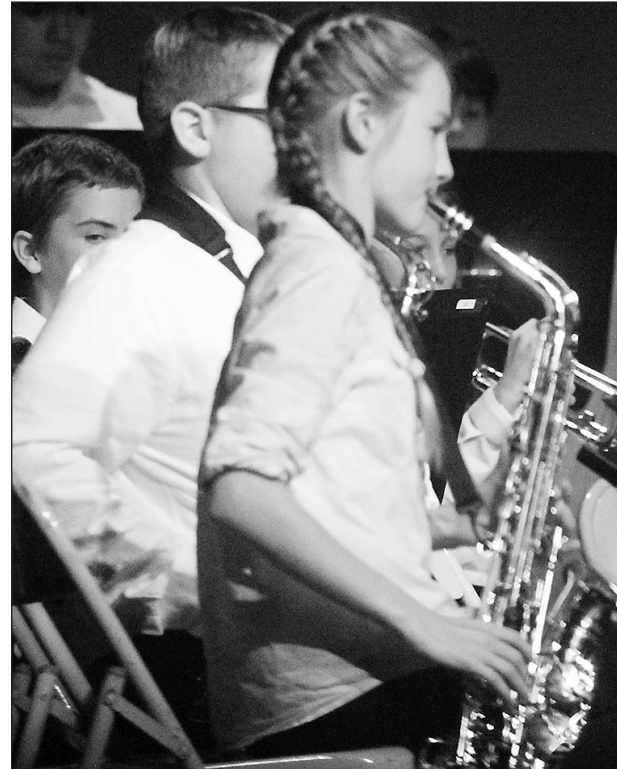
the horse comes in third. This year my picks were running A-OK. Out of nine races the first Sunday, I scored in six races. And the second Sunday was also good, with eight wins. If I knew more about the horse game, I'd be betting \$10 on a show instead of \$2, and \$50 to win. But, being a humble bettor, I play it safe, have fun, and still come home with dollars in my pocket. Words from a happy bettor: go to a horse race with the idea of seeing wonderful horses, a great crowd of viewers, including many women dressed in lovely outfits

with big hats and high heels, parading down next to the racing track. That winds up being good viewing from the crowd, especially if you win a race or two. Altogether it was a great trip to California, from the race track to several great dining experiences at our favorite Mexican and Chinese restaurants. Great food and great horses, and a great time in California thanks to my great brother, Jack. Cheerio until next time, Lolita Schnitzius Your roving reporter

FALL CONCERT



The Ely Schools Music Department presented their annual Fall Concert on Oct. 26. The concert included the High School Concert Choir, above, 6th grade band, below left, Middle School Choir, below right, along with the 7th/8th grade band, and High School Concert Band. photos by K. Vandervort



Yesterday's news, this week

from the archives of THE ELY MINER

Courtesy of the Ely-Winton Historical Society

November 9, 1917

Ely 4,000 tons of coal short

Coal Commissioner Geo L. Brozich, acting as a member of the St. Louis County Commission, sent his report to Coal Commissioner McGee of the State Safety Commission. The report shows that the city of Ely is nearly 4,000 tons short of the normal consumption as figured from the records of the last year's sales. Mr. Brozich secured these figures from the books of the local coal dealers. The figures show an alarming condition in the city and a remedy must be found to forestall suffering among consumers. From April 1916 to April 1917, there were received in this city 2,164 tons of anthracite, or hard coal, and 3,634 tons of bituminous, or soft coal, a total of 5,798 tons. From April 1917 to date, there have been received by the three coal dealers in the city 814 tons of hard coal and 1,107 tons of soft coal, a total of 1,921 tons. The report as made shows that the dealers are short at the present time of a total of 3,887 tons as compared with the consumption last winter. As most of the coal is placed in the bins in the summer months, it can be seen that the shortage actually exists and at the time is most acute. Dealers are receiving single carloads at the present time as compared to half or full train loads in normal years. The shortage is most pronounced in the hard coal line. In closing the report, Mr. Brozich said, "As will be seen, there is a large shortage here and we must have some relief as soon as possible. Please urge Duluth shippers to give us all they can. We are economizing as much as possible, but can not economize to the extent of the shortage. If relief is not forthcoming, many families will suffer."

WASHINGTON D.C. SENIORS Spaghetti Dinner FUNDRAISER

ALL-U-CAN-EAT Spaghetti Dinner Friday, Nov. 10 • 4-7 pm Ely High School Cafeteria Spaghetti w/Meat or Veggie Sauce Tossed Salad/Dressings/Bread Sticks Cookies/Beverage Adults \$8 • Students (with school ID) \$6 Seniors \$7 • Children Grades K-6 \$4 Age 4 And Under FREE

Join us before the High School Musical "Footloose"



THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING 2018 WASHINGTON DC SENIORS

Veterans Day Luncheon on Nov. 10

COOK- Trinity Lutheran Church in Cook will be hosting a Veterans Day luncheon on Friday, Nov. 10 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the church fellowship hall. This year's date is a day early as local veterans will be at the school for the Veterans Day program.

This free lasagna lunch is in recognition of the service and dedication all our veterans have given for our country. All area veterans and their family members are welcome to attend, as well as surviving spouses of veterans. Any questions can be directed to the church office at 218-666-5965. Trinity is located right off Highway 53 by the American Bank in Cook at 213 2nd St. SE.

Cook Community Thanksgiving Dinner

COOK- The public is invited to the Community Thanksgiving Dinner on Thursday, Nov. 23 from 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. at St. Mary's Catholic Church social hall. The Cook Lions Club will be delivering meals to homebound residents; please call Noreen at 218-666-2869 to arrange delivery. Everyone is welcome to attend this meal, which is made possible by the generous donations from community businesses and individuals.

8th Annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner set for Orr Legion

ORR- Enjoy a Thanksgiving dinner at the Orr American Legion from 1-3 p.m. on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, Nov. 23. Meals-to-go will be delivered beginning at 12:30 p.m. The Thanksgiving Dinner is a local gathering for families and friends that many look forward to. For some, this is a much-needed meal. For others, it is a chance to relax and visit with family and friends. Last year, 240 people were served at the Legion and an additional 101 meals were made to go.

By community request, donations will be accepted at the event for the community food shelf, local emergency situations, and families at Christmas. Donations are not required. Churches from Orr, Crane Lake, and Cook use this food for families in need.

Coding Club for Kids Thursdays at Cook Library

COOK- Ever wanted to learn how to create a computer game or design your own website? Come to the library to explore computer coding in a fun and interactive environment. Kids in grades 5 and up are invited to participate. Adults are encouraged to attend and learn with the kids. All materials will be provided. The club will take place at 5 p.m. at the Cook Public Library every Thursday in November, except Thanksgiving.

Readers and Rappers meet Nov. 14

COOK- The next meeting for Readers and Rappers, the Cook area book club, is Tuesday, Nov. 14 at 1 p.m. "The Garden of Beasts" by author Erick Larson, will be discussed. Mickey Maki will be the moderator and the hostess will be Marilyn Berlin. December's selection is "The Wife, The Maid, and the Mistress" by author Ariel Lawhon. Readers and Rappers meet the second Tuesday of every month in the community room at the Homestead Apartments in Cook. All are welcome.

LINDEN GROVE



New Highway 5 Bridge now open

LINDEN GROVE TWP- Construction on the new bridge on County State Aid Highway 5 over the Bear River has been wrapped up. The bridge opened on Friday, Nov. 3. The road has been closed since late May for the \$2 million project. The new bridge is 302 feet

long, significantly longer than the previous 83-year-old structure. The length makes the bridge safer and addresses the unstable soils that are prevalent in the area.

The new bridge is part of a major improvement to Highway 5 in the Linden Grove area. Lunda

Construction is the contractor for the project. To learn more about this or any other St. Louis County road construction project, or to sign up for email updates, visit stlouiscountymn.gov/construction.

CRANE LAKE

Crane Lake News by the Singing Teapot Dames



CRANE LAKE- Snow, snow, snow-that is all we know. Weather like this is good for parlor games. Did you know that the popular game of Monopoly was released on Nov. 5, 1935, by the Parker Brothers? An unemployed heater salesman from Philadelphia named Charles Darrow created it and secured a copyright for the game. The Parker Brothers initially had no interest in purchasing

the game but after seeing the game fly like hotcakes off the shelves of a Philadelphia department store, the brothers reconsidered and released the game, which was an immediate smash hit, selling 20,000 games each week. Originally then tokens were included in each game, including a battleship, cannon, iron, lantern, purse, racer, race-horse, shoe, thimble, and a top hat. Today there are only eight tokens.

Fifty years is a long time to do anything. Just ask Mike and Linda Lang, their 50th wedding anniversary was Nov. 9. All their kids made the trek to Crane Lake to celebrate with their parents. Being a former Marine, Mike had a hard time remembering the date, with the Marine Corps birthday being on Nov. 10. For a number of years Linda got flowers on the wrong day!

How many hunters bagged their deer on the opener? Reports were for a good harvest, as there seems to be an abundance of them in the roadside ditches. Be extra careful now since we turned our clocks back and dark comes a lot earlier. The snow may help keep them off the roads, but nothing can be done about the loss of daylight. Anyone else ready to put on their pj's by 7 p.m.? Next week we should have many deer hunting stories. Let us hear your experiences.

The Dames suggest living dangerously, have a cup of coffee after dinner and stay up until 9 p.m. Speaking of coffee, Finland ranks #1 in per-capita coffee consumption, with the average consumption of 2.64 cups of coffee per person per day. The most popular blends are very light roasts and coffee is served all day long. Now

we know where the tradition of coffee an' came from.

The Dames leave you with a thought for the day. A quote from George Washington, which is timely for Veterans Day. "There is nothing so likely to produce peace as to be well prepared to meet an enemy." Thank you, George.

Let us hear from you. If you are a snowbird, tell us what life is like in your area. Snowbirds like to hear the news of what is going on at Crane Lake and we like to know about you. Send news by e-mail to info@thelakecountry.com, by fax to 218-757-3533, or by phone to Sandy at 218-757-3233 and it will be added. So fire away with your news.

Until the next time, the Teapot Dames are singing off.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

November notes from the Cook Public Library

Thank You!
The Cook Public Library has so much to be thankful for this year. Your donations to the Friends of the Library Carpet Campaign totaled \$3,750. Thank you for supporting this library improvement project. Please come see the carpet and enjoy the space.

Food for Fines
Food for Fines will be in effect for the month of November. When you bring in a non-perishable food item, we will waive a fine from the Cook Public Library. We cannot waive fines from other libraries or on lost items. All food donations will be given to the Cook Food Shelf.

Library closing dates
The Cook Public Library will be closed on Friday, Nov. 10 (Veterans Day) and Thursday, Nov. 24 (Thanksgiving).

November events at Northwoods Friends of the Arts

COOK- Northwoods Friends of the Arts Gallery in Cook has many events going on this month. Stop in for a class, meeting, group, or simply to enjoy the art.

Winter Writers Group meets the second Saturday of each month from 1 – 3 p.m. The next meeting is Nov. 11. The writers group is free and open to all. Call the coordinator, Ellie Larmouth, with any questions at 218-753-5327.

Open Art Saturday starts on Nov. 18 at 1 p.m. and will continue on the third Saturday of each month from 1 - 3 p.m. All are welcome, please bring your own supplies and interest in art. Do your own thing in a supportive atmosphere. Bring a friend or your child if they are old enough to do

art. Come and share your love of art and support other artists.

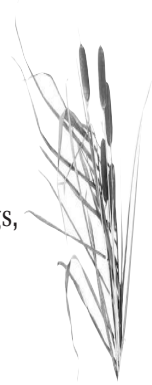
The November Board Meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 21 at noon is open to all who want to bring ideas and critiques for NWFA. We will be planning for winter events and most importantly, looking ahead at the 2018 budget. All ideas and proposals are welcome, but we do need to get specific so that we can pay for events.

Looking ahead, Cook's Country Christmas will be held on Friday, Dec. 1 starting at 5 p.m. NWFA will have crafts for kids available.

The gallery is located at 210 River St., next to the Dreamweaver Spa and Salon and is open on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Visit our website at www.nwfamn.org for more information.

Thank You

Life is but a stopping place,
A pause in what's to be.
A resting place along the road
To sweet eternity.
We all have different journeys,
Different paths along the way.
We are all meant to learn some things,
But never meant to stay.
Far greater than we will ever know.
For some, the journey's slow
And when the journey finally ends,
We'll claim a great reward.
And an everlasting peace
Together with the Lord. - Author unknown



It gives me so much comfort and peace of mind knowing my Dad is in our "Father's" arms. He is no longer struggling and in pain. I lost a piece of my heart the day he passed away...but I know it will one day be whole again. Thank you to everyone for your kinds words, hugs, fun memories, donations, groceries, cards and any way you may have shown your thoughtfulness. We do so appreciate everything that everyone has done for us...for my Dad!

A special thanks to the emergency crews and enforcement, who do such a wonderful caring job, and to Mlaker Funeral Home for making the process so easy.

Sincere Thanks
from the Family of Robert (TOYMAN) Schley
Ruth, Becki, Jim, Ryan, Zachary, Nathan,
Lizzi & Rob

20th Annual St. Mary's Holiday Bazaar
Friday, November 17, 4-7 PM
Saturday, November 18, 9 AM-3 PM
Crafts • Luncheon • Coffee An's • Potica
Raffle • Drawings • Bake Sale • Canned Goods
Wreaths & Greenery • Lefse • Cookie Walk!
We've Got Gifts for Everyone on Your List!
Choose your own assortment of yummy Holiday Cookies!

Dinner Friday Night • 4-8 PM and Luncheon on Saturday
Choice of Soups, Sloppy Joe, Hot Dogs, Beverages and Bar or Cookie
Take-outs available

St. Mary's Church, Cook, MN

VETERANS DAY SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH

We will be open Friday, November 10th

Join us from 10am-3pm for Coffee & Treats as we honor servicemen and women, both past and present.

All Veterans who visit either of our branch locations will be entered into a drawing for a \$50 VISA gift card at each location!

Thank you, from your friends at

NORTH STAR CREDIT UNION

Cook Branch 24 S. River Street Cook, MN 55723 218-666-5940

Nashwauk Branch 401 Platt Ave. E. Nashwauk, MN 55769 218-885-1600

NORTH WOODS

Football and Veterans Day top the list this week at NW

FIELD TWP- It is a very exciting week at North Woods School! We have much to talk about, with a state-bound Grizzlies football team and our annual Veterans Day celebration. With all of the positives happening in our school community, we have a lot to be thankful for!

I will start with football. Congratulations to the North Woods Grizzlies football team and coaches on your section championship and qualifying for the Minnesota 9-Man State Football Tournament. The Grizzlies will take on Nevis at Bemidji State University Friday, Nov. 10 at 8 p.m. North Woods defeated Cook County last Friday, Nov. 3 on the turf at Esko 28-6. It was a close game until the second half when the depth of the Grizzlies became too much for the Vikings to match. Many Grizzlies contributed with big plays and strong leadership. The coaching staff should also be compli-



JOHN VUKMANICH

mented for their on-field decision-making. Our coaches do a great job of making adjustments in order to benefit the team.

Veterans Day is celebrated annually at North Woods (Friday, Nov. 10 this year) and includes our local American Legion and VFW from Cook, Orr, and Nett Lake. Also featured are the Bois Forte Drummers and Dancers, and student musicians from the North Woods Band. Although I am not a veteran, my grandfather



North Woods cheerleaders and fans cheer on the team in Esko.
photo by C. Stone

served in the U.S. Navy on a PT boat during World War II, and my father-in-law was in artillery in the Vietnam War. One of my regrets in life is that by the time I was really interest-

ed in hearing about his service, my grandfather had already passed. Our veterans' stories are a critical part of our American experience, and knowing about their perspectives

and sacrifices is very important to all of us never taking our freedom for granted. Take some time to talk to a veteran and to thank them for their service. When we think of

the sacrifices made by our veterans, and of the incredible loss of life on foreign soil, many of the things in our lives that we get upset or worry about seem quite small. As I work with our kids in school, I sometimes talk to them about the sacrifices of our military personnel, who were often around the same age when they went into combat. It can give kids a different perspective. Simply put, finishing your homework and being in class on time is a pretty minimal expectation compared to packing your bags to be sent overseas into combat. Being free to choose your path in life was bought and paid for by our vets!

Veterans Day is Saturday, Nov. 11. Thank you to all of our veterans for your service to our country. You are appreciated.

Cook Library celebrates quilts and quilters

COOK- The Cook Public Library hosted its third annual Quilt Month in October. This year, the library displayed 33 works of quilt art by 19 local contributors. Over 40 people enjoyed hot beverages and treats at the Quilt Lovers Tea held on Oct. 26.



Family Fun Day at Cook's Country Connection

Nickole Dahl demonstrated spinning and fiber arts during the Fall Family Fun Day last month. photo by M. Roach

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North Woods Parent-Teacher Conferences will be Nov. 14 and 15

COOK- North Woods School Teacher Conferences for parents and guardians will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 14 and Wednesday, Nov. 15. Conference hours on Tuesday are 3:30 to 7:30 p.m. Conference hours on Wednesday are 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. The conference schedule is also available on the North Woods School website.

Mesabi Unitarian celebrates the Hindu Festival of Lights on Nov. 12

VIRGINIA- Mesabi Unitarian Universalist Church will be celebrating the Hindu Diwali Festival of Lights on Sunday, Nov. 12 at 10:30 a.m. There will be an introduction to Hinduism with the focus on

the Festival of Lights. This service will be inter-generational.

Mesabi Unitarian Universalist Church is located at 230 7th St. S in Virginia.

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Effective October 1

the TIMBERJAY

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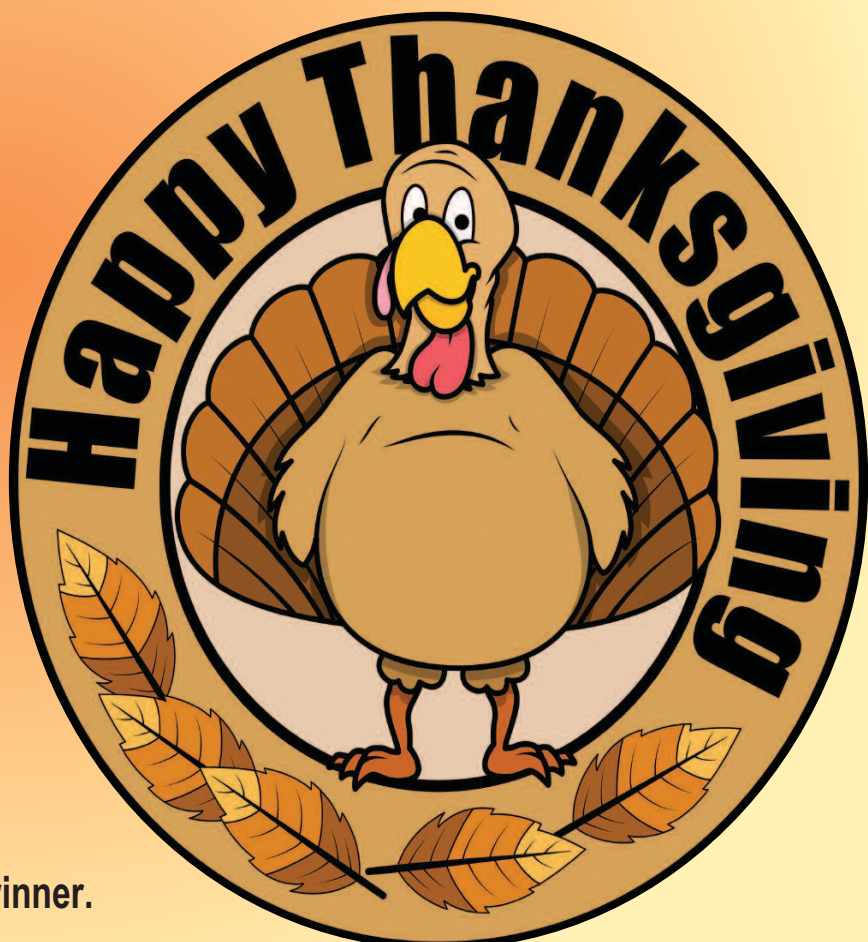
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TELECOMMUNICATIONS

CenturyLink must reform television and internet sales, billing practices

REGIONAL — CenturyLink must better disclose its prices and fees under a court order publicly filed this week in Anoka County.

Minnesota Attorney General Lori Swanson announced the order on Monday, which stems from her ongoing lawsuit against the Louisiana-based telecommunications company.

“Consumers deserve clear and accurate pricing information so they can effectively shop for Internet and TV service at the lowest price,” said

Court order includes CenturyLink’s sale of DirectTV services in Minnesota

Swanson. Swanson filed suit against the company in July, alleging that it billed higher amounts than its sales agents quoted customers for Internet and television services and then frequently refused to honor the prices quoted to consumers who caught the discrepancies on their bills. Under the court order, CenturyLink—whether selling its own internet or television

services or selling products for DirecTV—is prohibited from making false statements to Minnesota residents about the prices and terms of those products. It is also prohibited from charging Minnesota customers a greater amount than that disclosed at the time of sale. Among other things, CenturyLink must clearly disclose at the time of sale:

- ▶ The monthly base

price of the services being purchased;

- ▶ The amount of each recurring monthly fee on top of the monthly base price;
- ▶ The amount of any one-time fee, such as activation and installation fees;
- ▶ The amount of the first invoice and future invoices;
- ▶ The time period for which the quoted prices apply; and
- ▶ Any restrictions

on a consumer’s ability to receive the quoted price. Swanson obtained a Consent Judgment with DirecTV back in 2011 that prohibited the company from misrepresenting its prices and required the company to clearly disclose any conditions or limitations that may alter the price quoted to the consumer. The lawsuit cites many examples of consumers who were quoted

one price but charged another. For example, a man from Blaine was quoted a base monthly rate of \$39.97 for television service, but was charged a base rate of \$71.97 per month instead. A man from Columbia Heights was quoted a base monthly rate of \$14.95 for Internet service, but was charged a base rate of \$29.95 per month instead.

ELY...Continued from page 1

from the server on the night of Oct 31. “There was as much as 1.5 tera-bytes of materials and it took over three days to recover the data and put it back into the system,” Novak said.

As for the sudden removal of the recorded materials from the computer server, Novak wouldn’t speculate and indicated there appeared to be some question as to the ownership of that data. Following the meeting Tuesday night, Novak said, “The Broadcasting Contractor Agreement specifically states all recorded data belongs to the city.”

In published statements last week, Jankovec said that during his tenure, he was contractually obligated to record City Council meetings, council study sessions, utility meetings and special meetings.

“Everything else you have seen on ElyTV (channels 11 and 98 on the cable channel lineup) has been done on my own time,” he said. “Every community event, travel show, polka concert, interview, cooking show or anything else seen on Ely TV that wasn’t a meeting has either been filmed by or produced by me. Period.”

Jankovec said all of his personal digital files were “apparently copied by someone” before he left.

“They are now being aired on public access television without my permission,” he said. “I sent notice to both the mayor and operations director to immediately stop airing the programs that have taken me years to produce, yet as of the time of (Nov. 2), my programs continue to be aired on public access.” Numerous periodic random checks of both Ely public access channels as of Nov. 7 verify Jankovec’s claim.

He went on to accuse Crego of stealing his intellectual property. “After almost 10 years of building and providing content for what was an amazing television station, Ely TV has been replaced by an entity that has chosen to take my work without authorization and air it,” he said.

“When I was told I would no longer be providing service to Ely, a motion was made (by the City Council) to provide Ely TV with a letter of thanks for my many years of service, a letter which I never received. It appears that this is the thanks that I get.”

Novak said the City Attorney is preparing a letter to be sent to Jankovec. He wouldn’t divulge the contents. He did say the city is still

waiting for the return of some broadcasting equipment.

Contractor duties

Later in the meeting, city council members approved the Broadcaster Contractor Agreement with Crego.

Crego will be paid \$1,750 per month for his services. Performance reviews will be conducted at three months, six months, and at the end of the one-year contract.

The Broadcasting Contractor duties shall include:

1. Scheduling of events to cover.
2. Organize and train volunteers or paid employees.
3. Develop programming schedules.
4. Establish and enforce rules and regulations for Public Access use.
5. Establish and manage a Community Events bulletin board.
6. Provide technical services, including engineering as well as actual on air assistance.
7. Perform live broadcasting and film the following meetings: All City Council regular and special meetings, public hearings and study sessions, EEDA meetings, and EUC meetings. If Broadcasting Contractor fails to film and/or broadcast an event described above, a penalty in the amount of \$200 per occurrence may be assessed to the Broadcasting Contractor by city. The city shall, in its sole discretion, determine whether to assess said penalty. The city’s waiver of a specific penalty shall not void the filming requirement nor establish precedent as to penalty assessment.
8. Attend all TAB meetings, and provide a current programming schedule, anticipated filming and program schedule for the next month, and summary of previous month’s activities.
9. Said filming shall be performed in a manner that is respectful and courteous to all parties involved,
10. Ensure that all cameras and broadcasting equipment is ready no less than 15 minutes prior to the meetings scheduled start time.
11. Provide the city with archive copy of each City Council meeting within 24 hours of each meeting.
12. Provide contact information to the public and city, so that inquiries and concerns may be addressed.

13. Provide a website for Public Access television to post the schedule of programs and possible viewings of other pre-recorded meetings deemed appropriate by TAB.

Other business

In other business, city council members took the following action:

- ▶ Approved a proclamation declaring November as General Aviation Appreciation Month;

- ▶ OK’d a recommendation from the Park and Recreation Board to remove as many as five trees in Whiteside Park that have been deemed unsafe due to storm damage, and replace them with new trees;
- ▶ Reviewed a revision of the city’s Conflict of Interest policy;
- ▶ Authorized, on a recommendation from the Employee Relations Committee, to allow the Planning and Zoning

Administrator position to be transferred back to the non-essential supervisory unit;

- ▶ Took no action on a blight order for the property at 21 W. Shagawa Road, allowing the Building official to proceed with enforcement of the order to include removal of unsafe porches and the demolition of a detached garage, with costs to be assessed to the owner’s property taxes;

- ▶ Approved a resolution authorizing application for the Community Development Block Grant program;
- ▶ OK’d a request from the Chamber of Commerce to provide in-kind services for the annual Holiday Parade;
- ▶ Approved a resolution authorizing the application of the Knights of Columbus Council 3238 to conduct bingo.

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TUESDAY GROUP

New Elyites: Can't wait to get to here

by KEITH VANDERVORT
Ely Editor

ELY – Periodically, the Tuesday Group gathering at the Grand Ely Lodge features new people who have moved to the Ely area. “It is always a joy for all of us to get to meet our new neighbors, and in a faster way than we would otherwise,” said co-organizer Steve Schon.

Several new residents of the Ely community told their stories of how they ended up in Ely. Cheryl Boyes, Kathy Golbuff and Pam Ransom are featured this week. Cathy Vanderboom and Julie Nester will be featured next week.

Boyes moved to Ely on Sept. 1. She made the relatively short leap from Brainerd. “I was thinking about building a small, simple house,” she said. “I checked on Craig’s List and was looking for something, maybe around Duluth.”

On a whim she found a house in Ely and drove over to check it out one day last February. “Within five minutes I knew I was going to buy that house on Klondike Drive.”

Like most people who eventually make Ely their home, Boyes came to the area when she was a child. “My grandparents lived at Forest Center,” she said. “Now it is a parking lot for a put-in for the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness, but in the 1950s and 1960s it was a lumberjack camp. My grandfather worked in the



From left, Pam Ransom, Cheryl Boyes and Kathy Golbuff were introduced as new Elyites this week at Tuesday Group. photo by K. Vandervort

woods for the Tomahawk Lumber Co. Grandmother worked at a little café.” Boyes’ mother was a waitress at Vertin’s Café in Ely.

Having visited Ely as a child, Boyes caught the outdoor fever like most everybody. “I camp. I hike. I backpack. I bird-watch. I’ve been in the BWCA several times. I love Bear Head State Park. I really enjoy the outdoor atmosphere of Ely,” she said.

Back in 2008, when she lived in the Twin Cities and was unemployed at the time, she ended up working her first of two summer seasons at Camp Van Vac as a naturalist program coordinator. “Of course, on Saturdays, we all cleaned cabins,” she said. The seed was planted for her to find a way to live in Ely year-round.

In looking for a move

out of the Twin Cities, Boyes looked around the upper Midwest, including Houghton, Mich., west central Wisconsin and northern Minnesota. “I ended up in Brainerd but it wasn’t north enough, so here I am,” she said.

Boyes is still in the process of closing down her bookstore business but considers herself “98-percent” moved up here. She has flower bulbs she thought she could get yet this fall, but winter arrived too quickly.

She has become involved in many activities in Ely, including taking classes at the Ely Folk School, participating in a Tai Chi class, and enjoying seeing new birds at her feeders. “Today, I saw a pine grosbeak which is new to me,” she said.

Boyes has worked for home health care agencies

and has also done private home health care, and hopes to get involved with that here.

Kathy Golbuff, and her husband Ted moved to Ely some 18 months ago. “Ted is deathly afraid of public speaking and I believe he would break out in hives if he saw me here today,” she said. “That’s why he’s not here.”

She grew up in Richfield and Ted grew up in Albert Lea. Her brother, Dan Kuhl moved to the area after high school in the 1970s, working for Roger’s Printing and later as a house painter with his assistant, Brian Strom, of Crapola fame. “We visited Dan up here for some 30 years,” she said. “We always loved the area and were drawn up here.”

Kathy and Ted met while they both worked for WCCO properties for

20-plus years. She also worked for Minnesota Public Radio. Ted worked about 20 years as a freelance audio specialist for television magazine shows. “He also had a great interest in wooden boats and spent much of his time caressing the teak,” Golbuff said. He is now an accomplished wooden furniture maker. Some of his work was shown last summer at the Northern Lakes Arts Association pop-up gallery and he participates in many juried art shows.

They like to visit their children in California and considered moving to Colorado in their retirement. They vacationed in Ely and while here looked at a couple of properties. “We found a home on High Creek Road,” she said. “It had been neglected for many years so we renovated the entire place.”

The Golbuffs are also members of the Ely Folk School. She takes a Tai Chi and yoga class, plays Mahjong, and volunteers at Northwoods Partners. “I’m also a beginner water color artist,” she said.

“We love living here. We have deer. We have fox. We have bear. We love the birds,” she said.

Pam Ransom lives by the motto, “Do what you like and like what you do.”

She grew up in Oak Park, Ill., and now calls Ely her home. “I saw a bald eagle this morning as I left my house. Where else but in Ely,” she said.

She has a varied life including volunteering and working with people with disabilities. She has a law degree, a master’s in social work and worked in many management positions.

Here in Ely, she is involved with the Board of Directors for the Ely Folk School and volunteers with the Mesabi Symphony Orchestra.

In the 1990s, Ransom lived and worked in Washington, D.C., and was involved in consulting for the disabilities community. “I worked to bring together leaders in the disability communities with leaders in the telecommunications industry,” she said, “and I had a small part in the 1996 Telecommunications Act.”

While in Washington, she also volunteered to work with disabled access for President Bill Clinton’s two Inaugural Balls.

In the 1980s, when she was married, she would come to Ely two or three times a year to visit the Boundary Waters. “I love the outdoors and live in a perfect spot on Mitchell Lake,” she said.

Just recently, Ransom was hired as the executive director of Incredible Ely. “I’m looking forward to working together to figure out how we can bring a diversity of living wage jobs to Ely,” she said. “I’m up for the challenge.”

CAFE...Continued from page 1



Karin Schultz’s painting of the Montana that hangs on the back wall of the cafe. It’s better than taking a photo of the outside during winter. photo by F. Schumacher

must stop at the Montana Café in Cook. And he said, “I already always do!”

Local residents—the kindling in the Montana’s fire—come for breakfast and stop in for coffee. The common scene used to be the “old boys” table in the middle, where the “city fathers”—business owners and political pontificators—would meet for morning coffee and hash over the issues of the day.

In current years the middle tables more often host a large group of local women—friends, sometimes the quilting group—sometimes families with children, sometimes buddies on the way

to the hunting shack.

A long history in Cook

Beginning as the Brintz Meat Market in 1913, the building in the middle of Cook’s downtown has served the community in many ways over its 100-plus-year lifespan. Owners in recent decades included local residents Doug Nakari, Kirsten Reichel, and Don Simonson.

Val updated the traditional frame storefront with bright red panels and window frames. She also added air conditioning, an expanded and updated kitchen, additional insulation, and new bathrooms.

The business has employed as many as 12 or 13 staff at times. Currently there are five full-time employees. Val’s son Travis is also part of the crew.

Val also owns the lot next door, where she always wanted to create a deck or patio for outdoor dining in the summer—much needed, since on Saturday mornings the restaurant is often filled to overflowing. A two-bedroom apartment in the upstairs of the building is always rented.

A community gathering place

The Montana Café serves as what sociologists have recently come to call a “third place”—not the intense intimacy of home, not the formality of work. Rather, a third place—a coffee shop, a restaurant, a place where young mothers gather in the park with their children—provides a setting where family-like relationships can develop and endure. It is a place where others know you when you come in, a place where people look forward to seeing familiar faces and sharing daily happenings with one another. A place where if you don’t show up for a while, people wonder if you’re OK.

Cook’s Montana Café certainly serves the role of a third place.

Cook resident and City Council member Liz Storm shared her thoughts about the role of the Montana in the community.

“It’s a place to communicate,” Storm said.

“It’s been a gathering place for decades. Starting in the morning when people come in for breakfast or for coffee. They meet each other and discuss what happened the night before, who died”

Storm remembered the owners who named the restaurant “The Montana” back in the 1970s. “They introduced new things on the menu: sprouts, sunflower seeds. It was a whole new taste for people.”

If the Montana were lost, Storm said, “There would be a big hole in the downtown. Look at the Farmers Market in the summer. People come to the Montana for breakfast and then enjoy the Market. It’s all part of somebody’s day.”

“It’s never felt like work,” Val said. “For me it’s a second home. I get a chance to see the summer people coming back. We say, ‘Oh, they’re back. Summer’s here.’ It’s really like a family. We know exactly what they eat.”

This year on a snowy Saturday on the opening weekend of deer hunting season, the restaurant was filled with blaze orange and stocking caps. People coming to the deer camps look forward to the hunt and a chance to stop at the Montana one more time.

“How are the roads?” “Did you get your deer?”

“How are the kids?” It’s a tradition. It’s like family. It’s like home. It’s the Montana.

Fall Harvest Dinner Event

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Dinner is served from 4 pm - 8 pm

The Wilderness Grill

Limited Seating
Reservations Required
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dsimonson@kempersports.com

TOWER...Continued from page 1

members. The facility will offer a number of full- and part-time positions, including a site manager, boat service techs, and dock staff.

Small town start

While some business owners can be leery of operating in a small town, it's second nature to Kujawa, who grew up in tiny Buckman, Minn., a town of 178 people not far from Pierz. His parents started Pierz Marine when Kujawa was young and he grew up in the business, selling his first boat at age 12. His parents eventually sold the business, by then known as Crystal-Pierz Marine.

But boats were in Kujawa's blood, and he started Your Boat Club in late 2009 in partnership with a friend and with a loan from his father. They started with five of the boats left from his parent's marine business and set up shop on Prior Lake. Pretty soon, they were taking their boat club concept to other parts of the state and it's caught on, with nearly 1,000 memberships involving more than 2,000 families who regularly utilize the marinas that the boat club operates. The new Lake Vermilion

marina will be the farthest north the company has set up shop, at least to date, and Kujawa said he's excited to bring club members to the area. "It's a big base of customers who will be able to come up and see one of the most beautiful lakes in the state for the first time," he said.

Kujawa said he came to recognize over the years that the costs and hassles of owning and operating a higher-end boat can be significant, particularly when many boat owners only use their boats a few weekends a year. "Our ultimate goal is to take the hassle out of boating," he said. The club maintains a high standard of member service, said Kujawa, and use boats from top quality manufacturers for no more than three years before swapping or selling them to replace with the latest craft.

The boat club concept has other advantages, particularly at a time when concern about controlling the spread of aquatic invasive species is at an all-time high. "Our boats never leave the lake," said Kujawa, noting that every boat that doesn't end up being moved from lake to lake helps reduce the risk of spread-

ing invasive species. "With the boat club, we replace hundreds of boats that would be coming in from elsewhere. It's one of the only 100-percent effective ways to slow or stop the spread of invasive species," he added.

Sale of marina a key element in Tower's renaissance

The renovation of the marina has long been a critical component of the overall vision of Orlyn Kringstad and Jeremy Schoenfelder and their Tower Vision 2025 development team, which has worked for the past several months to help finalize the marina sale and will maintain an ongoing business relationship with the boat club owners going forward.

The opening of a Your Boat Club marina typically increases the local demand for lodging as members of the club will visit for days at a time while they utilize the services of the club. Kringstad said the marina deal will further strengthen the case for bringing a hotel to the riverfront zone. Kringstad has already met with a prospective hotel

development firm and he said he expects to renew talks with the firm now that the marina deal is completed.

The marina revamp will also improve the prospects for a second phase of town home development between the harbor and marina. Owners of town homes in a second phase could have easy access to boat slips or memberships at the Your Boat Club marina.

"Your Boat Club provides boat rentals and memberships with locations at a number of lakes in Minnesota. We believe that, with a successful closing and renovation to the marina, they will bring additional visitors helping promote the economic development of the area," said Tower Vision's Schoenfelder.

The sale of the marina came quickly following the issuance of a 30-day compliance order by the city of Tower that required the owners of the facility to make significant repairs to dilapidated docks and other structures, remove unpermitted buildings and dozens of old boats, marine parts, junk, brush, and other debris that the owners had allowed to accumulate at the

site. The previous owners, Ralph and Ellen Hilla, had made significant progress in repairs and clean-up since issuance of the compliance order.

But much more remains to be done to bring the facility up to the standard of other marinas operated by Kujawa's boat club, and it won't happen overnight. Kujawa said he hopes to demolish the existing docks and canopies over the winter. Significant portions of the marina's sea wall will also need to be removed and replaced, and that's before the club begins work on the facility's main building, which needs significant renovation. "No part of this is going to be easy," said Kujawa. "There's nothing involving a marina that's ever easy."

While there's much work ahead, Kujawa said he's eager to get going and excited to be back doing business in a small town. "We know it's important for us to really become a part of the community," he said. "We want to be a catalyst for greater prosperity in the whole area."

TACOS...Continued from page 1

This was a contest to see who could eat the most Indian Tacos in eight minutes.

Welcome to the world of Major League Eating (MLE). MLE, if you didn't know, is the world body that governs "stomach-centric" sports.

On the stage was the current world champion eater, Joey Chestnut. And if that name didn't ring a bell, it certainly did for many in the audience who had driven quite a way, on snowy roads, to meet the man who currently held 43 MLE world records. MLE's flagship event is most likely the Fourth of July Nathan's hotdog eating contest, for which Chestnut currently holds the world record.

Tonight, as emcee Sam Barclay of MLE, repeatedly told the audience, another world record would be set. It was guaranteed, of course, since this was the first time MLE featured Indian Tacos.

David and Stephanie Lukkonen, of Duluth, made the trip to Tower just to meet Chestnut, and they had snagged first row seats.

"I've watched him for seven years on ESPN," David said. The couple was busy posting photos to social media, and said many of their friends were extremely jealous and wished they had made the trip.

Chestnut, from San Jose, Calif., entered his first MLE contest 12 years ago, after his younger brother signed him up. "It was a lobster-eating contest," he said, "and I'd never eaten lobster before."

Chestnut, who was in college studying engineering, tied for third that day, which became the first step in his new full-time career. After graduating from college, he worked in construction management, but kept entering eating contests. A little over five years ago, he became a full-time "eater," and now travels the country and the globe with MLE.

"My favorite foods are chicken wings and ribs," he said. "I have a pretty good technique and they are not hard work."

Indian tacos, on the other hand, were going to be a challenge.

"This one will be work," he said. "It won't be a pretty contest."

The fried dough bread



World champion eater Joey Chestnut was joined on stage with other world-ranked eaters at Fortune Bay's first-ever Indian Taco eating contest. photo by J. Summit

rounds were going to be tough on the jaw, Chestnut said, and not that easy to swallow. Chestnut had done some practicing at home, prior to this contest.

But Chestnut said he had won two other taco-eating contests this year, and was confident he could power through this competition.

Geoffrey Esper, from Massachusetts, came into the competition ranked fourth in the world.

A high school electronics teacher, he competes about twice a month in MLE. He currently holds the world record for pepperoni roll eating, though he said his favorite competition involved cheeseburgers.

"I've never seen Indian Tacos before," he said.

The competition also involved some amateurs. Sean Nichols had driven over from northern Wisconsin. "I'm a good amateur," he said, "but not ranked." Nichols was a large guy, and he said that his size is not an advantage in the sport.

"Skinny guys have an easier time," Nichols said.

Nichols had one of his best showings at the Milwaukee Garlic Festival, where he took second place in the raw garlic eating competition, downing half a pound in two minutes. His goal tonight, he said, was to score in the money, though he didn't expect to take first or second.

"The garlic was the hardest to eat," he said. "They burned your throat; you needed to just swallow them whole."

Sixth-ranked MLE eater, Gideon Oji, who grew up in Nigeria but now lives in Atlanta, Ga., had also made the trip. Tall and lean, he certainly looked like someone who could pack in the food.

Two Fortune Bay employees, Doug Porter

and John Tikkenen took part in the event, though neither had done any real training. John (Taco John) Tikkenen said he is known for his ability to eat large portions.

"You will witness history tonight," barked out Barclay. "What is at stake?" he asked, "Money and glory." There was a \$5,000 purse at stake, with \$2,500 to the winner, and then cash prizes for the next five places.

The field tonight, he explained, was elite.

"I could go on all night," he said, speaking about Chestnut, calling him the "greatest eater in the history of mankind!"

"He is part human, but all eater."

But then, Barclay introduced the crowd to the up-and-coming Esper, who had beaten Chestnut twice this year.

"Will he take the prize tonight?" he wondered.

As the eleven competitors took their spots on the stage, they readied their equipment, water or other drinks, and plenty of napkins.

And so, as the emcee explained, "in all of sport, a moment so awesome, perched on a cliff edge...the Mt. Sinai of Mastication...Let the contest begin!"

The taco eating itself was not something you would want to watch on a full stomach. Eaters tore the taco bread into pieces, stuffing it into their mouths and swallowing. Sweat mingled with spit, all colored like taco seasoning, as it dripped from mouths and chins. Competitors mostly stood, bodies tense, eyes sometimes closed. Eight minutes is a long time to continuously stuff dense food into one's mouth. Fortune Bay staff was standing by to replenish plates. The room was quiet. Tower

Ambulance staff was in the hall, just in case someone choked.

It was clear from the start that the competition was between Chestnut and Esper. Chestnut got off to a quicker start, but by midway, it appeared to be neck-and-neck, or perhaps mouth-and-mouth. The other eaters almost appeared to be working in slow motion. But what was clear, that there were a lot of tacos were being eaten up on that stage.

When the buzzer rang, it was time to announce the winner; was that the favorite Chestnut, or Esper?

It was Esper, by a single taco. He downed 29 to Chestnut's 28.

Chestnut was clearly disappointed by the

outcome, but was gracious, and insisted he was planning to come back next year to try to claim the title.

Esper, as if 29 tacos weren't enough, kept munching on the leftover tacos while being interviewed and taking selfies with fans.

"This fry bread is delicious," he said.

Esper said he knew he was off to a slower start, but then realized he needed to be drinking more water to help the fry bread go down.

"They were so hard to eat," he said.

"I knew this was going to be hard," said Chestnut. "But I will work on my technique."

Barclay said this was one of the tougher events he had overseen.

"This was very demanding," he said, "and took a lot of jaw strength."

Sammy Richter, Fortune Bay's event and promotion manager, said the day had been an absolute "blast."

He said he was thinking he might be the innovator of idiocy, not sure that the event would attract an audience. But he was clearly on the right track and was excited to see the turnout and the mood in the ballroom.

Fortune Bay kitchen staff, led by Billie Deegan and E.J. Deegan, had dished up 970 plates each weighing exactly one pound and featuring four small Indian Tacos with fry bread and taco meat. The crew had been in the kitchen since 4:30 a.m., and also prepared several hundred additional pieces of fry bread for the Indian Tacos available for sale.

Taking home third place was Gideon Oji. Fourth place went to Matthew Raible of Peoria, Ill., while there was a three-way tie for fifth-place between Mark Pederson of Little Canada, Sean Nichols of Niagara, Wis. and Fortune Bay's own Doug Porter, who all ate nine Indian Tacos.

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CROSS COUNTRY STATE TOURNAMENT

Olson takes 21st to lead the Ely field

Ryne Prigge takes 40th in girls Class A, Schwinghamer takes 47th in boys competition

by JAY GREENEY
Sports writer

NORTHFIELD – Sophomore Luke Olson was the top Ely finisher in this past Saturday's state tournament held at St. Olaf College. Both Class A and AA competed at the venue.

Olson finished in the 21st position, with a time of 16:42.2. That was a big

improvement from his 55th place last year.

Meanwhile, fellow sophomore Ely CC members completed their season while competing at the state meet at St. Olaf College on Saturday. James Schwinghamer placed 47th with a time of 17:08.6.

For the girls, senior Ryne

See **RUNNERS...**pg. 2B



(l-r) Luke Olson, Ryne Prigge, and James Schwinghamer compete at the state tournament.

FOOTBALL PLAYOFFS

CHAMPS!

North Woods tops Cook County for Section 7 Nineman crown



by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

ESKO— There was never any doubt that the Grizzlies had the offensive horsepower to get the job done in their Section 7 Nineman showdown with Cook County. The only question was whether the North Woods defense could stop the Vikings' punishing running attack to give the Grizzlies multi-layered offense time to work its magic.

North Woods answered that question with a definitive "Yes!" as they held Cook County to just six points in a convincing 28-6 victory to claim the section title last Friday night. It was quite an achievement against a 9-1 Cook County offense that had averaged 43 points a game coming into the tilt. It was the fewest points that Cook County had scored all season.

"Defense was absolutely the key there," said Grizzlies Head Coach John Jirik. "We've spent so much time working on defense and it finally paid off in the last two games."

Two of the key moments came early on, as Cook County drove inside the Grizzlies' 10-yard line twice in a row, only to come away empty-handed. "Those were huge stands," said Jirik.

And the North Woods offense was there to play, as usual, racking up a total of 521 yards. Senior fullback Garrett Abramson, who had missed half the season with injuries, led the way in rushing, with 134 yards and three touchdowns on 21 carries. Senior Brendan Parson was close behind with 123 yards, a touchdown, and a two-point conversion on

See **GRIZZLIES...**pg 2B



Top: Members of the Grizzlies football team react after winning the Section 7 Nineman title last Friday, in Esko.

Above: Senior fullback Garrett Abramson blows through the line during one of his several big runs against Cook County.

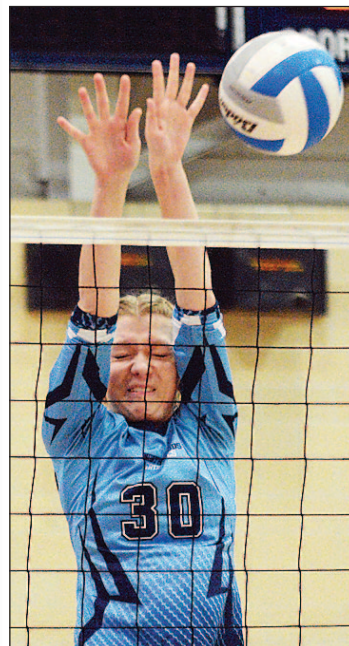
Right: Grizzlies Matthew Schultz and Chase Kleppe combine on a tackle of a Cook County receiver.

photos by C. Stone



VOLLEYBALL

Bulldogs end Grizz hopes in post season



Sophomore Karlyn Pierce closes her eyes as she jumps to block a Carlton shot during their semi-final round playoff game last week. The Grizzlies fell in four to bow out of the Section 7A tournament.

photo by C. Stone

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

HIBBING— For much of the season, the 19-6 Grizzlies had the horsepower to overcome their sluggish starts. But their habit proved costly in their semi-final round volleyball playoff tilt with top-seeded Carlton.

Before they knew it, the Bulldogs were up two sets to none, winning 25-15 and 25-17. Facing a quick end to their season, the Grizzlies came back in the third set with a hard-fought 25-23 victory, but they couldn't sustain the momentum into the fourth set, losing 25-19.

"Carlton played really good defense and they had one outside hitter that just killed us," said Assistant Coach Dee Ann Sandberg. "We started out slow again, which we couldn't afford to do against a team like Carlton."

Junior Regan Ratai, as she has done much of the season, led the stats parade for the Grizzlies with 20 kills and nine digs. Sophomore Kayla Tschida tallied eight kills and six digs, while junior setter Claire Beaudry recorded 38 assists. Hanna

See **VBALL...**pg 2B

GRIZZLIES...Continued from page 1B

20 carries. Senior quarterback Tate Olson, whose throwing arm has proved to be a potent weapon all season, was in his usual form, completing nine of 19 passes for 183 yards. Tanner Barto was his favorite target again, as the junior wide receiver pulled in six passes for 145 yards and a conversion.

The Grizzlies' bevy of seniors, plus Barto, proved key to each drive, including two long drives in the first half that left North Woods up 14-0.

Cook County tried to get back in the game early in the third quarter, when junior quarterback Josh Prom connected with fellow junior Jack Haussner on a 49-yard Hail Mary for six. North Woods answered later in the quarter, on a drive that started with good field position at their own 39-yard line. The drive looked fated to end in an interception, but the sure-handed Barto leaped over the backs of two Cook

Brendan Parson steps into the end zone just inches ahead of a Cook County defender.

photo by C. Stone

County pass defenders to take away an easy Cook County pick and come down with a completion.

Later, with Cook County moving the ball again in the air, junior Jake Hyppa chased down Prom for a momentum-withering sack, which proved to be another key play in the Grizzlies' favor. "That kind of took the wind out of their sails," said Jirik.

Three Cook County turnovers helped the North Woods cause. Parson and junior tight end Chase Kleppe both recorded interceptions, while junior Hayden Picek had a huge night defensively, with a fumble recovery, a sack, and nine tackles. Senior Matthew Schultz tallied ten tackles, while Jake Hyppa recorded eight along with his sack. Kleppe added



eight tackles of his own, while Abramson added seven and Olson added five.

The Grizzlies now head to the first round of the state Nineman tourna-

ment, where they'll take on 8-2 Nevis at the Bemidji State University stadium this Friday, Nov. 10. Kickoff is set for 8 p.m.

Jirik said the team spent the early part of the

week inside, talking strategy and preparing mentally for the big game. They were set to work outside later in the week, to prepare for the wintery conditions.

For fans who can't

make the trip to Bemidji, a free live stream of the game is expected to be made available at <http://mn.prepspotlight.tv/MSHSL/GameStream>.

RUNNERS...Continued from page 1B

Prigge finished her Ely High School cross country career with a time of 19:58.7, good for 40th place. She was running at state for the second consecutive year and improved from 68th place last year.

Prigge was part of a senior-heavy Ely girls squad that is set to lose some of its top performers to graduation this year, leaving a core group of just five runners remaining. Other seniors on the team included Anna Nelson, Emma Terwilliger, Evelyn Bercher, and Lindy Dalberg.

It's a different story for the well-stocked and sophomore-dominated boys team. Senior Ben Gustafson is the only Ely boys runner set to graduate



this year. With two more years yet to compete, both Olson and Schwingamer have significant opportunity to improve on this year's state tournament results.

Upperclassmen, as usual, dominated the top spots in this year's Class A race, although a freshman runner, Geno Uhrbom, of Greenway/Nashwauk-Keewatin, finished in third

place with a time of 15:56.4. Last year's winner Declan Dahlberg was edged at the finish line by this year's top finisher, Matt Steiger.

For the girls, fresh-

Greenway/Nashwauk-Keewatin 15:56.4

BOYS CLASS A TEAM RESULTS

1. Perham 118
2. St. James Area 148
3. Mankato Loyola/Cleveland 154

INDIVIDUAL GIRLS CLASS A RESULTS

1. Tierney Wolfgram, Math and Science 17:31.6
2. Lauren Ping, Cotter 18:19.7
3. Grace Ping- Cotter 18:27.5

GIRLS CLASS A TEAM RESULTS

1. Perham 86
2. Cotter 87
3. Annandale 131

Left: Ely runners at the section meet.

photo by M. Schwingamer

man Tierney Wolfgram was a repeat winner, having taken the top spot last year as an eighth-grader. Two sisters took the next spots as Lauren Ping a seventh grader took second followed by freshman Grace Ping, who finished in third.

INDIVIDUAL BOYS CLASS A RESULTS

1. Matt Steiger, La Crescent 15:44.0
2. Declan Dahlberg Mounds Park 15:44.8
3. Geno Uhrbom,

VBALL...Continued from page 1B

Sandberg notched seven digs, while Jacie Lakoskey tallied five. Coley Olson recorded seven kills, while Karlyn Pierce picked up six. Kate Stone had three ace serves.

The Grizzlies' loss to Carlton was their first in ten matches and it marked the end of an otherwise very

successful season. "We were 19-6," said Sandberg. "That's pretty good." And the team is already looking forward to next year, notes Sandberg. "We are not going to lose anybody next year because we didn't have any seniors," she said. "I think that's going to be big."

But Sandberg said the 12 members of the team still have some things to work out, including improving their competitive drive. "We need to get stronger and we need to want it more," she said.



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2017 North Woods Varsity Roster					
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Tate Olson	QB	12	Jake Hyppa	RB	11
Cade Goggleye	WR	11	Austin Chaulklin	OT	12
Wyatt Kneen	QB	10	Tyler Kiehm	OT	11
Tanner Barto	WR	11	Levi Byram	C	10
Brendan Parson	RB	12	Hayden Picek	TE	11
Matthew Schultz	TE	12	Jerome King	OT	10
Isaiah Squires	WR	12	Dylan Kiehm	OT	12
Nathan Crain	RB	10	Kent Villebrun	WR	11
Dylan Chiabotti	RB	11	Stefen Johansen	C	11
Brody Driscoll	RB	11	Trevor Morrison	TE	10
Garrett Abramson	FB	12	Alex Byram	TE	11
Blake Scofield	RB	11	Tim Pierce	C	12

Coaches/Managers

Head Coach: John Jirik

Assistant Coaches:
Jared Bangs, Dave Shuster, Jeff Chaulklin, Will Kleppe, Joel Anderson, Jeffrey Chaulklin

Student Managers: Alanna Rutchasky, Meadow Prescott, Zoe Kisch, Jeremiah Voges

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COMMUNITY EVENTS AND NOTICES

My Life as a Writer with Lorna Landvik in Cook, Babbitt, and Ely

COOK - The Arrowhead Library System is pleased to present Lorna Landvik with My Life as a Writer, a free program being offered for ages 12 through adult at the Cook Community Center, 510 Gopher Dr. on Saturday, Nov. 11 at 1 p.m. The program will also be held at the Babbitt Public Library on Tuesday, Nov. 14 at 1 p.m. and at the Ely Public Library on Friday, Nov. 17 at 4 p.m.

Experience the writer's life of Lorna Landvik, author of recently-released, "Once in a Blue Moon Lodge." Patrons from teens through adults will enjoy this witty and informative discussion.

Lorna Landvik is the author of many novels including the bestselling "Patty Jane's House of Curl." She has performed stand-up and improvisational comedy and is also a public speaker, playwright, and actor.

Lorna's mother's family was from the Valdres Valley area in Norway, and her dad's family was from Telemark, Norway. The author was born in North Dakota, even though the family lived in East Grand Forks. Lorna visited Norway at seventeen years of age. Lorna is married with two children and currently resides in Minneapolis.

This program, sponsored by Arrowhead Library System, was funded in part or in whole with money from Minnesota's Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund. To learn more about Arrowhead Legacy Events, please see our calendar at www.alslib.info, find us on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/ArrowheadLegacy](https://twitter.com/ArrowheadLegacy), on Pinterest at <https://www.pinterest.com/alexisleitgeb/legacy-events>, or like us on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/alslibinfo>.

Gifts That Give Fair on Nov. 18

ELY- Ely's 13th Annual Gifts That Give Fair will take place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 18. Take part in the growing holiday tradition of giving gifts that help those in need in the name of friends and family. It is the chance to give in the spirit of the season and benefit worthy organizations, both local and global. A lunch of soup, bread and dessert will be available (with a free-will donation to the Ely Food Shelf). There will be special activities for children.

Ruby's Pantry on Nov. 25 in Babbitt

BABBITT- Ruby's Pantry food distribution at the Babbitt Municipal Center (71 South Drive) will be on Saturday, Nov. 25 (fourth Saturday of each month) from 10 - 11:30 a.m.

Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. \$20 cash donation buys an abundance of food. No income or residency guidelines. Bring two large boxes or baskets. Sponsored by St. Pius X Catholic Church. Volunteers are always welcome.

Grief Support Group is cancelled

VIRGINIA- The winter Six-Week Grief Support Group which was scheduled for Monday evenings from 6 to 8 p.m. from Nov. 6 through Dec. 11 at Peace United Methodist Church, 303 9th Ave S in Virginia is hereby cancelled. Information regarding the Grief Support Group schedule for 2018 will be available in the near future.

Essentia Health St. Mary's Hospice seeks volunteers

REGIONAL- Essentia Health's East Range Team is seeking volunteers within a 60-mile radius of Virginia. If you are looking for a fulfilling volunteer opportunity come and join the team at East Range Hospice and make a difference in your community one family at a time. The volunteer opportunities are varied and include visiting in the home, bereavement follow up, office support, veteran peer-to-peer support, and 11th hour.

An information session and training will be held on Thursday, Nov. 16 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the multipurpose room in the lower level of Ely Bloomenson Hospital, 328 W Conan St. in Ely. Pre-registration is required. Some computer knowledge is recommended but not required. To register, please call Dee Dee at 218-749-7975.

Free program on grief on Nov. 15

MT. IRON- Essentia Health St. Mary's Hospice 2017 Spiritual Companions Seminar Series will take place on Wednesday, Nov. 15 at Messiah Lutheran Church in Mt. Iron (8590 Enterprise Drive). The free program begins at 9:30 a.m. (Registration is at 9 a.m.) with concluding remarks at 12:30 p.m. This year's speaker is Ted Bowman, a recognized educator and consultant on grief and loss. This year's topic is "Look Both Ways: Grief and Hope in Life's Intersections." To register or to receive more information, call the East Range hospice office at 218-749-7975 or email Mary.Gregorich@EssentiaHealth.org. This seminar is also taking place in Grand Rapids on Nov. 14 and in Duluth on Nov. 16.

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WATERSHEDS

Watershed open houses in Ely, Orr on Nov. 13, 16

REGIONAL- North Saint Louis Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) will host two public open house events regarding the Rainy River-Headwaters and Vermilion River watersheds. These events will update the local public about the 2017 water quality monitoring season in both watersheds, and the recent assessment of the Rainy River-Headwaters lakes and streams.

According to the recently-released Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's (MPCA) water quality monitoring and assessment report, the Rainy River-Headwaters watershed features many streams with exceptionally high water quality. Work in the two watersheds has also identified a few waters not meeting water quality standards. High levels of sediment and bacteria were found in portions of the Ash River drainage that flows to Kabetogama Lake and Voyageurs National Park.

In the upcoming open house events, an MPCA project manager will give a half-hour presentation about the recent work in the two watersheds at 5 p.m. MPCA and SWCD staff will be available to talk with guests before or after the presentation. Informational stations will also be posted for people to browse

at their leisure. Light refreshments will be provided. The public is encouraged to attend these open house events in Ely and Orr. All agencies involved rely on local knowledge and expertise in order to create the best plan for water health.

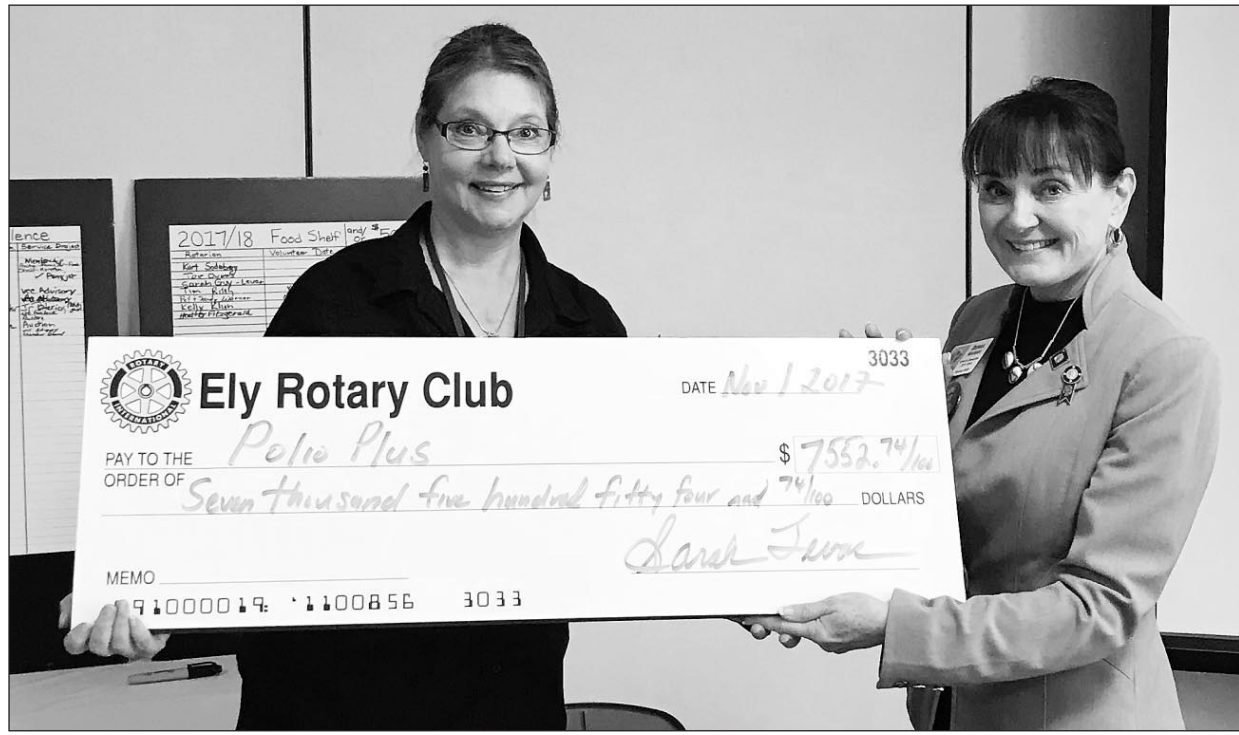
The Orr meeting will be held at Oveson's Pelican Lake Resort in the Bayview Board Room on Monday, Nov. 13 from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. The Ely meeting will be held at the Vermilion Community College in Room NS111 on Thursday, Nov. 16 from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. For more information, please contact North St. Louis SWCD, Phil Norvitch, Resource Conservationist at 218-471-7287 or phil@nslswcd.org

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), tribal, state, and local partners employ a watershed approach to restore and protect Minnesota's rivers, lakes, and wetlands. The Minnesota Clean Water, Land, and Legacy Amendment provides funding to accelerate efforts to monitor, assess, and restore impaired waters, and to protect unimpaired waters. Each of Minnesota's 80 major watersheds are assessed on a rotating 10-year cycle. During the 10-year cycle, the MPCA and its partner organizations conduct inten-

sive water quality monitoring on each of the state's major watersheds to evaluate water conditions, establish priorities and goals for improvement, and take actions designed to restore or protect water quality. When a watershed's 10-year cycle is completed, a new cycle begins.

The primary feature of the watershed approach is that it focuses on the watershed's condition as the starting point for water quality assessment, planning, implementation, and measurement of results. These initial water quality assessments for the Rainy River Headwaters and Vermilion River watersheds began during the open water seasons of 2014 and 2015, respectively. This summer, MPCA, DNR, and SWCD staff continued monitoring the watersheds, focusing on pollutant stressor identification. The stressor identification process will help guide local units of government, community groups, private landowners, and other stakeholders towards conservation projects and practices that could be implemented to help improve the water quality of the watersheds.

ROTARY



Sarah Guy-Levar, President of the Ely Rotary Club, presents a check to Debra Warner of Tower, District Governor of Rotary District 5580, during her visit to the Ely club on Wednesday, Nov. 1. The check represents the total funds generated toward the eradication of polio. Part of the money was raised in a recent Purple Pinkie Pub Portage which visited establishments throughout Ely and Winton, and includes the amount matched by the Gates Foundation. submitted photo

EVENTS

Thunderbird Review calls for submissions

REGIONAL- The Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College English Department is calling for submissions to enter in the sixth edition of The Thunderbird Review, the college's annual anthology of creative writing and art. The deadline for submissions is Friday, Dec. 1.

Submission eligibility includes current students who are at least eighteen years-old or Post-Secondary Enrollment Options students who are enrolled at Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College, University of Wisconsin-Superior, University of Minnesota-Duluth, College of St. Scholastica, or Lake Superior College, along with residents of Carlton, St. Louis, Lake, Aitkin, and Pine counties in



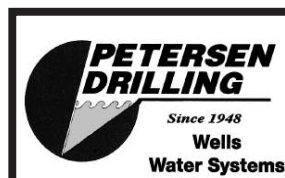
Minnesota, and Ashland, Douglas, Bayfield, Burnett, Sawyer, and Washburn counties in Wisconsin.

Submissions must fall into one of four different categories: short fiction (2,500 word maximum), memoir (2,500 word maximum), poetry (three poems maximum and no more than three total pages), and artwork (three works maximum; any media, but art must be submitted in black and white as .jpeg via email). Authors and artists may submit one entry per category. The Thunderbird Review selection committee will not accept work that has previously been published, is

under consideration elsewhere, or has received an award.

Submitted works must be sent via email, and only email submissions will be accepted. Provide contact information including the submitter's name, address, telephone number, email address, the title(s) of works being submitted, and a 50-word bio written in third person. The author's name should not be on submitted manuscripts, although artwork may be signed. Writing entries should use Times New Roman size 12 font and be sent as an attachment in .doc or .docx format. Send submissions via email to anthology@fdltcc.edu.

All contributors selected for the final publication will receive one complimentary copy. Questions may be directed to Darci Schummer at dschummer@fdltcc.edu.



- PUMPS
- WELLS
- HYDRO-FRACKING

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APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Vermilion Housing Corporation

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COMMUNITY EVENTS AND NOTICES

ELY WINTER FESTIVAL

2018 Ely ArtWalk artists wanted



Now is the time to get your application in to have a display in this winter's Ely ArtWalk. file photo

ELY- Artists, it's that time again. Believe it or not, the 2018 Ely ArtWalk is just around the corner, Feb. 1-11. The show will once again be held during the Ely Winter Festival. Our non-competitive, non-profit display of Ely's creative talent will be the 19th edition of Ely's hardy midwinter window-shopping event. Traditionally more than 40 businesses participate by offering their store windows as a city-wide gallery. ArtWalk entry registrations are due

on Monday, Dec. 11.

Paper entry forms can be found at Kess Gallery, Art & Soul Gallery and the Chamber of Commerce. Artists can register at www.elyartwalk.org, which can also be accessed through www.elywinterfestival.com. Individual entries require a \$10 fee and groups may register for \$30. Those with PayPal accounts can pay online, the most popular method, but other options are detailed on the site and in the paper application.

The Ely ArtWalk draws many visitors from all around the Arrowhead and beyond. Most of the work can be purchased and one hundred percent of sales go to the artists. The event is made possible, in part, by Minnesota voters through legislative appropriations to the arts and cultural fund via the Arrowhead Regional Arts Council. Additional support comes from the Donald G. Gardener Humanities Trust Fund and the Ely Chamber of Commerce.

HOLIDAY EVENTS

Birches, berries, and boughs in Embarrass

EMBARRASS- The Nelimark Homestead Museum will be open Friday and Saturday, Nov. 10 and 11, as well as Friday and Saturday, Dec. 8 and 9. This season's theme is Birches, Berries and Boughs. The Nelimark is located on Hwy. 21 across from Timber Hall in Embarrass.

Friday, Nov. 10 will be bread day, spiced up with many fantastic sweet

treats and Thanksgiving breads. Pumpkin goodies and early Christmas goodies will be available as well, along with many crafts and special creations the artisans have made. Many new items will be available. Open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days.

Early Frost Farms will have food and gift items for sale at the Nelimark and greenery for sale at

Northern Comfort.

Northern Comfort Bed & Breakfast and Gifts is also open these two weekends, located nearby on Waisanen Rd. Stop by and enjoy this historic country homestead and surroundings while you shop for more unique antiques, gifts, clothing, and crafts.

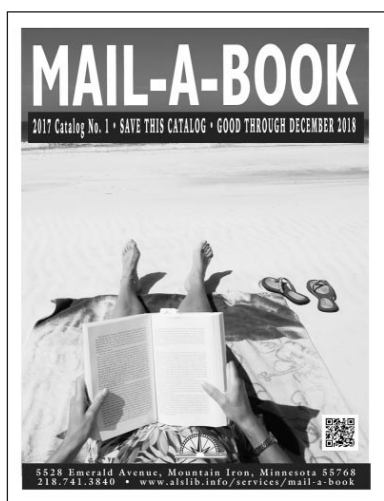
ALS Mail-A-Book services available

REGIONAL- As the cold winter approaches driving can become difficult. Instead of driving to the library for media, get paperback books, DVDs, and audio books on CD delivered right to your mailbox.

The Mail-A-Book service from the Arrowhead Library System (ALS) loans paperback books and other items via the U.S. Mail, free of charge. This tax-supported service delivers library items directly to your mailbox including the cost of postage. They arrive in a canvas bag with a return label and prepaid return postage.

Rural residents and people who live in a city without a public library are eligible for this service. This service is available to residents of Carlton, Cook, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake, Lake of the Woods and St. Louis counties.

The Hot Reads for Cold Nights Adult Winter Reading Program and the Read with a Friend! Children's



Winter Reading Program start on Jan. 1 and run through March 30. These are fun programs that all ages can participate in to win awesome prizes, as well as being cures for the winter blues.

Paper catalogs listing more than 1,000 items are sent out twice a year to more than 2,250 households. If

you are interested in cooking, audio books on CD, DVDs, inspirational books, or children's items, they also have separate catalogs listing the titles available from Mail-A-Book. Do you have a favorite author? Mail-A-Book can provide you with a list of available titles by that author. Also, Mail-A-Book items are listed in the regional online catalog via the Internet at www.alslib.info/online_catalog/.

Items can be ordered by postcard, e-mail, phone, or via a form on the ALS website, www.alslib.info/services/mail-a-book and mail-book@alslib.info, or 218-741-3840.

Find Mail-A-Book on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/alslibinfo.

If you need "large print" reading materials, the Arrowhead Library System has a collection of large print books. Mail-A-Book staff are always happy to respond to your questions. Video games and music CDs are coming soon.

Vendors needed for Tower Holiday Craft Show set for Dec. 9

TOWER- The Tower Holiday Craft Show will be held on Saturday, Dec. 9 from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the Tower Civic Center. Tables are \$20 each (limit two 8-ft. tables per vendor) and must be reserved and paid for in advance. Checks can be made out to Friends of VCS and mailed to Vermilion Country School, PO Box 629, Tower, MN 55790 or can be dropped off at the charter school or at the Timberjay office in Tower. For more information, call Jodi Summit at 218-753-2950.

Virginia Senior Center hosting craft and bake sale on Nov. 25

VIRGINIA- Lena's Craft and Bake Sale will be held at the Virginia Senior Center on Saturday, Nov. 25 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. There will be something for everyone. The center is located at 511 Chestnut St. (across from Goodwill), and additional parking is available at the rear of the building.

2018 overnight Voyageurs reservations open on Wednesday

INT'L FALLS- Voyageur's National Park staff would like to remind visitors that overnight tent camping and houseboat reservations for the 2018 season will become available on Nov. 15 at 9 a.m. Park staff encourages visitors who wish to camp, or stay overnight on a houseboat or any other boat, to make a reservation as soon as they know their plans. Visitors may make reservations by going online at www.recreation.gov or by calling the National Call Center at 877-444-6777.

Overnight houseboat visitors to the park may find a summary of the reservation program at the following link, <https://www.nps.gov/voya/planyourvisit/houseboating.htm>.

Overnight tent visitors to the park may find a summary of the reservation program at the following link, <https://www.nps.gov/voya/planyourvisit/tent-camping.htm>.

All income generated from overnight fees stays at Voyageurs National Park. Fees are used for the improvement of amenities at the sites which include mooring rings, docks, bear-proof food lockers, tent pads, picnic tables, fire rings, and site cleaning.

A reminder to all visitors who use www.recreation.gov, in the main search box enter: Voyageurs National Park Camping Permits or Voyageurs National Park Houseboat Permits. Visit our website at www.nps.gov/voya.

Genealogy Genie at MDC on Nov. 11

CHISHOLM- Join us on Saturday, Nov. 11 at 10:30 a.m. for the next Genealogy Genie class at the MN Discovery Center. The topic for this class will be historical photographs. The Iron Range Research Center (IRRC) staff will provide an overview of its historical photographic collections: prints vs. digital copies, ordering reproductions, permission to publish, and other photographic resources (e.g., MN Reflections, MNHS, DPLA). Each class is free to the public and will last about an hour.

Ladies of Kaleva Holiday Bazaar on Nov. 18

VIRGINIA- The Ladies of Kaleva will be holding their 49th Annual "Finnish-American Holiday" Bazaar on Saturday, Nov. 18 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Historic Kaleva Hall, built in 1906 at 125 3rd St. N in Virginia. The bazaar will feature lastu, pulla (Finnish cardamom biscuit), homemade candies, hand-made crafts, sisu hats and totes, cookbooks, live music and raffles. Raffle tickets can be purchased from Kaleva Ladies or at the bazaar for \$1. The grand prize is \$500. Coffee an' will be served from 9-10:30 a.m. Lunch will be from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. and includes ham balls, cheesy potatoes, cranberry salad, a dessert and beverage. The cost is \$8 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under. The bazaar is holiday fun for the whole family and Santa will be visiting too!

VERMILION CLUB & POOR GARY'S PIZZA

Wine

SALE & TASTING

Thursday, Nov. 30
6-9 PM

Taste a variety of seasonal favorites and then stock up for holiday entertaining

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BENEFIT

FOR **KEN ERICKSON**

Spaghetti Feed
Friday, Nov. 24
Embarrass Timber Hall
Noon to 5 p.m.

spaghetti meal, raffles, silent auction and bean bag tournament

CHRISTOPHER DAVID HANSON BAND
Music Benefit - Same Night!
7 P.M. TO MIDNIGHT at
The Shack Bar, Hwy 169 in Pike



Ken was recently diagnosed with Lou Gehrig's Disease/ALS. He is a long-time resident of the Embarrass-Tower area, married for 25 years, and the father of two boys.

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Outdoors

Our lives in the
Northwoods

2017 FIREARMS DEER SEASON

NE Minnesota harvest up 16 percent

Registrations down elsewhere in the state as weather and field conditions appear to have slowed opener harvest

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

REGIONAL — Deer hunters in northeastern Minnesota fared better than last year during opening weekend of the firearms deer season, but not by as much as many had expected.

Opening day weather probably had something to do with it. Snow showers and temperatures in the low-to-mid 20s were a significant departure from the balmy weather hunters experienced last

year, and DNR officials note that hunter effort plays a big role in the overall harvest.

Local harvest numbers were not available as of the *Timberjay's* Wednesday deadline.

“Apparently, with the big game program specialist now vacant there is a delay in getting the harvest data out,” said DNR Tower Area wildlife manager Tom Rusch.

Hunters in Zone 1, which covers northeastern Minnesota, registered 16 percent more deer

in the first three days than last year, although that increase mostly reflects a higher harvest of antlerless deer.

Statewide, hunters registered 70,724 deer during the first two days of deer season, according to the DNR. Of the deer harvested, 57 percent were bucks, compared to 67 percent of the first weekend harvest of 2016.

While the harvest was higher in northeastern Minnesota, initial

See **SEASON...**pg. 7B



Area Deer Harvest

Results through Tuesday, Nov. 7

Year	Bucks	Antlerless	Total
2014	1,729	0	1,729
2015	2,263	0	2,263
2016	2,618	499	3,117
2017	NA at press time		

Preliminary harvest totals for permit areas in northern St. Louis and Lake counties, including 108, 117, 118, 119, 122, 127, 176, 177, and 178.

YOUR STORIES

Share your
own hunting
experiences



Deer season is a time of tradition, family and fun. It's also a time for great outdoors stories and we'd like to hear yours — so we can share the best with our readers.

We're looking for stories and photos from this year's hunt. Whether it's an interesting encounter in the woods, a monster buck, a funny story about life at deer camp, or a young person's first deer, we want to hear about it. Don't worry if you're not a writer. Just tell us the story over the phone — we'll write it for you. Or email us with a few details and we'll take it from there. And don't forget — nothing highlights the story better than some photos, so send them along as well.

Contact Marshall HelMBERGER at 218-753-2950 with your stories or email them to marshall@timberjay.com. You can also mail them the old-fashioned way to The Timberjay, PO Box 636, Tower, MN 55790 or drop them off at our office in Tower. You can send photos to the same address. Be sure to have a return address if you want your photos back.

So go out and have a great time. And let us know how you did!

Fishing reports

Kab-Nam area

Early snow here for good? With temps bottoming out at 2 degrees this morning, mother nature might be giving us a hint!

Snow and wind over the weekend not only kept anglers off the water but also kept deer movement at a minimum. With more lakes becoming inaccessible due to ice and cold weather, angler activity is non-existent.

Deer hunters woke up to a windy, snowy morning which made hunting difficult for most of opening day. Deer harvest was about average though with the rut in full swing which kept at least some deer moving throughout the weekend.

Courtesy Cooper's Gateway Store, Lake Kabetogama



2017 FIREARMS DEER SEASON

Thoughts from the stand

Why I hunt, and other musings on the deer season

For me, deer season these days is a chance to catch my breath, to unplug, and to tune out the constant mental noise that occupies so many hours of the day in this modern age. The titillation of the 24-hour news cycle, the distractions of social media, and the constant demands of our ever more hyperactive society, make it almost impossible to carry a thought for more than a fleeting moment or two most of the time.

It seems at times as if the world is conspiring to drive us all mad.

For me, the deer stand is different. I know those hunters who are unwilling to let it all go. They bring their smart phones and spend their time texting, perusing Facebook, or even watching videos if their signal allows it.

I admit to the temptation. We're so conditioned today to a life of constant stimulation, that it can be a challenge to simply tune it all out. To lower the volume and take time to really think — about our lives, our hopes, or maybe even to contemplate the meaning of life. Who knows, maybe this isn't just a lonely comedy of the absurd.

It takes longer than it used to, I've

noticed. It's as if our brains actively resist the possibility of a few hours without all the crazy. Our egos cry out, as if worried we'll be lost if we make the effort to settle ourselves, tap into our deeper brain, and lose connection with our ego's relentless focus on the march of time.

When we manage to tamp it all down, we can experience the world as our animal neighbors do, and as our own kind used to before modernity took away our chance to think quiet thoughts.

I know that for many, deer hunting is a much different experience. It's a family occasion, full of uncles and cousins and grandpas. It used to be that way for me as well. My father, now 93, flirted with coming up this season, but ultimately decided he needed to act his age (something I promise to resist right to the end). My son Max is off on his own and hasn't been back to hunt deer in a few years. Deer hunting is now a solitary pursuit for me, and that's perfectly okay.

I recognize that there are other ways I could unplug from the world, short of sitting in a cold deer stand on the edge of the Lost Lake Swamp. But this has become the tradition for me, since the first time I sat on a deer stand at the age of 14. I've only missed a handful of deer seasons since, and those were back in my college days, a long time ago.

Over the years, I've asked myself more than once why I continue to hunt deer each November. I don't like shooting deer and I can no longer bear to watch them die. I stay in my stand after I shoot, often for several minutes, so I don't have to witness their struggles as the life fades

from their eyes.

I know many other hunters feel the same. For many, the hunt is about the ritual of deer camp, time spent with family and friends away from the confines imposed by the outside world. It's like stepping back in time to a more innocent age. Many such hunters may carry a gun into the woods, but it's rarely, if ever lifted to a shoulder. I know hunters who haven't put a shell in the chamber in years.

I still remember the hunter who came into the office a couple years ago with the story and photo of a massive buck he had shot while hunting in Embarrass. He had pursued this deer with a passion that seemed almost obsessive, but when he finally came upon the giant deer, mortally wounded, he broke down and sobbed at the loss of such a beautiful creature. He said he was hanging up his gun after that experience.

I suspect that humans have always been ambivalent about the hunt, even when the kill was a matter of survival. A good hunter respects the animal he or she harvests, and doesn't waste any meat. It was said that Plains Indians used every part of the bison, almost as a sacrament.

When I'm in the deer stand, I have time to think about our connections to earlier hunters and I imagine how differently they must have viewed their surroundings and the animals that they depended on. I imagine how much deeper was their connection with the natural world, and I think how much we have lost

See **HUNTING...**pg. 7B



MARSHALL
HELMBERGER

Outdoors briefly

Whitefish netting now open on Shagawa, Bear Island, and Ojibway

REGIONAL— The Department of Natural Resources has posted dates for recreational netting of whitefish and tullibees on the following area lakes.

► Shagawa is now open through Monday, Nov. 27, (minimum 3.5 inch mesh size)

► Bear Island and Ojibway lakes will be open from Saturday, Nov. 18 through Saturday, Dec. 18, (minimum 1.75 inch mesh size).

The public is reminded that Shagawa Lake is designated as infested with spiny waterflea so netters are encouraged to review rules that help prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species.

Fishing regulations require that nets used in designated infested waters must be dried for a minimum of 10 days or frozen for two days before using in a different water body. Nets used in spiny water flea and/or zebra mussel infested waters should be not used in any other waterbody.

Whitefish and tullibees

taken by sport gill-netting may not be bought or sold.

Whitefish and tullibees taken by sport gill-netting may not be used as bait.

About 700 people obtain special permits to net for whitefish-tullibee each year. The DNR bases netting schedules on expected water temperatures, fish abundance and vulnerability of game fish. As the water temperature cools, game fish head to deeper water and whitefish-tullibee come to shallow water for fall spawning. Netting is allowed when there is little chance that game fish populations would be negatively impacted by recreational netting in shallow water.

Find information about sport netting by lake, minimum mesh sizes, and fishing regulations at <http://files.dnr.state.mn.us/rp/regulations/fishing/whitefish-tullibee.pdf>, or contact the DNR's Tower area office at 650 Highway 169, Tower, MN 55790, or 218-300-7802.

LAKE COUNTRY FORECAST

from NOAA weather

Friday		Saturday		Sunday		Monday		Tuesday	
21	17	32	23	32	22	35	27	38	25

Ely	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Emb.	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Cook	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Orr	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Tower	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.
10/30	34	26	0.02	0.6"	10/30	30	20	0.00		10/30	34	27	0.03	0.5"	10/30	34	27	0.00		10/30	31	27	0.00	
10/31	34	25	0.08	0.8"	10/31	29	28	0.05	1.0"	10/31	33	24	0.80	2.0"	10/31	27	21	0.00		10/31	31	23	0.13	0.4"
11/01	27	23	0.00		11/01	20	18	0.00		11/01	25	21	0.00		11/01	30	21	0.00		11/01	29	22	0.00	
11/02	32	24	0.13	3.6"	11/02	25	19	na	na	11/02	31	22	0.25	4.5"	11/02	34	28	0.00		11/02	30	23	0.25	3.2"
11/03	36	27	0.01	0.2"	11/03	26	9	na	na	11/03	30	23	0.02	0.4"	11/03	28	23	0.00		11/03	34	23	0.00	
11/04	26	24	0.05	0.7"	11/04	26	25	na	na	11/04	27	24	0.12	2.0"	11/04	32	23	0.00		11/04	28	22	0.16	2.2"
11/05	34	26	0.19	0.5"	11/05	30	13	na	na	11/05	33	26	0.45	5.0"	11/05	32	19	0.00		11/05	32	25	0.34	1.0"
Totals			28.09	10.4"	Totals			34.77	7.0"	Totals			27.96	16.4"	Totals			NA		Totals			29.64	10.3"

HUNTING...Continued from page 6B

in the mad rush of the modern age. Ultimately, I hunt because, like those hunters before me, I'm not a vegetarian. While my survival doesn't depend on hunting, when we choose to eat meat, the survival of something else does. And I'm

not willing to lose sight of that fact by allowing others to do the deed in some industrial slaughterhouse where animals are just a commodity. Better for the animal to meet its end in its natural environment, where it lived its life as nature intended.

Hunting our own meat keeps us grounded in the reality, and inevitability, of life and death, and in the consequences of our actions. It's worth taking a little time each November to think about that anew.

SEASON...Continued from page 6B

registrations in other parts of the state were down. In Zone 2, which covers the majority of the state and runs from Canada to Iowa, harvest was down five percent and in Zone 3, in southeastern Minnesota, was down 20 percent.

"We expected to see an increased harvest this year, and that appears to be so in Zone 1. In the other zones where the first weekend harvest is off, it could be that the

amount of standing corn negatively affected deer harvest," said Steve Merchant, wildlife populations and regulations manager. "If that is the case, we should see improved deer harvest as more corn is harvested."

Based upon the number of antlerless permits available and the number of permit areas that allow multiple deer to be taken, the DNR is projecting the 2017 total deer harvest to be around 200,000.

Hunters registered a total 173,213 deer in 2016.

In northeastern Minnesota, the regular firearms season continues through Sunday, Nov. 19. The muzzleloader season begins Saturday, Nov. 25, and continues through Sunday, Dec. 10.

More information on deer management can be found at mndnr.gov/deer.

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North Star Credit Union is hosting a fundraiser for to help the family of Tony Cornelius with medical expenses.

November 13th-17th

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- Sympathy Cards provided to share your thoughts and donations
- Coffee An's provided 10am-3pm all week

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24 South River Street Cook, MN 55723

Angel Tree

Embarrass Vermillion Federal Credit Union will be partnering with our communities to help up to 90 local children, ages 0-17, in need. We will be hosting three Angel Trees, which will be available in our Tower, Embarrass, and Aurora offices. This project will run November 13th through December 20th. Community members can stop in and choose an Angel from the tree, purchase a gift, and return it to us unwrapped. We will take care of the wrapping and the distribution of the gifts. Everyone is welcome to participate!

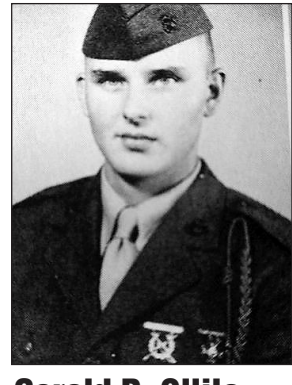
Thank you for your help in making a child's Holiday a little bit brighter!

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Obituaries and Death Notices



Gerald D. Ollila

It is with sorrow that we announce the passing of a one-of-a-kind cousin and friend, Gerald A. Ollila, 76, died on Friday, Oct. 20, 2017, at the Veterans Hospital in Portland, Ore.

Jerry would like to be remembered the following way: When you miss me just look up at the night sky and remember, I am like the stars; sometimes you can't see me, but I am always there.

Jerry was born in the Embarrass area on March 16, 1941, to Art and Marian (Nummelin) Ollila. He was in the Recon Marines as a sniper in Vietnam. He also was a SCUBA diver in the service, and he helped in the training of Navy SEALs.

He was a very versatile handy man. He could do plumbing, carpentry, and electrical work. He also liked working on cars.

would say, "You don't have to pay me, you can just tell me the story about your life." His main hobbies were reading fiction and nonfiction, and repairing things.

He leaves behind Kuniko; and his cousins, Mrs. Jean Beste, Mrs. Donna Salo, Mrs. Marcie Moe and Dr. Lloyd O. Ollila.

Murline A. Tahija

Murline Ann Nahkala Tahija, 74, of Lake Vermilion-Tower, passed away on Saturday, Nov. 4, 2017, at Solvay Hospice in Duluth.

She was born on July 31, 1943, to Ralph and Doris (Cornell) Nahkala in Virginia and graduated from Roosevelt High School in 1961.

"Mur" married Larry Tahija on July 23, 1966. They lived in Virginia until 1971 when they moved to her "dream place" that they built on Lake Vermilion. Mur worked in the restaurant business most of her life, starting as a dishwasher, and worked her way up to manager and cook.

In her free time, she loved spending time with her dogs, fishing, swimming, playing volleyball, bocce-ball and bean bag, and maintaining her beautiful yard along with cooking and baking, and most importantly, her love for Elvis.

She was a bowler, snowmobiler, and a member, treasurer and entertainment director for the Vermilion Penguins Snowmobile Club.

Treasurer, Vice-President, and President. She served on the election board from 1976-2014 along with being a member of the Vermilion Sportsman's Club. She also was a member of the "Vermilion Spicy Dice" girls and a longtime member of the Vermilion Club.

She is survived by her husband, Larry Tahija of Lake Vermilion-Tower; children and stepchildren, Kylie (Don) Mattson, Rick (Tammy) Tahija and Lori (Jeff) Given; grandchildren and step-grandchildren, Brianna Tahija, Alan (Danielle) Mattson, Chris (Katie) Potter, Jake Potter, Nick Tahija and Tanja Tahija; two great-grandchildren; sister-in-law, Rosemary Tahija; best special sister-in-law, Judy Nahkala; niece, Lisa Nahkala; nephew, Alan (Kathy) Nahkala; and very special friends, Sandy, Donna and Ceaser.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Doris; father, Ralph; and brother, Jimmy.

Crescence P. Zollar

Crescence Patricia "Patti" Chiabotti Zollar, 80, of Virginia, passed away on Sunday, Nov. 5, 2017, at Edgewood Vista in Virginia. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, Nov. 10 at Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Virginia with visitation for one hour prior to Mass.

She is survived by her husband, Jack Zollar; children, Lucia Snodgrass (Howard Parkhurst), Jacqueline (Steve) Blaskey, Rebecca Filius (Doug Diedrich), James (Stephanie) Zollar and Patrick (Bethanie) Zollar; grandchildren, Jeremiah (LanaJo) Johnson, Jessica

Johnson, Joseph (Janelle Perrizo) Johnson, Julia Johnson, Jordan Blaskey, Stephanie Blaskey, Joshua Zollar, Tanya (Fred) Fielder, Christopher Braun, Alexander Zollar, Isabella Zollar, Courtney Wickham, Joshua Volk, William Zollar, Benedict Zollar and Grace Zollar; fifteen great-grandchildren; siblings, James (Carol) Chiabotti and Michael (Tina) Chiabotti; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Pearl G. Alaspa

Pearl Grace Lenore Silverberg Alaspa, 91, of Virginia, passed away on Wednesday, Oct. 25, 2017, at St. Michael's Health and Rehab in Virginia. A memorial service was held on Thursday, Nov. 9 at Gethsemane Lutheran Church with Pastor Nathan Sager officiating.

She is survived by her children, Charlene Rae (George) Mead and Kenneth George (Barbara) Alaspa; grandchildren, Elizabeth Mead (Dave Benson), Kathryn Mead, Molly (Jason) Cardosi, Jennifer (Chad) Viergutz and Julie (Jesse) Anderson; great-grandchildren, Kenneth, Claire, Gracelyn, Norah and Emilia; two brothers, John Roger (Rosemary) Silverberg and their children, Karen, Scott, Eric, Pamela and Kristine, and Jacob Wesley (Frances) Silverberg and their children, Greta and Karla (Pearl was also Wesley's guardian); and other nieces, nephews and cousins.

Roy L. Penttila

Roy L. Penttila, 90, of Babbitt, passed away on Saturday, Nov. 4, 2017, at Babbitt Carefree Assisted Living. Per Roy's request, no service will be held. Arrangements are with

Landmark Funeral Home in Virginia. He is survived by his two daughters, Diane (Michael) Pettinelli of Lake Vermillion-Tower and Julie (Joseph) Shere of Embarrass; grandchildren, Larry Bucholz and Crystal Lobe; great-grandchildren, Drake, Addison and Jax; and many relatives and friends.

Lorraine S. Wallin

Lorraine Sarah Skarp Wallin, 88, lifelong resident of Virginia, died on Friday, Nov. 3, 2017, in the Essentia Virginia Care Center. Funeral services were held on Sunday, Nov. 5 in the Bauman-Cron Funeral Home Chapel.

She is survived by her husband, Ray; children, David (Sandy) Wallin of Lake Vermilion-Tower and Marjorie Wallin of Chisholm; grandchildren, Sheila Wallin of Lindstrom, Sara (Mike Choate) Bevan of Ramsey, Sandra (Jose) Barrios of Monument, Colo., Katie (Jeremy Lockwood) Richards and Nick (Lisa) Richards, both of Virginia; great-grandchildren, Skyler, Payton, Logan, Ashlyn, Kaylynn, Michaela, Tyler, Noah and a great-granddaughter expected in January; extended family and friends.

Ellen E. Heino

Ellen Evangeline Lundberg Heino, 91, died on Monday, Oct. 30, 2017, after a brief illness. Funeral services were held on Monday, Nov. 6 at Sunrise Funeral Home in Duluth. Private interment was at Forest Home Cemetery in Buyck.

a sincere thank you to the caring staff at North Shore Estates, who grew to know and love Ellen in her short time with them. She is survived by her cousins, Margaret (William), Carla and Elsie, and their families; numerous friends; and special friends, Shawn Evenson, Penny Perry, Ronald Grimmius, Sharon Layon and Dr. Neil Nelson.

Robert J. Sandnas

Robert J. Sandnas, 75, of Britt, passed away on Saturday, Oct. 28, 2017, at the Solvay Hospice House in Duluth. A Celebration of Life was held on Saturday, Nov. 4 at the Pike Town Hall. The family would like to thank Essentia Health Hospice in Duluth and Virginia and the Solvay Hospice House staff for their loving care of Bob.

He is survived by his children, Casey (Bria) Sandnas of North Branch, Katie (Jeremy) Johnson of Cloquet, Robert "Rob" Sandnas of Virginia, Joel Sandnas of Virginia, Michael Sandnas of Newark, Calif., and Brad (Catina) Sandnas of Virginia; brothers, Donny (Kathy Bukovac-Sandnas) Sandnas of Britt, Dale (Wendy) Sandnas of Biwabik, Kevin (Kathy) Sandnas of Britt and Peter (Anna) Sandnas of Virginia; sisters, Barb (Kenny) Kallio of Embarrass, Gale (Bill) Paun of Gilbert and Bonnie (Kevin) Lynch of Tower; many grandchildren; one great-grandchild; and many nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.



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Classroom Teacher The Little Eagles Childcare Center is hiring a lead teacher to provide quality, engaging and safe care for the children in the Tower/Soudan area. The lead teacher will teach and supervise the children alongside a team of like-minded caregivers to promote the development of their social, emotional, physical and intellectual growth.

Teacher Assistant The Little Eagles Childcare Center is hiring a daycare teacher assistant to provide support to a lead teacher by helping the Lead Teacher to teach and supervise the children and promote the development of their social, emotional, physical and intellectual growth.

Classroom Assistant The Little Eagles Childcare Center is hiring a daycare classroom assistant to provide support to the teaching staff and director and provide supervision to the children in the center. The classroom assistant will also promote the development of the children's social, emotional, physical and intellectual growth under the direct supervision of the center lead teacher or director.

For complete job description, responsibilities, and minimum and preferred requirements, email littleeagleschildcaremn@gmail.com, or marshall@timberjay.com, or stop by the Timberjay office in Tower.

PUBLIC NOTICES

ATTENTION BREITUNG RESIDENTS

WINTER PARKING RULES REMINDER

Ordinance 93-07: No vehicles shall be parked on any Township street, roadway or thoroughfare between the hours of 12 a.m. (midnight) and 8 a.m. from October 15 to April 15 to facilitate efficient snow removal.

Super Crossword

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

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

9x9 Sudoku grid with numbers 4, 8, 6, 7, 8, 7, 5, 3, 2, 4, 4, 5, 9, 6, 3, 1, 2, 7, 8, 1, 7, 1, 8, 2, 9, 2, 9, 5.

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

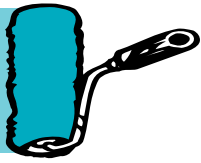
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging ◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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