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the TIMBERJAY

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\$1⁰⁰



EDUCATION

ISD 2142 cool to Ely collaboration

by **MARCUS WHITE**
Cook/Orr Editor

South Ridge renovation non-compliance causes headache

VIRGINIA - A proposed plan by the Ely School District to share some services with ISD 2142 was met with skepticism at a special meeting here on Monday.

Last week, officials in Ely said they’d met with St. Louis County Schools Superintendent

Reggie Engebritson and board chair Dan Manick about working together to obtain funding from the Department of Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation for a facilities project at Ely.

But ISD 2142 board members did not discuss that

MORE COVERAGE

Ely board weighs merits of superintendent candidates already interviewed. **Page 9**

concept on Monday. Instead, Engebritson told her board the

plan would focus on sharing services at Northeast Range and Tower-Soudan along with some shared administration.

While Ely School Board Chair Ray Marsnik told his board last his week that Engebritson and Manick were in favor of

sharing superintendent duties, and suggested that the two school boards could meet to discuss the idea, Manick told the 2142 board on Monday that sharing Engebritson should be

See...SCHOOL pg. 9

SCHOOL CONCERTS

Music in the air



Clockwise from upper right, Nolan Lenci and Ayden Mickle square dance at the Tower-Soudan Elementary School Spring Concert held on Tuesday. Ely Memorial High School band members, Brooke Pasmick, Willow Ohlhauser, Ana Bercher and Apolonia Homer play trash cans at their spring concert last week. Greyson Reichensperger plays the baritone at the Tower-Soudan concert. Ely High School choir member Caitlyn Priebe sings a solo. Timberjay staff photos

TOWER

City coffers running on empty?

by **MARSHALL HELMBERGER**
Managing Editor

TOWER— The city of Tower’s general fund cash balance has deteriorated dramatically over the past two months, although the reasons behind the situation remain unclear. City Clerk-Treasurer Linda Keith did not respond to questions posed by the *Timberjay*, nor had she complied as of late Wednesday with a public records request, submitted May 14, for city financial documents that would shed more light on the city’s worsening cash crunch.

As of April 30, the city of Tower had just \$9,126 remaining in available general fund cash according to a written financial report that Keith provided to the city council on May 13. And the city still owes \$219,000 on a new city ambulance in addition to ongoing costs such as payroll and other operational expenses. It’s unclear if the city has the available funds to pay those obligations.

As of April 30, the city did have \$117,828 in a special ambulance purchase account funded primarily by subsidy payments from area townships, but that fund will fall well short of financing the city’s needs.

See...TOWER pg. 12

MORE COVERAGE

Ruling: Tower city council violated Open Meeting Law. **Page 12**

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Events bureau sells Ely Marathon to Stone Soup

by **KEITH VANDERVORT**
Ely Editor

ELY – An outpouring of community support for Stone Soup Events and owner Wendy Lindsay to continue as the coordinator of the Ely Marathon prompted the Events Coordinator Bureau (ECB) to agree this week to sell the event to its founder.

ECB chair Paul Ivancich told

The Ely Marathon features a 26.2-mile canoe portage race that is listed in the Guinness Book of World Records. file photo

the *Timberjay* on Tuesday that the board agreed in principle for Stone Soup Events to run the 2019 Ely Marathon, and pending the signing of an agreement, will sell the Ely Marathon to Stone Soup Events for \$21,000.

“We agreed to the terms we originally discussed and we will leave

it up to Wendy on how she wants to pay the cost,” he said. “She could pay \$1,000 the first year and \$5,000 for the four years after that, or pay it off earlier if she chooses. She has agreed to run the Ely Marathon for at least the next five years. I feel we succeeded

See...RUN pg. 10



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COMMUNITY EVENTS AND NOTICES

Pig roast fundraiser for Lake Vermilion Fire Brigade, May 25

COOK- A pig roast, raffle, and silent auction will be held Memorial Day weekend on Saturday, May 25 from 4-7 p.m. at the Lake Vermilion Fire Brigade Hall, 8025 Oak Narrows Rd. The pig roast will be a squealin' good time for all ages. Adult dinner costs \$20, kids age 10 and under cost \$5. Soft drinks, wine, and beer will be for sale, and to-go meals are available. The LVFB is volunteer operated and community funded. Support and donations from the community ensure continued services. Raffle drawing and silent auction winners will be decided at 6 p.m. See raffle and auction items online at www.lakevermilionfirebrigade.com/memorial-weekend-pig-roast.

The-Class-That-Should-Have-Been Reunion, Aug. 24: Embarrass High School Class of 1972

PIKE TWP- County School 70 in Embarrass closed as a result of consolidation in June of 1970. The students were sent to area independent school districts in Babbitt, Virginia, and Tower-Soudan.

The 60 members of the class of 1972 have not seen each other, as a whole, since 1970. During the summer of 2019 this will be rectified with The-Class-That-Should-Have-Been Reunion. Anyone who ever attended school in Embarrass with the class that would have graduated in 1972 is also invited to the gathering.

The reunion will take place on Saturday, Aug. 24 at 4 p.m. at The Shack, located at the intersection of Hwy. 169 and 21 in Pike Township. Attendees should also note that the Embarrass Fair is scheduled for the same weekend as the reunion.

Contact Ruby Parin Alto at 218-290-0680 or altodella@yahoo.com for more information.

Ruby's Pantry in Babbitt, May 25

BABBITT- Ruby's Pantry food distribution will be held at the Babbitt Municipal Center, 71 South Drive in Babbitt, on Saturday, May 25 from 10 - 11:30 a.m. A \$20 cash donation buys an abundance of food. There are no income or residency guidelines. Bring two large boxes or baskets. Ruby's Pantry is sponsored by St. Pius X Catholic Church. Volunteers are always welcome.

Vermilion Dream Quilters will meet June 6 in Tower

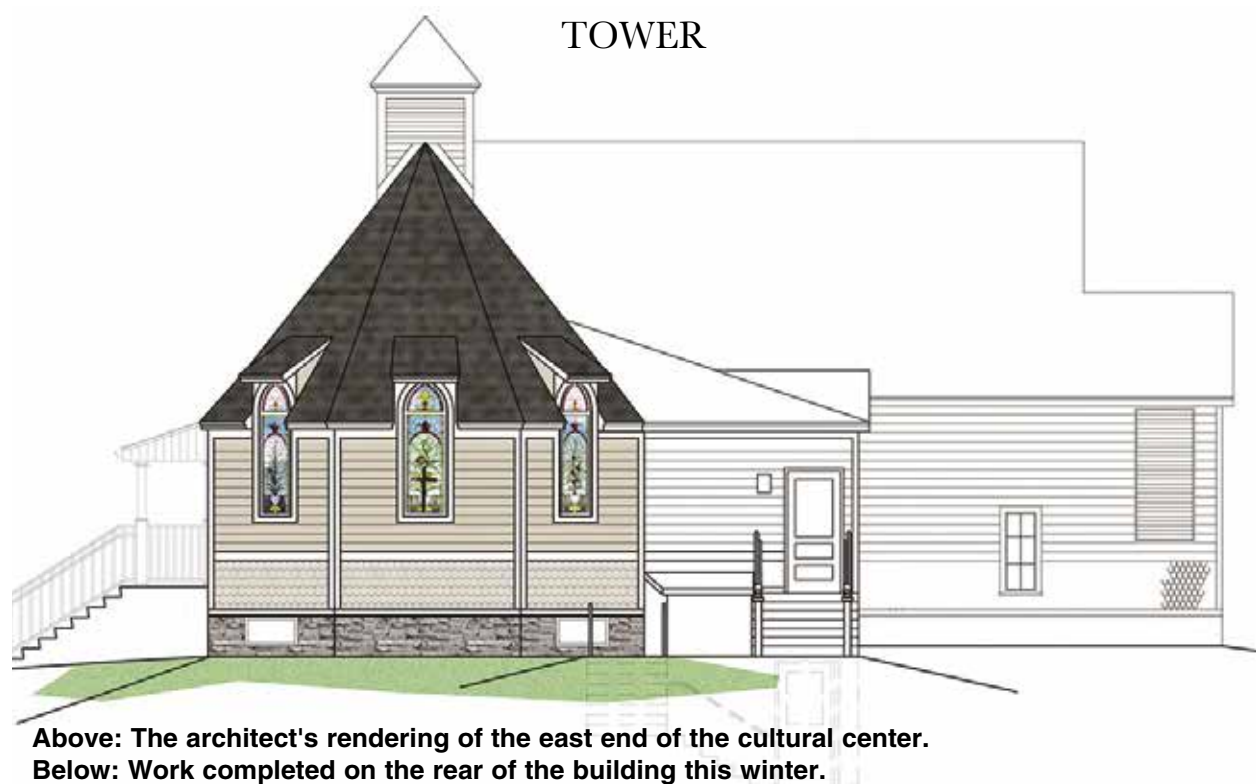
TOWER- Vermilion Dream Quilters will meet on Thursday, June 6 at 6:30 p.m. at St. Martin's Catholic Church Social Hall in Tower.

It is Seek Advice Day. Bring in your old (in need of repair) or your problem project to get suggestions or help, or bring in an example of "DON'T do this" to prevent problems for others.

For those who choose to participate, we will exchange Brown Bag Challenge Two. Bring your completed towel embellished with applique, embroidery, or another technique of your choice concealed in a brown paper lunch bag. Please bring your Show and Tell, too. We inspire each other.

June hostesses are Noreen Saukko and Vickie Lange.

The Vermilion Dream Quilters is a guild with members from throughout the Iron Range and Arrowhead Region and is open to anyone interested in quilting and creative sewing. Members encourage and instruct each other and share tips. Guests and visitors are welcome. For more information, please contact Corrine Hill in Tower at 218-753-4600.



Above: The architect's rendering of the east end of the cultural center.
Below: Work completed on the rear of the building this winter.

Summer plans to include renovation of exterior of cultural center building

TOWER- The Lake Vermilion Cultural Center received a grant from the Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation (IRRR) that was put to good use this winter as construction was completed by Hammerlund Construction on Phase 1 on the renovation project to stabilize and dry-in the building. The LVCC building was brought above code: new footings and foundation walls were added; floor framing and sheathing for the first floor; sheathing and framing of stair openings; additional framing of bearing walls; roof joists and rafters; sheathing of exterior walls and roof; installation of ice and water barrier over the roof; installation of new building wrap on exteriors; construction of the cupola; and the remainder of the interior wall framing. This work ensured the building will meet accessibility requirements. The building now sits on a finished basement foundation. This lower level will provide space for future arts and community programming in addition to the beautiful auditorium (former sanctuary of St. Mary's Episcopal Church) which will provide an amazing acoustical space for musical performances,



plays, weddings and other functions.

Thanks, to the IRRR for their grant and to the Hammerlund workers for surviving this difficult winter while working outside.

Summer plans

With the help of our generous donors, work will begin on the east end, or apse, of the building this summer. H&B Limited LLC is to complete the roof to ground renovation of the three distinct east-end panels this summer. During this phase, the east-end will have the roofing and siding removed and replaced, the dormers refinished, the basement windows and siding installed, and the stained glass windows installed. It is the first work on the exterior of the original

structure and will give all a glimpse at the end result of the entire building project.

As the project proceeds, please contact us by calling Ryan Bajan at 218-260-4403 if you are interested in volunteering to remove siding and other aspects of prepping the main exterior for refinishing.

The next phase will be finishing the roof. Funds continue to be raised for this phase. Please contribute by going to our website (vermilionculturalcenter.org), mailing a check to the LVCC at Post Office Box 659, Tower, MN 55790 or attending the Midsummer Benefit on June 22. To receive an invitation, call 218-753-4100 or go to our website.

Whirled Muse in concert June 2 in Embarrass at Finnish Apostolic Church

EMBARRASS- Sisu Heritage will host a concert by Whirled Muse on Sunday, June 2 at 3 p.m. in the old Embarrass Finnish Apostolic Lutheran Church on Hwy. 21. Whirled Muse is Eli Bissonett, Robin Anders and Joey Kenig playing fiddle, guitar and percussion in a unique mix of musical folk styles

- Nordic, Celtic, Bluegrass and Old-Time. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$8 for Sisu members, children 12 years and under are free.

The historic church building was gifted to Sisu Heritage recently by its former congregation. Plans are to use the space for concerts, lectures and other community gatherings.

This first concert will be a special event, as Eli's family has generational connections to the church.

The family-friendly concert is sponsored by Sisu Heritage and two Embarrass businesses, Knuti Farm and C&C Winger Construction. For questions or further details, call 218-984-3012 or go to sisuheritage.org.



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SULFIDE MINING

McCollum measure would mandate completion of mining withdrawal study

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

WASHINGTON D.C.— Minnesota's Fourth District Congresswoman Betty McCollum, on Wednesday, was set to take another step in her efforts to block the Trump administration's move to approve a copper-nickel mine on the edge of the Boundary Waters wilderness, near Ely. McCollum, this week, introduced legislation that would require the U.S. Forest Service to complete a two-year study of a proposed mineral withdrawal affecting a portion of the Rainy River watershed just upstream



Rep. McCollum

from the 1.1 million-acre wilderness.

McCollum attached the measure to a \$37.28 billion Interior and Environment funding package that was set to go the House Appropriations Committee on Wednesday as the *Timberjay* went to press.

The Forest Service undertook the study of a proposed 20-year mineral withdrawal in early 2017 as part of a federal proposal initiated by the Obama administration. Top officials in the Trump administration, including Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue, had subsequently promised McCollum that they would complete the study as part of an analysis of the

mineral withdrawal proposal, but the administration later reneged on that promise. The administration cancelled the study earlier this year, just four months shy of its completion.

McCollum has repeatedly requested the underlying findings that the Forest Service assembled during the roughly 20 months that the study had been underway, but Trump officials have refused to release the information. Instead, just last week, the administration granted renewal to two mineral leases affecting the proposed Twin Metals copper-nickel mine, which are located within the area that the Obama administration had proposed for withdrawal. The Obama administration had cancelled those leases in

January 2017 out of concern that a sulfide-based mine just upstream of the Boundary Waters would do "serious and irreparable harm" to the adjacent Boundary Waters as well as to area businesses that depend on the wilderness. The U.S. Forest Service reached those conclusions after initial review of Twin Metals' lease renewal request and the agency exercised its statutory right to deny the lease application.

But the Trump administration dismissed those concerns, opting to renew the leases following an abbreviated review process which left the Forest Service largely cut out of the decision-making process.

Several Minnesota

See MINING...pg. 5

THE LEGISLATURE



Lawmakers headed to overtime

by MARCUS WHITE
Cook/Orr Editor

ST PAUL— Plenty of details remain to be ironed out after lawmakers and Governor Tim Walz reached an agreement on the state's budget on Sunday. And that means the 2019 legislative session is headed to overtime.

Minnesota is currently the only state with a divided state legislature in the nation, with the Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party controlling the House while Republicans hold a narrow margin in the Senate. Divided government meant both sides made concessions to reach a tentative deal by the end of the session.

"When nobody's happy, it can't be too bad of an agreement," said Rep. Rob Ecklund, DFL-International Falls, following the agreement on Monday.

Gov. Walz won't get his proposed gas tax hike that could have increased the price at the pump by up to 20 cents per gallon while providing hundreds of millions of dollars in additional state funding for road and bridge improvements.

See SESSION...pg. 5

CITY OF ELY

Blight returns to council agenda

by KEITH VANDERVORT
Ely Editor

ELY — With the melting snow and the growing grass comes the annual renewal of the blight season in Ely. City council members here discussed two familiar properties this week and vowed to act quickly this year to dispense with the eyesores.

Building official Doug Whitney provided updated photographs and an inspection report for a property on 21 W Shagawa Road, owned by Brian and Michele Sherwood, that indicate little or no improvement in the last two years.

He also forewarned the council that another property at 79 W.Chandler is supposed to be vacated but is reportedly still occupied by the owners despite having no water or electric service.

"As to the ongoing issue at 21 W Shagawa Road, Mayor Chuck Novak asked, "We have updated photographs and zero progress, what action would the council like to take?"

Whitney said the issues with the Sherwood couple go back as far as 2016. "They came to the council and they were granted more time.

See BLIGHT...pg. 5



The Ely City Council plans to issue a new blight enforcement order for this residence located at 21 W Shagawa Road. The owners will have 30 days to respond.

photo by K. Vandervort

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OPINION

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Editorial

An out-of-control city hall

Tower city council must assert itself in battle for control of city governance

In the vast majority of small cities in Minnesota, whether they operate under an independent charter or per state statute, governing authority resides almost exclusively in the city council — at least on paper.

But a council’s authority can quickly erode if council members are unwilling to assert the inherent powers they hold to provide direction, guidance, and oversight of city operations.

That’s the situation we’ve been experiencing in Tower for some time as a city clerk-treasurer who openly refuses council direction now wages an internecine battle to undermine a mayor intent on restoring the city council to its rightful place at the top of the city’s chain of command.

From Day One, the clerk-treasurer has refused to accept the decision of the voters of Tower who made Orlyn Kringstad their new mayor. She refused to give him the same key to city hall that other mayors had received for decades, regularly refuses his requests to add items to the city council agenda, and most recently nixed his call for a special meeting earlier this week to appoint two new members of the council. That’s despite the fact that the city charter gives the mayor an absolute right to call a special meeting.

On April 29, following the announced resignations of two council members, the city council directed the clerk-treasurer to advertise the vacancies and post them on the city’s website so appointments could be made at the council’s May 13 meeting. The clerk did not comply with any aspect of that directive and then actively obstructed new appointments on May 13. Unfortunately, no one on the city council called her out for it.

Similar examples abound.

But it isn’t just insubordination. The clerk-treasurer now appears to be actively working to push the new mayor to resign. Indeed, just last week, her union representative, Erik Skoog, called on Kringstad to do just that after he indicated that he’d cite the clerk for insubordination if she failed to abide by his recent call for a special meeting.

Skoog’s email was derisive and clearly implied his disdain for the voters in Tower who chose Kringstad for the city’s top post. Among other things, Skoog stated: “...to say that your leadership is a complete facade is an understatement and you should do the entire city a favor and resign before you expose your inabilities. With this said, I look forward to receiving a copy of your apology to Ms. Keith and a copy of your resignation.”

The council has already had experience with Mr. Skoog, and it hasn’t reflected well on him or the

Teamsters union he represents.

Mr. Skoog has made false accusations and used profanity and other abusive language toward the council. He accused the mayor of leaking information from a closed meeting when, in fact, it was Mr. Skoog who inadvertently leaked the information by shooting his mouth off publicly without thinking.

Mr. Skoog and the clerk-treasurer might like to think they run the city of Tower, but that’s not how it’s supposed to work. The council, elected by the residents here and operating under the provisions of the city charter, are supposed to represent the actual authority within the city. Mr. Skoog, through his sophomoric attack, is the one exposing his own lack of knowledge as well as the lack of a temperament to be effective as a union representative.

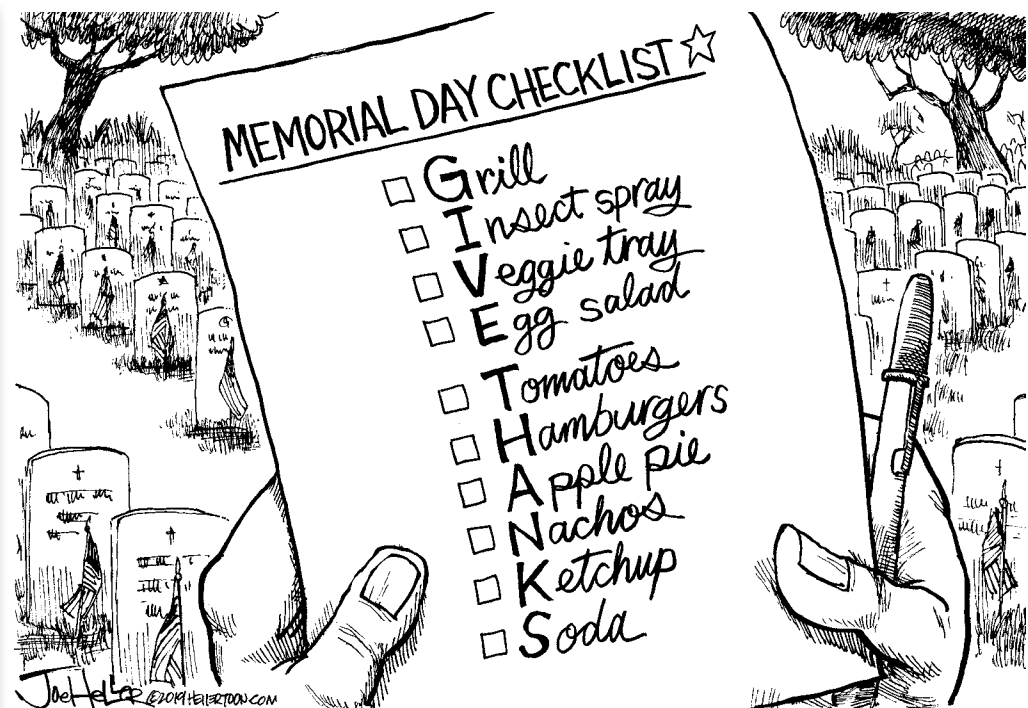
In our experience, most union representatives try to present themselves in a professional manner, because that is the image that most unions endeavor to uphold. Unions have, for decades, helped protect workers from abusive employers. In this case, however, it is Mr. Skoog, no doubt speaking for the clerk-treasurer, who is engaged in the abusive conduct.

There is no question that Mr. Skoog and the clerk-treasurer he represents wish to run roughshod over the city council and, by extension, the voters of the city of Tower. The city council needs to ensure that doesn’t happen. It can start by reasserting its authority over the affairs of the city of Tower and holding an out-of-control clerk-treasurer accountable for her insubordination, incompetence, dishonesty, and falsification of city records.

The council derives its authority from the charter, but that’s just a piece of paper. Until the city council consciously asserts its control, by paying attention and speaking up and taking action when the clerk-treasurer ignores their directives or misleads them, the current power struggle will continue and the city’s dysfunction will only worsen.

The city of Tower can no longer afford this. A clerk-treasurer who refuses to take direction, or who actively obstructs or acts abusively toward a newly-elected mayor, is not serving the city’s interests.

There certainly is a need for a resignation at the city of Tower. But it’s not the mayor who needs to go. If the current clerk-treasurer isn’t willing to work with Mayor Kringstad, there’s just one solution — and that’s a new clerk-treasurer. If she can’t see that, the council should provide her with the necessary instruction. It is instruction that is long overdue.



Letters from Readers

Studio North dance recital was a thrill

Last Friday night my brother and sis-in-law arrived for a visit from northwest Missouri.

My husband Bill and I had made plans to drive to Ely to watch my son’s girlfriend and her mother, Ashley and Leah Hiller, dance in the Studio North spring dance recital, “Dance in a Northern Town”. I had never attended this small town recital and was so glad I did. My family were ALL so impressed!

We arrived early and elected to sit closer to the front to get a good view and hardly missed a detail! The show started promptly, with Nicole Boitz, Studio North’s devoted owner, choreographer, friend and mentor warmly greeting the audience from the stage.

What immediately impressed me was the packed auditorium. It was a delight to watch the small children

in perky glittery dresses here and there in the aisles getting last minute attention and photos from parents before they darted backstage to join their dance groups. Every age group was so fun to watch! The show moved like clockwork through forty individual dances, all so different from each other. What great variety and fun costumes!

Special recognition was given to Charlize “Charlie” Carlson who was awarded the Bella Davis 2019 “Inspire” award! Both Bella and Charlize later performed solo dances that were so inspirational. Bella, coming through her health struggle, reflected deeply with her solo dance, “Waves”. It was incredibly moving. Senior dancer, Madelyn Roderick, caught my attention through the entire show with her tall silhouette, graceful moves and smiling face. Janae Murphy too, so strong and focused throughout, danced a piece called Dragonfly with grace-

ful Charlotte Hegman that was elegant and dramatic. The list of fine performances goes on...to Senja Kess, the male dancers, the dads and daughters polka, and I cannot forget Kindergartener, Fletcher Chopp showboating us to tears of laughter with his smiles and groovin’ moves. He’s a natural performer!

So many dedicated dancers I cannot name them all. They demonstrated years of focused dance practice and they were smiling and happy to be up there. The synergy was electric by the time the show ended. This kind of thing is VERY rare in a mixed age group and no doubt comes from the leader, Nicole, and on down the line. Hats off to all who made this show an extremely special and memorable event and many thanks from a former Ely stage personality. (Scarlet Stone, formerly Lynn O’Hara but still...Ms. Scarlet)

Scarlet Stone
Soudan

COMMENTARY

Accountability makes good government

As various House committees gear up for a season of investigations and hearings on President Trump and his administration, a lot of people are worried that progress on the nation’s challenges will grind to a halt. I would argue just the opposite: the wheels of government are turning in favor of accountability.

Our system rests squarely on the notion that government officials — whether elected or appointed — need to be accountable to the people they govern. They are responsible for their behavior, their decisions, and the policies they support. They are answerable for their use — and misuse — of the funds and

resources they’re given.

They are — or ought to be — just as accountable for the remedies they fail to pursue as for the actions they do take. Accountability safeguards our Constitution, our laws, and our democracy.

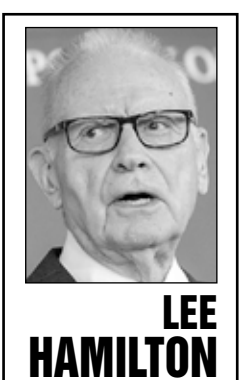
Which is why the weakening of accountability in our system over the past few decades ought to worry all Americans. It has become very difficult, for instance, to question a president — a problem that preceded the current occupant of the White House.

Presidential press conferences, which once were free-wheeling affairs at which presidents faced sustained questioning from reporters well-versed in their policies, are barely held

these days. They are passing from view — and President Trump’s habit of using Twitter to communicate over the heads of people who ask hard questions may well set the course for the future.

In fact, politicians and bureaucrats at all levels have become quite skilled at avoiding accountability. During my years in Congress, I considered it a key task to find out who was responsible for particular decisions — whether the administration was Republican or Democrat. It was difficult then, and has become more so with time.

Meanwhile, it has been reassuring over the past two years to see several national news outlets step up their scrutiny of public officials in Washington, but it remains



LEE HAMILTON

See HAMILTON...pg. 5

Slow down and enjoy the process

The first time I remember anyone saying “Enjoy the process,” and having it resonate with me was back in about 1992. I was living in Chisholm at the time and had the opportunity to work in Eveleth with Iron Range artist/writer Gladys Koski Holmes. She operated the Windfall



SCARLET STONE

Art Gallery and Framing shop that is no longer operating from a grand old building on a Main Street corner that no longer stands.

I don’t remember when I first met Gladys with her sincere warm smile and twinkling eyes, but I learned some

valuable things from her such as seeing color. I mean REALLY seeing color! We would be in the process of selecting the correct mat or combination of mats for a particular piece of artwork to be framed, a no slap-n’-dash task for Gladys. She enjoyed this process. She would select several mat samples, set them one at a time near the art-piece and then formed a small square viewing-box by bending the fingers of her hands up in front of one eye with the other eye

closed. Then she would take time to study the art-piece with the mat. What was simply tan to most untrained eyes, would draw out a comment from Gladys such as, “There’s too much red in this one!” followed by “Can you see it?” At first I could not, but after going through this process with Gladys repeatedly over months I too developed “Color Eye”!

On more than one occasion as she taught me, Gladys would play with the process. She’d set a red object by that same

“tan-being conquered-by-red” mat and you could see the influence. It was truly amazing to work with her. To this day when I am looking at a paint strip at a hardware store, particularly when trying to find a nice tan shade...I hear Gladys saying, “There’s too much red in that one.” Another thing she said to me once when I was rattling on about a project I was annoyed with at home and as usual was

See PROCESS...pg. 5

HAMILTON...Continued from page 4

true that overall there is less investigative journalism than there once was.

Which is a problem because it’s simply human nature to want to avoid being held responsible. If policies are going well and are well received in the polls and by the public, of course, officials fight to take their place in line and garner the credit. If something goes wrong, they fight to get out of the line.

In our system, every official has to answer to some other official. This

is a reassuring quality in a governmental structure — but only if officials actually exercise their responsibilities. That’s why the media are so important as a backstop.

Which raises another issue. A lot of players ought to be exercising oversight: members of Congress, the government’s inspectors general, the media — we even have an entire agency, the Government Accountability Office, dedicated to the task. But for them to do their work,

the system also needs transparency. Almost every day you see signs of officials hiding what they do from the public — often without real merit.

I’ve always been quite skeptical of the argument that we ought not let this or that piece of information become public. National security is often invoked, or trade secrets, or some other rationale for drawing a veil over the government’s activities. Even when citizens or reporters file Freedom

of Information requests, these can be ignored, or turned down.

The problem with this, of course, is that it’s anti-democratic. How are we supposed to make reasoned decisions about who and what we want to see in our government if we don’t know what’s going on and who’s responsible for it?

Perhaps the most famous hallmark of Harry Truman’s tenure as president was the motto he placed on his desk: “The buck stops here.” There’s a

reason why it’s so famous, and why people still consider it a standard they wish other politicians would set for themselves.

Americans want officials who will step up and take responsibility for their decisions. They want political leaders who will hold themselves accountable to the public. And they want to see public officials exercise the responsibility handed them by the Constitution to hold others accountable. That the House is moving

to do so is not a detour from governing; it’s the essence of good government.

Lee Hamilton is a Senior Advisor for the Indiana University Center on Representative Government; a Distinguished Scholar of the IU Hamilton Lugar School of Global and International Studies; and a Professor of Practice, IU School of Public and Environmental Affairs. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 34 years.

PROCESS...Continued from page 4

rushing through to the finish was, “Enjoy the process.” Wow, that is loaded. Slow down, move through the various steps.... and really ENJOY THE PROCESS! Of course.

For most of my younger years I would take on all kinds of projects and be hasty to finish them, eager for the finished result. I’d get the desire to sew an entire square dance dress on a Friday and wear it to the dance in Gilbert the next night. One dress I recall, was green plaid and had a Scottie dog appliqued on the front. If you understand applique, this is pretty labor intensive. A bit of a big project for a day with cutting it out, doing a machine applique on the front of the skirt, gathering the skirt, sewing it on and then adding a ruffle to the bottom before putting upper bodice and sleeves on too. I don’t do that so much anymore. There were painting projects, knitting, crocheting and all kinds of crafty-wafty things that came and

went. Nowadays it has become profound because I realize to not ENJOY THE PROCESS means not to enjoy my days, simply put...my life. The days are all filled with process and processing. Sometimes unpleasant things come our way that are not to be enjoyed but rather endured. This I know, too, but for the most part I find that slowing down and being in the moment as I create and accomplish things is where it’s at!

A recent process Bill and I are enjoying is the building of a deck on our house. I can certainly visualize it all finished and we have been sitting out in the morning sun having coffee. I have been enjoyed designing it, getting the materials with Bill, along with purchasing some new tools and seeing him happy. The process has been influenced by some over-zealous helpers/sidewalk supervisors from across the street with their own agendas, but I have adjusted my process to

accommodate theirs.

I’ve been enjoying another process along with the deck building and that’s getting in better health. I started doing more walking in March and have gained some lung capacity and leg strength for sure. Last winter I sat around taking care of my old female cat for about three months, sitting and hugging her in the rocking chair through the end of her days and was noticing my balance was even starting to decline. No time for any of that! I got on my hiking shoes and have not noticed any balance issues any longer. When its drizzling I toss on my rain poncho and go.

An outrageous process this spring has been trying to get my pontoon boat on the water. I got it last spring and it needed some work, having survived a big storm on Lake Vermilion. My sweet, Texas-born husband Bill... and a friend... inadvertently used up the entire summer with intentions

of getting the boat in the water but it roosted in the driveway getting its issues taken care of until the snowflakes fell. I fell prey to some light hostility in response. We had a hassle getting it registered too, making a couple trips to the license bureau. We even had to haul the owner in with a death certificate because the title couldn’t be found in the registrar’s office.

So recently, with summer ‘19 knocking at the door, Bill asked me where the sticker tags were for the boat. After looking in my office, I honestly couldn’t remember having had the tags in hand so I called the Virginia license bureau agent and gave him my name. “We have nothing on record for that name,” he said. “What?” I chirped. “Is it possible it’s in another name?” he asked. I said “No.” I was a Stone and nothing else when I met the pontoon. The next step was to take a camera shot of the license numbers on the boat,

which I did, then called the agent back. He said, “Those numbers belong to another craft, far from your location, in a name I cannot disclose to you due to privacy issues.” My heart sank! This was turning into a nightmare real fast with my summer boat plans getting shelved like last year’s ugly Christmas sweater. The agent then told me to look for the boat’s hull ID number and said it was, “somewhere on the boat....usually hard to find.”

Oh lord...so I called Bill. I was ready to snap. Bill was busy building the deck with his crew of sidewalk supervisors, but he set down his drill and went hunting for the hull ID. He took a picture of a number he found which turned out to be the same as the boat license numbers stuck on the side of the boat, however, the last 2 digits were transposed. Someone associated with the previous owner hadn’t put the stickers on in the correct order. That night

I returned to my messy office and found the purchased license tabs for the boat in a misplaced file folder. Sloppy deal, I know. Memory then returned, I did transfer the title, I did get the license tags but the name on them was my previous name, Lynn O’Hara. God, not again... spirits release me from this hell! Ms. Multi-name spoke to the agent at the license bureau and was immediately calmed when he explained the DNR was often slow to update name changes in their data base. He made the call to them, had my name updated to S.S and it’s all good to go. Well, I didn’t enjoy that process...not at all... but another one will come soon and have my name on it...the correct name!

Until next time, walk, talk, paint and do what you do but slow down, breathe deep... and ENJOY THE PROCESS.

MINING...Continued from page 3

businesses and the Wilderness Society are suing the Trump administration over that decision, arguing that the administration’s action was illegal since it, in effect, reversed a decision that was already final. While Twin Metals still had the right to seek the issuance of new leases in the wake of the Obama administration’s cancellation of the original leases, that process would require far more extensive environ-

mental review than would be needed for renewal of an existing lease. The Trump administration avoided that process by claiming that the Twin Metal leases were cancelled due to “legal error,” but as the *Timberjay* has previously reported, that claim is poorly supported by the historical record.

Opponents of sulfide-based mining on the edge of the Boundary Waters say they believe the science and economic

analyses gathered by the Forest Service as part of their two-year study would bolster their arguments that the environmental risk posed by mining within wilderness watersheds is too great and that any economic benefits the mine might bring would be more than offset by job losses in outdoor recreation, home construction, and real estate among other sectors.

“This legislation is necessary because the Trump administration is

hellbent on steamrolling through this risky mining project near a pristine wilderness without acknowledging the inherent problems,” said Tom Landwehr, Executive Director of the Campaign to Save the Boundary Waters, a group opposed to the mine plan.

McCollum’s legislation calls the Trump administration’s decision on the leases “inexplicable,” noting that the leases had sat dormant

for more than 50 years. “The actions taken by the Interior and Agriculture departments over the past two years with regards to mining in the Superior National Forest overturn long-standing policies and practices, ignore science, limit public participation, and undermine the protection of iconic and irreplaceable wilderness and national park resources,” states McCollum’s legislation. “Until the departments address the question

of whether mining, especially copper-sulfide ore mining, is appropriate on National Forest system lands in the Rainy River watershed, no action to advance mining in this area should occur.” The legislation further directs the Forest Service to complete the two-year study and make all of its findings publicly-available.

SESSION...Continued from page 3

Ecklund said he’s not sure if the gas tax was ever the right move for the state but acknowledged something needs to be done to remedy the state’s aging roads.

“Our roads are in bad shape, our bridges need work,” Ecklund said. “We need long-term solutions and to stop kicking the can down the road.”

Republicans also took a loss on ending the health-

care provider tax. The measure, which taxes certain medical procedures, was set to expire as part of a sunset clause, but DFLers fought to make it permanent. The DFL did lower the tax by two-tenths of a percent to 1.8 percent as a compromise with the GOP.

Rural broadband funding also took a hit, with legislators agreeing to spend \$40 million over

the biennium, significantly less than the \$70 million sought by the governor.

Legislators agreed to a compromise on education spending as well. K-12 schools will see an increase of two percent for each year of the biennium, and community colleges will see a bump in funding as well. The University of Minnesota, however, will not see any additional dollars from lawmakers.

A plan dubbed “Veterans Restorative Justice” was also scrapped in the deal. The plan, authored by Ecklund, would have brought a new diversionary court program for vets who found themselves on the wrong side of the law after discharge. The program would have functioned similar to the state’s drug and alcohol court where eligible defendants could

go through a separate judicial process aimed at rehabilitation rather than incarceration.

Work remains

While legislative leaders and the Governor agreed on an overall budget framework, lawmakers will still need to convene a special session to iron out the details. Some of the details, Ecklund said will directly impact the Iron

Range and how companies manage wastewater runoff in the region.

While Ecklund did not provide details, he said the House was working on new provisions for how mining wastewater was transferred off of worksites.

As of press time, a special session had tentatively been set to begin on Thursday, May 23.

BLIGHT...Continued from page 3

They were given a deadline of May 2017, and in two years virtually nothing has been done.”

His inspection report, dated May 15, 2019, lists that property as having hazardous and unsafe buildings. A laundry list of required renovations to the house and garage shows that just a partial roof was installed on the house. The roof and rafters appear to be sound but the work has not been inspected. He noted the side porch was removed and replaced with a partially finished deck. Other required work appears to be initiated but not completed.

Council member Al Forsman asked what the

next step would be at this property, according to city code.

“It calls for demolition,” Novak said.

City Attorney Kelly Klun explained that a blight order exists for the property. “You can revise the notice for 2019 and indicate you are executing the order this year,” she said. She noted that the city can order the improvement work to be completed and the cost would be assessed to the property taxes.

Forsman made a motion to reissue the enforcement order with a 30-day response deadline.

“That would give the owners a chance to respond,” Klun said.

Council member Heidi Omerza pointed out that the property has been inspected as many as four times. “Shame on us,” she said. “Are we in uncharted territory here? He’s not working with (the city). He probably thinks we forgot about him.”

Novak noted that he continuously hears from folks who live around the property. “They have a right to be mad at the council if we don’t take action on this,” he said. “Put yourself in the neighbors’ shoes and it gives you a different perspective. We’re elected to make tough decisions. I think there has been an ample opportunity here to remedy

the deficiencies that have been highlighted.”

Council members agreed to reissue the blight property enforcement order giving the Sherwoods 30 days to correct the situation.

Whitney also updated the council on the situation at 79 W. Chandler St.

“We’ve received numerous complaints about the property over the last few months,” he said. “The owner had permission to work on the property, and virtually nothing has been done.”

Police Chief John Lahtonen reported that neighbors have complained about the blighted property. “They are very upset. I had an 80-year-old

man in tears. He said, ‘It’s not fair.’ He keeps his yard in shape, yet he has to look at what’s next door. He also told us about pipes installed in the backyard to deal with liquid human waste. What do you want me to tell these people?”

Clerk-Treasurer Harold Langowski said the city has had at least a 95-percent compliance rate on the blight ordinance but that a handful of residents don’t seem to get the message. “We just need the council to support our efforts as we move forward.”

Novak agreed. “What’s the point of having an ordinance if we are not going to enforce it?”

Whitney said he

would proceed with the inspection report for the Chandler Avenue property and submit the documents to the council.

Other action

In other action, the council:

► Approved a 4th of July Music on the Beach family event at Semer’s Park from 6-9 p.m.

► Approved the design and construction for the cemetery informational kiosk at a cost not to exceed \$30,000.

► Approved the Social Media Policy as presented with the provision that no comments would be allowed on the city’s Facebook page.

Gregg Rice to speak at Tower's Memorial Day program on May 27

TOWER- Colonel Gregg P. Rice will speak at Tower's Memorial Day Program, Monday, May 27 at the Herbert Lamppa Civic Center in Tower, starting at 10 a.m.

Colonel (Ret) Gregg P. Rice was born on Sept. 18, 1947, in Duluth. He graduated from Edina-Morningside High School. In 1969 he earned a B.A. in Business from Bemidji State University and joined the U. S. Air Force. While in the Air Force he earned an M.S. in Systems Management from the University of Southern California.

His professional military education includes Squadron Officer School, Maxwell AFB, Alabama; U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas; and Joint Services Staff College, Canberra, Australia.

During his 23-year career in the USAF he flew 4,000 hours as a fighter pilot in the F-16, F-4, T-37, T-38 and T-41. He is a Vietnam War veteran who flew 116 combat missions in North Vietnam. His staff and senior level executive positions included Operations Commander of a Tactical Fighter Wing; Deputy Commandant for the Air Force Academy Cadet Wing; Tactical Flying Squadron Commander; Chief of Rated Officer Assignments for the Pacific Theater; and Air Division Chief of Safety.

After retiring from the USAF he flew 13 years as a commercial pilot for Southwest Airlines.

Gregg is married to the former Ilene Heimsjo of Cloquet. They have two adult married children and two grandchildren. Gregg and Ilene currently live in Colorado Springs, Colo., and on Lake Vermilion.

Embarrass Memorial Day Observance

EMBARRASS- The Embarrass community will observe Memorial Day on Monday, May 27 at 9 a.m. at the Embarrass Cemetery followed by coffee an' at the Town Hall.

St. Paul's Garage Sale on June 1

SOUDAN- St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Soudan is hosting its annual garage sale on Saturday, June 1 from 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. Coffee an' will also be served. The sale is sponsored by Women of the Church, and proceeds support Vacation Bible School. The church is located at 36 Church St.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED

It will be much appreciated if you can contribute to the Tower Cemetery Fund.

Let's not forget all of our servicemen and women who are buried in the Tower Cemetery. We all have the freedom in our country because of them. Then too, let's not forget our own loved ones.

Thank you to all who have given in the past and for your continued support.

The Tower Cemetery Board

Checks are to be made out to:
Tower Cemetery Association
PO Box 874, Tower, MN 55790

Published in the Timberjay, May 24, 31, June 7, 21 & 28, 2019

GREENWOOD TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS HIGHWAY CLEAN UP IS UNDER WAY!!

May 15-June 15

**THE TOWNSHIP WILL HAVE BAGS
AND SAFETY VESTS AT THE
TOWN HALL OFFICE.**
(Outside by the door for easy access)

**FULL BAGS CAN BE LEFT ON THE
SIDE OF THE ROAD FOR PICK UP.**
**PLEASE HELP TO KEEP OUR
TOWNSHIP LOOKING AS GOOD
AS IT CAN!**

THANK YOU!!



TOWER-SOUDAN ELEMENTARY



Tower-Soudan Elementary had a "Yee-Haw" good time during their spring concert on May 21. The country-western themed concert stage featured a horse-drawn cart, wagon wheels, and hay bales. Students dressed in western-themed clothing and colorful cowboy hats. Music teacher Michelle Anderson once again led her students as they put on quite a show, with square dancing too. Find lots more photos on the Timberjay facebook page. photo by J. Summit

LAKE VERMILION

New owners at Forest Lane Resort



The Nicholsons, from left, Halei and Marcus, and Matt and Alissa are settling into resort life on Lake Vermilion. submitted photo

by JODI SUMMIT
Tower-Soudan Editor

LAKE VERMILION- Running a family-owned towing and auto repair business is a 24 hour a day, seven day a week kind of job. Matt and Alissa Nicholson, and their two children, have traded in that hectic life for something they know might be just as time-consuming, running a family resort on Lake Vermilion.

"We always knew we wanted to run a resort someday," said Alissa. And after 10 years of building up a successful business, its sale gave them the opportunity to pursue a new dream.

The family has always spent their vacation time in northern Minnesota, driving their RV from northern Iowa to resorts all over the area.

"We were checking out all the different areas," she said. "It's what we did on our family vacations."

Top family pastimes include fishing, hunting, snowmobiling, and four-wheeling, so Alissa said they are sure they will enjoy living on Lake Vermilion.

The Nicholsons moved up to Lake Vermilion on Easter week-

end, and quickly settled in.

The family includes 14-year-old Halei and five-year-old Marcus. Halei is attending North Woods, and is playing Grizzly softball. Marcus will start Kindergarten in the fall.

The family purchased Forest Lane Resort, on Everett Bay Rd., from Dave and Pat Lamwers. The seven-cabin resort has a loyal following, with the majority of cabins filled each summer by repeat customers.

"The resort has been really well-maintained," Alissa said. "We plan to operate it pretty close to how the Lamwers did."

The Nicholsons do plan on making some minor changes. Their five-year old has been lobbying to have them sell bait,

and they are looking at adding "their own touches" to the place. They are also looking into opening some cabins up for winter rentals for snowmobilers.

So far, settling into resort life has been a smooth transition. The Lamwers have been a great help, they said. The Lamwers are planning on staying in the area, and both are retiring from their jobs at North Woods School this year.

With opening fishing season, and a fully-booked resort for fishing opener, the family was kept busy. Both Alissa and Matt have a parent who traveled up north to help with the transition to their new career.

Alissa said their friends and other relatives are all excited about visiting them at the resort, but the couple has actually had to say no to some friends who have tried to make reservations.

Most weeks are already full, she said, the "pickings are slim."

"We've been taking phone calls like crazy," Alissa said. "This resort has really loyal customers."

The sale was brokered by Minnesota Resort Sales.

Cook VFW

Open Daily at Noon
CLOSED on TUESDAYS

Happy Hour
Daily 4-6 p.m.
All Beer & Drinks
Bar Menu & Pizza Available

Event Rentals
Welcome
218-780-6709

Pull-Tabs Sold Daily
Lic. 00390

Sunday FREE Pool

Thursday Bingo
Early Bird 6 p.m.
Progressive Prizes

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

Take-Out 666-0500



315 Main St, Tower
753-2725

OPEN MEMORIAL DAY
8 AM- 3 PM



Summer Hours
• Start May 28 •
Mon-Sat 7 AM-7 PM
Sun 8 AM-4 PM

GREENWOOD

Greenwood Community Recreation Board to host an open house June 5

GREENWOOD TWP- Tennis, pickleball, horseshoes, basketball, bean bags, bocce, children’s playground. It sounds like a great place and fun time. Well, read on!

The recreation board wants to bring awareness of the facility and what it offers by hosting an open house on Wednesday, June 5, 4-7 p.m. All equipment will be out for a fun time, as well as, individuals to help with rules of play.

In 2015 Dean Panian and Gene Baland discussed a need for improvement and maintenance to the recreational area at Greenwood Township. They contacted several individuals they felt would make a great core group of volunteers for this project, and the Greenwood Community Recreation Board was formed. It has been a wonderful four years with new members joining the board and amazing accomplishments.

Through fundraisers, monetary donations, grants, plus financial support and approval from Greenwood Township, so much has been done to enhance the township area and what it offers.

The area now hosts a tennis



court with both tennis and pickleball nets, a basketball hoop, a breathtaking pavilion, four renovated bocce courts, a horseshoe pit, and the latest project in 2018, a newly constructed playground. There are bocce sets, bean bag boards and bags, and horseshoes all that can be used, at no charge, by contacting various individuals on the kiosk at the recreation area or calling the Greenwood Township clerk. The pavilion can also be used for events with a reservation and a refundable damage deposit.

Our goal at this time is to once

again start women’s and couples’ bocce leagues. We would appreciate people stepping forward to take on the task of coordinating weekly play along with getting the equipment out. A simple task to bring a great group of fun-loving people together to play on, what we believe to be, some of the nicest bocce courts in northern Minnesota. Call Jarri Ankrum at 218-750-7236 if interested in playing or helping to coordinate.

Don’t forget to mark your calendar for June 5 for an evening of games, fun, and refreshments. We look forward to seeing you there.

birth announcement



Otto James Gornick

Andrea and Cade Gornick are proud to announce the birth of their son, Otto James Gornick. Otto was born on April 23, 2019 at St. Luke’s Hospital in Duluth, and he was six pounds, 15 ounces and 19 inches long.

Grandparents are Beverly Renando, James Volinky, Brenda and Karel Winke-laar, and James Gornick. Great-grandparents are William and Shirley Ellison.

Vermilion Fairways Golf League begins May 28

COOK- The Vermilion Fairways Women’s Golf League is starting their 2019 season on Tuesday, May 28 at 5:30 p.m. This will our fun night.

The regular league play will start on Tuesday, June 4. Our women’s league is a fun league and it is individual play not team play. All skill levels of golfers welcome!

If you have any questions, please call Carol Green at Vermilion Fairways at 218-666-2679.

THE NEWS OF THE WEEK FROM MS. VERA MILION



Tuesday morning, I was in the kitchen, caught between the Devil and the Deep Blue Sea.

It was that age-old conundrum, should I wash the dishes or just hide them in the oven? There is always a risk with the oven solution. Some idiot comes along bent on baking up a batch of chocolate chip cookies, get distracted, and fire departments get involved. I was offered an out when a friend called and asked if I would like to attend the spring concert at the Tower-Soudan Elementary School.

Faced with an alternative to domestic work, I immediately agreed and shoved the dishes in the oven.

We got there early but the place was already packed.

We managed two seats in the second row and settled in...dirty dishes a mere bagatelle.

I was perusing the program, the show had a Western theme, when I heard this hissing sound to my right.

Who could be hissing me at an elementary concert? I looked around and there was Jodi taking pictures before the show.

“Where is your column?”

One can no longer use that old dodge we have all used so often, “It’s in the mail!”

She snorted, “Yeah, yeah you’ve got ‘til eight o’clock! Git’er done pardner or git out of Dodge...excuse me, Tower.”

Before I could reply the concert opened with the elementary band directed by Kevin Ryks.

Like most elementary concert goers, one has come to expect the blat of a trumpet, the squeak of a clarinet, a drummer going off into his own rhythm for the selection.

Not one of the six numbers the group performed was sullied by an uncalled-for beep,

blat or miscued crash of cymbals.

Just so the group knows my personal ‘fav’ was T-Rex.

There were square dancers with a caller— Greyson Reichensperger— and Fred Astaire and Debbie Reynolds could not have been cooler or more expert. We were also amazed the elementary school boys were holding girls hands and not screaming, “cooties...cooties!”

Hilda felt that with the advent of television cooties might just be a thing of the past.

There were skits, more songs, and each time the performers kept getting more confident, more sure of themselves.

Hilda kept hoping for a kick line of dance hall girls with frilly petticoats. I am so glad there wasn’t a can-can on the program because Hilda does like to kick up her heels. She has injured other dancers and the occasional audience member in her attempts to emulate Irene Castle or Debbie Reynolds.

What a wonderful way to spend a Tuesday afternoon.

As we left, we were just a wee bit sad— at the end of sixth grade off they go in buses, heaven knows where, and we will never know what they could have produced in junior or senior high unless we get on buses and head into the purple sunset.

Speaking of purple, it’s plant and seed catalog time. Hilda has her Gurney’s and I my Burpee’s and we are leaning on more purple in our flower beds this year.

We made lists that included Avondale Purple Wood Aster, Sherwood Purple Phlox, and Liatris Spicta Kolbold Blazing Star. After an hour of this madness we just decided to check out Brandt’s or wait for that table at Zup’s.

Moose and his crowd have asked for a little piece of ground for a ‘special’ garden. Trust me, we are NOT falling for that again.

Ms. Vera Milion

Bookmobile Schedule

Wednesday, May 28; June 19

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

Transfer station

Soudan Canister

<i>Expanded hours year-round</i>	
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

<i>Summer Hours through Sept. 30</i>	
Tuesday	1 p.m. - 6 p.m.
Thursday	8 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Saturday	8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday	12 p.m. - 6 p.m.

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

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 are 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 – 1:30 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.

Homebound seniors can sign up for meal delivery. To register for Meals on Wheels, or for more information, please call AEOA Senior Nutrition at 218-735-6899.

Week of May 27

Monday- No School
Tuesday- Taco Salad, Corn Muffin
Wednesday- Chicken Noodle Soup, Cheesy Bread Sticks, Marinara
Thursday- Pigs in a Blanket (Hot Dog), Tater Tots
Friday- Breaded Pollock, Baked Potato, Bread Stick

Week of May 27

Monday

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

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

Tuesday

Tower Area Food Shelf- Open on the third Tuesday of every month from 2:30-5:30 p.m. Located in the back of the Timberjay building on Main Street. Next food shelf day is June 18.

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

Tower City Council- 5:30 p.m. at City Hall.

Wednesday

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

Breitung Town Board- 12 noon on May22

Thursday

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

Vermilion Country School Board- Meetings

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the *TIMBERJAY*

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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., Ely
WOMEN'S AA - Noon Mondays, St. Anthony Church basement, Ely
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 FOOD SHELF - Third Wednesday each month, 15 W. Conan St.
ADULT BASIC EDUCATION
GED - Study materials and pre-test available. Tower by appointment. Call 365-3359, 827-3232, or 1-800-662-5711.

WINDOW INTO YESTERDAY

When a gallon of gas cost 29 cents

by DAVID KESS
Ely-Winton Historical Society

Most of us who are older than 65 remember when gasoline was much, much cheaper than today; like maybe \$2 a gallon less. Those were the days! Back in the 1950s young people were probably earning \$1 an hour waitressing, bussing tables, and pumping gas. Cruising the main street was a favorite activity particularly on weekends. I hate to say it but I am sure there were many more tragic car accidents back then, too. A favorite trip in the family car was down to Central Garage to see the wrecked cars.

What many have no doubt forgotten is the sheer number of gas stations and the gas pumps at car dealerships. Today we still have gas pumps but actually most of them are connected to convenience stores. In a stand-alone gas station in the past a person would have found only chewing gum, candy bars and motor oil, tire gauges, tires, and or belts for a car engine.

One of the gas stations from the past is a Standard Oil station owned by George Lahti, then Bob Ellis, Charles “Pudgy” Kleemola, and Bob Colombo. That corner is now the home of the Ely Area Credit Union. Another Standard Oil/Amoco station was owned and operated by Arlen Ladwig. The site has become the Family Dollar store (with no gas pump).



Today's Tony's Conoco station, above, on the corner of Sheridan Street and Central Avenue was originally Andy Jaconson's Pure Oil station. A 1905 Buick, left, and John Koshack outside of Central Garage. photos courtesy of the Ely-Winton Historical Society.

Car dealerships nearly always had a gas pump. Everyone purchasing a new vehicle was given a full tank of gas as soon as the deal was made. One such was the Forest Chevrolet that has become the parking lot for Zup's grocery store.

Still another was the old Ford garage on Conan Street. It is now an abandoned building. Vic Thompson's garage on Central Avenue just south of White Street sold Hudson and Kaiser Fraser cars. Vic later operated an ice business and then a beer distributing one. The building has the look of a car dealership garage even yet but it is used only as a storage building. Besides being a general mercantile the Winton Co-op also sold gas. It has not been in business for many decades and the building has been torn down.

Tony's Conoco was originally Andy Jacobson's Pure Oil station. It later became a "76" station. Andy had a reputation of being honest, friendly, and jovial. Pete's Garage, the "Dodge Garage," is now

occupied by Legacy Toys. Albert Wiinikainen once sold Dodge, Plymouth, and Chrysler cars and trucks. The "Pete" part of the name came from Jacob Pete who built and owned the garage. A gas pump was part of the car dealership.

Mike Motors started in the Studebaker garage next to the old Ford garage. Later a new building was constructed on East Sheridan Street. Mike's did a brisk business selling gas. One of the more interesting "transformations" in regard to building changeovers is that of the Rothman Garage across from the old Ely Community Center. It originally had been a Ford agency. It sold gas under a Phillips 66 dealership and offered complete service for maintaining and repairing vehicles of all makes. Eventually it became a fuel oil distributor. Later it was acquired by the Ely Senior Citizens who eventually rented space on Sundays and other days to the Oasis Church. Fuel for vehicles has now become fuel for the soul.

Just up the Fernberg a

couple miles from Winton was a tavern and a gas pump operated by Charlie Pusovich. There is nothing of it standing today. The present Voyager gas station and convenience store on East Sheridan Street, a block south of the college, was also on Pusovich property. Perhaps someone remembers whether Charlie himself had a gas station there before it became Voyager.

There were two Slogars in the gasoline business in Ely. One was located on Sheridan St. and First Avenue, where the Goodwill store has been. The other was "Bunny" Slogar's near the park. Next to the gas station was the Parkside Milk Bar, a favorite of many an Ely child. No, they did not just sell milk but also soft drinks, ice cream, malts, and more. Almost every child in Ely knew John and "Muggsy."


Blomberg's Cenex station and convenience store has replaced the original Cities Service station first opened by Amelius Stenlund. Between then and now it was an Amoco station. Mr. Stenlund was

another of a number of Ely entrepreneurs who were known to be friendly, jovial, and very helpful.

Both the price of gas and wages of workers have increased considerably in the past seventy-five years. There are many more vehicles and licensed drivers on the road now and most do not think twice about the price of gas at the pump. Today motorists pump their own gas (something that never happened in years past) and decide what grade of gasoline is right for their cars or other vehicles such as ATVs, snowmobiles, and motor cycles. Gasoline is also needed for snowblowers, lawn mowers, and outboard motors. Let's hope gas keeps coming to us here in Ely! The owners of gas pumps today have new concerns, too: that their tanks are large enough and in perfect condition. Replacing and repairing them is extremely expensive.

Pictures of early Ely gas pumps and gas stations including some present day ones are now on display in the Fine Arts Lobby at Vermilion Community College. Note the models of antique cars. This display will be there until the first week of July when it will move to the Ely Public Library.

Please phone the historical society office at 218-365-3226 if you have any questions or if you have additional information to offer on "gas in Ely."



the TIMBERJAY

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

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HEALTH CARE

Ely-Bloomenson Community Hospital officials held a ribbon-cutting ceremony this week to dedicate the facility's new \$1 million CT scanner in the radiology department. The new equipment has been in use since Feb. 26. The new 128-slice imaging machine replaces the outdated 16-slice camera and now has 3D imaging capability, according to radiology team leader Victor Aine, shown with scissors.
photo by K. Vandervort



Breathing Out
by Cecilia Rolando © 2019



may weather changes surprises even to birds
sun, rain, then snowing

Veterans display at Ely-Winton Historical Society
ELY - The Ely-Winton Historical Society will have a display of military uniforms through the decades in the lobby area outside the EWHHS museum on Monday, May 27.
This display runs in conjunction with the Coffee an' that the Ely Service Clubs holds at Vermilion Community College following the Memorial Day ceremony at the Ely Cemetery.
In case of rain the ceremony is usually moved to the college auditorium. Please stop by, have coffee, and look at the uniforms worn by brave soldiers of our nation's wars.

Ely Free Clinic
ELY - The Ely Community Health Center is open every Monday evening from 5:30-7 p.m. in the AFU Building, 111 S 4th Ave. E.
For more information, call 218-365-5678, or visit their website, www.elycommunityhealth.org or Facebook page.

KINDERGARTEN CLASS TOURS ELY AIRPORT



Ely Washington Elementary Kindergarten student Sawyer Anderson, above, gets equipped with a fire-fighting jacket by U.S. Forest Service personnel during his class's field trip to the Ely Airport last Friday. Below, Kaija Swanson, Connor Macho and Ethan Tome got a chance to spray the fire hose. photos by K. Vandervort



SUPPORTING THE ARTS



The Washington School media center housed a student art show last Thursday prior to the spring band and choral concert. photo by K. Vandervort

News In Brief

Tuesday Group schedule

ELY - The upcoming Tuesday Group schedule is listed below. All talks are at 12 noon on Tuesday at the Grand Ely Lodge.

May 28 - Sherry Abts - Loon Survey Updates and Loon Survey Training Q and A

June 4 - Meet new Elyites

History Nights programs announced

ELY - The Ely/Winton Historical Society Summer History Night program returns this year. The schedule follows:

► June 12: Genealogy with Bobbi Hoyt - This is a two-part program with sessions at 1 p.m. and 4 p.m.

► June 19: Movie Night - Movie to be announced later.

► July 17: Archaeology with Sue Mulholland

► July 31: The History of Co-op Point with Sally Koski and Val Myntti

► Aug. 14: Ethnic Diversity on the Iron Range with David Kess

With the exception of June 12, all programs begin at 7 p.m. They will be held in classroom CL 104 at Vermilion Community College. All programs are free and open to the public.

Patriotic Choir looking for singers

ELY - The Ely Patriotic Choir rehearsals began last week and will be held on Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. at Grace Lutheran Church.

The Patriotic Choir Concert is scheduled for 2 p.m. on Sunday, June 30 in the Washington Auditorium.

Vacation Bible School starts June 3

ELY - Gas up the all-terrain vehicle and head out on a wilderness adventure like no other. Get up close and personal with elephants and egrets, polar bears and penguins, cockatoos and crocodiles, and so much more.

This summer kids will focus in on some amazing, real-life encounters with Jesus and discover the most amazing truth of all - Jesus Christ is the Messiah, the Son of God, and by believing we can have life in His name. Each day kids will make crafts, play fun games, enjoy tasty snacks, sing cool songs, and learn about missions.

Where: LedgerRock Community Church

When: Monday, June 3 - Friday, June 7 (9 a.m. - 12 p.m. each day)

Ages: 4 years through grade 6

Cost: FREE

Register online: <https://www.ledgerrockchurch.com/vbs>

Yesterday's news, this week

from the archives of

THE ELY MINER

Courtesy of the Ely-Winton Historical Society

May 23, 1919

Fire setting proves costly

Before Justice of the Peace W. R. Coleman of Section 30, John Magnerich of this city and Matt Majerle of Section 30, were found guilty of having been the starters of the fire that raged in the White Iron Lake district Monday afternoon. The blaze threatened to wipe out the White Iron Beach buildings and other property in the vicinity.

Judge Coleman fined them each \$50 and costs, amounting to \$56 in each case.

The testimony went to show that Magnerich and Majerle, in company with John Stembal, went to where Cyrille Fortier is putting in his mill ostensibly to look for work. While Stembal was at the camp looking things over, the other men sat on a log near there and smoked cigarettes. After the men left, it was discovered that a nice little brush fire had started and a man from the camp with water put it out, as he thought, effectively. Heavy wind a little later fanned the smoldering embers and before it could be reached, the fire had gained considerable headway and was burning through the dry woods in the direction of the beach.

Alderman Brozich at once gathered a crew in this city, and with the chemical department of the city and the Fortier mill crew and after heroic efforts, got the blaze under control, but not until damages to the amount of \$1,000 had been done.

Mr. Brozich investigated with the results that the two were arrested and fined.

Many fires are reported by the forest rangers and the only wonder is how do they start miles out in the forest. It is presumed that careless campers and fisherman, settlers and logging concerns are accountable for the larger part. It surely is criminal in the existing dry spring to set fires for burning brush. The woods are as dry as shavings and small fires soon become large ones and absolutely uncontrollable.

The affair at Moose Lake last year is yet fresh in the minds of the people and the best of feelings are not entertained against those starting fires.

Cyrille Fortier makes the statement that his loss in the fires last fall amounted to over \$5,000 and he thought Monday's blaze would finish him. This was averted, however.

A stiff jail sentence of a year or six months would have a tendency to set people to thinking

AIR FORCE



Kevin Long in uniform. submitted photo

Long graduates basic training

LACKLAND AFB - U.S. Air Force Airman Kevin A. Long graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, San Antonio, Texas.

The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills.

Airmen who complete basic training also earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Long is the son of Jon and Julie Long of Orr. He is the brother of Bridgette Long of Orr.

The airman is a 2018 graduate of the North Woods School in Cook.

Bookmobile schedule

Visit your library on wheels, the Arrowhead Library System Bookmobile.

June 6 and 27

Nett Lake – Community Center 9:30-10:15 a.m.

C r a n e Lake – Ranger Station 11:15 a.m. - 12 noon

Orr – Lake Country ReMax building 1:45 - 2:30 p.m.

Kabetogama – Town Hall 3:15 - 3:45 p.m.

For further information on the Bookmobile or Mail-A-Book services, write or call the Arrowhead Library System, 5528 Emerald Ave., Mt. Iron, MN 55768 218-741-3840 or check our website at www.alslib.info.



MEMORIAL DAY

New River Street Bridge will be dedicated to veterans



The new River Street Bridge has been open to traffic since the end of winter. photo by M White

by **MARCUS WHITE**
Cook-Orr Editor

COOK - Traffic is flowing once again across the Little Fork River thanks to a new bridge that opened at the end of winter.

Now, the bridge will gain a more significant meaning when it is dedicated this Memorial Day as a permanent structure to remember fallen servicemen in the area.

The ceremony will

take place alongside the city-wide services on Monday morning with members of city staff and the local VFW chapter throwing ceremonial wreaths from the bridge deck and speaking on the importance of the country’s veterans.

The VFW Honor Guard will begin the ceremony with a procession from the VFW on First Street North to the bridge at 9:30 a.m.

Once at the bridge,

girls and boys from local scout chapters will lay flowers alongside the structure before the wreaths are thrown and the ceremonial Taps is played.

While Cook is a long way from open water, the city’s Memorial Day service is meant to honor men and women who were buried at sea while serving in the armed forces.

A dedication plaque is expected to be erect-

ed on or near the bridge, but will be done at a later date.

The new River Street Bridge was constructed throughout 2018 after the former bridge, built in 1960, was found to be in need of replacement.

The project cost \$1.3 million and was jointly funded by both the city and St. Louis County.

NORTHWOODS FRIENDS OF THE ARTS

Create an alcohol ink pendant, June 20 at NWFA

COOK- Learn to make your own lovely pendant with fiber artist and quilter, Karen M.H. Lamp-pa on Thursday, June 20 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Northwoods Friends of the Arts Gallery, 210 S River St. in Cook.

This artistic method uses washers, flat metal rings used to make a bolt or a nut tighten properly when assembling something. The washers are treated with alcohol ink and used to form pleasantly-designed jewelry using wire, beads, broken jewelry or charms, and your own ideas.

“There isn’t a time I can remember not being surrounded by handmade buildings and textiles. Being influenced in life by my mother, Lillian Helbacka Leino, and grandmother, Ida Helbac-

ka, I pursued an education degree in home economics and history from the University of Minnesota-Duluth with special interests in textiles, clothing construction, jewelry, and the arts,” said Lamp-pa. “As a charter member of the Virginia FiberArts Guild, my interests in weaving, quilting, jewelry-making, felting, stitchery, and surface design grew. Of special interest to me are design challenges that force me to create one-of-a-kind pieces that please me.”

The only requirement for this event is payment of \$5 to the instructor for each kit. Please pre-register for the class with Alberta by calling 218-666-2153, emailing nwfamn.org@gmail.com or stopping at the NWFA Gallery. The gallery is open on Wednesday,



Thursday, or Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Community Notices

Photo contest reception

COOK - Choose your favorite photos and vote for the “People’s Choice” photos at Northwoods Friends of the Arts Gallery reception in Cook beginning at 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. on Friday, May 24. The NWFA Gallery is on Cook’s main street, 210 S River St. next to Dream Weaver Spa and Salon. This reception concludes the photo exhibit for 2019.

Guests are invited at

5 p.m. to enjoy refreshments while viewing and voting for their favorite photos. Awards for NWFA’s ninth annual contest, “Your Best Shot” will be at 6:30 p.m. with the announcement of the the decisions made by a panel of three judges for the “Adult” and “Student” categories while the “People’s Choice” votes are being tallied.

Each prize includes an NWFA family membership or renewal (a \$25 plus value) and the following:

Adult - \$75 and the opportunity to exhibit/sell up to three photos for one month.

Student - \$25 and the opportunity to exhibit/sell up to three photos for one month.

People’s Choice - \$50 and the winning photograph framed.

Contestants are encouraged to take their photos with them at the conclusion of the awards ceremony.

Women’s Golf League to begin

COOK - The Vermilion Fairways Women’s Golf league is starting their 2019 season on Tuesday, May 28 at 5:30 p.m. It will our fun night.

Our regular league play will start on Tuesday, June 4. Our women’s league is a fun league and it is individual play not team play.

All skill levels of

golfers welcome!

If you have any questions please call Carol Green at Vermilion Fairways at 218-666-2679.

Technology and me on June 4

COOK - Come learn how technology can empower you or a loved one to live a fuller, safer and more connected life on June 4 at 1 p.m. at the Cook Library. The Lighthouse Center for Vision Loss “Technology and Me” program is for adults 55+ (with or without vision loss), professionals and family members. The two-hour program will provide information about cell phones and tablets, connecting electronically, smart home technology for safety and more.

The Lighthouse Center for Vision Loss in Duluth provides the following services, one-on-one in-home training, device demonstration and loan program, technology hotline, and drop-in “Tech Cafes”. For more information, visit www.lcfvl.org.

Summer library programs

COOK - Reading is the blockbuster event this summer at the Cook Public Library! Starting May 31 kids can pick up a summer reading playbill and get started on their reading adventure.

Butter the popcorn and grab some Junior Mints because It’s Showtime at your Library! Story time for young children and Book Club for


upper elementary kids are both held Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. Teens are invited to join TAB (Teen Advisory Board) members for special events in June. Teen volunteers are needed!

Kids who complete their playbill activities will receive a reward in August. Teens who participate in the 100-point TAB challenge are invited to a Star Wars themed overnight party in the library.

This summer, let’s put books center stage and help prevent summer slide by encouraging reading throughout the season.

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COOK

Dollar General setting up shop

A black and white photograph showing a construction site for a new Dollar General store. In the foreground, a large pile of dirt is being worked on by a CAT excavator. To the left, a white dump truck and another excavator are parked. The site is surrounded by tall evergreen trees. A wooden fence runs across the middle ground.

Site preparation is underway for the new Dollar General Store on Highway 53 in Cook. The store is expected to open this fall. photo by M. White

by MARCUS WHITE
Cook-Orr Editor

COOK - A now-vacant lot along Hwy. 53 in Cook will be a new Dollar General. Construction at the site, which formerly was home to the Ashawa Inn, got underway last week.

Angela Petkovic, a spokeswoman for the Tennessee-based retail corporation, confirmed the company was moving ahead with the store after studying the property for several months earlier this year.

“Dollar General is currently under construction on a new location at 119 Highway 53 North,” she said in an email. “At this time, a grand opening is slated for fall 2019.”

Petkovic said the store will employ six to 10 workers but did not say how many would be full time.

She added the store will carry beauty supplies, housewares, and clothing along with packaged and frozen food.

“We know convenience is a major factor in our customers’ shopping decisions as we generally serve customers within a three to five-mile radius, or 10-minute drive,” Petkovic said. “We also take demographic trends, competitive factors, traffic patterns and community concerns into consideration.”

Other area Dollar General locations include Ely, Virginia and Aurora.

The project is being managed by St. Paul-based S.E.H. Corporation. A call to their Duluth office for comment was not returned.

NEWS FROM THE LAKE

The Crane Lake News by the Singing Teapot Dames

A black and white photograph of a statue of a man with a beard and a hat, holding a staff or walking stick. He is wearing a long coat.

This is a time to remember our fallen; it should be a somber reminder of the brave sacrifice men and women have made to keep the United States a free and just society. After the tribute enjoy a picnic as it is the official beginning of the picnic and B-B-Q season.

The Crane Lake Chapel will host the annual Book and Bake Sale on Saturday, May 25 from 9 a.m. to noon. This is a wonderful opportunity to select your summer reading and purchase some delicious baked goods.

For a few days, we have been without internet. Makes us aware of how dependent we are on the convenience of the internet. Just a joy of living in the bush.

Richard “Dick” Clemmer of Lakeville, brother to Ralph and Randy Clemmer and Betty Corcoran, passed away on May 10, 2019 at age 78. Dick lived life to the fullest every day. Early in his career Dick worked for his father’s company Chet’s Sanitation. After working for his father as a young man, Dick decided in 1966 with one truck and a handful of commercial customers to start Dick’s Sanitation. Today, Dick’s Sanitation has grown to over 100 trucks and 150 employees, and thousands of loyal customers. Dick and his wife Mary Ann along with many great employees have built Dick’s Sanitation into one of the largest family-owned waste collection company’s in the state of Minnesota. Dick’s Sanitation was one of the first businesses in the Airlake Industrial Park in Lakeville. During his successful 53-year career he had many accomplishments. He purchased Lakeville Sanitary in 1985 and in 2005 he and his wife were named Lakeville Business Persons of the Year. In 2016 he celebrated 50 years in business. His success was shared with many generous contributions to the community over the years. Dick was blessed to work with all four of his children and longtime employee and CEO, Brett Anderson. During his retirement he enjoyed tinkering with his hot rods, spending time at his home in Florida and cherished the time spent with his grandchildren. He will be missed by many. Our entire community sends sympathy to the entire family.

Cynthia Marie (Cindy) Thiel passed away May 1 in her home in Hutter. Cindy was the daughter of Bonnie Beitz from Buyck. Growing up Cindy spent many times in Buyck with Bonnie. Cindy was working on her final dissertation for her PHD when she was stricken with cancer. She is survived by her mother Bonnie, husband, two children, grandchildren and a host of friends. Sympathy to the entire family from all of Buyck and Crane Lake.

Let us hear from you! Send news by e-mail to info@thelake-country.com, by fax 218-757-3533 or by phone to Sandy at 218-757-3233 and it will be added.

Until next week the Teapot Dames are singing

GREENWOOD TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS

HIGHWAY CLEAN UP IS UNDER WAY!!

May 15-June 15


THE TOWNSHIP WILL HAVE BAGS AND SAFETY VESTS AT THE TOWN HALL OFFICE.

(Outside by the door for easy access)

FULL BAGS CAN BE LEFT ON THE SIDE OF THE ROAD FOR PICK UP.

PLEASE HELP TO KEEP OUR TOWNSHIP LOOKING AS GOOD AS IT CAN!

THANK YOU!!

A cartoon illustration of a man and a dog cleaning up. The man is wearing a shirt and pants, and the dog is a large, fluffy breed. They are standing on a patch of ground with some trash.

Briefly

Wi-Fi hotspots available for checkout at Cook Library

COOK- The Cook Public Library owns five wireless hotspots available for check out. A hotspot is a portable Wi-Fi device that allows you to connect your computer, tablet, smart phone and other devices to the Internet.

Hotspot Terms of Use

Eligibility: Borrowers must have an Arrowhead Library System library card. This card must be in good standing. Borrowers must sign the Hotspot User Agreement at check out. If under 18, a borrower must have a parent or caregiver sign the Hotspot User Agreement at check out.

Check Out Terms: The hotspot loan period is seven days. Hotspots cannot be renewed. Hotspots circulate only from the Cook Public Library. Hotspots are not available for interlibrary loan. Internet service will be disconnected if the hotspot is overdue. Hotspots cannot be used outside of the United States.

Check In Terms: Hotspots cannot be placed in the overnight drop. Hotspots must be returned to the circulation counter. All items listed on the packing slip must be returned at the time of check in.

Coverage Area: Disclaimer: The hotspot relies on an AT&T 4G signal. There may be some areas without coverage.

Funding for these hotspots was provided through the Blandin Broadband Grant. This grant was awarded to the Grizzlies community to support projects and raise awareness about Internet resources and services.

Mail-A-Book services available

REGIONAL-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.

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

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

Grocery delivery services offered to Cook residents after Zup’s fire

COOK - Registrations are being taken here for a grocery delivery service following the fire at Zup’s Grocery. The program, offered by the AEOA, is for seniors 60 years of age or older. Registrations will be taken over the phone by calling the agency at 1-800-662-5711 ext. 6899.

Cook Senior Citizens Club

COOK - The Cook Seniors meet monthly on the first Wednesday at 1 p.m. For more information, call Nancy at 666-2726 or Lois at 666-5578.

The logo for the Timberjay newspaper, featuring a stylized bird perched on a branch.

the **TIMBERJAY**

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

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NOvA Far Detector Lab Science Tours begin May 23

ASH RIVER- NOvA Far Detector Lab summer science tours will begin on Thursday, May 23 and continue through Thursday, Aug. 22. Tours are available every Thursday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The lab is located on Bright Star Rd., off of the Ash River Trail – County Rd.129. For more information or group tours, call 218-374-2400 ext. 0. No sandals or open-toed shoes.

Northern Red Hat Belles meet May 30

TOWER- The Northern Red Hat Belles will meet at the Wilderness Grill on Thursday, May 30 at noon and will order off the menu. For questions, call Gwen Lilja at 218-753-6599 or Carol Burgess at 218-753-3220. Guests are always welcome.

Festival of Artists, June 8 at Amici's

ELY- Artists and art enthusiasts should mark their calendars for an opportunity to observe nationally-known professional artists demonstrate their artistic skills at Festival of Artists on Saturday, June 8. The event includes 45-minute long demonstrations by internationally known artists in their chosen media, door prizes, silent auction of artists' original and reproduction artwork plus books, videos, and art supplies with complimentary food and beverage. The festival is a free event and open to the public, however, space is limited and reservations are required. Call The Art Corner soon to reserve your seats, 218-365-2263. The event will take place at Amici's Event Center, 10 W Pattison St. in Ely on Saturday, June 8 from 1 – 4:30 p.m.

Whirled Muse in concert June 2 in Embarrass at Finnish Apostolic Church

EMBARRASS- Sisu Heritage will host a concert by Whirled Muse on Sunday, June 2 at 3 p.m. in the old Embarrass Finnish Apostolic Lutheran Church on Hwy. 21. Whirled Muse is Eli Bissonett, Robin Anders and Joey Kenig playing fiddle, guitar and percussion in a unique mix of musical folk styles - Nordic, Celtic, Bluegrass and Old-Time. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$8 for Sisu members, children 12 years and under are free.

The historic church building was gifted to Sisu Heritage recently by its former congregation. Plans are to use the space for concerts, lectures and other community gatherings. This first concert will be a special event, as Eli's family has generational connections to the church.

The family-friendly concert is sponsored by Sisu Heritage and two Embarrass businesses, Knuti Farm and C&C Winger Construction. For questions or further details, call 218-984-3012 or go to sisuheritage.org.

NORTHWOODS FRIENDS OF THE ARTS

Simple Gifts with Billy McLaughlin perform June 14 at the Cook Community Center

COOK- On Friday, June 14 there will be a special concert at the Cook Community Center featuring Simple Gifts with Billy McLaughlin, performing "The Young and The Rest..."

This concert is sponsored by Northwoods Friends of the Arts. It is NWFA's annual fundraising concert. Simple Gifts and Billy McLaughlin invite you to a new, year-round show "The Young and The Rest..." an acoustic tribute to Neil Young and the rest of your favorite artists who defined an era and whose popularity endures – Crosby, Stills and Nash, The Eagles, Joni Mitchell, America and more."

Doors open at 5:30 p.m. with a pre-concert by regional talent Eric Pederson. There will be refreshments, basket raffles, and silent auctions until 7 p.m. when Simple Gifts begin their music.

Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. To purchase advance tickets, call Lisa at 218-780-1151, Shawna at 218-780-6510, or you may stop by Andrews



Cameras in Virginia or Northwoods Friends of the Arts Gallery, open on Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The gallery is on Cook's main street at 210 S River St. The concert takes place at the Cook Community Center on the grounds of the Doug Johnson Recreation Area, 510 E Gopher Dr.

NWFA marks its ninth year since its creation by community

members of Cook to inspire, nurture, and celebrate the arts. The gallery exhibits the work of about 40 artists year-round. June is the month for the annual Spring Art Expo of events, classes, concerts, and artwork on display during business hours in participating local businesses and at gallery.

Camp Northern Lights celebrates grand opening, May 25

BABBITT- The YMCA of the Greater Twin Cities, a leading nonprofit dedicated to strengthening communities through youth development, healthy living, and social responsibility will celebrate the grand opening of new YMCA Camp Northern Lights on Bear Island Lake in Babbitt on Saturday, May 25. The community is invited to enjoy fun camp activities and tours to commemorate the opening.

The new family camp is located at 9089 County Hwy. 21 N in Babbitt, and will continue the YMCA's 162-year tradition of creating access to nature through meaningful outdoor experiences. The YMCA operates eight overnight camps and ten day camps in Minnesota and western Wisconsin. Attendees will have the oppor-

tunity to tour the new Camp Northern Lights, hear from YMCA and community leaders on the importance of this new camp serving families, and enjoy special camp activities such as pontoon rides, craft projects, s'mores, hikes and much more.

The new YMCA Camp Northern Lights features two nice swimming beach areas, an excellent fishing lake, and 22 beautiful lakefront cabins with full kitchens and bathrooms and decks and/or screened porches. The Y will be adding eight new tent sites, four new bungalow cabins, several new program spaces, a nursery, an arts and crafts building, and large and small group campfire spaces.

The YMCA Summer Family Camp program offers three, four, and seven-day options. Camp staff lead age-specific programming for

a portion of the day and all-family programs in the afternoons and evenings. In addition to family camp, teens 15 to 18 years old can develop valuable leadership skills through a two-week program that provides hands-on training assisting camp counselors and facilitating programs.

During the school year, YMCA Camp Northern Lights has seven winterized, cozy cabins that are available for a Book Your Own Getaway experience. Families and groups can enjoy groomed ski trails, snowshoeing, hiking and other outdoor adventures.

For more information on YMCA Camp Northern Lights and how to register for camp programs, visit <http://campnorthernlights.org>.

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NOTICE

Range Cooperatives, Inc.
Annual Shareholders Meeting

Notice is hereby given of the Annual Shareholders Membership Meeting of Range Cooperatives, Inc. The meeting will be called to order at:

6 p.m. on Monday, June 10, 2019
at Range Funeral Home Fellowship Hall,
911 16th St North, Virginia
(Please note new time and location.)

• Registration and Lunch will be served from 4:30 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. in the Range Funeral Home Fellowship Hall.
• The regular business meeting will begin at 6 p.m. in the Range Funeral Home Chapel.

Regular business will be transacted at this meeting, which will include presentation of reports, election of directors, and any other business that may come up.

The speaker will be Marshall Blaukat
CPA, audit manager of
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Ely prioritizes search for new superintendent

Collaboration discussion, facilities project put on back burner

by KEITH VANDERVORT
Ely Editor

ELY — With a host of issues on their plate, school board members agreed Monday night that their top priority must be to find a replacement for their superintendent who intends to resign in less than six weeks.

A school facilities renovation project and a desire to tap into school collaboration funds from the Department of Iron Ranges Resources and Rehabilitation remain on the district's agenda, but board members agreed that finding a new district leader must take precedence during an extensive study session Monday night.

Board chair Ray Marsnik reminded his fellow board members that state law requires every school district in the state to maintain a superintendent on staff at all times.

Board members spent many hours earlier this month interviewing four candidates for the part-time administrative position but put that process on hold while considering the possibility of sharing a top administrator with the St. Louis County School District. Ely officials maintain that such an agreement could meet the objectives set by IRRR officials in order to receive col-

laboration funds from an account that is quickly disappearing to the benefit of other Iron Range school districts.

Ely school board members set a special meeting for 7:30 p.m., on Thursday, May 23, to finally discuss the four superintendent candidates, Kevin Ricke, Steve Thomas, Beth Zietz and Bruce Houck, and to debate if any or all of them meet the needs of the district. The results of that meeting will be reported in the May 31 issue of the *Timberjay*.

Meanwhile, district officials had planned to go into closed session following the study session Monday night to discuss a possible contract extension with district superintendent Kevin Abrahamson, but the potential for an open meeting law violation resulted in that meeting notice being rescinded. "We'll find another way to have that discussion," Abrahamson told the *Timberjay*.

Abrahamson intends to leave his post at Ely when his contract expires on June 30, but he told officials he will "not leave the district high and dry" and is open to staying at his post temporarily to help with the transition to new leadership.

Marsnik admitted that following the May 13 discussion and unanimous vote on pursuing

the sharing of a top administrator with ISD 2142, many concerns surfaced on such an arrangement. "We are going to want to interview (the shared superintendent), hire this person, set up a job description, and require that this person work three days a week in this district," he said.

"We are also concerned that the ISD 2142 superintendent is spreading herself pretty thin," Marsnik added. Reggie Engebritson is currently the superintendent for ISD 2142 as well as the Mt. Iron/Buhl School District. That's a concern that ISD 2142 school board members expressed as well during their own meeting this week (see related story on page 1).

Ely board member Rochelle Sjoberg said she is interested in pursuing academic collaboration ideas with St. Louis County Schools and any other area school districts but is not in favor of sharing a superintendent with ISD 2142. "We have to make sure that we do have a superintendent in place here for our administration team and our staff," she said.

Abrahamson conducted a school staff survey, at the direction of the school board, to gauge support for sharing a superintendent with another school district. According to Abrahamson, of

the 26 responses, 88.5 percent opposed the idea, while just 7.7 percent supported it.

Board member James Pointer suggested the option of hiring a full-time superintendent who would also serve as a principal, keeping another principal on the administration, and hiring a part-time administrator to be responsible for such things such as Title I, testing, and other extra duties. "This is not ideal, but it keeps us at a 2.6 FTE (administration team)," he said. No one responded to his suggestion.

Board member Heidi Mann said she is "definitely not in favor of sharing a superintendent as part of our collaboration effort." She suggested focusing on the superintendent replacement search, while exploring any academic collaboration options.

She noted that at least two of the candidates that were interviewed for the superintendent position "displayed a passion or strong interest in the Ely community." One of the candidates had actually previously interviewed for the Ely school district position.

Mann said she wants to call two of the candidates back for a second interview, to ask broader questions about their interest in the Ely area.

Abrahamson indicated that

if there was a plan to have a new superintendent in place by the start of the new school year, he would consider staying on through the summer. "I care about this district and I want things to go well for you, but I also think that it is getting to be my time to be done," he said. "I've done this for 40 years."

Board member Tony Colarich indicated he was not comfortable with any of the four superintendent candidates who interviewed for the position. "I didn't hear any of them say they wanted to be part of our community," he said. "We're trying to take a square candidate and fit them into a round hole."

Pointer questioned whether the board had held a real discussion about the four candidates they interviewed. He recommended that the board debate the merits of each candidate. "If we feel like there is no one that we want, then we look at other options. As long as Kevin is willing to stay on, and if this takes longer than six weeks, he is our safety net," he said. He also noted that he has "many reservations" about sharing a superintendent with another school district.

Marsnik agreed. "We owe it to these candidates to sit down and talk about them."

SCHOOL...Continued from page 1

"off the table" in further discussions.

Other board members shared skepticism as well, with board member Pat Christensen saying that Ely had not made their intentions clear to the board as a whole, just to Engebritson and Manick.

Board member Troy Swanson said the only thing he heard of the idea was from last week's *Timberjay* article and that Ely needed to clarify what it wanted from 2142.

Another collaboration between St. Louis County Schools and Mt. Iron-Buhl Schools caused concerns for Christensen, who said he didn't see what 2142 had benefitted from the arrangement, which includes sharing of administrative services, including one day per week of Engebritson's time.

"I'm not totally in favor of this because of what happened in Mt. Iron," he said. "We had to hire (new positions) and Ely is a long way away."

The board was also in agreement that Engebritson would not have time to serve as superintendent of a third district but didn't rule out jointly hiring an assistant superintendent who could work for both districts.

Board member Christine Taylor had her own reservations and questioned why the collaboration was necessary since Ely and 2142 were already working together on the Iron Range Collaboration project along with Hibbing, Mt. Iron-Buhl and Chisholm. She said many of the curriculum questions and school planning would already be part of that agreement.

Board member Chet Larson questioned whether the two school boards could meet together because neither board could hold quorum outside of their respective districts.

The board agreed that a committee, consisting of board member Chris

Koivisto, Swanson and Manick would convene before the district would have any further discussion with officials in Ely.

While the committee will consist of three members, Christensen and Taylor said they would also participate as non-voting parties.

The board did not set a timeline to come up with a final decision on the matter.

South Ridge concerns

Possible collaboration with Ely wasn't the only source of controversy on Monday night.

Business Manager Kim Johnson informed the board that ICS Consulting, the school's consultant on planned expansions at Cherry and South Ridge had miscalculated the amount of impervious surface at South Ridge and that the project was not in compliance with county conditional use ordinances.

County regulations stipulate that no more than 10=percent of an established lot may have impervious structures or surfaces in certain rural areas. The issue is not new to the district, since St. Louis County had prompted the school district to buy additional land at South Ridge when the school was built in 2010 after the St. Louis County Board of Adjustment denied the district's request for a variance from the impervious surface rules. After the school was built, the district sold some of that land, which apparently left the

district out of compliance again. The planned expansion will further increase the amount of impervious surface at the site.

"How did we get to this point without knowing this?" Christensen asked. "I'm really disappointed we got this far without knowing."

Johnson said ICS had used an old land survey that didn't reflect that the district had sold off a portion of the property. County officials were apparently unaware that the district was out of compliance until they reviewed the building permit application for the South Ridge expansion.

To remedy the situation, the district will either need to eliminate some current impervious surfaces or acquire 16 acres of land to remain below the 10 percent threshold.

Both options could be costly.

In a document presented to the board, ICS estimates that reconfiguring the land, which would include replacing one of the paved parking lots with gravel, replacing the fire lanes with mesh ground coverings that would allow grass to grow while supporting vehicles and removing at least one of the outdoor basketball courts would add about \$54,000 to the project.

The document said the mesh is approved by the state fire marshal.

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The changes would drop the impervious use percent to 9.9 percent by ICS' calculations, leaving little room for any further expansion in the future.

Johnson said the county was looking at an adjacent 20-acre parcel of swamp land and the district had been in contact with the owner to negotiate a possible sale.

The mistake in the planning process had Taylor, who represents the South Ridge School on the board, livid with district officials.

"What if this was an insolvable problem?" she said. "We've paid all this money for them (ICS) to come to us with their drawings and their plans. I've heard we were good on this topic many times."

She added that school employees and students shouldn't have to park in the mud and that kids

shouldn't need to lose their basketball court because of the oversight.

Johnson said the county was looking at changing the conditional use permits for schools and that would bring the district into compliance, but those plans were a long way off, and the county was still requiring current projects to conform by June 2020.

Koivisto asked why a variance couldn't be sought if the rules were going to be changed anyway.

"It took two years to get a variance at North Woods; it's too time intensive," Johnson said. "We would not have gotten a (building) permit if there was a chance we wouldn't be in compliance."

She reiterated that ICS should have checked the land before the plans were drawn up.

"How do we address this going forward?" Taylor said. "What is the consequence if we don't meet the June 2020 deadline? Going forward I won't take your (district administrators) word for it."

Taylor said she wanted the district to recheck all of the district's numbers for the Cherry expansion even though Johnson said ICS had already done so. Lynette Zupetz, who represents Cherry, agreed.

Manick suggested that the district have documents on file for every property that showed land-use data, to avoid the oversight again.

No action was taken by the board on the matter since land negotiations are still underway.

The next board meeting will be at the Tower-Soudan School on Tuesday, May 28 at 4 p.m.



"Shake-a-Leg"



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June 8, 2019

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Registration Forms

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RUN...Continued from page 1

were responsible to the taxpayers, and will keep the Ely Marathon in very good hands.”

Lindsay said she is excited to continue to manage the marathon and is grateful for the community support she received. “This really is an event of the entire Ely community,” she said. “We have plans in place for growth. There is lots of room to make this an even greater event.”

Prior to the Events Coordinator Bureau board meeting on Tuesday morning, as many as a dozen community business owners, Ely Marathon supporters, volunteers, and runners spoke in support of Lindsay and urged the bureau to recon-

sider their recent action to look for a new marathon coordinator.

Stone Soup Events, the organizing body in charge of conducting the event, was looking to buy the rights to the successful marathon event, now in its fifth year, from the Events Coordinator Bureau.

The Boston Marathon-qualifying event, held in Ely in September, continues to increase in popularity in the marathon community. Upwards of 500 participants entered the full- and half-marathons last year, while the Canoe Marathon, a new element added to the event, made the Guinness Book of World Records. A Kids Run and a Glow Run add

to the excitement of the weekend.

Negotiations over the marathon ownership have been ongoing since last fall, but no agreement could be reached and the two sides parted ways earlier this month.

“Wendy (Lindsay) wanted full autonomy and we tried to adhere to her wishes,” Ivancich said. “We felt we made a good offer to her, but we just couldn’t come to an agreement.”

Jason Zabokrtsky, Ely business owner and Chamber of Commerce board member, submitted a memo to the ECB Tuesday where he revealed that the chamber board had unanimously agreed to his motion to sell the Ely Marathon to Stone Soup Events contingent on the agreement of the ECB board.

“Negotiations failed merely due to a dis-

agreement on price,” Zabokrtsky said. “A groundswell of public support has erupted to support Stone Soup Events and there was serious concern expressed about a decision to change race management.”

He noted that once word got out that negotiations failed, community members stepped forward to help crowd-fund the gap between what Lindsay was willing to spend for rights to the event and what ECB was willing to accept. The ECB was seeking \$21,000 for the rights to the marathon, while Lindsay reportedly offered \$12,000.

“I was really surprised and extremely grateful that so many supporters stepped in with their help to make this happen,” Lindsay said. “All the money we make has gone back into growing the event and we

will continue to do that,” she added.

“The return on investment for money put into developing the marathon is the existence of a successful event that brings significant economic activity to the Ely community during the quieter season,” Zabokrtsky said.

Trish Bulinski, who is affiliated with the USA Fit training organization spoke in support of Lindsay’s efforts in organizing the Ely Marathon. “I have watched (the marathon) grow and become better and better and I believe she is the one to continue to do that and I have 100 percent confidence in her and would hate to see it change or the growth of it suffer in any way,” she said.

Other supporters and stakeholders in the Ely Marathon, including Julie Hignell, director of Ely

Community Resource, Jess Edberg, director of the Dorothy Molter Museum, Michelle Moore, of Heavy Metal Sport, and others all spoke in support of Lindsay and asked that Stone Soup Events remain as the event’s organizing body.

Amy Cromer, owner of Echo Shores Resort that hosts the start line for the half marathon event said the fact that the ECB is seeking to receive money back from the marathon “almost appears greedy.” She maintained that Ely businesses “should be glad” that the event is held at the end of September. “Personally, Wendy has done nothing but good things and her intention is for this community to grow. Switching it to a different entity at this point in the game could be really detrimental to this race,” she said.

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GREENWOOD TOWNSHIP

Board questions participating in broadband grant

by JODI SUMMIT
Tower-Soudan Editor

GREENWOOD TWP-Several Greenwood Town Board officials, at their meeting on May 14, questioned the township’s participation in the ongoing regional broadband project. The Blandin Foundation has awarded a \$75,000 grant to several local communities consisting of representatives from Tower, Breitung, Eagles Nest, Vermilion Lake, and Greenwood to use for smaller community projects to increase broadband availability. The group has allocated \$5,000 of the grant to allow Greenwood to purchase a public computer for use at the town hall. The township is required to provide a match for the grant, but the township’s contribution could be in-kind services, such as providing rent-free use of the town hall space, use of the township’s printer (at a per copy charge) and oversight by township staff. The plan calls for the computer to be available only during the clerk’s regular office hours, 20 hours a week. The grant would also cover additional costs for higher speed internet service.

But town board members, who had approved the project at last month’s meeting, had more questions, and some seemed unwilling to participate at all.

Treasurer Pam Rodgers appeared to support the project, but she questioned the computer and software set-up from Mark Wilcox Computer Services that had been included in the proposal, at a cost of \$3,278. She said she had talked with Wilcox and felt a lower cost computer would be more than adequate. She estimated that annual maintenance costs for the computer would be \$300 a year.

Chairman Carmen DeLuca wondered why the public couldn’t use the old fire department office computer. Board members told him that computer was outdated, and probably wouldn’t be suitable.

Joanne Bassing, who is now the chair of the area broadband group, said Blandin is willing to purchase a new computer for the township, and they felt it was a good idea to get a computer that would serve the needs of any resident needing to use it.

“We will not pay any money for this,” she reiterated.

DeLuca also questioned the project’s commitment to installing broadband service. He said that in five years that technology would be outdated and satellite technology would be in use.

DeLuca also balked at the idea of having the computer station located in the township office space, though both Clerk Sue Drobac and Treasurer Rodgers had agreed to that idea last month and felt it wouldn’t be disruptive.

“This is not going to be kids coming in to play games,” said Bassing.

Bassing said that Blandin had urged them to upgrade the computer, since their project didn’t hit the \$5,000 allotted.

“We are just asking for permission for Blandin

to give us money,” she said. “If Pam Rodgers wants to spec out a different computer, she can make changes to the grant proposal.” Right now there are no public or private locations where residents or summer visitors can come to use a computer or a computer printer in the township.

Supervisor Paul Skubic said he didn’t think there was a need for a public computer.

Joanne Bassing said it was estimated that 20 percent of area families do not have a computer at their home. In addition, many others do not have adequate or reliable internet speeds.

There was some support on the board for the idea.

“If they have the money available,” said Supervisor Larry Tahija, “I say take it.” Supervisor Byron Beihoffer, who has been involved in the project, was not at Tuesday’s meeting.

Bassing said that Blandin was urging the local committee to get their projects underway as soon as possible.

The initial project proposed for the township is a step toward a significantly larger initiative to bring broadband to the region through much larger state grants that are likely to be available as soon as later this year. Communities who engage with Blandin at this stage will become part of a feasibility study to research different ways of getting broadband internet speeds to residents across the area. Such a study is required before applying for larger state grants to improve broadband access.

Bassing said if the township declined to be part of the broadband effort, they would lose the opportunity to be part of this wider initiative. It is widely expected that the state will be increasing grant funding available for such projects in the near future.

Supervisor Mike Ralston said he would be interested to see if the township could use some of the \$5,000 grant to wire the entire town hall into the fiber optic cable already in place. He said he would get quotes on the cost for the next meeting.

DeLuca put a motion on the floor to table the issue and discuss it again at the June meeting.

Joanne Bassing said if the township wasn’t willing to move forward at the June meeting, the grant funds allocated to Greenwood would end up being used in Tower-Soudan.

“If you don’t want the five thousand dollars to do good for the community, that is fine,” she said. “I am not going to do any more work on this, the town board will need to get the information for the grant application by the next meeting.”

Ambulance subsidy questions

In other action, Tower Area Ambulance Director Steve Altenburg again attended the Greenwood meeting to answer any questions on the proposed increase in the ambulance subsidy rates starting in

2020.

Greenwood Township has yet to approve the new contract, which calls for doubling the per capita subsidy amount over a period of three years. The subsidy monies are kept in a segregated account and can only be used for ambulance purchases, Altenburg said.

Altenburg told the board the financial condition of the department is fine.

“The status of the ambulance service is fine,” he said. “We just went through the audit. The ambulance service has no issues or problems.”

That audit, however, revealed that the city of Tower had spent most of the ambulance service’s approximately \$885,000 reserve fund to cover deficits in other city accounts, leaving a total of \$238,000 as of year-end 2018. The city also maintains a separate subsidy account that includes funds provided by area townships to help with ambulance purchases. That fund included \$117,000 as of the latest update. The ambulance service still owes approximately \$219,000 on a new ambulance that it purchased but has not yet been delivered.

The audits also revealed that the ambulance service’s profitability has diminished significantly since it switched to a paid on-call staffing model in April 2018. Altenburg had argued that an increasing number of non-emergency transfers would help pay for the cost of the paid staffing, but the number of transfers has fallen well short of Altenburg’s projections.

On the ambulance subsidy, Altenburg noted that the city of Tower has already approved its contribution at the proposed higher rate and said Breitung Township had done the same. “Breitung has passed it and Tower has passed it,” he said.

In fact, officials in Breitung have not given their approval, to date, for the increase in the ambulance subsidy. Residents who turned out for the township’s annual meeting did approve a levy

amount that would allow the township to cover the cost of the increase next year, but it remains up to the town board to decide whether to actually approve the higher amount. Breitung Town Clerk Polly McDonald confirmed that the town board has yet to take such an action despite requests from Altenburg to do so.

Altenburg explained that the city had just given the department permission to look into expanding the department to provide part-time advanced life support (ALS) level care.

Altenburg addressed concerns that the city of Tower was using ambulance funds to pay its other general expenses.

“They had projects with cost over-runs and they didn’t have funds to pay for it,” he said. “So they borrowed it from the ambulance fund. The money is still there on paper. They have to put it back.”

The board did not take any action on the issue, noting they have until the end of the year to decide.

Historic Fire Hall

Tower-Soudan Historical Society board members, and township residents, Pauly Housenga and Cookie Bonicatto gave a brief presentation on the renovations now underway at the historic fire hall on Tower’s Main Street. The building is on the National Historic Register and is the oldest community building north of Duluth, as well as the oldest fire hall.

TSHS was able to purchase the building with a grant from the IRRR, and is now working on a multi-year effort to restore the building using grant monies from the Minnesota Historical Society, the IRRR, and local matches.

The two said the group is hoping to raise \$10,000 a year, for the next five years, as a local match, which will allow TSHS to access enough grant funding to complete the project.

Once restored, the building will house the city’s historical horse-

pulled steamer pumper, as well as historic items and memorabilia from area fire departments. They said TSHS would welcome items from Greenwood also.

The board voted to donate \$100 to the project, which is the township’s standard community donation.

It was noted that the township would be permitted to make a greater donation to this project because of its historical importance to the community, according to state guidelines.

Pam Lundstrom again spoke to the board about the Tower Cemetery. She said that 3,947 people are buried in the cemetery, and at least 186 are from Greenwood Township, which does not have a cemetery of its own.

“A township cemetery would cost a lot of money,” Lundstrom said. “I think the \$500 we asked for at the annual meeting should be put into our budget for next year.”

Other business

In other business the town board:

➤ Declined to reimburse fire department member Jeff Maus for a \$125 fee for an Officer Training II class that he took with the Virginia Fire Department. Such expenses for the department are reimbursable through a state training fund, but Treasurer Pam Rodgers noted the township has a limit on how much training funding the department can receive, so asked if this might have the township hit their limit. Chairman Carmen DeLuca said that all fire department training expenses were supposed to receive approval from the fire chief.

After the meeting, Maus informed the *Timberjay* that this class is funded through a separately-funded program, but reimbursement for the cost needs to be made to the township, not the individual.

➤ Heard that recreation committee members had done a site cleanup earlier in May, and that the bocce ball and tennis courts are ready for action.

The group is looking for people to help organize weekly bocce ball games.

➤ Heard that a Pavilion Community Open House will be held on Wednesday, June 5 at 4 p.m. There will be food served.

➤ Had a request from a summer resident who wants to hold free yoga classes at the pavilion this summer. The board asked the recreation committee to review the request.

➤ Will get quotes on the parking lot project. The township has set aside \$25,000 for seal coating and repairs this year. Supervisor Mike Ralston had an engineer from St. Louis County do a site review, and give recommendations on the scope of work required. The project will also include new striping.

➤ Accepted the single quote for lawn mowing at the town hall grounds at a cost of \$150 per time. The board noted that the service cost \$125 per time last year.

➤ Held a special meeting for May 21 to discuss a request from a resident on Frazer Bay Road who wishes to have a platted, but vacant, road between his two parcels legally vacated. The town board will also set a date for the public hearing on the issue.

➤ Approved a liquor license for Bay View Lodge, which will be operated by the Vermilion Club.

➤ Noted that township cleanup days are underway now through June 15. Residents can pick up garbage bags outside the town hall, and then bring filled bags back to the town hall for proper disposal.

➤ Will contact St. Louis County to have them patch some potholes on Birch Point Extension. The cost will be billed to the township, since this is a township road. Ralston estimated the cost to be less than \$1,000.

➤ Will get quotes for crack sealing on the paved trail to Moccasin Point. The township expects the work to cost around \$2,000, and it will come from the trail fund.

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CITY OF TOWER

Ruling: Council violated Open Meeting Law

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

TOWER — The Tower City Council did not comply with the state’s Open Meeting Law in March and April this year when it closed meetings to discuss a range of allegations against City Clerk-Treasurer Linda Keith. That’s according to an advisory opinion issued Wednesday by Alice Roberts-Davis, the Minnesota Commissioner of Administration. The department is authorized in Minnesota law to issue opinions on questions of compliance with the state’s Open Meeting Law and the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act and courts are required to give

deference the rulings. *Timberjay* publisher Marshall Helmberger had requested the opinion after City Attorney Andy Peterson continued to advise council members that they could meet in secret to discuss the allegations and a pending investigation of the clerk-treasurer. Helmberger had protested the closure of the meetings at the time, but council members opted to follow the advice of their legal counsel. The opinion notes a key provision in the state’s Open Meeting Law which allows a governing body to close a meeting for “preliminary

consideration” of allegations against an employee. But once the body determines that “disciplinary action of any kind may be warranted,” the law requires that any further discussion of the matter must take place in an open meeting. In response to Helmberger’s advisory opinion request, Peterson acknowledged that the city council had decided in a closed session to seek an outside investigator to examine the allegations against the clerk. In doing so, the city council met the threshold in the law, requiring that subsequent meetings be held in public. “Once it [the council] decided to hire an outside

investigator... the Council apparently determined that disciplinary action may be warranted. Accordingly, all subsequent meetings or hearings related to those specific allegations must be open,” notes Roberts-Davis in her opinion. Further, Roberts-Davis notes that Minn. Stat. 13D.05, Subd. 1(b) allows for the discussion of private personnel data in public once a governing body has concluded that some kind of disciplinary action may be necessary. “Therefore, the council may discuss not public data, including personnel data classified as private under section 13.43, at an open meeting.” The investigation into the

clerk-treasurer has been in limbo in recent weeks as the council has attempted to determine if a union grievance engineered by the clerk-treasurer and her political ally Steve Altenburg, can overrule the city’s charter. That grievance, which was filed by Keith’s union and upheld by Altenburg and former council member Brooke Anderson, sought to eliminate the council’s ability to investigate allegations against the clerk-treasurer including her systematic and unauthorized alteration of city records. City Attorney Peterson has declined to offer a legal opinion, which has prompted the council to try to locate an outside attorney.

TOWER...Continued from page 1

ing the entire remaining cost of the new ambulance. In brief comments at the May 13 city council

meeting, Keith said that the city showed an April 30 bank statement balance of \$48,861, but that figure did not take tens of thousands of dollars in outstanding checks into account. And it appears Keith misled council members and the public under questioning from Mayor Orlyn Kringstad when she said that the general fund cash balance did not include a \$140,000 insurance settlement that the city needs to rebuild the ambulance garage, which burned in 2014. The city’s fire and ambulance service has been storing some of its equipment outside in the weather ever since that event. Keith said the insurance money is in a separate, segregated account, although that has not appeared in financial reports that Keith has given to the council previously,

nor was it indicated in the city’s 2018 audit. When questioned by the *Timberjay* back in April, the city’s auditor, Devin Ceglar of Walker Giroux and Hahne, indicated that, in fact, the insurance settlement funds are not segregated but are part of the general fund cash balance. Assuming Ceglar is correct, the city has, in effect, spent virtually the entire insurance settlement on general operations, without ever replacing the garage. Without the insurance funds, it appears the city would currently be facing an available general cash balance of approximately minus-\$131,000. The *Timberjay* made its public records request last week, seeking documentation of the true whereabouts of the \$140,000, but Keith has yet to provide any

financial documents to the *Timberjay* to support the claim she made to the city council. Keith’s latest report shows the degree to which the city’s financial situation has deteriorated over the past two months. On April 8, Keith presented a financial report through Feb. 28, which showed \$134,987 in available general fund cash remaining after accounting for undeposited receipts and outstanding checks. Two months later, that was down to \$9,126, or far less than the city would need just to cover monthly payroll, much less other expenses. The city does receive revenue at various times throughout the year, but most major sources, such as property tax receipts and state Local Government Aid, don’t arrive until mid-to-late July. The *Timberjay*

asked Keith whether she anticipates any significant revenue to arrive prior to July but Keith did not respond. Mayor Orlyn Kringstad said he expects to have the city’s financial circumstances back on the council agenda at their Tuesday, May 28 meeting. “High on the city council’s priorities is to make sure that the city is financially sound, and that full transparency is provided to our taxpaying citizens,” said Kringstad. “I am not satisfied that the council or citizens have been adequately informed.” Kringstad said he has not received any documentation that the \$140,000 insurance settlement is actually segregated as Keith purported to the council on May 13. “I expect that question to be answered on May 28,” he said.



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BASEBALL



Ely freshman Harry Simon grimaces as he delivers a pitch in last Friday's contest with East Central. K. Vandervort

Errors end Ely win streak at six

With strong weekend performance, Wolves at 12-4 as regular season wraps up

by **MARSHALL HELMBERGER**
Managing Editor

EVELETH—A plethora of Ely miscues dashed a six-game winning streak as the Golden Bears topped the Timberwolves 16-11 here on Monday. “Freshman pitchers Jacob Towley and Bryce Fairchild deserved a better fate,” said Ely Head Coach Frank Ivancich after the game. The two young hurlers stepped up in the absence of planned starting pitcher Dalton Schreffler, who was home sick.

The two youngsters allowed just four earned runs, but Ely errors allowed the Golden Bears to add 12 more unearned trips around the diamond.

Ely held the lead at the midway point, after they scored eight in the third inning despite a couple of baserunning miscues that kept them from adding even more points in the inning. They remained up 8-4 after four innings, but a disastrous four-error fifth inning for the Wolves allowed

Eveleth-Gilbert to take the lead 10-8. Ely recovered in the top of the sixth, adding three more runs on hits by Nils DeRemee, Ryan Quick, and Bryce Longwell to take an 11-10 lead.

But more Ely errors allowed Eveleth-Gilbert to post six more unearned runs for the win.

Ely was in much better form during a weekend home stand during which they beat East Central, Walker, and International Falls in games last Friday

and Saturday.

In Saturday evening action against the Broncos, Bryce Longwell went the distance on the mound, giving up just three runs and five hits, while striking out five. Ely scored four runs on four hits in the second inning with the big hit going to Nils DeRemee who drove in two runs with a single to pace the Wolves. Back-to-back doubles by Mason Davis and Tyler Housey gave Ely

See **WOLVES...**pg. 2B

SECTION 7A SOFTBALL PLAYOFFS

Wolves edge Grizzlies 4-3

Season ends for North Woods; Ely was set to face Carlton in second round action

by **MARSHALL HELMBERGER**
Managing Editor

ELY— The Timberwolves narrowly survived a late North Woods rally to advance in the Section 7A softball tournament here on Tuesday. Ely had held the Grizzlies scoreless through the first five innings and held fast to a 3-1 lead on the strength of Erika Mattson's pitching performance.

But that's when North Woods senior Claire Beaudry got the Grizzlies rally started with a single. Moments later, Hannah Sandberg ripped a shot over the right center fence to leave the game knotted at three, where it remained until the bottom of the seventh.

That's when Mattson, a junior, singled and later scored on a Jenna Merhar double for the win. North Woods players threw two perfect relay strikes in hopes of a play at home, but the ball came loose on Mattson's slide at the plate.

“It was an exciting playoff game and it was well-played by both teams,” said Ely Head Coach Tom McDonald.

Mattson took the win for the Wolves, allowing just five hits and three runs in seven innings, while fanning six batters. North Woods senior Alanna Rutchasky took the loss, giving up 13 hits and striking out three.

See **SOFTBALL...**pg 2B



Above: North Woods senior Alanna Rutchasky turns to toss to first during Tuesday's playoff tilt with Ely.

Left: North Woods shortstop Hanna Sandberg hits the dirt on a diving stop while an Ely runner looks on.

Right: Ely senior shortstop Lida Dodge scoops up a ground ball.
photos by J. Greeney



TRACK



James Schwinghamer competes during last Friday's competition in Hibbing. submitted photo

Ely boys first, girls second at Rotary Invite

by **MARCUS WHITE**
Cook-Orr Editor

HIBBING— Ely continued its high school track dominance here last Friday as the boys team took first and the girls took second at the Rotary Invitational meet.

Brielle Kallberg led the team with two first-place finishes in triple jump and long jump scoring 32-07' and 15-07' respectively. She also took home second in the 100-meter dash with a time of 13.26 seconds.

The girls finished first in the 4x100-meter relay with a time of 54.10 and took second in the 4x400-meter relay clocking in at 4:36.35. They also finished third in the 4x200 with a time of 1:58.21.

See **TRACK...**pg. 2B

GOLF



The members of the North Woods girls golf team posed for a group shot following their meet at Vermilion Fairways last Friday. submitted

Olson takes first, Grizzlies second in local meet

by **MARCUS WHITE**
Cook-Orr Editor

COOK - Senior Coley Olson took home the top prize at Vermilion Fairways last Friday. She shot one over for 40 strokes on the par-39 course.

Overall, North Woods finished second as a team with 198 points. Eveleth was first with 175.

Aside from Olson, Kylie Parson scored 49, Haley Bogdan scored 53, Tori Olson had 56 and

Morgan Burnett had 71.

As the *Timberjay* went to press, the Grizzlies were slated to be back on the fairways in Virginia for the Section 7A tournament under difficult weather conditions.

SOFTBALL

Rough regular season finale for North Woods

by **MARCUS WHITE**
Cook-Orr Editor

FIELD TWP— It was a rough regular season finale for the Grizzlies here last Friday as they fell hard to the Broncos, 21-0.

The Broncos wasted little time, scoring seven runs in the first inning. They added two more in the third, four in the fourth inning, and eight in the fifth frame to end the match on the ten-run rule.

The Grizzlies scattered four hits during the five innings, but never managed to send a runner around the bases.

Hosting Cook County last Thursday, the Grizzlies kept it closer but tallied another loss, this time by a 4-2 margin. Again, the opponents drew first blood, as the Vikings opened the game with a single run before scoring three more in the fifth.

The Grizzlies scored on singles in both the third and the seventh.

COMMUNICATION BREAKDOWN

Miscues prompt months of delay for new welcome sign

Timberjay inquiry reveals communications failure that has kept Tower entrance sign under wraps for nearly two years

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

TOWER- "Welcome to Tower." That's a greeting that members of the city's Main Street Committee have been anxiously waiting to extend to visitors to town for more than two-and-a-half years. But the wait continues after officials with MnDOT's office in Duluth overlooked paperwork that should have been sent to their St. Paul office for processing nine months ago.

MnDOT officials in Duluth discovered the error this week as they worked to respond to a public records request on the situation from the *Timberjay*.

Wayne Scheer, with the right-of-way division at the Duluth MnDOT office said an initial permit application filed by the city last summer had been in error because it indicated a location for the new sign that MnDOT had not approved. MnDOT notified the city of the mistake, but the city's response apparently never made it to officials in St. Paul who were supposed to issue the permit.

The *Timberjay* had contacted MnDOT's St. Paul office two weeks ago to inquire about the permit, but MnDOT officials there said they had never received any response after informing the city of the error

in their original application. When the *Timberjay* submitted a public records request to actually review the correspondence between MnDOT and city of Tower officials, MnDOT discovered their oversight.

Delay was a frustration

The Department of Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation provided most of the \$7,000 in funding to create the sign, which has sat half-built for more than a year and a half at the signmaker's shop in Ely. The funds were part of a \$40,000 grant the IRRR awarded to the Main Street Committee back in 2016 for a number of spruce-ups to the city's entrance. The city had committed to matching a portion of the grant, totaling about \$23,000, much of it in-kind labor.

Members of the committee were able to complete most of those improvements, but the sign project, which requires the MnDOT permit, has languished, frustrating members of the committee.

"We've been anxiously waiting," said Joan Broten, who is a member of the city's Main Street Committee.

The IRRR has already extended the deadline for the city to spend the grant funds to August 2019, since the city had not completed the sign instal-

lation by the end of 2018, as originally required.

Members of the committee and the city council approved a design, created by Ely Design Works, about two years ago. According to the company, the partially-completed sign has been sitting in storage in Ely, waiting for the final go-ahead, for about a year and half. To date, the city has only paid half of the cost of building the sign, and it likely won't be finished until the city makes the second-half payment of approximately \$3,500.

At the Tower Economic Development Authority meeting in late April, Broten reported that the city was still waiting for the permit from MnDOT that is required because the sign is going in the Hwy. 169 right-of-way. Clerk-Treasurer Linda Keith said the city hadn't heard anything from MnDOT yet but expected to hear back soon. Keith told the Main Street Committee in mid-April that the group needed to pass a resolution in support of the sign location, and then said the city was expecting to receive the permit within two weeks.

In fact, said Scheer, MnDOT already had a necessary resolution from the city, but that the Duluth office had failed to forward it to St. Paul. Now that the agency is aware of the communication breakdown,



The sign artist's sketch of the new entrance sign planned for Tower's west end. The sign has been mired in permitting delays for months.

Scheer said the permit would be processed as quickly as possible.

The new sign will be erected on slightly elevated land on the southwest corner of the intersection between Hwy. 169 and Hwy. 135, at the city's west entrance. A second, smaller sign will be installed on the east end of town, and that location is also part of the MnDOT permit, according to Scheer.

The city council, last August, approved hiring C & C Winger to do site prep for the sign. Broten Construction is slated to build the sign base from rock and concrete. That work was supposed to get underway last fall, but the project has remained stuck in neutral ever since.

Welcome to Tower, indeed.

WOLVES...Continued from page 1B

its fifth run in the fourth inning to post the Wolves to a 6-2 lead. Ely added two more insurance runs in the fifth on a Ryan Quick fielder's choice and a Lane Anderson ground ball.

In Friday night action, Trevor Mattson got the

win for Ely pitching five innings, giving up three runs while striking out six. Bryce Fairchild came in for the final out in the seventh inning to earn the save for Ely.

The Wolves scored five runs in the bottom of

the second to take a 5-0 lead as Mattson, Tyler Housey, and Mason Davis all had hits in the frame. Walker responded with three runs in the top of the fifth to cut into Ely's lead, but the Wolves responded with a run on three walks

and a passed ball. Two more walks and two hit batters gave Ely three more runs in the sixth to seal the deal. Housey led Ely with two hits and three RBIs while Davis had a hit and drove in two runs.

In a noontime start last

Friday, freshman pitcher Harry Simons went three and two-thirds innings, giving up four runs on four hits while striking out three. Housey came in relief and took the win, giving up four runs on five hits while striking out

five. Longwell led offensively, going three for four with a double, triple, and the game-winning single in the seventh. Dalton Schreffler also added two hits and two RBIs for Ely.

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TRACK...Continued from page 1B

Kellen Thomas rounded out the girls competitors with a third-place finish in the discus throw

and a toss of 90-07'.

On the boys side, Nate Nettifee took home first place in the discus with a

throw of 130-04'.

Eric Omerza was also first in the triple jump with a score of 40-00'.

The boys took first in the 4x800-meter relay with a time of 8:40.90 and finished second in the 4x100-meter relay, finishing at 46.20.

In the 100-meter dash, Luke Olson took second with a time of 11.76 seconds, while Emmett Faltesek posted a second-place finish in the 1,600-meter run with a time of 4:45.74.

Luke Olson and James Schwinghamer took second and third respectively in the 3,200-meter run with times of 10:00.10 and 10:01.50.

Josiah Wigdahl took second in shot put with a hurl of 43-05'.

SOFTBALL...

Continued from page 1B

Mattson and Ely ninth-grader Charly Flom tallied three hits apiece, while senior Lida Dodge and eighth-grader Rachel Coughlin each tallied two.

Sandberg, a North Woods senior, proved the offensive powerhouse for the Grizzlies, posting a single, a double, and a home run on the afternoon.

For the Grizzlies, Tuesday's loss means the end of the season. Meanwhile, Ely was set to face Carlton on Thursday, May 23, in Grand Rapids.

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Obituaries and Death Notices



Lorraine L. Villebrun

Lorraine Lynn Villebrun, 77, of Cook, passed away on Tuesday, May 14, 2019. A wake was held at the Nett Lake Tribal Government Center on Sunday, May 19 and a funeral service was held on Monday, May 20. Kevin Land officiated. Pallbearers were Nicholas Villebrun, Joshua Villebrun, Marshall Villebrun, Garrett (G-Man) Morrison, Derek (Tiny) Morrison, Tristan Villebrun, Jarvis Goodsky, Lance Mitchell and Jordan Goodsky. Honorary Pallbearers were Cameron Fisher, Thomas Burr, Leon Goodsky, Conrad King, Eugene (Curtis) Goodsky, Melvin King III, Nate King, Dallas King, Kerin King and Troy King. Burial followed in the old Nett Lake Cemetery. Arrangements were with Mlaker Funeral Home of Cook.

Lorraine was born to Melvin and Jennie (Roy) King on March 8, 1942, in Cloquet. She attended school in Orr at the Orr High School, graduating in 1961. She attended Rainy River Community College in International Falls. Lorraine worked for (and retired from) the Nett Lake Elementary School, touching the lives of many of the Nett Lake children for numerous years. Lorraine was united in marriage to Elmer Villebrun on May 25, 1961, in Nett Lake. Sadly, Elmer passed away in 1987.

Lorraine was a kind, loving, and gentle woman with a quiet demeanor. She enjoyed spending time with family and friends. Her hobbies were golfing, bingo, attending her children’s sporting events as they grew up, playing cards, listening to music, and cooking for her family and friends.

Lorraine is survived by her sisters, Lela Goodsky and

Jacqueline Wilson; children, Carol (Thomas) Burr, Edward Villebrun and Warren Villebrun; grandchildren, Nicholas (Jennifer) Villebrun, Vashti (Michael) Johnson, Joshua Villebrun, Marshall Villebrun, Garrett (G-Man) (Octavia) Morrison, Chericia Villebrun, Hailey Villebrun, Bridgette Burr, Derek (Tiny) Morrison, Tristan (Cameo) Villebrun and Ashtyn (Jordan) Villebrun; and ten great-grandchildren.

Lorraine is greeted by her husband, Elmer (Tiny) Villebrun; son, Bryan Villebrun; father, Melvin King Sr.; mother, Jennie (Roy) King; siblings, Baby Lorraine King, Francis King, Nathaniel King, Norman King, Melvin Arnold King, Arlene Morrison and Ann Whitecrow.



James A. Jacobson

James “Jim” Alan Jacobson, 51, of Angora, passed away on Wednesday, May 15, 2019, after a courageous battle with cancer. A memorial service was held on Saturday, May 18 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Cook. Arrangements were with Mlaker Funeral Home of Cook.

Jim was born to Sulo and Ruth (Silverdahl) Jacobson on April 4, 1968, in Virginia. He grew up in Angora and attended Cook High School, graduating in 1986. Jim was employed at Hibbing Tac, Blandon Paper and Potlatch as a Mechanical Planner.

Jim was an avid fisherman and enjoyed the outdoors. He enjoyed golfing, hiking and traveling. However much he enjoyed his hobbies, he loved spending time with this family and friends. He was a member of St. Paul’s Lutheran Church and a member on the St. Paul’s Council.

Jim is survived by his loving

wife, Alesia of Angora; son, Levi Jacobson of Stillwater; sister, Lisa (Tom) Ojanen of Cook; nieces, Kelly (Derek) Rutledge of Broomfield, Colo., and Sara (Jim) Reed of Blaine; nephews, Ryan (Ashley) Raymond of Independence, Ky., and Justin Raymond of Gaylord; mother-in-law, Nancy (Connan) Jamnick of Virginia; sister-in-law, Jolene Jamnick; great-niece, Ryley Raymond; and great-nephew, Parker Raymond.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, John Jacobson; and father-in-law, Frank Jamnick.



Matthew J. Carlson

Matthew “Mutti” John Carlson, 36, of Virginia, passed away on Monday, May 13, 2019, at his residence. A celebration of life was held on Tuesday, May 21 at the Miners Memorial Building in Virginia with Pastor Eric Roth officiating. Arrangements were with Range Funeral Home in Virginia.

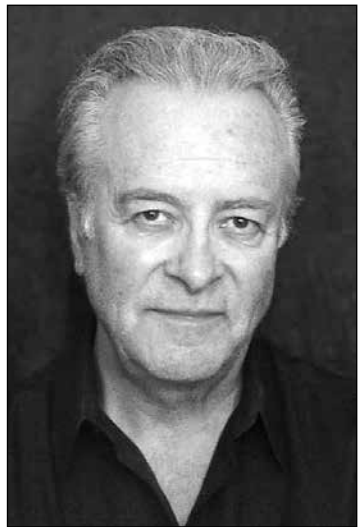
Matthew was born on Dec. 13, 1982, in Virginia, to Carl “Boof” Carlson III and Dawn (Markley) Carlson. He graduated from Roosevelt High School in 2001. He worked at Fortune Bay for 10 years and most recently at Radko Supply.

Mutti was a social butterfly who liked entertaining the ladies. He had a heart of gold, a great sense of humor, and an addictive smile. Mutti enjoyed fishing, wrestling, hunting, playing poker at the hunting shack, collecting antiques, and was an excellent bullshitter. He genuinely loved his family and friends.

He is survived by his parents, Carl “Boof” Carlson III of Virginia and Dawn Carlson of Virginia; brother, Brett (Danielle

Lamppa) Carlson of Tower; grandmother, Ann Markley of Virginia; uncles, Dean (Gail) Markley, Russel Markley and Todd (Kathy) Borden; aunts, Jill (Terry) Wagoner and Wendy (Jim) Morrell; nephews, Jack Miles Carlson and Arik Lamppa; niece, Abbi Lamppa; cousins; and many friends.

He was preceded in death by his grandfathers, Jack Markley and Carl “Meets” Carlson Jr.; and grandmother, Jacquelyne Carlson.



Steven J. Stepan

Steven James “Steve” Stepan, 75, of Ely, died on Friday, April 26, 2019, at Essentia – St. Mary’s Medical Center in Duluth. Services will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, June 8 at Bauman’s Vermilion Funeral Home in Tower. Bill Bauman will officiate. A gathering time for family and friends will begin one hour prior to the service. Family services are provided by Bauman-Vermilion, a Bauman Family Funeral Home in Tower.

Steve was born on April 5, 1944, in Soudan, the son of John and Marion (Atwood) Stepan. He was a graduate of Tower-Soudan High School, and served in the Army National Guard. Steve grew up in Soudan and lived in Chicago, Ill., Bonita Springs, Fla., and Lake Vermilion-Tower prior to moving to Ely. Steve worked as a hunting and fishing guide on Crooked Lake for Billy Zup while in high school, was a co-founder of Chase Associates Engineering firm in Chicago, and owned and operated the Glenmore Resort on Lake Vermilion.

Steve was a published author, writing several books on handguns, and the fictional work, “Sundown at Dawn”. He was a member of the Lake Vermilion Resort Association, a Texas Hold’em Poker group, and the Tower Liars Club. He was an avid outdoorsman, and loved traveling the world as often as he could. Steve was well-read, knew a lot about many subjects, and was always willing to enter into spirited conversations.

Steve is survived by his children, Gwen (Michael) Loyd of Pingree Grove, Ill., and David (Jennifer) Stepan of Sun Prairie, Wis.; grandchildren, Lilly, Corey, Salem, and another grandson on the way; siblings, Jeanne (Terry) Driscoll and Paul (Robin) Stepan, all of Tower; former spouse, Joan Stepan of Sandwich, Ill.; numerous nieces, nephews and extended family; girlfriend, Victory Jeffers of Chicago, Ill.; many friends, including close friend, Flossie Strickland of Ely; and his beloved cat, Callie.

He was preceded in death by his parents; siblings, John E. Stepan and Edward J. Stepan; and his niece/goddaughter, Shannon Driscoll.

Mildred Lantz

Mildred “Millie” Johnson Lantz, 90, formerly of Embarrass, died on Friday, March 8, 2019, at New Journey Residence in Eveleth. A celebration of life will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, May 25 at the Cron-Sheehy Funeral Home in Eveleth. We welcome your presence for this gathering of family and friends.

She is survived by her children, Janice (Jim) Lamppa of Eveleth, Virginia (Rod) Maki of Eveleth, Jim (Sue) Lantz of Makinen and Merry Jo Lantz of Minneapolis; grandchildren, Derek Lamppa, Kevin (Cheryl) Lantz, Curt Wercinski, Brent (Julie) Lamppa, Kyle (Anita) Lantz, Doug Aysta, Darren (Elissa) Wercinski, Robert Aysta, Jessica Lamppa-Score (John Score), Joe (Vicky) Bjerke and Brook (Saul) Beyer; 26 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

PUBLIC NOTICES

CITY OF ELY Council Minutes - May 7, 2019 - 5:30 p.m. Regular Meeting Ely City Council – City Hall, Council Chambers

1. CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Novak called the Regular Council Meeting to order at 5:30pm.

2. PRESENT: Council members A.Forsman, Kess, Debeltz, Omerza, Callen, Campbell, and Mayor Novak
ABSENT: Council Member Omerza

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Debeltz/Campbell moved to approve the minutes from April 16, 2019 Regular Meeting and April 11, 2019 Local Board of Appeal and Equalization Meeting. Motion Carried 6-0-1 with Omerza Absent.

4. ADDITIONS OR OMISSIONS TO AGENDA: A. Addition 8. A. Recommendation from Heritage Preservation Commission to nominate the AFU Building for a Minnesota Preservation award in the Preservation-Rehabilitation Category.
B. Addition 13.G. Approve On Sale and Sunday Liquor License for Anchor and the Ark at 101 N Central Ave pending proper paperwork, insurance, and fees.
Additions A and B were added without objection.

5. MAYOR’S REPORT Mayor Novak recapped the Minnesota Mayors Association Meeting in Stillwater that he attended last week. The City of Ely is the fiscal agent for the Voyageur Country ATV Trail; they came

up this last weekend on an ATV Ride. Mayor Novak met with them and they thanked the city for being fiscal agent and helping to bring the trails to Northern Minnesota.

6. CONSENT AGENDA: Debeltz/Callen moved to waive readings in entirety of all ordinances and resolutions on tonight’s agenda. Motion Carried 6-0-1 with Omerza Absent.

7. REQUESTS TO APPEAR: None

8.COMMITTEE REPORTS: Standing/Special Budget Minutes
A.Forsman/Kess moved to hire a Utility Person to help with the AML metering project and also to help the other departments as needed. Motion Carried 6-0-1 with Omerza Absent.

A.Forsman/Debeltz moved that the City apply for the maximum grant amount for the conversion of the Fire Water Tanker Truck.
Kess stated he would like to see a total project budget. Langowski stated he will ask the Fire Chief to bring it to the next budget meeting. Motion Carried 6-0-1 with Omerza Absent.

Airport Commission – Minutes included in the packet

Heritage Preservation Commission- Campbell/Callen moved to approve the recommendation from Heritage Preservation Commission to nominate the AFU Building for a Minnesota Preservation award in the Preservation-Rehabilitation Category. Motion Carried 6-0-1 with Omerza Absent.

Library Board - Minutes included in the packet

Telecommunications Advisory Board Meeting – Recommendation from the Telecommunications Advisory Board to approve the Social Media Policy as written.

Mayor Novak stated he would prefer to wait to work through this about whether or not there should be comments allowed or not.

Donald G. Gardner Humanities Trust- Minutes included in the packet

Lodging Board – Matter of Information

Range Mayors Association- Information in the packet

9. D E P A R T M E N T A L REPORTS:
A. Clerk-Treasurer Water Tower Lease
Kess/Callen moved to approve the Site Lease with Option to lease the Water Tower between the City of Ely and Treehouse Broadband. Motion Carried 6-0-1 with Omerza Absent.

Call for Bids Airport Fuel Tank and Fuel Tank Rehab
Debeltz/A.Forsman moved to call for bids for rehabilitation of the existing aviation fueling system to include tank sandblasting and painting and pipe and fuel cabinet rehabilitation at the Ely Airport. Motion Carried 6-0-1 with Omerza Absent.

Trezona Trail Non-Motorized Recreation Trail License Agreement Extension
Langowski stated that the part of the Trezona Trail that is not paved is on private property. The license agreement has expired and the property owner would like to extend the license agreement into the fall. Discussion will be had at the next Projects meeting regarding how the

property will be developed; the intent will be to maintain the trail in the current location.

Debeltz/Callen moved to have Attorney Klun draft a License Agreement Extension. Motion Carried 6-0-1 with Omerza Absent.

Calendar Parking
Kess/A.Forsman moved to put a moratorium on Calendar parking until the fall. Motion Carried 6-0-1 with Omerza Absent.

B. Fire Chief
Thank you to Edina Fire Department for the donation of PPV fans that went along with the fans the City of Ely purchased from Edina.

C. Library Director
Library Director Heinrich gave an update of the upcoming events at the library which can be located on the Library Website.

D. Police Chief
Quotes for vehicle replacement of the 2007 Expedition
Debeltz/Campbell moved to approve the purchase of 2019 Dodge 1500 Classic ST Crew Cab 4x4 for \$28,765.00 from Mike Motors. Motion Carried 6-0-1 with Omerza Absent.

E. City Attorney
Purchase Agreement between City of Ely and Richard E Hanson
Debeltz/Callen moved to approve the purchase agreement between the City of Ely and Richard E Hanson. Motion Carried 6-1-1 with Kess voting No and Omerza Absent.

Closing documents for Sale of Land to Richard E Hanson
Debeltz/Callen moved to have the Clerk and Mayor sign the closing documents for the sale of land

to Richard Hanson after the 2nd Reading of Ordinance No. 334 2nd Series. Motion Carried 6-0-1 with Omerza Absent.

Callen/Debeltz moved to approve the 1st Reading Ordinance No. 334, 2nd Series, An Ordinance of the City of Ely, Minnesota, Amending Chapter 20, Section 20.2 Sales of Land City Code of the City of Ely. Roll Called A.Forsman-yes, Kess-yes, Debeltz-yes, Omerza-Absent, Callen-yes, Campbell- yes, and Mayor Novak-yes. Motion Carried 6-0-1 with Omerza Absent.

F. City Engineer

10. COMMUNICATIONS: Matter of Information
Ely Winter Festival Thank You
Incredible Ely Thank You
St Louis County CDBG, HOME, and ESG Programs Requalification
Correspondence from Burntside Lake Association
MN Management and Budget 2020 Capital Budget Instructions
Minnesota Child Care Programs Summary

11. CLAIMS FOR PAYMENT:
A. City and EUC claims for May 7, 2019 –\$250,452.21

B. Pay Estimate #1 for Trail Improvements and Vermilion River Bridge Construction
Project
Voyageur Country ATV for \$295,450.00 to George Bougalis and Sons.
Debeltz/A.Forsman moved to approve the claims for payment A and B. Motion Carried 6-0-1 with Omerza Absent.

12. OLD BUSINESS:
A. Mid Term Opening on Library Board – Term Expires

1/31/2020
Hannah Bermel or Christopher Steele
Debeltz/Campbell moved to approve Hannah Bermel to the Library Board with term expiring 1/31/2020. Motion Carried 6-0-1 with Omerza Absent.

B. A.Forsman/Debeltz moved to approve the applications for Peddler, Solicitor, Transient Merchant, Mobile Food Cart, and Mobile Food Vehicle. Motion Carried 6-0-1 with Omerza Absent.

13. NEW BUSINESS:
A. Debeltz/Callen moved to approve the MN Department of Natural Resources Hidden Valley Lease Miscellaneous Lease #LMIS010297. Motion Carried 6-0-1 with Omerza Absent.

B. A.Forsman/Campbell moved to approve Resolution #2019-014 Resolution Authorizing Application for Dorothy Molter Memorial Foundation to Apply for Raffle Permit. Roll Called A.Forsman-yes, Kess-yes, Debeltz-yes, Omerza-Absent, Callen-yes, Campbell- yes, and Mayor Novak-yes. Motion Carried 6-0-1 with Omerza Absent.

C. Debeltz/Callen moved to approve Resolution #2019-015 Resolution Authorizing to Execute Minnesota Department of Transportation Airport Maintenance and Operation Grant Contract. Roll Called A.Forsman-yes, Kess-yes, Debeltz-yes, Omerza-Absent, Callen-yes, Campbell- yes, and Mayor Novak-yes. Motion Carried 6-0-1 with Omerza Absent.

D. Debeltz/Callen moved to approve Resolution #2019-016 Resolution Requesting Comprehensive Road

and Transit Funding. Roll Called A.Forsman-yes, Kess-yes, Debeltz-yes, Omerza-Absent, Callen-yes, Campbell- yes, and Mayor Novak-yes. Motion Carried 6-0-1 with Omerza Absent.

E. Callen/A.Forsman moved to approve the West Camp Street, Pattison Street East Improvements Bids: Recommendation the project be awarded to Utility Systems of America, Inc for \$1,373,420.00 for the Total Base Bid – Part A & Part B. Motion Carried 6-0-1 with Omerza Absent.

F. Debeltz/Campbell moved to approve the West Camp Street, Pattison Street East Improvements Change Order #1. Motion Carried 6-0-1 with Omerza Absent.

G. Debeltz/A.Forsman moved to approve the On Sale and Sunday Liquor License for Anchor and the Ark at 101 N Central Ave pending proper paperwork, insurance, and fees. Motion Carried 6-0-1 with Omerza Absent.

14. OPEN FORUM
John Esse stated that he would like the council to discuss what is happening with 21 W Shagawa Rd at the next council meeting or Study Session.

15. ADJOURN
Mayor Novak adjourned the meeting at 6:17pm without objection.

Casey Velcheff, Deputy Clerk

Published in the Ely Timberjay, May 24, 2019



Outdoors

Our lives in the
Northwoods

WILDLIFE RESEARCH

Latest report highlights benefits of fire for moose

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

REGIONAL — An updated report on the impact of fire and timber harvest on moose habitat in northeastern Minnesota continues to confirm the importance of fire in maintaining the population of the state’s largest member of the deer family.

While the moose population appears to have stabilized in the region, the 2019 aerial moose survey documents the extent to which just a handful

of permanent sample plots, located on sites subject to either recent wildfire or prescribed burning, account for nearly a quarter of the moose sighted during the survey.

Indeed, researchers found 38 moose (the highest of any plot this year) on the permanent Cavity Lake plot, where a 2006 wildfire scorched nearly 32,000 acres of timber near the end of the Gunflint Trail.

The researchers, who include members of the Department of Natural Resources, the 1854 Treaty

Authority, and the Fond du Lac band, flew a total of 52 sample plots last January, 43 of which were randomly-selected. The researchers also survey nine permanent habitat plots on an annual basis to better understand how different types of forest disturbance affect moose numbers.

Most of those permanent plots are contained within areas subject to recent wildfire, prescribed burning, or timber management designed to benefit moose. Fond du Lac biologist Mike Schrage has

been compiling the results in order to better inform future forest management decisions.

On the five permanent plots subjected to fire, researchers found 102 moose, or an average of 20.38 moose per plot. That’s more than twice the average of 10.0 moose found on all occupied plots surveyed in 2019. And that difference jumps sharply if the five fire-impacted permanent plots are excluded from the overall total of 429 moose

See MOOSE...pg. 5B



Three moose as seen from the air during a recent aerial survey.

Courtesy M. Schrage



THE NEIGHBORS

It’s the busy season

For red-breasted nuthatches, raising a family is a full-time affair

Our neighborhood red-breasted nuthatches have all but disappeared from our feeders the past few weeks, a sign that they probably have other things on their mind. Few birds in the North Country work harder at the business of nesting than the red-breasted nuthatch, which is one of our region’s only non-woodpeckers to excavate its own nesting cavity. Even the significantly larger white-breasted nuthatch doesn’t take on such an onerous task, preferring to utilize old woodpecker-dug cavities instead.

If carving a hole in the side of a tree (they prefer aspen in our region) isn’t daunting enough for a four-inch bird that weighs about a third of an ounce, male red-breasted nuthatches will often partially excavate several potential nest sites, all, apparently, to demonstrate their worth to a potential mate.

Besides digging cavities in trees, the male red-breasted nuthatch performs a variety of displays to attract a mate. His most common display is performed with his back to the female, during which he raises his head, droops his wings and

The very busy red-breasted nuthatch is a constant presence in the northwoods.

sways from side-to-side. If she’s sufficiently impressed, they form a monogamous bond for the season, rarely venturing beyond vocal range from each other and both take part in the rearing of their young.

Once paired, the female nuthatch does most of the work of finishing the selected cavity. Inside, she then builds a nest from grass, bark strips, and pine needles before lining the inside with fur or feathers if available. She’ll typically lay 5-6 eggs, which hatch about 12 days later. Three weeks after that, the young nuthatches are ready to leave the nest, when, as with most fledged birds, they’ll chase after the parents for a few more weeks, relentlessly begging for food.

Red-breasted nuthatches are pugnacious by nature and even more so in defense of their nest site, often taking on significantly larger birds that venture too near.

Red-breasted nuthatches have another unusual habit that researchers have, so far, not



fully explained. They regularly collect and smear sticky spruce and balsam fir pitch around the edges of the opening to their nest cavity. The nuthatches manage to avoid the pitch themselves by flying directly into the opening, folding their wings at the last second. While researchers have suggested a variety of reasons for such behavior, it would seem it

most likely provides a barrier to some types of insects or flies that might otherwise pose a risk to the developing young.

Here in the North Country, red-breasted nuthatches are common. They’re a bird of coniferous forests, ranging across forested regions of Canada and in the western

See NUTHATCHES...pg. 5B

Wildflower Watch

This week’s featured flower
SWEET COLTSFOOT



Sweet Coltsfoot, *Petasites frigidus*, is one of our earliest wildflowers and one that can be difficult to identify using a standard key. That’s because the plant’s distinctive hand-like, or “palmate” leaf doesn’t emerge until later in the season, well after the flowers have faded.

The small white to pinkish flowers are displayed in a loose cluster atop a stem that is typically about 7-12 inches high. It’s a plant of the far north, ranging from northern Minnesota to the high Arctic and is almost always found in wet locations.

It’s a member of the *Composite* family, which includes asters and daisies.

Fishing reports

Walleye fishermen are experiencing some of the best angling opportunities in recent years. The fish are in the post-spawn mode and have been staging at the moving waters near spawning areas as they begin their spring feeding forays. While live bait aficionados are scoring good numbers jig fishing minnows and leeches, many are beginning to manipulate crank baits to capture the largest specimens in the tail waters of spawning streams and rivers. Slow-trolling diving cranks such as Shad Raps, Flicker Shad and Tail Dancers in water from ten to twenty-foot depths were accounting for some larger walleyes. Crawler harnesses are beginning to make their debut as one of the best bait presentations in these staging areas.

Many northern pike have been landed recently as they begin to feed more aggressively. Large crank baits and sucker minnows are the preferred baits as of this writing. The pike are cruising the shallow flats feeding on the minnows and smaller game fish that are cruising these inshore waters before they begin to move deeper in the water column.

Burnside anglers trolling for walleyes have been pleasantly surprised by catching some lake trout up to thirty inches while trolling in fifteen to twenty-five feet of water over mud flats.

Courtesy of Babe’s Bait at Ely’s west entrance.



MARSHALL
HELMBERGER

Fishing reports



Emmanuel Mason, of Minneapolis, was pretty excited with the nice smallmouth he caught on Eagles Nest 4 last weekend, but not as excited as the person photobombing behind him. submitted

NUTHATCHES...Continued from page 4B

mountains of the U.S.

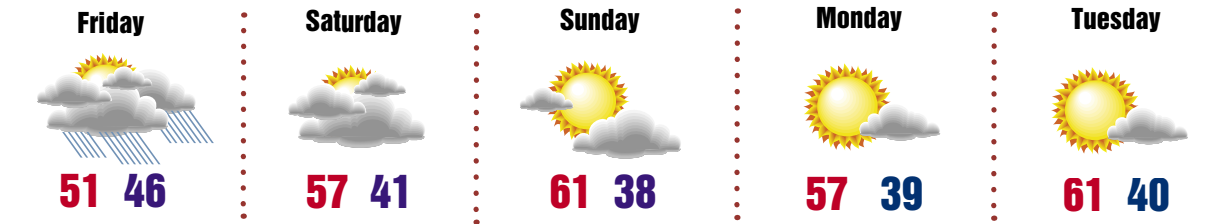
While many of our resident red-breasted nuthatches are permanent residents, most birds that nest in the far northern parts of the species’ range migrate south in winter.

Perhaps because of their tendency to “irrupt” into more southerly parts of in some years, populations of red-breasted nuthatches in our region tend to rise and fall quite dramatically. Some years, participants in area Christmas bird counts will find hundreds of them, while the next year, they’re lucky to spot a couple dozen.

These little birds are regulars at most North Country bird feeders in the winter months. In my experience, they prefer peanuts above everything else, although they’ll also eat sunflower seeds and suet. I have the most luck by combining lard and peanuts. I bring the lard up to room temperature so it’s soft and dump about a cup’s worth in a plastic bag. Then I pour in about two and a half cups of peanuts and smoosh it all together. Then I form it into a shape that fits my peanut feeder. Then I stick it outside for a few hours so it’s cold and hard before taking it out of the plastic bag and inserting it into my peanut feeder. It’s a bit of a hassle, but I’ve found that it will save your expensive peanuts from otherwise disappearing in a matter of hours. My peanut/lard combination will typically last about a week.

I don’t use the peanut feeder or put out suet in the summer, since the bears will carry them away. That leaves sunflower seeds as my only enticement for the nuthatches this time of year. We probably wouldn’t see that much of them anyway. They’ve got a lot going on right now!

LAKE COUNTRY FORECAST from NOAA weather



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.
05/23	54	38	0.00		05/13	63	31	0.00		05/13	65	38	0.03		05/13	66	39	0.00		05/13	62	32	0.00	
05/24					05/14	66	31	0.00		05/14	69	39	0.01		05/14	66	46	0.00		05/14	67	31	0.00	
05/25	No readings at presstime				05/15	68	29	0.10		05/15	65	39	0.12		05/15	70	36	0.09		05/15	67	31	0.00	
05/26					05/16	71	29	0.11		05/16	65	40	0.06		05/16	59	43	0.05		05/16	70	45	0.00	
05/27					05/17	59	26	0.00		05/17	59	35	0.00		05/17	59	30	0.00		05/17	61	31	0.00	
05/28					05/18	60	27	0.00		05/18	59	35	0.00		05/18	54	43	0.00		05/18	60	37	0.00	
05/19	65	31	0.00		05/19	45	37	0.10		05/19	51	41	0.00		05/19	55	39	0.00		05/19	45	37	0.00	
Totals			4.93	84.3"	Totals			6.09	68.6"	Totals			6.47	75.1"	Totals			4.56	NA	Totals			5.22	73.6"

MOOSE...Continued from page 4B

sighted in the survey. Among the randomly-selected moose plots, the average number of moose sighted was lower, at just 7.7 animals.

The aerial survey has also documented the extent to which moose reside within former burns. Most of the permanent sample plots affected by fire have portions located outside burn perimeters, but moose are rarely found in those areas. For example, of the 91 moose sighted over the past five years in Plot #41 (located along the north and east side of Trout Lake), roughly half of which was affected by a 2005 prescribed burn, all but three were found within the boundaries of the burn.

Some of the best moose numbers continue to be found in those three permanent plots that were subject to recent large wildfires, including Cavity Lake (38 moose sighted in 2019), Pagami Creek (19), and Ham Lake (19). And the impact of those fires goes beyond the boundaries of the permanent plots. At nearly 90,000 acres, the Pagami Creek fire encompassed several of the existing survey plots and moose numbers appear to have consistently increased in those plots as well. Much of the area around Pagami Creek had maintained a low-density moose population, but their numbers have increased to medium or high density based on recent results.

“That’s the frustrating part,” said Schrage, during an interview with the *Timberjay*. “Most of our best moose management habitat over the past 10-12 years all happened by accident.”

Schrage notes that while he isn’t advocating the use of large wildfires for moose management, he said it appears that more needs to be done to mimic the effects of fire, most likely through prescribed burning. “If we’re serious about recovering moose numbers, we need to find ways to replicate the effects of large wildfire,” he said.

Meanwhile, Schrage’s report provides some evidence that timber management can also have a positive impact on moose numbers, although the evidence isn’t as consistent or as dramatic as with the effects of fire. The Lima Green permanent plot, located in northern Cook County, has seen significant timber cutting since 2014. Since the start of timber management in the area, moose numbers gradually increased through 2017, although they appear to have declined somewhat in the past two years.

While the data continues to demonstrate that moose benefit from the regrowth in the aftermath of fire, Schrage cautions that it’s not the only type of habitat to sustain high moose numbers. He notes that a portion of the central Boundary Waters, roughly between Sawbill Lake and Knife Lake, continues to sustain high moose numbers despite no timber harvesting or recent fires. He said the forest in that area is mostly overmature, or decadent, in the terminology of foresters—yet moose do well possibly by taking advantage of the burst of shrub growth that occurs as old trees topple from the forest canopy, allowing sunlight to reach the forest floor.

“I can’t stand here and say that logging and fire are always the answer,” he said. “Some places are acting differently.”

Fishing report

Kab-Nam area

With a great start to the season and the spawn basically over, fish have started to migrate from spawning areas. With water temps hovering around 50 or above (even warmer in shallow bays) it’s time to start thinking post spawn.

Look near adjacent transition areas to start. If the wind is blowing, stay shallow, focusing on wind blown shorelines, points and bays. Otherwise, start looking for that first transition area a little deeper as walleyes will begin to move. Keep it simple dragging jigs or Lindy rigs until active schools are found then stick with them. Bait may not be as important now. Shiners, rainbows, chubs.....pick one and if you are on the bite it won’t matter.

A few decent reports using leeches are becoming more common as the water warms up. Early in the morning and just before dusk you still can’t go wrong with a shiner under a bobber on most docks and fishing in areas shiners typically run.

Courtesy Gateway Store, Lake Kabetogama

CLEAN.DRAIN.DRY.



CLEAN

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



DRAIN

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



DRY

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

STOP INVASIVE SPECIES!

LEARN MORE AT CLEANDRAINDRY.ORG



PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
CITY OF ORR

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing will be held at 5:00 p.m., Monday, June 10, 2019, in conjunction with the regularly scheduled meeting of the Orr City Council at the Orr City Hall, 4429 Highway 53, Orr, MN 55771 to consider Ordinance No. 2019-01:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ORR, MINNESOTA CONCERNING THE PERMITTING OF SHORT-TERM VACATION RENTALS

Anyone desiring to be heard during this public hearing will be afforded an opportunity to do so. In addition, interested persons may file written comments regarding the proposed ordinance with the City Clerk's office.

Cheri J. Carter, Clerk/Treasurer, City of Orr

Published in the Timberjay May 24 & 31, 2019

CITY OF ELY
NOTICE FOR BIDS

(a lift gate is to be installed by others)

Notice is hereby given that quotes will be received by the Ely City Council, City of Ely, Minnesota, St. Louis County for the following equipment:

Pickup
2018 or newer with warranty
¾ ton or larger
Snow Plow Prep package capable of handling an 8'2" Boss XT V plow (by others)
Gasoline eight-cylinder engine and automatic transmission
4x4 Single Cab, single rear wheels, 8' Box
Power windows and air conditioning
White Paint
Vinyl Flooring
Receiver hitch and trailer light hook up
Provide a deduct price if the rear dumper can be deleted

No quotes will be received after any quote has been opened.

Quotes shall be mailed to the City of Ely at 209 East Chapman Street, Ely, MN 55731 or emailed to elyod@ely.mn.us on or before 2:00 p.m. Tuesday June 4th, 2019. Any questions concerning the bids can be directed to Harold R. Langowski, Clerk-Treasurer.

The City of Ely reserves the right to reject any and all quotes and to waive any informalities therein.

Published in the Ely Timberjay, May 24, 2019

CITY OF ELY
Public Hearing Notice

The Ely Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, June 5, 2019 at 5:30 pm in the 2nd Floor Council Chambers of City Hall to consider issuance of an Interim Use Permit (IUP) for Jake Forsman Memorial Car Show and Burnout Competition. The event is scheduled for Saturday October 19, 2019 from 8am until 4pm.

The permit request is to close Chapman Street from 2nd Avenue East to 4th Avenue East and to close 2nd Avenue East and 3rd Avenue East from Harvey Street to Sheridan Street. Subject to permit approval these sections of roadway would be closed to vehicle traffic. The Ely Public Library parking lot would also be closed to vehicle traffic and utilized by this event on Saturday October 19th, 2019 from 8am until 6 pm.

All interested parties may submit written comments to Planning and Zoning Administrator 209 E Chapman St. Ely, MN 55731, or e-mail comments to pzadmin@ely.mn.us, or speak in person at the public hearing. Your name must be included for your comments to be read or presented at the public hearing.

Public hearing details are as follows:
Meeting Date: Wednesday June 5, 2019
Meeting Time: 5:30 PM
Location: City Hall, 209 E Chapman St, Council Chambers

Tim Riley, Planning and Zoning Administrator
City of Ely

Published in the Ely Timberjay, May 24, 2019

CITY OF ELY
ORDINANCE NO. 335,
2nd Series

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ELY, MINNESOTA, AMENDING THE ELY CITY CODE, CHAPTER 20, SECTION 20.2.33, SALE OF LAND LOCATED IN THE EAST SPAULDING PLAT

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ELY DOES HEREBY ORDAIN:

SECTION 1. A new Section shall be added to Chapter 20 as Section 20.2.33, of the Ely City Code to read as follows:

SEC. 20.2.33. SALE OF LAND LOCATED IN THE EAST SPAULDING PLAT. The Council of the City of Ely is hereby authorized to sell land located in the East Spaulding Plat, on terms and conditions acceptable to the City Council and the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to execute all documents and do all things necessary to effect the sale of that certain real estate described as follows, to wit:

Block	Lot	Total Price
2	8	\$15,000.00
2	9	\$18,000.00
2	10	\$18,000.00
2	11	\$18,000.00
2	12	\$20,000.00
2	13	\$18,000.00
2	14	\$18,000.00
2	15	\$15,000.00

Following are the terms and conditions of the sales of the above-referenced parcels:

- There will be no access from Pioneer Road.
- There will be three years from installation of utilities to build.
- Buyer is to pay all legal fees, permits and water and sewer access fees.
- Earnest Money of \$500.00 will be required to hold the lot for the buyers.
- One residential unit per lot, except for Lots 1 & 3, Block 4 which are deemed unbuildable as single residential lot.

SECTION 2. Effective Date: Pursuant to Section 3.08 of the Charter of the City of Ely, Minnesota, the adoption of this Ordinance is effective immediately after final adoption and publication.

First Reading: May 21, 2019

Published in the Ely Timberjay, May 24, 2019

EMPLOYMENT

Lake Vermilion Cabin
Cleaner Needed!

Need a team of 2 on Saturdays from 10-3 to clean 4BR, 2BA house & occasional cottage with 1BR. Previous cleaning experience desired. Rentals are from early June through August. All cleaning supplies furnished. Call Sue at 651-270-4679 or Dwight at 651-261-4032 for details. 5/24

Experienced AUTOMOTIVE TECHNICIAN
Full-time, M-F, benefits. Contact Lee Phillips. Waschke Family Chevrolet in Cook, 126 N Hwy 53, PO Box 549, Cook, MN 55723; 218-666-5901 or 800-238-4545. tfr

HELP WANTED
Tower Area Ambulance Service
Now Taking Applications

EMR and EMT paid-on-call staff needed for Monday – Friday shifts.

Application contains pertinent job information

Please submit questions and applications to:
ambulance@cityoftower.com or
pick up an application at Tower City Hall,
602 Main Street, 2nd Floor

STORE MANAGER

Pelican Bay Foods is accepting applications for the Store Manager position. Interested individuals should forward their resume, letter of application with salary expectation, and at least three work related references with contact info to:

Pelican Bay Foods
PO Box 155, Orr, MN 55771

All applications must be received not later than noon on June 14, 2019.

Questions may be directed to:
doug@pelicanbayfoods.com 6/7

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Ads go in all
3 editions
218-753-2950
editor@timberjay.com



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Reporter/
Editor

If you'd like to live and play in Minnesota's beautiful North Country while working at one of the state's most highly-regarded newspapers, this is your opportunity. The Timberjay Newspapers will soon have an opening for a full-time reporter/editor to work from our main office in the historic mining town of Tower.

We're looking for a creative and entrepreneurial journalist to join our small but talented staff of four full-time editor/reporters. The ideal candidate is a motivated, self-starting reporter/editor who understands how to cultivate sources and work a beat. They should also have both layout (InDesign) and photographic experience, and the ability to assist in maintaining our website and social media presence. The right candidate, if interested, would have opportunities for advancement in the organization.

Please send resumé, cover letter describing your interest, and links to clips to marshall@timberjay.com, or call 218-753-2950 and ask for Marshall or Jodi. Position opens early-July 2019.

Equal Opportunity Employer

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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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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FIELD EJECTS SLAT GPS
ESTEE RUTHIE HERERAP
WHATWASTHENAMEOFAENE
IST NEARTO TRADE
MIGUEL POT CELEBRATED
SCORSESE ACHT DRAWERS
NINETEENTHCENTURY STU
PENH IRAE STOP
SAMMS KIEV CACHE
TRAILS BRITISHPOETWHO
AIRSOUT MEANT PLATEAU
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DOYOU OLEOTENET
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OFDEERMEAT DBL FRAPPE
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ILA ALFREDLORDVENISON
TOM DIAL LOWEND TARRY
ESE SEXY YENTAS ONICE



TIMBERJAY CLASSIFIEDS

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

AUTOMOTIVE

NAPA PARTS CENTER, INC.
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365-3132

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Auto Repair & Garage

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218-749-0751

HAIR CARE

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

HOSPICE

VIRGIE HEGG HOSPICE PARTNERS can provide help for patients and their families in ways such as: comfort care, massages, last wishes and more. For more information, contact Program Director Becca Bundy at 218-780-5423 or vhhpdirector@gmail.com. This ad is paid for by Virgie Hegg Hospice Partners.

LICENSE BUREAU

COOK AREA LICENSE BUREAU- 221 S. Hwy 53, Cook. Open-M-F 9-5, FastTrack Title Service-MVR-DNR-Limited DL, Dry Cleaning Drop off/Pick up, CDL/Motorcycle/Drivers Manuals. Now accepting Visa/MC/Discover. Questions call 218-666-6199. tfn

REAL ESTATE

Search ALL MLS listings at www.pfremmerrealty.com. tfn

RUMMAGE SALES

GARAGE SALE at VIRGINIA SENIOR CENTER located at 511 Chestnut Street (Across from Goodwill in Virginia). Wednesday, June 5 through Friday, June 7, 7:30 am - 4:30 pm. Large variety of everything. Donations from over 50 people of all ages! 5/31

GARAGE SALE- 7431 Hwy 115, Cook, corner of Frazer Bay Rd, 9 am - 5 pm, Saturday, May 25. Outdoor stuff, MinnKota Edge 45 lb, Traxxas 75 lb, lawn hose reel, gun cases, brand new water softener, tires, household items, mens/women's M, L, XL, and plus size clothing, boat items.

APARTMENT FOR RENT

APARTMENT FOR RENT- In Tower. 2BR, 2BA, large garage, furnished, nice quality throughout. \$850/month. Available June 1. Call 218-750-6566. tfn

WANTED

WANTED TO BUY: Will pay cash for junk cars and pickups. Will pick up. Also, we collect used oil. Call 218-757-3255 or 218-780-2579. tfn

SELIGA CANOES WANTED: We'll buy old Seligas in Good Shape. Turn your classic canoe into cash. Call Steve at 365-8745. tfn

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

MEETING in Ely! "New Ideas" WOMEN IN RECOVERY: 12 Steps. For women seeking help and hope to recover from any addiction: drugs, alcohol, food, gambling etc. Every Thursday

HELP WANTED

PT COOKER/BAKER WANTED- We specialize in from scratch, whole foods cooking and baking. Experience helpful but we will train. Flexible hours/days. If you enjoy working with youth and the outdoors this is an opportunity for you. Contact deb@campvoyageur.com or call 218-365-6042. tfn

NOW HIRING- BayView on Lake Vermilion NOW HIRING: Kitchen Manager, Line Cooks, Dishwashers, Bartenders, Servers, Food Runners. Apply in person at the Vermilion Club, 3191 Cty Rd. 77, Lake Vermilion, Tower, or send resume to Talmiko@yahoo.com. 5/24

KITCHEN ASSISTANT WANTED- Duties include prep work, some baking and assisting during and after meals. Flexible hours/days. Experience not necessary and we will train. This is an ideal opportunity for someone that wants to learn from our experienced kitchen staff. Contact deb@campvoyageur.com or call 218-365-6042. tfn

RN CAMP NURSE WANTED- Mid-July through August 10. Partial days and flexible hours. If you enjoy working with youth and the outdoors this is an opportunity for you. Contact deb@campvoyageur.com or call 218-365-6042. tfn

HELP WANTED- Additional people needed for cleaning Lake Vermilion rental on Saturdays starting at 9 am, beginning June 15. Cleaning supplies all provided. \$18/hour. Contact Christi at 419-260-4287. 6/7v

COOK WANTED- Position open at Good Ol' Days in Tower. Please stop by to apply. tfn

Classifieds run in all 3 editions of the Timberjay.

Line classifieds cost 30¢/word, \$6.00 minimum. Classified ads can be run a second time at half price (private parties only). We now accept payment by Visa, Mastercard and Discover. Call your ad in to 218-753-2950. Display (boxed) classifieds are billed by the "inch"- please call for prices and information on discounts. Call Today - 218-753-2950 or 218-365-3114

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Sun: 9 AM-4 PM
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Call us at: 218.753.5000
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Lake Vermilion
218-753-3319

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Mechanic on Duty
moccasinpointmarine.com



SUPPORT GROUPS

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

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

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS- Meetings every Wednesday at 4:30 p.m. at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Virginia.

ELY CO-DEPENDENTS MEETING- Fridays at noon-St. Anthony's Church Classroom 3-Use west side entrance. For more information go to coda.org on the web.

BABBITT AL-ANON- meets Thursdays at 7 p.m. at the Babbitt Assembly of God Church.

VIRGINIA AA WOMEN'S MEETING- Ladies by the Lake. Tuesdays at 12 noon. Peace United Methodist Church, 303 S 9th Ave, please use side door and parking.

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Vermilion Housing Corporation

currently is taking applications for
1 and 2 bedroom apartments in
Tower and Soudan.

RENT SUBSIDY AVAILABLE
CALL 218-753-6111

Please leave your name and address
and application form will be sent.



Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

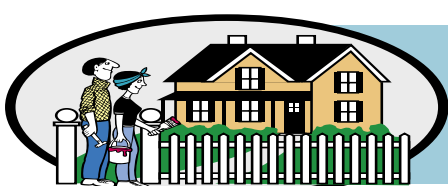
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Super Crossword

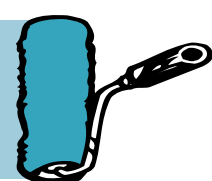
HART-HEALTHY VERSE

- ACROSS**
- 1 Pasture
6 Boots out
12 Part of a picket fence
16 Driver's navig. aid
19 Lauder of perfumery
20 "Chicago" actress
21 At this point
22 50 Cent's genre
23 Start of a riddle
26 L.A.-to-Denver dir.
27 "Was — das?" (German question)
28 Close by
29 Sports deal
31 Author — de Cervantes
35 Poker payoff
36 Riddle, part 2
39 "Raging Bull" director
41 German for "eight"
43 Dresser sections
44 Riddle, part 3
47 "Our Town" actor
48 Phnom — (capital of Cambodia)
49 "Dies —" (Mass hymn)
50 Halt
51 Soap star
56 Ukrainian capital
58 Hidden stash
62 Follows
64 Riddle, part 4
71 Clears of stuffiness
73 Stood for
74 Mesa's kin
75 Riddle, part 5
78 Morsels
79 "— mind?!" ("Excuse me?!")
80 Roll spread
82 Belief
83 Alphabet opening
86 "I've had — to here!"
90 "Big Love" actress
92 Paella veggie
93 Riddle, part 6
102 Slayer of Medusa
104 Monetary unit of Iran
105 Dumbfound
106 End of the riddle
108 Baseball two-bagger: Abbr.
110 Slushy frozen drink
- DOWN**
- 11 "8 Simple Rules" actress
112 "— Fideles" excelsis —
114 "Gloria in excelsis —"
115 Labor org. for dockworkers
116 Riddle's answer
124 Actor Cruise
125 Tuning knob
126 Cheapest in a line of products
127 Delay leaving
128 Ending for Japan
129 Alluring
130 Gossipy meddlers
131 In reserve
9 Spotted cat
10 Fey of "Mean Girls"
11 Person on a quest
12 Hebrew underworld
13 Zodiac cat
14 Bark noise
15 Salver for serving Earl Grey, say
16 Most terrific
17 Gratify in a servile way
18 Goes faster
24 Napping
25 Volcano in E. Sicily
30 Uncooked
31 AOL rival
32 Here, to Henri
33 Weed B — (Ortho product)
34 Suffix with press
35 Tip of an ink-filled implement
37 End of a college URL
38 "It's so cold!"
40 Look for
42 Roman 201
45 Heat: Prefix
46 Part of MIT: Abbr.
50 Sofa variety
51 Rough guess
52 Soul singer India. —
53 Artist Chagall
54 Make sum mistakes?
55 Replay effect, in brief
57 Prospect
59 PC program
60 Filly's sibling
61 Beating organ
63 Chop — (Chinese-style dish)
65 Bronze-hued
66 Data, in brief
67 Taken illicitly
68 Move away from nursing
69 Really dislike
70 Make leave
72 Certain boxing win, for short
76 Opposite of "day," in French
77 Leased car, e.g.
81 Partners of aahs
83 Highly pertinent
84 Cow-bison hybrids
85 Poker or canasta
87 Long, angry speech
88 As a joined group
89 Gp. with putters
91 Fixed charge
93 Little tykes, to Scots
94 Czech sci-fi play of 1921
95 Belief
96 Historic section of a city
97 Blue Jays' city
98 Go — tear
99 Die dot
100 WWW access enabler
101 Comrade of Fidel
103 Salty body
107 At dawn, e.g.
109 Artist's cap
113 Sour plum
114 Video store offerings
117 Whopper
118 Send via a phone line
119 Genetic helix
120 007 creator
121 — Lankan
122 Hobbit foe
123 Bill the "Science Guy"

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#136660 LAKE VERMILION 4.7 acre building parcel w/ 400 ft lksh. Electric and phone service are available along the road at the back of the parcel. **\$95,000**

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1,725 sq. ft., 4 BR, 3 BA cabin/home, new 2-car garage, 200+ ft of gentle sloping shoreline, sauna w/ double bed and toilet on the shore, 2 slip boathouse w/ electric lifts, classic Larson boat w/ 75 hp motor, canoe.

2011 updated sewer mound system, and much more.

Fully furnished/turnkey. Call 218-365-5357 or 214-616-8316.

FOR SALE BY OWNER

2180 Passi Rd. Burntside Lake

Newly (2017) Reconstructed 1,940 sq ft log cabin.

It's beautifully refinished. Majestic, hand-scribed native MN logs.

Must be seen. 3 BR areas, 2 BA. It's colored-

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200+ ft of shoreline with new dock and 2 canoes.

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