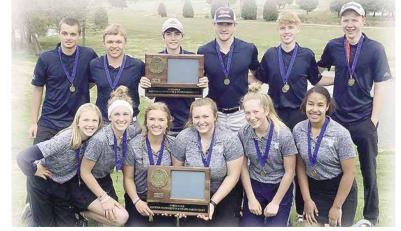
**Inside: Zup's store delay...**See /3 Off to state... See /1B Be friendly...See /6B



# BERIA VOL. 30, ISSUE 21 MAY 31, 2019

CITY OF TOWER

# RV parks stuck in neutral Looking

Property owners frustrated by P&Z dysfunction

by Marshall Helmberger

TOWER — Two proposals for new RV parks here, both of which would bring new seasonal residents and tax base to the community, have been stuck in neutral for years as a result of a city planning and zoning process that appears designed to block, rather than encourage,



Gary and Charity Ross have struggled for nearly six years to obtain a conditional use permit from the city of Tower to develop a RV park on a large and private parcel overlooking Lake Vermilion's Pike Bay. photo by J. Summit

new development.

The process, which is overseen by Zoning Administrator Linda Keith and Planning and Zoning

Chairman Steve Altenburg, could soon land the city in

Dave Rose, who has been working for four years to advance a small RV park along the East Two River, just downstream from the

See...PARKS pg. 11

**ELY SCHOOLS** 

# again

ISD 696 begins another search for a superintendent

by KEITH VANDERVORT

Ely Editor

ELY - School Board members here continue to search for a part-time superintendent after failing to agree, during a special meeting last Thursday, that the four candidates interviewed earlier this month were worthy of further consideration.

The board decided to repost the position for two more weeks with the hope that additional candidates would decide to throw their hat in the ring for consideration for the .6 FTE job.

After four years at the post, Superintendent Kevin Abrahamson has made clear his intention of resigning his

See...ELY pg. 10

#### DEVELOPMENT

# More concerns over Lamppa plant project

by Marshall Helmberger

Managing Editor

TOWER - City officials and SEH engineer Matt Bolf received another earful Tuesday night from Lamppa Manufacturing plant manager Dale Horihan over the ongoing construction of the new plant for the company. The project

has been built under the auspices of the city of Tower's economic development authority with loan funding from the Department of Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation. City hall and SEH are overseeing the actual construction.

COVERAGE **New Tower** city council members appointed. Page 3

MORE

Earlier this month, Horihan had taken issue with the lengthy delays in the project as well as equipment installations that were contrary to the company's wishes. On Tuesday, Horihan raised a new issue, arguing that an air makeup system installed at the plant was highly inefficient, potentially forcing the company to spend much more on heating and cooling and would also require an air emissions license from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

Horihan used the white board in the council chambers to make his point and to discuss a different type of system that would filter contaminated air from the plant's paint booth before returning it

See...TOWER pg. 9

218-753-2950

# **MEMORIAL DAY 2019**



Tracy Thibadeau, above, who has achieved the rank of Webelos II with the Ely Boy Scouts, helped to install American flags last Saturday at the 900-plus graves of veterans buried in the Ely Cemtery. Bois Forte Honor Guard member George Mihelich, below left, plays Taps at the Tower Memorial Day service Monday at the Civic Center. The Cook VFW and the Orr American Legion Color Guard, below right, led the Memorial Day parade in Cook on Monday. Staff photos





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**2** May 31, 2019

# COMMUNITY EVENTS AND NOTICES

#### **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

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.

#### Tower bingo on Monday, June 3; Ellie Larmouth will be playing piano

TOWER- Senior Bingo will be held in Tower on Monda, June 3 at the Herb Lamppa Civic Center in Tower from 11:45 a.m. -3 p.m. There is a \$10 charge for the bingo party, which includes lunch. All ages are welcome to attend this community event. Lunch is served starting at 11:45 a.m., and bingo begins at 12:45 p.m.

Pianist Dr. Ellie Larmouth will be performing some Finnish favorites, including excerpts from "Finlandia". The program will be featured during

Call Jodi Summit at 218-753-2950 with any questions.

#### Call for artist entries by June 21 for **EAHC Gala Art Show and Sale**

ELY- Ely Arts and Heritage Center will host its 14th Annual Art Show and Sale, Friday through Monday, July 12 to 15. Artist entries are due by Friday, June 21 at 4 p.m.

On Wednesday, July 10, art will be delivered to Miners Dry House from 4 to 7 p.m. Art may also be delivered Thursday, July 11 from 10 a.m. to noon.

On Friday, July 12, there will be an Artists Reception from 7 to 9 p.m.

Tickets are available for the public to attend the reception. The artists are our featured guests. Share wine and light hors d'oeuvres while you converse with art lovers of Ely.

Saturday through Monday, July 13 - 15, the show is open to the public free of charge, from 1 to All pieces submitted will be the choice of each

artist. Display space will be available on a first-entered basis. Ely Arts and Heritage Center is a 501(c) 3 organization which uses its funds for arts, educational, and heritage programs.

For an application to the EAHC Gala Art Show and Sale, please go to www.elygreenstone.org or e-mail art@elygreenstone.org. Artists may contact Sandy Brandley at 218-235-8491.

#### Sons of Norway meet June 6

VIRGINIA- Sons of Norway Haarfager Lodge 40 will meet at 6:30 p.m. in the Virginia City Hall Clubroom on Thursday, June 6. We will hold our memorial service and trim stamps for Tubfrim. Those attending are encouraged to bring a nonperishable item for the Salvation Army Food Shelf. Serving Committee is Bernie Christiansen, Arlene Jershe and Art Lee. Anyone interested in Scandinavian culture and heritage is invited to

COOK

# **Lumberjack Show returning to Timber Days**

Timber Days runs June 7-9; lumberjack show June 8 at 3 p.m. and 5 p.m.

COOK- The Cook Annual Timber Days Committee has finalized plans for the 2019 Timber Days celebration, Friday through Sunday, June 7, 8 and 9. In keeping with the Timber Days theme, this year's festival will include the return of a lumberjack show. The schedule also includes favorite festival activities, entertainment, and dozens of vendor booths set up in downtown Cook. On Friday, June 7, the food and

beverage and arts and crafts vendors are open from noon to 6 p.m. on River Street. Northwoods Friends of the Arts will open their Art Fair at the Gallery at 10 a.m., and Friends of the Cook Public Library will begin their annual Book Sale at noon at the Book Barn on 1st Street. The "bounce house" and other games for kids will be available downtown, from noon - 6 p.m. Friday afternoon features a new Timber Days activity, an Escape Room at the Cook Public Library from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Music in the Park will begin at 4 p.m., the Beer Garden will open at 5 p.m., and the bean bag tournament at 6 p.m. Evening entertainment brings "Elvis" back to the VFW Post 1757 at 7:30 p.m. with karaoke to follow. The Old Muni will have live music 8 p.m. to midnight to close out Friday's festivities.

Saturday, June 8, opens with the "Shake-a-Leg" 5K race registration at Doug Johnson Park at 8 a.m. The softball tournament will start at 9 a.m. at Dan Swanson Memorial Field. All the vendor booths, the "bounce house," kids games, and the Book Sale at the Book Barn will be open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Pet Show registration will begin at 9:30 a.m., with the show starting at 10 a.m. at the Gazebo. Following the Pet Show, the



TIMBERJAY Newspapers

kids competition races will be held in the Post Office area. The annual Car Show registration will begin downtown at 11 a.m. on Saturday. The cars will be on display for voting until 3 p.m., when the winners will be announced. At noon on Saturday the Lock/Stock action will begin in the Gazebo area. The "bail money" to release those "locked up" will be used to stock the Food Shelf. Bingo will take place at VFW Post 1757, from noon until 3 p.m. From 2 p.m. to 6 p.m., spectators can see chainsaw carving demos by local artist Mike Hanson downtown. Then at 3 p.m. the first of two Lumberjack Shows by Adam LaSalle and his crew will begin. The second show will start at 5 p.m. There will be live music at the VFW from 8 p.m. to midnight and at the Old Muni from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. At dusk, the spectacular Fireworks Display will begin at Doug

On Sunday, June 9, food and beverage, arts and crafts vendors, and Friends of the Library Book Sale at the Book Barn will be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The softball tournament at Dan Swanson Memorial Field is scheduled 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The ever-popular lawn mower races will begin registration at 10:30 a.m. with the races starting at 11:30 a.m. Kids games and the "bounce house" will open at 11 a.m. downtown. An ecumenical church service with Pastor Foss will be held at the Gazebo at 11 a.m. Mike Hanson's chainsaw carving demos can be seen from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The Parade on Sunday will start at 2 p.m. featuring Grand Marshal Mark Eyre. After the parade, VFW Post 1757 will conduct the flag retirement ceremony and the raffle ticket winners will be announced at the Gazebo. Music in the Park will follow. The 2019 Cook Timber Days festival will wind down with live music at the Old Muni.

The complete schedule will be in the Timber Days booklet inserted in the Shopper on June 1. Those who have questions about the schedule, where to purchase raffle tickets, or how to volunteer during Timber Days, may contact Carrolle at 218-248-0170 or Diane at 218-780-2537.

# **LVCC Midsummer Gala set for June 22** in Tower; tickets on sale now

TOWER- The Lake Vermilion Cultural Center (LVCC) has announced details for this year's Midsummer Gala. The annual benefit will be held at the Herb Lamppa Civic Center in Tower on Saturday, June 22. There will be a "meet and greet" with a cash bar, music, and silent auction at 4 p.m. followed by dinner, a brief live auction, and musical program. If you would like to receive an invitation, call 218-753-4100, email vermilionculturalcenter@ gmail.com, or you can register online at lakevermilionculturalcenter.org. The RSVP date is June 15 but this event often is sold-out so make your reservation soon.

theme is "An American Songbook". The dinner will feature a spinach salad with strawberries, red onion, pecans and strawberry vinaigrette; stuffed chicken breast with broccolini/cauliflower mix and orzo; and vanilla cheesecake with fresh berry sauce.

The musical program will again be written, directed and narrated by Janice Kimes. The Midsummer Singers and soloists will present favorite musical selections depicting American themes. The featured soloists and musicians include:



**Debbie Prutsman** 

and Joe LaForte. The special guest of the evening is Debbie Prutsman. Ms. Prutsman comes to Tower from California and performs in musical theater across the country. She has performed with legends like Carol Burnett and John

Raitt. She also has founded and conducted choirs for many age groups near her California home.

Wilberg

guitar,

George

Leupold

banjo,

Linda

Bajan,

D o n

Dick,

Scarlet

Stone

The Midsummer Gala is a benefit for the Lake Vermilion Cultural Center. The LVCC is restoring the former St. Mary's Episcopal Church, now located on the main street of Tower. When finished, the historic building will be repurposed as a cultural/community center and auditorium for the Tower, Soudan and Lake Vermilion area. If you can't attend this benefit, please donate by visiting our website at lakevermilionculturalcenter.org or mailing a check made out to LVCC to PO Box 659, Tower, MN 55790.

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# Shedd, Majerle new additions to city council

Tower-Soudan Editor

TOWER- The Tower City Council, on Tuesday, unanimously appointed two new members, approving Mayor Orlyn Kringstad's recommendations of Mary Shedd and Sheldon

Shedd, a retired U.S. Forest Service wildlife biologist had run for a council seat in November, losing by a slim two-vote margin. Majerle, who is also retired, currently sits on several city committees and is a former council member and acting mayor. Both are active volunteers in the community.

Two other candidates were also in the running, Josh Zika and Cynthia Spicer. Kringstad admitted the choice was difficult, and the two other council members agreed.

Abrahamson noted that Zika would bring a background in maintenance and waste water issues. Spicer is a newer city resident but has expressed interest in city affairs.

Kringstad noted these two would be good additions to city committees and could choose to run for office next year.

The appointments fill seats left by the recent resignations of Kevin Fitton and Brooke Anderson, both of whom were up for re-election in 2020.

'We were fortunate to have really great candidates apply," said Councilor Rachel Beldo.

#### Reorganization

Once the two new councilors took the oath of office, the council approached the normally mundane task of reorganizing city committees and commisSheldon Majerle were seated on the Tower City Council this week.

photo by J. Summit

sions.

Kringstad's motion to move this piece of business to an earlier place on the agenda, during the old business, was met by resistance from City Clerk-Treasurer Linda Keith.

"It's a special meeting," she said. "We can't change the agenda. It is new business.'

Kringstad rebutted Keith's claim, and other council members concurred. The issue was already on the agenda, and Kringstad noted he had asked it be placed on the agenda under old business.

"I don't want any part of that," Keith said.

The council approved a



motion to move the reorganization to the old business portion of the agenda.

The reorganization, usually completed in January, had been repeatedly delayed due to confusion created by unauthorized alterations made by Keith in the committee and commissions roster from previous years. The council also had to address vacancies left by the resignations

See COUNCIL...pg. 5

#### REBUILDING FROM FIRE

# Rebuilding of Zup's Cook store delayed

Sharply higher construction costs may affect plans to enlarge the planned new grocery store

by MARCUS WHITE

COOK - Higher than expected building costs have delayed the rebuilding of the Zup's store here, but company officials say they're committed to bringing a full-service grocery store back

Last November, the Cook's Zup's store was destroyed after an overnight electrical fire gutted portions of the building and created extensive smoke

"We want to make sure we build a store we know we can keep there forever," Ely Store Manager Jim Zupancich said. "We're being cautious with building costs.

The details on what those costs are remain private for now. but Zupancich said that a meeting scheduled for the first week of June should clear the way for the start of construction by late

The original plans called for construction of a new and larger store on Zup's Hwy. 53 location, but much higher-than-expected construction costs have prompted the company to reconsider, which means the new store may

Right: The lot for the planned Zup's store in Cook remains vacant. The former store burned last **November.** photo by M. White

be similar in size to the original structure.

In addition to the new store, the city also plans to redo some of the water lines in the area with the help of IRRRB grant money. That project includes extending water lines around the Zup's property and local streets and adding additional fire hydrants.

In the meantime, organizations such as the AEOA are helping residents obtain their



groceries if they are unable to make it to Virginia or Tower on their own. Information on the program can be found by calling 1-800-662-5711 ext. 6899.

More information on the building project should be available later in June.





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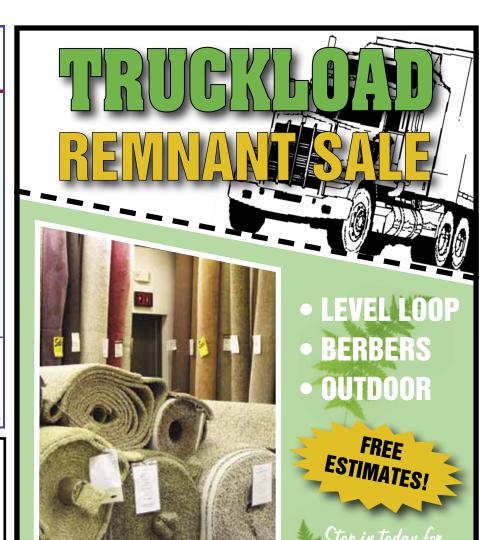
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# OPINION

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The First Amendment of the United States Constitution

#### Editorial

e-mail: editor@timberjay.com

# **Setting priorities**

Ely School Board was wise to refocus on their superintendent search

The Ely School Board was wise to hit the pause button recently and refocus their time and energy on finding a new administrator to lead the district into the future. With their able superintendent, Kevin Abrahamson, hoping to leave in just over a month, finding a quality replacement has to be Job One.

As we reported last week, it now appears unlikely that Ely and the St. Louis County Schools will be able to reach a mutually-beneficial plan for sharing a superintendent. Ely board members want a threedays-a-week superintendent and ISD 2142 superintendent Reggie Engebritson already devotes one day a week to the Mt. Iron-Buhl School District. Even devoting two days per week to Ely would leave Engebritson stretched far too thin to benefit any school district.

School board members in ISD 2142 have already questioned how that district actually benefits from the arrangement with MI-B. That question became all the more urgent with the prospect of adding a third district to Engebritson's already hefty

In some ways, the discussions with ISD 2142 were an unnecessary diversion since the opportunities for sharing administration are limited and wouldn't necessarily save either district much money.

Unfortunately, the rush to engage in "collaboration" has been fueled by the carrot of facilities funding through the Department of Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation, which many school boards across the Iron Range have found to be irresistible. Ely was exploring whether some kind of administrative sharing arrangement might be enough to qualify for a piece of the action. While understandable, it's not the ideal incentive to get school districts working

together, because the benefits to students are largely indirect.

Finding ways to work cooperatively is certainly worthwhile when they provide benefits to students and area schools have actually made strides in that area, through programs like the Applied Learning Initiative, which has proven to bring direct benefits to students by helping to train them for good jobs here on the Iron Range. Area school districts are also pursuing Iron Range collaboration

Such efforts put dollars directly into education, rather than facilities. While we routinely hear the story that new buildings somehow help students learn, there's remarkably little data to support such claims. As we've argued for years in these pages, buildings do little or nothing to improve students' learning. It's quality teachers, with good administrative leadership and support, who make the difference.

Unfortunately, too much funding is focused on facilities because there's a built-in constituency that benefits mightily from the more-thana-billion dollars spent by school districts in Minnesota each year for facility improvements. Consultants, architects, contractors, and building trades unions are all among the beneficiaries when school districts focus on facilities, so it's no wonder that they are coordinated in their message that new buildings somehow help students learn better.

While schools, including Ely, do have facility needs, they need to keep their focus on the things that matter, which is hiring great teachers and providing them with leaders who help them do their jobs better. That has to remain the top priority for every school board, including the Ely School Board. Getting back on track with a superintendent search makes sense.





#### Letters from Readers

#### The ad hominem attack used as a common tool in Ely

"When the debate is lost, slander becomes the tool of the loser."

#### -Socrates

Here in Ely, we regularly see unfounded insults lodged against those who politely point out that:

1. No copper sulfide mine has ever failed to permanently, severely contaminate their

2. Poisoned water DOES actually flow downstream, from the proposed sulfide mine sites into the Boundary Waters Wilderness (Twin Metals) and Lake Superior (PolyMet).

3. Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) established by pollution control districts - and agreed to by the mining interests as part of their mining plans and permits, have always ALWAYS - been exceeded during actual mining operations. Often by hundreds or thousands of times.

Now. If these debates were to progress logically and politely, more and more people would see that proposed mining adjacent to the BWCA is an almost CERTAIN catastrophe waiting to happen, with subsequent costs, decimation and sorrows all left to the public

So. Mining interests mostly purchased legislators, administrative agency heads and mayors, working without facts, logic or historical evidence, have only one defense left: Dilute the message by slandering the messenger. Completely understandable; ad hominem IS a tool It is used frequently. And, unfortunately, successfully. I saw it happen in Wyoming more than once, used by mining interests who got what they wanted, then left poisonous groundwater, abandoned pits and cancers in their wake. I'm now watching it happen here.

It wrenches my insides to see this happening again.

**Duane Behrens** 

#### In the end, we're all the same stuff

What is it? 14 percent of Mediterranean fruit fly 24 percent of a cow

98 percent of a chimpanzee The above constitutes the genetic make-up of all human beings, black, yellow, red, and white, and this information was determined by the results of the cracking of the genome project headed by Dr. Edward Fayhee, long-time head of the CDC.

Dr. Fayhee also determined that in every generation of humans in history 12-16 percent of all people will be gay.

The Earth is only 24,000 miles around at the equator and overpopulation can be a looming problem, but we can't blame that on gay couples who may choose to adopt children.

So, if you are of the above-mentioned white persons and feel superior to people of color and diverse orientation, let us remind ourselves that we are all 98 percent chimpanzee, 24 percent cow, and 14 percent pesky fruit fly.

Janet Y. Schultz **Sturgeon Twp** 

#### Trump threatens America's institutions

Emperor, Lord, His Excellency remind us of the distant past. Der Fuhrer, Il Duce, Stalin and Chairman Mao stir a disturbing memory of a more recent past. Each represents ugly despotic strains in the human psyche on leadership. Democratic notions lingered and languished over the centuries of social struggle for human dignity.

The American Revolution brought forth an idea that no individual, class, party, ideology was above the law in representative democracy. Rule of law with justice was clearly etched into our treasured documents. Our history is replete with heroic agitation against powerful interests to bring forth a more perfect union with leaders accountable to the

Since WWII, anti-demo-

cratic interests have advanced the unitary executive, a euphemism for an "above the law" Imperial President. Separation of power, checks and balances among the three co-equal branches of our federal system are constitutional limits on autocratic rule. Without limits. the Presidency subordinates the Courts and Congress.

A creeping political coup has been in the making for decades, and now very openly and vociferously the President himself detests and thrashes constitutional restraint. By ignoring subpoenas, invoking executive privilege, stonewalling, lying, obfuscation, demeaning and subverting American institutions, democracy itself is under assault...

Where are the voices of Republican Senators, governors and legislators, corporate CEO's and other institutional leaders? Their silence betrays a cozy collusion showing their true colors with authoritarianism, classism and racism. They are complicit in the Trump coup to rule, not as President, but as THE DONald of an organized crime syndicate.

Trump gave voice to those who seek scapegoats for their troubles through the politics of demonizing and division. Democratic candidates will restore true character and honor to the Presidency by giving voice to the needs of people through the politics of problem solving and solidarity.

**Harold Honkola Tower** 

#### We welcome your letters

The Timberjay encourages letters to the editor. You can submit letters by mail at PO Box 636, Tower, MN 55790, or email letters to marshall@timberjay.com.

We ask that letters be limited to 300 words.

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

## Trump administration in a rush to judgment over Twin Metals

In his May 17 letter to the editor, Ely Mayor Chuck Novak suggested Minnesota's Fourth District Rep. Betty McCollum and nearly three dozen retired Forest Service officials were in a "rush to judgment" in opposing the proposed Twin Metals mine before the



released an actual mine plan. In addition, he suggested that decisions on mining permits are supposed to be based on the rule of law, including proper environmental review.

Irespect Mayor Novak. He's a smart guy and is willing to listen to both sides of the copper-nickel mining debate, which is more than can be said of some elected officials in our region.

And he is right that there has been a rush to judgment, and that the rule of law has been ignored.

However, it's Trump administration that has been in a rush to set aside both judgment and the law in their attempt to advance a flawed mining proposal for cravenly political purposes. Mayor Novak is correct that "historically, mining permit decisions have

been made based on the rule of law," and that is actually what took place in the final years of the Obama administration.

When Twin Metals sought the renewal of its mineral lease several years ago now, it well understood that the Bureau of Land Management had discretion over whether or not to renew. They even acknowledged as much in their own financial documents. The original 20-year lease

did provide an option for three

ten-year renewals, but the right to renew was plainly contingent on the start-up of mining operations within the initial 20-year lease term. The historical record on that is crystal clear and Interior Department legal counsel under both the Reagan and Obama administrations concluded sim-The U.S. Forest Service

also exercised its discretionary authority under federal law

See TWIN METALS...pg. 5

# Letters from Readers

#### Rule of law is being twisted to aid a foreign mining giant

Chuck Novak calls for mine permitting under "the rule of law" and criticizes Representative Betty McCollum and retired Forest Service employees for "rushing to judgment" with respect to Antofagasta's proposed sulfide-ore mine at the edge of the Boundary Waters (Timberjay, May 17). This criticism demonstrates both a lack of familiarity with the law and with overwhelming evidence, accumulated over many years, of the threat to the Boundary The great majority of

Minnesotans recognize that sulfide-ore copper mining is wrong for Superior National Forest lands in the watershed of the Boundary Waters. The science is clear. The impact on the wilderness and on our community would be devastating.

The land and minerals that Antofagasta seeks to control and exploit do not belong to Antofagasta. They belong to us-the people of the United States. When public land is too valuable and too vulnerable for mining, as the Boundary Waters is, the Federal Land Policy and Management Act authorizes the executive branch of the federal government to place an area off-limits to mining for up to 20 years. This legal authority was invoked in January 2017, and a comprehensive environmental, economic, and social impact study was begun as required by the laws that govern federally-owned minerals. More than 180,000 Americans submitted comments asking federal officials to protect the Boundary Waters. Many professionals submitted a broad set of high-quality environmental and economic reports that proved the necessity of banning mining in the watershed of this great Wilderness.

But this federal study was

cancelled after twenty months of a 24-month process and the application to ban mining was withdrawn after President Trump intervened for political purposes. Despite repeated requests from Congress in letters and hearings, the scientific, economic, and social data and reports developed during the 20 months of study are being withheld – and thus concealed - from the American public. Two similar studies for national forests in Montana and Washington were allowed to proceed to completion, and now those lands are protected by mining bans. The case for protection of the Boundary Waters is even stronger because it is a vast water-intensive ecosystem and a strong recreation-based economy is at risk. Thirty-three Forest Service career professionals who have collectively nearly 1,000 years of experience working on Superior National Forest lands issues have good reason to be concerned and to challenge the politically-motivated decisions that now put the Boundary Waters and the Superior National Forest at grave risk of permanent damage.

The improperly-cancelled study would have shown that claims of economic resurgence from a Twin Metals mine are poppycock. One economic report submitted by two highly regarded PhD natural resource economists showed that 10 jobs would be lost for every job Twin Metals promises and that property values would drop by more than \$500 million. An independent report by a Harvard professor examined jobs and income with and without a Twin Metals mine over 20 years and documented that the community would be significantly better off in both jobs and income without a Twin Metals mine. A survey of local residents showed that 23 percent say they will move away if a copper mine is built.

Novak calls for review and permitting of a mine. He fails to understand two things: land

next to the Boundary Waters is just plain the wrong place for an industrial mining district; and the mining regulations he touts are for industrial mining districts. The regulations do not limit devastation of the forest habitat and do not prohibit water, air, and noise pollution. That is because the regulations govern mines in mining districts, not national forest lands next to a Wilderness.

Moreover, once polluted. the Boundary Waters will remain damaged without any realistic possibility of restoration of this great habitat of lakes, rivers, wetlands, and forests.

The rule of law is being abused and twisted on behalf of a Chilean billionaire. We should work together to demand that the law be followed, that established processes be respected, and that decisions be based on facts and science. Only then will the Boundary Waters be protected.

**Becky Rom** 

#### TWIN METALS...Continued from page 4 -

to consent or withhold consent for mining projects within the Superior National Forest. Forest Service officials went through a public process, soliciting comment and reviewing available science, and ultimately decided to withhold its consent for renewal of the leases out of concern that a sulfide-based mine in the Rainy River watershed risked "serious and irreparable harm" to the Boundary Waters. Many of those who signed onto the recent letter from former Forest Service officials were involved in some way in that decision and know better than any of us the risks posed by the project. Federal law clearly grants agencies the authority to reject development proposals that pose significant inherent risks to sensitive areas, and agencies routinely do so prior to any environmental review of

handling of this issue and its ultimate decision was fairly routine, and handled consistently with federal

It is the Trump administration that has tossed out the rules and the law by illegally reversing a final decision under the fiction that the decision was based on "legal error." That decision is now being challenged in court and rightly so.

It is the Trump administration that is also preventing the Forest Service from exercising its right to approve or reject a mining proposal within the Superior National Forest, a right that is clearly granted to the Forest Service in federal law.

Let's be clear. We don't need a mine plan to recognize the environmental risks inherent in a sulfide-based mine on the edge of the world's most spectacular canoe country. The track record of such mines, even in arid regions, is such that the risks are unmistakable to anyone with the desire to pay attention. Given the nature of the resource at risk, I have long maintained that this is, literally, one of the worst locations on the planet for a sulfide-based mine. Recent research on the hydrogeology of the region strongly suggests that transport of pollutants from the mine to downstream surface and ground water is virtually inevitable. There is no technological fix for putting a mine in such a risky location.

Just as critical is the perception problem. Like it or not, true or not, the allure of the Boundary Waters for many is based on the perception that it remains pristine. Like it or not, the construction of a sulfide mine just upstream of a major and central watershed in the wilderness will impact that public perception and affect the decisions that so many people make whether to visit, live, and invest in our area.

The suggestion that it's somehow premature to call a halt to this project is in error. This is the only practical time to call a halt because, as the mining companies well know, once a project is proposed and an environmental review process begins, it's more difficult to derail. While it's widely believed that an environmental impact statement determines whether a project can be done safely, that's a myth. An EIS reveals the likely impacts of various alternatives and lays out technological fixes that engineers tell them might mitigate those impacts to meet whatever standards are in effect at the time. The inherent bias in the EIS process is that every environmental problem can be mitigated in some form or fashion, which is why virtually every EIS concludes that a project, no matter how risky, can theoretically be done safely. When it comes to sulfide mines, however, the conclusion of the EIS is almost always wrong.

The rush by the Trump administration to begin an environmental review of a Twin Metals mine plan is clearly intended to start the train moving down the track, mostly for political purposes. While the start of an EIS process typically provides political momentum to a mining project, I believe that is less likely in the case of Twin Metals. Given the already widespread and increasingly bi-partisan opposition to the Twin Metals proposal in Minnesota, it would appear unlikely that the project will ultimately be permitted by state agencies, barring some kind a sea change in Minnesota politics. But Trump doesn't care whether the project ultimately goes forward. He's interested in the political optics, of being seen as a

supporter of even the riskiest type of mining because he's focused on re-election and believes his actions will help add Minnesota's ten electoral votes to his column in 2020, thanks to votes from the Iron Range. Whether the mine happens or not is of no consequence to Trump. To him, all things, in the end, are always about Trump, and whatever benefits Trump.

As I have stated for years, the ultimate factor in any mine decision is economics and at this point there is little reason to believe that the Twin Metals proposal is going to be financially viable any time soon. Which is why I believe Ely, thanks to President Trump, is continuing to have a divisive and unhelpful fight over what, at this point, remains a pipe dream. But then dividing Americans for political gain seems to be what Trump does best.

#### COUNCIL...Continued from page 3.

of Fitton and Anderson.

a specific proposal. The

Obama administration's

council still needed to review and correct the terms for many of the appointments that had been changed without council approval, but this would be done at a later

Among the changes approved Tuesday night

➤ Rachel Beldo was appointed as acting mayor. ➤ Mary Shedd was

appointed to the Charter Commission, Forestry Board, Planning and Zoning, and as alternate to the Joint Powers Recreation Board and Employee Relations committee.

➤ Majerle, who already has a seat on the Charter Commission as a resident, was appointed to the Tower Economic Development Authority, Tower Breitung Wastewater Board, Public Utilities Commission, Liquor Commission, and Lodging Tax Board.

**➤** Josh Zika was named to a seat on the Public Utilities Commission, pending his acceptance of the role.

The council also voted to reinstate Marshall Helmberger to the Tower Economic Development Authority, to a term ending in 2019. "By law we need to put Marshall back on TEDA," said Kringstad.

City Clerk-Treasurer

appoint the open council seat for TEDA and needed to leave the appointment for the two other open spots to the TEDA board itself. Keith noted the city had received applications for the two openings.

"Marshall had a term that went through 2019 and that term was changed to 2017," Kringstad said. "Due process was not followed, and therefore by law we need to put Marshall back on for the balance of his term."

Keith again noted that the TEDA board wanted to fill both the open seats.

The council voted, unanimously, to place Helmberger back onto TEDA, and appointed Majerle to the authority's open council representative position. The TEDA board is expected to make a recommendation to the council to fill the single remaining open seat.

The council tabled any changes to the Gundersen Trust Board due to confusion over the actual makeup of the board. Additionally, former Mayor Josh Carlson, who has served as a council representative on the trust board through the end of 2018, had been switched to a "resident" seat without council authorization.

Majerle also said the council should look at

Kringstad noted the council only needed to position of the board as needed. changed, to allow more members who are not city of Tower residents. Right now only one seat is termed at-large, and that is filled by the clerk-treasurer. In fact, the Gunderson Trust Board is, by its defining court documents, to be comprised of two council members, two members of the city's forestry board, and three at-large members. The makeup of the board was another unauthorized alteration to city records, apparently made by Keith.

"We would have to have the language in the trust changed," said Majerle, who has been a longtime member of the trust board. The change would allow the board to seat members with more experience in investing the monies that the board is charged with overseeing. Profits from the investments benefit the city, but in recent years, the city has earned almost nothing from the approximately million dollars in trust funds.

The council also tabled any appointments to the city's grievance committee pending legal clarification.

The council appointed Majerle as the council representative for Hoodoo Point, to act as a liaison between the campground

## **Open meeting**

law violation The council acknowledged receipt of an advisory opinion from the Minnesota Department of Administration that concluded the Tower City Council had not complied with the Minnesota Open Meeting Law when it closed meetings to consider employee misconduct allegations after it had decided to hire an investigator to look into the allegations.

"It is important that we bring this out," said Kringstad. "The city

council was in error here.' Timberjay Publisher Marshall Helmberger had requested the opinion after the council, acting on the advice of their city attorney, had continued to hold closed sessions to discuss allegations regarding Keith. Helmberger argued that the law required those discussions be held in public, and the Commissioner of Administration agreed.

In other business, the

council: ➤ Approved a request from Good Ol' Days to close the adjacent street for Fourth of July and a request from the Tower-Soudan Lake Vermilion Events Board to use the harbor for

an event on July 6. ➤ Set up a working

Linda Keith said the having the required com- managers and the council, group of Shedd, Kringstad, emergency services. Keith, and Jodi Summit to review changes needed for

> the city website. ➤ Reviewed but took no action on a draft agreement for Advance Life Support service between the ambulance departments of Tower and Virginia. The agreement would allow for the addition of a paramedic from Virginia to join the EMT crew from Tower when doing transfers from the Virginia Hospital that require the support of a paramedic. Virginia would bill Tower \$600 per joint run. Tower would handle the billing. The agreement still needs to be approved by the state director of

Approved a pay estimate for the Nordic Group for \$130,5123 for the work being done on the

harbor trail project. ➤ Reviewed a map that showed city-owned lands and the eight cityowned parcels along the East Two River that are currently for sale. Keith said the previous council had put the parcels up for sale, and designated the proceeds to pay down the harbor project debt. The parcels, if all sold, would generate about \$240,000 in income for the city.



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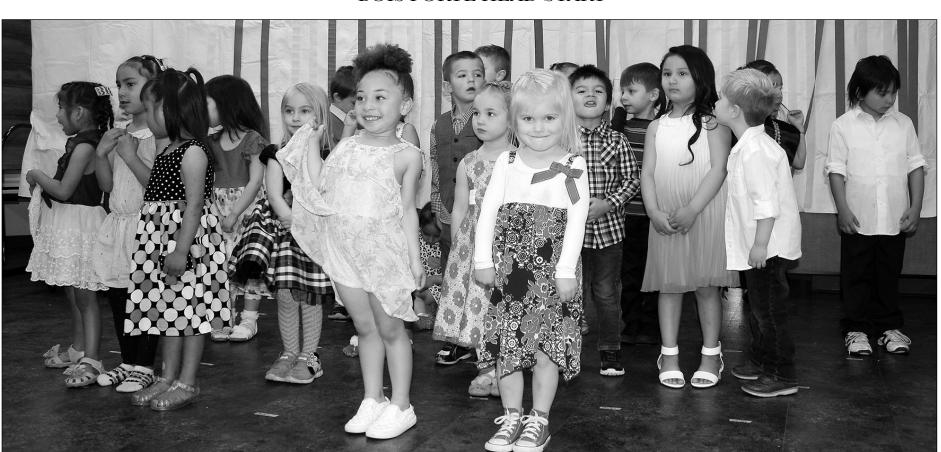
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#### BOIS FORTE HEAD START



# Vermilion Head Start graduation

Above: Bois Forte Head Start students performed during the graduation ceremony on May 17. Right: Young cousins Milkawaad TwoCrow and Aniyah TwoCrow-Wakemup posed for photos with their families. Below: The young graduates show off their diplomas. Below left: Bri Lehti posed with her son Kai. photos by S. Ukkkola







#### 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.

#### **Fourth of July** donations

The Tower-Soudan Lake Vermilion Events Board would like to thank the following indivuals and businesses for their generous donations to this year's Fourth of July fund. Donations can be mailed to T-S LV Area Events Board, PO Box 461, Tower, MN 55790. Names of all donors are printed in the newspaper unless otherwise

James Marttila & Kathleen

Meyerle

Dick & Ellie Larmouth Greenwood Township

Sheryl & Steven Redmond "Eens" Anderson Craig Johnson

In Memory of Shirley

Bassing & Bassing LTD James Woods Judi Anderson

In memory of Larry Sauko Dave Bialke, Joyce Bialke, Julie Bialke and Eddie Udovich - Bocce Ball Winners

#### **Scenic Rivers walking** club begins on **Monday, June 3**

Starting on TOWER-Monday, June 3, Scenic Rivers Clinic will be hosting a Walking Club in Tower. We will meet Monday through Friday at 5 p.m. at the Tower clinic, rain or shine, and we will take a light walk around town for about 30 minutes every day.

To sign up, please arrive on our first day, June 3, at 4:45 p.m. to sign up. Active participants will be entered into a drawing for a prize basket on June 28. All are welcome. If you have questions, please contact us at 218-753-2405.

#### Yoga classes offered in Tower in June

TOWER- Nancy Larson is back leading yoga classes at the Tower Civic Center.

Morning yoga is offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 - 9:45 a.m. This class is a mix of Vinyasa Flow, Yin, Aurayoga, Hatha, Iyengar, Restorative and gentle yoga designed just for your body. Pranayama (controlled breathing) and meditation are incorporated into the class sequence. Classes will be held on June 6, 11, 13, 25, and 27. Note there is no class on June 4, 18, or 20.

Cost is \$35, pre-paid, or \$15 per class, drop-in.

Mats, blanket, strap and blocks are available for drop-in yogis at no cost.

Yin Yoga will be held on Thursdays, June 6, 13 and 27 at 10 a.m. Cost is \$15 prepaid, or \$15 per class, drop in.

Yin yoga is a gentler yoga done primarily on the floor. There is no yoga flow but the



St. Martin's Catholic Church in Tower is pleased to announce that three of our students received the Sacrament of First Communion on Sunday, May 19. The students pictured above are (from left) Thomas Aldrich, Hannah Aldrich and Kolton Orcutt. Submitted photo

longer holds in the gentle asanas allow your body to slowly open and feel the benefits of a deeper stretch. Pranayama and meditation are incorporated into the sequences.

If you are new to yoga and want to learn about how yoga can refresh your body, this is a class to check out. If you are healing from an injury, illness or want just a gentle style of yoga to stretch and open your body and calm your mind, this is also a perfect fit for you. Mats, bolsters and restorative props are provided in this class.

# Cook**VFW**

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**YOUR HELP IS NEEDED** 

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

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.

Let's not forget all of our servicemen and

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

# Tick Talk, a column by Gina Empey

I have a tick bite! What can I do? Immediately visit your doctor to get on antibiotics. Contact the MNlyme.org if there is a problem getting treated right

It only takes hours before the bacteria goes into joints, muscles and cells. There can be more than one tick-borne illness in one tick the size of a poppy seed. The wait and see approach does not work.

I was treated short-term within 10 days of my bite, but it was too late and the disease progressed to the chronic stage. Lyme can affect any part of the body including the joints, muscles, organs and the brain. It is considered a stealth pathogen and rightly so, as it can hide from the body's immune system by changing forms. There are five different forms. They all require different antibiotics. Everyone's treatment will

tremely complicated.

vary since each person has their own set of symptoms, making treatment ex-

Do you have chronic fatigue, fibro-

myalgia, or is it a tick-borne illness?

This is an important question that any one with this diagnosis should be asking. What is fibromyalgia? Where did it come from? It is actually a big word that describes pain all over the body. Many times this pain migrates from one place to another. Unfortunately, the testing for Lyme and the multiple co-infections is highly inaccurate.

This is one thing you can try if you are wondering if your body is fighting an infection. Taking your temperature can help you determine if your body is fighting an infection. My temperature was 98.6 my entire life. It went down to between 96 and 97 after being infected with Lyme. My temperature rises when I am treating, which tells me that my remedy is working.

Never assume age is the only cause of your symptoms. I was extremely healthy before my bite and with treatments have been able to heal symptoms that I was told were permanent. There is hope if you have unexplained pain. Please email LvLyme@outlook.com if you have any questions.

#### MEMORIAL DAY



## Honoring those who gave their lives for our country

by JODI SUMMIT

Tower-Soudan Editor

TOWER- Memorial Day was established as a way to honor those who died while serving our country, but it is also a day to remember the importance of community, even in a small place like Tow-

The Tower Civic Center, as usual, was filled. Many were veterans, many were family members of those who had served, and the rest were just there to remember. The reading of the Roll of

Honor of deceased area veterans grows longer every year, it now takes over a half hour. But every year it reminds those sitting in the audience of the men and women who were important members of the Tower-Soudan and Bois Forte community who are no longer

Tower Mayor Orlyn Kringstad talked about his family's experience during World War II, escaping from Norway as a young child when his family's farm was taken over by Nazi occupiers, emigrating to the United States during wartime, then returning home to Norway after the war, only to return, once again, to the United States in 1947.

"Upon our return to America in October 1947 a photojournalist snapped a photo of my sister and me, sitting on our travel trunk shortly after our arrival at Ellis Island. Thinking that we were new immigrants, the photo was featured the following day in the New York Times. Many decades later the photo was used again on the cover of Professor Odd Lovoll's book, aptly named "The Promise of America". For us the Promise of America was fulfilled, as it has been for all of us gathered here today. But not without cost. The cost was over 400,000 American military personnel who gave their lives in World War Two alone. It is they, and those who gave their lives in so many other wars throughout our history, continuing to this very day, who are, and have, ensured the Promise of America," said Kringstad.

Retired Air Force Col. Gregg P. Rice reminded the communi-





Clockwise from top: The Tower-Soudan Area Singers. Bois Forte **Honor Guard member George** Mihelich. Guest Speaker Gregg Rice. Tower Mayor Orlyn Kringstad. Honor guard member Rod Politano. Civic Club member Mary Batinich. photos by J. Summit



ty that Memorial Day was not a time to glorify war, but a time to remember those who stepped up when war had come. He said a soldier's greatest desire is that their sons and daughters never have to suffer war.

"All we can do is remember," he said. "We see [those who died in battle] as old and wise. But most were young and they gave up their chance to grow old."

Rice reminded the audience that it was soldiers, sailors, marines and airmen who gave us freedom of speech, and "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."

Rice spent 23 years in the Air Force, logging 4,000 hours as a fighter pilot, and flying 116 combat missions in Vietnam. After retiring from the Air Force, he was a commercial airline pilot for 13 years. He was born in Duluth, graduated from Bemidji State University, and now splits his time between homes in Colorado and on Lake Vermilion.

This year's Memorial Day Tribute was made possible with the efforts of many dozens of volunteers: the Tower Soudan Civic Club who organized the tribute and coffee an'; members of the Tower-Soudan Area Singers, along with choir director Rolf Anderson and pianist Julie Horihan; Tower Mayor Orlyn Kringstad and Breitung Town Chair Tim Tomsich; the Bois Forte Honor Guard and Tower American Legion; area pastors Liz Cheney, Doug Workman, and Art Dale; guest speaker Ret. Col. Gregg P. Rice; Army veteran Dianna Sunsdahl who read a message from the American Legion; Mistress of Ceremonies Mary Batinich; city of Tower maintenance staff; and the dozens of area residents who took turns reading the list of deceased area veterans, who date back to the Civil War.

#### **GREENWOOD**

## **Greenwood Community Recreation Board to** host an open house on Wednesday, 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 from 4-7 p.m. All equipment will be out for a fun time, as well as individuals to help with rules of play.

The area now hosts a tennis court with both tennis and pickleball nets, a basketball hoop, a

Wednesday, June 19

Bois Forte Boys/Girls Club

Embarrass, Four Corners

Greenwood Town Hall

Soudan Fire Hall

Tower Civic Center

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 that all 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.

# **Bookmobile Schedule**

11:00-11:30 a.m.

12:00-12:30 p.m.

1:45-3:00 p.m.

3:15-4:15 p.m.

5:15-6:00 p.m.

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

Saturday Sunday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. For info: 1-800-450-9278

#### Hwy. 77 Canister

Summer Hours through Sept. 30 Tuesday 1 p.m. - 6 p.m. Thursday 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. Saturday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. 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 walkins 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 June 3 Monday- Cheese and

Bean Enchilada Tuesday-

Rotini, Meat Sauce, Garlic **Bread Stick** 

Wednesday -Hand-Pattied Hamburger, Watermelon. Last day of School. Senior dining ends until September!

#### Week of June 3

#### 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.

#### 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** posted online at vermilioncountry.org.

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Inc. Offices are at 414 Main St., Box 636, Tower, MN 55790 [218-753-2950], and PO Box 718, Ely, MN 55731 [218-

Cook-Orr Timberjay are published

weekly on Friday by The Timberjay,

365-3114]. Fax number is 218-753-2916. E-mail address is editor@timberjay.com. Visit our website at www.timberjay.com. Entered as Periodicals at the Post Office in

Tower, Minnesota. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: The Timberjay, P.O. Box 636, Tower, MN 55790. Three award-winning community editions are published each week for Tower/Soudan, Cook/Orr, and Ely.

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

#### 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.

#### **Tuesday Group**

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

**June 4** – Meet new Elyites

June 11 - Nancy Scheibe and Pam Davis - Update on the Art and Soul Gallery

#### Play Smear at Senior Center

ELY - Smear tournaments are held the first and third Mondays at the Ely Senior Center, 27 S. 1st Ave E, starting at 6 p.m.

#### **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.

#### **Breathing Out**

by Cecilia Rolando © 2019



time for gardening tilling, digging, planting seeds

pulling out the weeds

# the TIMBERJAY

The Ely Timberjay is published weekly on Friday by The Timberjay, Inc. Offices are at 414 Main St., P.O. Box 636, Tower, MN 55790 [218-753-2950], and PO Box 718,

MN 55790 [218-753-2950], and PO Box 718, Ely, MN 55731 [218-365-3114]. Fax number is 218-753-2916. E-mail address is editor@timberjay.com. Visit our website: www.timberjay.com.

Entered as Periodicals at the Post Office in Tower, Minnesota. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: The Timberjay, P.O. Box 636, Tower, MN 55790. Three award-winning community editions are published each week for Tower/Soudan, Cook/Orr, and Ely.

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#### ELY MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL

# **Class of 2019 graduates Saturday**

ELY – The Ely Memorial High School class of 2019 will be honored at a commencement ceremony on Saturday, June 1, beginning at 7 p.m. in the Washington Auditorium, with 32 graduates walking across the stage to receive their diplomas.

A processional by the Ely Memorial High School Band, under the direction of Sarah Mason, featuring "Fanfare and Processional," and "Star Spangled Banner," will open the program.

Welcoming remarks by 6-12 Principal Megan Anderson, will be followed by the Senior Class speakers, Charles Dammann and Madelene Johnson.

The Commencement Address will be delivered by teacher Todd Hohenstein.

The Ely Memorial High School Choir, under the direction of Mike Rouse, will perform, "For Good," and the Senior Choir will present "Seize the Day." The High School Band will then follow with selections from "The Greatest Showman."

Principal Anderson will present the Class of 2019, followed by the

by Ray L. Marsnik, School Board Chair and Kevin Abrahamson, District Superintendent.

The new graduates will be sent on their way with a recessional by the High School Band, "Fanfare and Recessional."

See page 12 of today's *Ely Timberjay* for a special Congratulations Graduates! sponsor page.

#### SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, ARTS, MATH

# Middle school field trip generates STEAM

ELY-When you were a kid, did you go on any fun field trips? If so, was it an experience that you'll remember forever? We can assure you that the field trip that we recently took with our 8th grade STEAM class is something we'll never forget.

If you didn't know already, STEAM stands for science, technology, engineering, art, and math. In this class we do various projects that combine all of these subjects. We make prototypes of things, create slideshows for assignments, do reflections to see what could be done better, and more.

Many ideas and thoughts are always being shared in this class and that's what makes it so much fun. It's also so amazing how many girls are in this class. That's a pretty big deal considering there aren't a really large amount of women in stem careers these days; although we are gaining.

One of the projects we did, called Genius Hour, was a semester project in which students could choose the topic and project. Kole Macho, Lily Tedrick, Charlie Carlson, and Luna Klingsporn submitted an entry to the National Geographic Geochallenge competition

This competition was to try and reduce the amount of plastic produced or released into the waterways in the United States. This group came up with the idea to



Ely Memorial Middle School's Geo APES team that competed at the National Geographic Geochallenge Regionals in St. Paul, included, from left, Lily Tedrick, Luna Klingsporn, Charlie Carlson, and Kole Macho. submitted photo

have edible utensils like spoons, straws and even plates to stop plastic from initially getting into the environment. They decided on gingerbread spoons for their main food object. Some people may have sampled the spoons because at a bake sale a couple of weeks agothe group handed out samples at Zup's Food Market to get survey results

When we got the news that these students made it to regionals we were so excited. Our class was in the middle of a project where we plan an educational field trip somewhere in the state. Then Ms. Molly (Olson) told us that we were going to the cities so our GEO A.P.E.S (Against Plastic Everyday Society) could compete at regionals. We had to switch gears quickly, change everything, and plan the field trip for the cities.

We had lots of fundraising to do with only 2½ weeks in school to make it happen. We did "Pie Your Teacher" in their face where students put money in the teacher's bin of their choice. The teacher with the most money got a pie in the face. We also sold raffle tickets to decide who would pie that teacher in the face. Bella Davis won the honor of smashing a pie in Mr. McDonald's face. We hosted a bake sale and had various groups donate money to help us. The groups that gave us money included the Range Engineering Council, Ely Education Foundation, Ely Memorial Middle School PTO, and our STEM budget.

Acouple weeks later, on March 28, we were on our way to Minneapolis to have this great trip. We went to the Science Museum of Minnesota, the Aquarium within the Mall of America, Nickelodeon Universe, the Como Zoo, and most importantly the University of Minnesota where the Geochallenge

regionals were hosted.

At the Science
Museum of Minnesota,

we looked around at all the cool things there were to see and entered the Game Changers Exhibit where we got to see technology like never before. They had different games such as Fruit Ninjas, Dance Central, SingStar and many others.

We later travelled to the Mall Of America to tour the Sea Life Aquarium and the rides. At the aquarium we saw many different types of fish and sharks. At the mall we were given a ride pass for three hours. We stayed the night at the Hyatt Inn and had an absolute blast bonding.

On Friday, March 29 we arrived at the University of Minnesota Continuing Education andConferenceCenterfor the National Geographic Geochallenge Regional Contest. At regionals there were 13 other teams competing. We went into a separate conference room for our A.P.E.S to present. The team didn't make finals, but all put in a lot of hard work and gave it their best efforts. Everything went really well and the

team did awesome.

The Como Zoo tour was a fun way to end our trip surrounded by exotic animals and plants. So many inside jokes were created and lots of pictures were taken. It was such a great experience for all the students who went on the trip. Thanks to all

who supported our trip.

by Natasha Fulkrod

and Lily Tedrick, Ely

STEAM students

# 'Looking Skyward' showcase



'ELY - A "Looking Skyward" Showcase and Sign-up Event was held on Tuesday at the Vermilion Community College Fine Arts

Theater.
All classes from the spring session presented the pieces they been working on in preparation for the real show, scheduled to run Aug. 8-11.

Interested dancers who want to join Reflections Dance Company for the summer session were able to sign-up and talk with the instructors.

Showcase performances included Jazz, Ballet, Contemporary, Acro and Company classes. Summer rehearsals are tentatively going to be Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings.

Interested dancers can pick up a form at the Ely Public Library, or call 218-248-2227.

photo by K. Vandervort

SUPPORTING THE ARTS

# Dance in a Northern Town

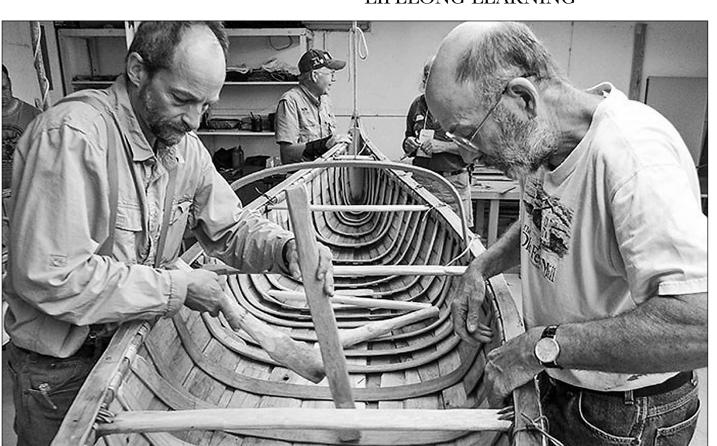




Ely's Studio North, celbrating their 20th year, recently presented their "Dance in a Northern Town" spring recital at Washington School auditorium. photos K. Vandervort



LIFELONG LEARNING



#### Birch bark canoe project returns to Ely Folk School ELY - The 2019 Birch Bark Canoe

Project (BBCP) at the Ely Folk School is in session with lots of handcrafting, learning, and sharing. This summer, the class meets on Mondays from 5-9 p.m. through Aug. 12.

Participation is free for visitors who

Participation is free for visitors who want to try it out. For Birch Bark Canoe Project member-builders, the fee is \$30 for the entire year.

"Our goal is to complete and paddle

our new 20-foot, traditional Ojibwe-style birch bark canoe, which is in its third and final year of construction," said Instructor Erik Simula.

#### MEMORIAL DAY





The city of Cook held its annual Memorial Day ceremony this past Monday morning. The ceremony not only honored veterans who have lost their lives fighting for the United States, but also commemorated the dedication of the city's new Veterans Bridge, which serves as the new River Street crossing of the Little Fork River. Clockwise from top: The honor guard from the Cook VFW and Orr Legion line the Veterans

Bridge as it is dedicated; Mayor Harold Johnston presents the bridge dedication plaque to the crowd assembled on River Street; A 21-gun salute is sounded; Pastor Erika Foss says a prayer for veterans; members of the Girl Scouts drop flowers from the bridge deck in honor of those buried at sea.

photos by M. White







# Community Notices

#### 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

Cook Optical

HOURS: 9-4:30 Mon.-Fri.

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with Dr. Jensen, Optometrist

55+ (with or without vison 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 The Lighthouse Cen-

ter for Vision Loss in Duluth provides the following services, one-on-one in-home training, device demonstration and loan program, technology ho-



**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

tline, and drop-in "Tech

Cafes". For more infor-

mation, visit www.lcfvl.

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 Teen volunteers June.

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.

#### **NSCU** merger expands service

area COOK - North Star Credit Union recently held its 80th Annual Meeting at the Cook Community Center on

Thursday, May 23. To

commemorate the credit

union's 80 years in busi-

ness, 99 members and

guests joined the credit

union staff and Board of

Directors in celebration.

North Star's CEO, Rich Crettol, welcomed members and gave the opening remarks, announcing that 2018 was a great year for North Star Credit Union. The credit union merged with Brooks Community Federal Credit Union, whose board and manager sought a merge partner with the same community and member focused philosophy they had, while adding the products and services the membership desired. The merger added

**Email your** community

notices to

editor@timberjay.com



over 500 new members to

North Star Credit Union.

growth, the credit union

was granted an expansion

of their field of member-

ship from the Minnesota

Department of Com-

continuing

the

With

merce.

#### PHOTO CONTEST





The Northwoods Friends of the Arts awarded their spring photo contest winners at a banquet last Friday evening. Submissions were accepted in adult and student categories and were displayed at the NWFA Gallery on River Street in Cook.

Left: Zoe Trip holds her second-place student submission to the photo contest entitled, "Look Me in the Eye." Right: Carol Bowman holds her first and second place entries in the adult category entitled, "Chilly Sunny Morning" and "Icy Artwork Along the Shore." submitted photos

#### FARMERS MARKET



# **Farmers market to open**

COOK - The members of the Cook Area Farmers Market have been gearing up and will start another fantastic season, beginning Saturday, June 15 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Cook City Park on River Street (the main street of Cook). Like everyone in our community, the Market members were stung by the tragic loss of our grocery store, Zup's, in December. The fire was a harsh reminder of how critical the store was to our area. Local businesses are the life blood of small towns. Local food sources are even more critical, and everyone is looking forward to the day Zup's reopens. Until then, the Market's farmers will try to grow as much fresh produce as possible, supply baked goods, and this year Helstrom Farms has indicated that they will come up from Hibbing during

the season with locallygrown grass-fed beef, chicken and other good

The Market offers a wide variety of fresh locally-grown produce, baked goods, home canned goods, roasted coffee, honey, art and crafts. Like years past, the Market is sure to create a festive atmosphere in downtown Cook for folks who live in our area as well as summer visitors. As more people have become conscious of sustainable agricultural practices, farmers markets have become a popular place to shop for fresh produce and more.

Once again, participating vendors will accept SNAP (the nutrition program for families, the elderly, disabled and working, but living below the poverty level) and there will be a booth for SNAP beneficiaries to obtain tokens to use to

purchase eligible items. No change will be given for purchases made for less than the full value of a token. SNAP beneficiaries are also eligible for "Market Bucks." A person using SNAP is eligible to receive an extra ten dollars in Market Bucks to match the first ten dollars' worth of SNAP benefits to purchase local, healthy and nutritious Market Bucks benefits will be available until our funding for the program is exhausted.

The Market will also be participating in the Power of Produce program known as PoP. Children between the ages of four through twelve can receive two dollars' worth of PoP tokens every week to spend on fresh Market produce (but only veggies) during the season. There are no income requirements every child is welcome! The purpose is to introduce kids to nutritious food and allow them to experience eating food fresh from the farm. The program will run during the season until available funding is exhausted.

The Market members thank Matt Zupancich and his family for their tireless work to bring Zup's back to Cook. Until then, the Market will do its small part to provide locallygrown, raised, baked and produced goods to the community. The Cook Area Farmers Market will be held every Saturday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Cook City Park until October.

## **Bookmobile schedule**

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

June 6

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

Crane

Lake - Rang-Station 11:15 a.m. - 12

noon Orr – Lake

Country ReMax building 1:45 -2:30 p.m. Kabetog-

**ama –** 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.

# 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.

head Library System library card. This card must be

**Hotspot Terms of Use** Eligibility: Borrowers must have an Arrow-

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-

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. Resgistrations 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 TIMBERJAY

The Cook-Orr Timberjay is published weekly on Friday by The Timberjay, Inc. Offices are at 414 Main St., Box 636, Tower, MN 55790 [218-753-2950] and Box 718, Ely, MN

55731 [218-365-3114]. Fax number is 218-753-2916. E-mail address is editor@timberjay.com. Visit our website: www.timberjay.com.

Entered as Periodicals at the Post Office in Tower, Minnesota. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: The Timberjay, P.O. Box 636, Tower, MN 55790. Three award-winning community editions are published each week for Cook/Orr, Tower/Soudan, and

Publisher General Manager Staff Writers

Ely Editor Cook/Orr Editor Office Manager Graphics/Ad Sales/ Staff Writer Ad Sales/Sports

Marshall Helmberger Jodi Summit Melissa Roach Stephanie Ukkola Keith Vandervort Marcus White M. M. White

Scarlet Lynn Stone Jay Greeney

#### Official Newspaper:

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# **Commencement**

# Friday, May 31 • 7 PM North Woods High School Gymnasium

## **Senior Class Roster**

Madison Renee Antikainen Tanner Ray Barto Claire Patricia Beaudry Emily Elizabeth Benoit Alexander David Byram Bria M. Chiabotti Dylan Chiabotti Sharla Cly Kristen Elizabeth Cook Dylan Dean Day Jaime Drift Brody J. Driscoll Ellie Marie Frazee Samantha Marie Fultz Cade T. Goggleve Carlie Marie Hadrava Katlyn Marie Hartwig

Jakob Edren Hyppa Eli Isham Stefen Johansen Parker Alexander Jones Tyler Jason Kiehm Chase Patrick Kleppe Jacie Lakoskey Kylee Grace Lange Katie Elizabeth Lundemo Taylor Mae Meidrich Jennifer Mae Morrison Joseph L. Nelson Kyle David Nelson Kayla Jean Palm Blake T. Perala Hayden Timothy Picek Regan Ann Ratai

Brice T. Rother Alanna Marie Rutchasky **Darrick Anthony Sandberg** Hanna Jayden Sandberg Kiana Rain Sargent Blake Easton Scofield Madalyn Diane Serna Ian Thomas Sherman Drayke Lee Snidarich Kate Elizabeth Stone **Braden Paul Thom** Anna Muriel Trip Rebecca Sue Triska Kent Allen Villebrun Kentrell Cruz Villebrun Anthony James Vito Ryan W. Vlaisavljevich

Class Motto: "Full send or no send." unknown
Class Flower: White Lily

Class Colors: Carolina Blue, Silver, Black
Class Song: "Five More Minutes" by Scotty McCreery

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#### TOWER....Continued from page 1

to the building. He said the system that SEH had installed would vent large quantities of air directly to the outside, which would force the company to spend far more than they wanted to heat and cool the replacement air.

He went through a calculation in front of the council suggesting that the system installed for the building would completely change over air in the building about 44 times a day assuming it runs for five hours a day. "That's all heated air that's simply being exhausted," he said.

Horihan questioned the process that the city and SEH followed and complained that lack of communication by the city created the current problems. "Here's my frustration. SEH is the project management on this. I would expect that I wouldn't have to do the research. I would expect to have monthly meetings with SEH and the city."

Horihan challenged a comment made recently by Clerk-Treasurer Linda Keith that he was free to contact her if he had any questions about the project. "No," he said. "Keep me informed. If nobody tells me what's happening, I don't know what to ask."

Horihan also said that directly venting, rather than filtering, 8,000 cubic feet of air per minute from the plant's paint booth would require an MPCA permit, adding further to the regulatory challenges the company will face.

Mayor Orlyn Kringstad, who made environmental sustainability a major focus of his campaign, said he recognized the importance of what Horihan was saying. "To me, it makes total sense to do the research," he said.

Bolf said he didn't want to argue about the decisions made and said he was unfamiliar with the facts of the issues that Horihan raised. He suggested that the city first needed to do some testing of the existing equipment to see if issues that Horihan raised Tuesday night and earlier this month were as serious as Horihan suggested. Horihan had earlier raised concerns about ventilation fans for the plant's welding shop, which he feared would create OSHA or NIOSH violations due to noise.

The council did take action to greenlight a couple minor changes that Horihan had raised earlier in the month, including

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adding side-lighting to the paint booth and swapping out a small hand-washing sink for a more standard size and including a vanity for storage of soaps and cleaning supplies.

And the council asked for sound testing of the welding shop ventilation equipment and more research on the air makeup system in the paint booth to better understand the extent of the problem. They hope to have answers for the council's next regular meeting, set for June 10.

#### Financial report

Kringstad had hoped to get a clearer picture of the city's financial condition but Keith offered few details. She did confirm. however, that the \$140,000 insurance settlement that the city received for the fire that damaged the city's ambulance garage in 2014, had been spent covering city bills for ongoing projects. Keith, as recently as the council's May 13 meeting, had told council members that the insurance funds were segregated in a special account and had not been

As of April 30, Keith had reported that the city had \$9,126 in available cash remaining, but she had been previously unwilling to acknowledge that that number included the insurance funds.

"So what is our cash position as of today?" asked Kringstad.

"I didn't check it today," responded Keith, an answer which clearly frustrated the mayor. "I would have thought you'd be prepared for this," said Kringstad. "I did talk to you about this last week."

Under questioning from Kringstad, Keith acknowledged that the city owes about \$17,000 every month for city payroll, and that the payroll was due to go out as of May 31. "But you don't know whether we have enough cash?" asked Kringstad.

Keith said the city always has more than \$17,000 in available cash to cover payroll.

"Has the city had our available cash drop below \$10,000 any time in the last month?" asked Kringstad. "Not that I'm aware of," said Keith, directly contradicting her own financial report which showed less than \$10,000 as of April 30. "I feel like you should be aware," responded Kringstad.

Keith said the April

fund balance was a temporary figure and that the city had received a \$60,000 loan infusion for construction costs on the Lamppa building the following day, that boosted the city's available cash as of May 1.

Keith said the city would replenish the \$140,000 in insurance funding, yet the city's auditor had raised concerns in April that the city had been using other funds for a period of years to cover frequent deficits in city projects and that the funds had only slowly been paid back to the city's ambulance fund. Now, with those funds largely depleted, the city is tapping its own insurance settlement.

Newly-appointed council member, Sheldon Majerle, expressed frustration over the fact that the insurance money had not been used to rebuild an ambulance garage. "I'm a little peeved that the \$140,000 is gone," he said. "We've got thousands of dollars worth of equipment sitting out in the weather that should be in a garage. It should have been rebuilt."

Kringstad argued that the city council needed firmer oversight of the city finances and motioned to create a budget and finance committee, with two council members and two at-large members with a financial background, to review financial matters and keep track of city spending. He said both Virginia and Ely have similar committees that do that work.

Beldo voiced support, noting that the city's auditor had recommend increasing council oversight of city finances. The council approved Kringstad's motion unanimously. The council will further define its function and appoint members at their June 10 meeting.

#### Grievance committee process

In other business, the council struggled to reach resolution on how to respond to a remedy pushed through the union grievance committee that had the effect of overturning the council's authority to investigate Keith over multiple allega-

tions, including dishonesty

and falsification of city Keith had filed the

grievance last winter accusing Kringstad of engaging in an unauthorized investigation of her activities, which he subsequently brought to the council. Ambulance Director and Fire Chief Steve Altenburg and former council member Brooke Anderson, both Keith allies, had approved a grievance remedy in March that prohibited the council from any further investigation into Keith's alleged wrongdoing. Altenburg sent that remedy to the union without ever taking it to the city council and the union quickly accepted. Altenburg and the union have since argued that the decision is binding on the council. Others on the council had questioned the fairness of that decision and the validity of the approved remedy, which appears to directly contradict the city's charter.

Kringstad challenged both the decision and its ability to bind the council. "That the grievance committee can make a decision and go directly to a union with a remedy bypassing the city charter and the city council is absolutely wrong," he said. Newly-appointed

council member Mary Shedd also expressed her concerns with the process, noting that just two of the three members of the grievance committee, both Keith allies, were aware of the meeting during which the remedy was drafted and approved. She also took issue with Altenburg's apparent conflict of interest in the matter, noting that he had filed his own complaint about Kringstad, which the council later dismissed as frivolous.

"It's very hard to accept a remedy from two people, one of whom had his own grievance against the mayor."

But Shedd encouraged the council to separate the two issues raised by the handling of the grievance, particularly as the council tried to decide whether to hire attorney Mitch Brunfelt to weigh in on the issues. The council had originally discussed hiring outside counsel to determine whether the grievance decision and remedy could supersede the city charter and prohibit the council from investigating Keith, but by Tuesday's meeting the discussion focused mostly on investigating the fairness of the grievance process itself. Council members, at various times, seemed to separate the two issues,

only to mix them up again.

League of Minnesota

Cities had concluded that

Keith argued that the

the grievance remedy was binding, citing an email exchange in late March. But a League attorney, when questioned by the Timberjay, explained that the League's advice was limited to the question of whether a grievance can be resolved at the committee level, which it clearly can be under the city's union contract. "No opinion or information was provided with respect to any question outside of this narrow inquiry into the plain language of the applicable labor contract," wrote senior LMC counsel Patricia Beety in a March 27 email to the Timberjay. As to whether a grievance committee decision could bind the council, Beety stated: "Any inquiry into the current or future process/decision-making involving Ms. Keith or questions regarding investigation, grievance or other matters related to Ms. Keith or any other city employee, is properly directed to Tower's city attorney.'

City attorney Andy Peterson has refused to weigh-in on the question, however, leading the council to look for outside legal advice.

Council members Steve Abrahamson, Rachel Beldo, and Majerle all voiced support for hiring Brunfelt to

offer an opinion on something, but exactly what was not clear.

But before any of them completed a motion, Shedd suggested that the council propose to mediate the question with the clerk-treasurer and the union. The suggestion met with considerable skepticism from the council chamber and the council itself. "I think from the union's perspective it's settled," said Beldo. But Shedd persisted. "For me, it's common sense to sit down. I can't believe it couldn't be done."

She then made a motion to ask the city clerk and the union if they are willing to set aside the grievance and undergo mediation to resolve the issues in the complaint.

The council agreed to have Shedd contact Keith by email to suggest the idea and get back to the council at their next meeting on the

The council, in related action, gave Kringstad the authority to contact the city attorney and the LMC to determine whether the city could transition the grievance committee from its current three-member makeup to include the full council.

Keith argued that the council could not do that without union approval and not before the beginning of next year, but Kringstad will attempt to verify that claim. Kringstad and others

on the council have expressed concern about Altenburg's presence as chair on the grievance committee, given that he reports directly to the clerk-treasurer, who is covered by the union grievance process.



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School board wrestles with Cherry teacher termination

#### by MARCUS WHITE

**TOWER-Community** outcry over the termination of a teacher at Cherry reached the St. Louis County School Board on Tuesday evening. A district evaluations board had recommended termination of elementary teacher Melinda Asuma, who just completed her second year as a probationary teacher at the school. The recommendation prompted a community-wide petition to stop the board from following through with the termination of the popular teacher.

Teachers within their first three years of teaching are considered probationary, meaning they can be terminated from their contracts with little recourse.

It was not clear why Asuma, who is herself a Cherry alum, was terminated, but statements by Cherry Board member Lynette Zupetz suggest it was related to underperformance on evaluations performed by the district's competency (Q-comp) evaluators and Cherry Principal Michael

Zupetz said Asuma granted her access to the evaluations, documents which are typically confidential, even to school board members.

"I want to see her work with her mentors to get more experience," Zupetz said. "She was rated quite high from Q-Comp and her ratings from the principal that she is pretty much passing. I can't see any reasons in here that would qualify her for termination."

Her comment on Asuma "pretty much passing" struck a chord with other board members.

Christine Taylor took issue with the statement, saying teachers needed to be excellent in what they taught and not just making the grade.

"Our most important duty is the education of our kids," she said. Zupetz also clarified

that Asuma's Q-Comp ratings were "proficient to good". "I have been asking

that we keep exemplary teachers, not good ones," Chair Dan Manick said. "All it takes is one year

for a kid to fall behind," he said. "If they don't get a good teacher right away, they don't get a do-over." Troy Swanson brought up a change.org

petition which has since been removed from the "In the end, we are the stewards of the taxpayers,"

he said. "When you see that many signatures it says something." Manick said the board

was also there to serve the educational interests of the

Swanson and Zupetz argued that Asuma had moved back to Cherry, her hometown, for the job, and that fact should also be considered.

Taylor took issue with the sentiment, however, saying it was an unfair approach to employment in the district.

"My problem is that if we offer different treatment to one, why isn't everyone else getting the same treatment," she said.

"Maybe it's a future discussion on how the process of evaluation is done."

She also suggested that evaluations could be more transparent so teachers and the board would be on the same page when terminations happen.

Following the discussion, Superintendent Reggie Engebritson read a statement stating her position on the matter. "These are people we

feel are not a fit for the

district," she said. "You are telling people that their child did not come first." She also said that decisions to terminate should

not be swayed by popular

A vote on the matter was 5-2 with Swanson and Zupetz voting to retain Asuma. Both voted to terminate employment of all the other teachers on

#### **North Woods** grievances

the list.

The board, after some discussion, opted to deny two grievances from teachers at North Woods. Julie Holien, the grievance chair for the district's Education Minnesota union, addressed the board on two issues.

The first was for Amanda Pascuzzi. Holien said Pascuzzi had not been informed during her first year of teaching college level courses that she was eligible for 35 hours additional pay for taking on the task.

Holien said while Principal John Vukmanich had informed the teacher this year of her right to the additional pay, she

wanted back-pay for the previous year.

According Holien, lawyers for the union in St. Paul had already reviewed the case and were willing to take it on should the board not award the back

The board immediately took up the discussion on the grievance. Taylor asked whether the contracts were clear on the

Engebritson said they were while Holien said they were not. "There are parts of the

contracts that say they have to turn in the vouchers (for additional hours) within 10 days," Engebritson said. "If we pay this, there could be many other teachers from past years that will come forward and claim compensation."

Taylor then asked if the new contracts addressed the issue.

Holien said they did

Regarding the second grievance, Holien said it was being brought forward by Chris McIntyre who felt he was not being paid enough because the district had not taken into account all of his additional credits earned beyond his bachelor's degree.

Engebritson said that McIntyre had waited until May to submit his credits for consideration and not at his time of hire in December.

The board voted unanimously in both cases to deny the grievances.

#### **South Ridge** woes addressed

Ground breaking on

the South Ridge addition was scheduled for 2:30 p.m. on Thursday despite the project being currently out of compliance with county ordinances.

Last week, the board learned that the property was over the impervious surface limit imposed by St. Louis County. Nathan Norton, the

project manager from ICS, the lead consultant group on the project, addressed the board. "One of my argu-

ments would be if that we would have caught it a few months ago, we would still be having this discussion," he said. "We would have always needed this square footage. The silver lining here is that the county is looking at increasing the impervious coverage allowed for that area." He added that engi-

neers on the project had made an incorrect assumption on county regulations. Norton said in many other counties the impervious surface limit is usually closer to 25 percent, not 10 percent as it is in St. Louis County.

Taylor countered, "It seems a little late in the process to check on this. You find this stuff out before you design things. It might have altered the beginning of the discussions. We could have waited. We would have saved ourselves design and stakeholder money."

She noted that the county had given no guarantee on when the impervious surface regulations would be changed. The county has given the school district a compliance deadline of June

Business manager Kim Johnson said property owners neighboring the South Ridge School had not responded to inquiries on whether they'd be willing to sell vacant land to the district.

Taylor said she preferred land acquisition to the alternative of ripping up one of the parking lots and outdoors basketball courts

In other business, board members, ➤ Heard a plan to

make the district transportation specialist full-time by adding an additional 30 days to her contract. Taylor was again critical of Johnson's plan since the position is shared by the Mt. Iron-Buhl school district. She questioned why the district needed to take on more burden for a position that was benefitting other districts. "Idon't want to be held hostage by the way you are doing your books," Taylor said to Johnson. "I believe your rationale, but you haven't brought me proof."

➤ Awarded insurance contracts for the 2019-2020 school year.

➤ Voted to release land covenant easements on property previously sold by the district. One of the properties is now in the hands of Twin Metals.

➤ Northeast Range member Chris Koivisto said he'd secured a \$1,000 grant from Cleveland Cliffs to complete the renovation project of the school's football field.

➤ Added a June 11 study session to the cal-

#### **BREITUNG TOWNSHIP**

# Bids awarded for town hall renovation; work underway

by STEPHANIE UKKOLA

BREITUNG- The Breitung Town Board awardedthebidforthetown hall renovation project to Lenci Enterprises. Lenci Enterprises was the only contractor to bid for the project at a price of \$928,000, with an additional \$6,500 for an overhead door for the police department parking garage. The project will be completed within 180 days and will also include work with JK Mechanical and Hunt Electric.

The pavement project was awarded to the lowest bidder, Mesabi Bituminous, at \$168,486 with a \$9,168 alternate for the adjacent Vermilion Housing parking lot. Weekly progress meetings will begin Thursday, June 6 at 8 a.m. Work on the project is currently underway.

The board acknowledged Officer Jason Sanderson's one-year anniversary as a Breitung Police Department Officer

and agreed to offer him a promotion to lieutenant. Chairman Tim Tomsich said, "He's been doing a great job for us."

#### Other business

In other business the

➤ Reiterated that they have not signed any agreements with the city of Tower to contribute to their ambulance subsidy fund. The board directed clerk Polly McDonald to send a letter of clarification to

➤ Gave Supervisor Greg Dostert permission to begin searching for grants to fund a proposed gazebo at the Breitung Rec Area and work with ARI on the project.

➤ Heard an update from Supervisor Chuck Tekautz that the Board of Health will require additional testing on the public water supply. SEH will do preliminary water testing at the water plant. The wastewater board estimates they will spend

between \$4 and \$4.5 million for water quality improvements, beginning with \$30,000 for SEH's preliminary tests.

➤ Heard Maintenance director Dale Swanson, who said that there was a lot of groundwater infiltration in the sewer. The plant sent out 1.8 million gallons of water and 5.1 million came back to the ponds. Swanson has been checking in manholes for leaks.

➤ Heard that there will be no VFW baseball team

➤ Heard that some township gravel roads will be sprayed with a dust suppressant in June.

➤ Heard that Al Services has a claim into their insurance for the township's sidewalk damage, though A1 still claims they are not at fault.

➤ Willholdtheirnext meeting on Thursday, June 13 at noon. The regular monthly meeting will be Wednesday, June 26 at

#### **ELY** ... Continued from page 1

position at the end of his contract on June 30. He also indicated to the board that he is willing to stay on in a temporary basis to assist the school district with the transition to a new top administrator.

Board members discussed at length the merits of the four candidates, Kevin Ricke, Steve Thomas, Beth Zietz and Bruce Houck, they interviewed May 1-2 from a pool of eight applicants.

On Thursday, they were looking for consensus to bring at least two candidates back for a second interview but could not agree. It appeared that most of the board members did prefer Ricke above all the other candidates.

Board members ultimately agreed to tweak their re-posted job application requirement from candidates possessing state licensure as a super-

intendent, to candidates being able to obtain a license by this fall. Board members were hoping the adjustment would open up the pool of applicants who may be interested in applying for the job. "As I look at our needs

here," said board chair Ray Marsnik, "our facilities will be a big issue, along with the possibility of a bonding referendum, and perhaps some (academic) collaboration with other school districts."

He said he would support any decision that the board agreed on as far as conducting second interviews of the four candidates. "However, I myself would like to look at other candidates," Marsnik added. " I think that the message we got from our extended committee and our principals was that they preferred to

look at other candidates."

Marsnik pushed for the board to consider another applicant for the job that was screened but dismissed because of his lack of a state superintendent's license. "I would really like to look at this "Candidate H" before the board makes any decision," he said.

"This candidate (H) called me and I was very impressed with what he had to say," he continued. "Since my conversation with him, there were a number of staff people here who know this individual personally and professionally, and hold him in very high regard."

Marsnik indicated that he also talked to other people outside of the district about the applicant.

The problem with the candidate is that he is not currently licensed to hold a superintendent position in Minnesota. "I'm sure

that's the reason that nobody here even bothered to rate him among the qualified candidates," Marsnik said.

To get around that situation, Marsnik said he talked with Abrahamson about a "pathway" to bring Candidate H on board as a superintendent in Ely. Apparently, the candidate only needs to complete a 320-hour practicum term to meet the requirements for licensure.

Abrahamson indicated that Candidate H, contacted him about the Ely job. "He asked me if I would be willing to mentor him during his practicum and I told him I would. I only know him professionally." Abrahamson said that that 320-hour practi-

Candidiate H knows Ely,

cum could be completed in as little as eight weeks. Marsnik said that a staff member told him that

"and spends a lot of time in Ely."

A motion made by Tony Colarich and seconded by Tom Omerza to interview Candidate H failed on a 3-3 vote.

Discussion continued on the legality and fairness of reposting the position with adjusted requirements. "I want to understand this board's direction on how we are looking at this position," said board member Rochelle Sjoberg, who is a human resources official at Ely-Bloomenson Community Hospital. "Are now saying that we are changing those requirements?" she asked.

Sjoberg pushed the board to maintain a consistent process in their search for a superintendent. "If we are going to reopen the door, then we need invite any candidate that may not have a license but is close to qualifying," she said. "This exclusivity for one candidate, I'm just not comfortable with.'

Marsnik took issue with Sjoberg's inference that he was pushing for just the one candidate. "If you heard my statement, I think I did say that this candidate or any others (could be) considered," he said. "You are sort of inferring that I am pushing for just one candidate, and that is just not true."

Board members agreed, on a 5-1 vote, to repost the position with the qualifications changed to indicate that candidates must have the ability to obtain a state superintendent license by Oct. 1.

They also agreed to notify the four candidates they interviewed four weeks ago that the school district is reposting the position.

#### WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

# Deer chases Ely man and his dog; gets verbal warning from police

by KEITH VANDERVORT

ELY - An Ely police officer patrolling the city last Wednesday night saw a deer chasing a man who was walking his dog, in the 300 block of East Conan Street, at around 9 p.m.

Officer Brad Roy got out of his car and yelled, attempting to avert the deer from his

stalking. The deer did stop, but then continued to follow the man and his dog, according to the incident report.

Roy yelled again at the deer, and the deer started to approach the officer. According to police, two dogs in a fencedin yard across the street began barking and the deer diverted its attention to the new threat. The deer ran across the street and started to hit the fence with

Roy called for backup from a conservation officer from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, who related that it was probably a doe acting aggressively in protecting a newborn fawn.

New deer are born in mid-May though early June, according to the DNR, and baby deer should be left where found. In most cases the mother deer will be close by, even if out of

According to the press statement, Officer Roy gave the deer a verbal warning, and she was sent on her way.

Cecilia Rolando, who lives at 248 E. Harvey Street, provided the Timberjay with this tidbit in an email on Tuesday, May 21: "Last night a doe gave birth to twins in my backyard," she said. "She is hanging around there and someone said she could there for up to two weeks. This is right in the middle of town!" The Ely Police Department

advised curious residents to stay away from fawns and deer for their own safety, and to keep their pets away. too.

#### **PARKS**...Continued from page 1 –

city's harbor, said he's considering filing suit if the city doesn't take action to address his request for a conditional use permit for his RV facility. "I'm willing to see if

we can at least get something moving in the next month," said Rose. "But I've lost income

and I've probably already lost another season. Financially, it's been a burden because I have an investment here and I'm making payments on it but I can't move forward."

Rose isn't alone. Gary and Charity Ross have struggled for nearly six years to obtain a conditional use permit from the city to develop their own RV park on a large and private parcel overlooking Lake Vermilion's Pike Bay but have since put the property up for sale after years of frustration dealing with

Gary, who works at a Virginia-area mine, had moved his family to Tower in 2012 after buying a 58-acre plot of mostly open ground overlooking Pike Bay. Gary had hoped to retire from the mines in 2020 and the couple planned to develop an RV park in the meantime which would provide them with a steady source of income after Gary left his current job.

But that dream has turned into a costly nightmare for the Rosses. who continue to make \$1,500-a-month-payments on a piece of eminently-developable property that, unfortunately for them, rests within the jurisdiction of Tower's planning and

zoning authority. "We're so frustrated," said Ross. "We like it here, but we can't keep dumping money into it. We bought it for a business, but it's to the point where we put it up for sale because we're running out of time."

#### **Conditional use** process turned upside down

At the heart of the problem for both Rose and the Rosses is a conditional use permitting process in Tower that Rose insists is unlike any other zoning process used anywhere else in Minnesota. Elsewhere in Minnesota, an application for a conditional use permit is relatively straightforward and the approval process, by law, can't take longer than 60 days.

Most conditional use applications are a few pages long and usually require the applicant to provide their contact information, a sketch of the proposal including setbacks, a bit of rationale, and an oath that they own the property.

Applicants fill it out, pay their application fee, and the request typically ends up before a local planning and zoning board within a few weeks.

That, in a nutshell, is how it works in St. Louis County as well, according to Mary Anderson, the county's longtime land use manager, who retired last Friday. "Once an application comes in, we immediately send a copy to the local township if it's organized, and we also send a copy for review if it requires septic approval. We want to give them the same notice that we have," Anderson said.

Those additional notices, said Anderson, help keep the project moving forward as efficiently as possible, but none of the other approvals that a project might entail are necessary at the point that a conditional use permit comes to the county planning commission for approval.

The information required for the application is typically enough for the county to determine that the project meets their zoning standards and can be filled out by just about any prospective developer. "Sometimes people go through a surveyor for their site sketch, but people can draw sketches on their own if they want," said Anderson.

There's a reason that the permit application process isn't too rigorous. "We're basically just approving the use," she said. "We don't want people investing their life's fortune in something that won't get approved. We try not to put too much burden on the applicant. We want to promote development."

In Tower, by contrast, fortunes for both Rose and the Rosses are slipping away, as both Keith and Altenburg have refused to even accept conditional use permit applications for either of their projects.

The city of Tower's conditional use application is just two pages long and requires even less information than St. Louis County's, but Keith maintains she can't accept the application for an RV park or any other kind of planned unit development until the developers have finalized a long list of tasks, including an environmental assessment worksheet, and have all of their other state, federal, and local agency approvals in hand.

In a recent email to Rose, Keith ticked off a list of 17 things that Rose would need to provide before she would accept an application, including a dock plan with DNR approvals attached, full surveying including staking of all roads, buildings and RV sites, a dust control plan, MPCA sewer connection permit approval, full detailed design drawings and building plans, an archeological assessment, and "all regulatory permit applications and written documentation of application approval." And the coup de grace, written by Keith in all caps, was "ANY OTHER DOCUMENTS THAT WILLBEDETERMINED

TO BE NECESSARY." Rose says he is most frustrated by Keith's constant shifting of the goal posts. Indeed, Keith insisted to Rose that her seemingly exhaustive list of hoops was unlikely to be the last requirement. She had initially given Rose a list of six things he needed to accomplish before she'd take a conditional use application to the planning and zoning board, but that list has morphed into something much longer. And Keith has made it clear that the list is likely to grow.

Rose vented his frustration at the planning and zoning board last Thursday. "This is my dispute," he said. "I did those six things and then I got 12 more things and then I got 18. Will it be 36 next time?"

Both Rose and the Rosses note that each item on Keith's list costs more money, and she's requiring them to spend tens of thousands of dollars without any guarantee that the city will ultimately approve a conditional use permit.

While the Rosses have so far resisted Keith's demand for an EAW, Rose actually completed his EAW more than a year ago, a process that took months. Keith initially rejected Rose's own effort to fill out the worksheet, insisting that he hire an engineer at a cost of several thousand dollars. Rose eventually agreed, but Keith then demanded that Rose pay the city's engineer to review it, which cost him an additional \$4,000.

He's had to pay for wetland delineations, sur-

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veying, and other work at the site, not to mention his personal time, expenses, and lost potential income from his would-be business. And at last week's planning commission meeting, Altenburg told him he'd have to pay for another wetland delineation because he recently did a land swap with an adjacent property owner, which may have altered the wetland percentages.

Applicants to St. Louis County aren't required to do any of those things until after they have conditional use approval from the planning commission. According to Anderson, the prospective developers are still required to obtain a long list of other approvals, depending on the specifics of the project. "One of the requirements [of a conditional use permit] is that they must meet all other federal, state, or county standards," she said.

The process used in St. Louis County, and virtually everywhere else in Minnesota, however, provides prospective developers the guarantee that if they make the investment necessary to achieve all of the conditions for a project, the county will issue the conditional use permit. "There's no point requiring them to invest a lot of money if it isn't going to get approved," said Anderson.

"They have it backwards," said Julia Maki, a local real estate agent who is helping the Rosses sell their property after they gave up on getting approval for their RV park. Maki is also the former Greenwood Township Planning Director, so she has significantly more background in planning and zoning issues than most realtors. Maki said what has happened to the Rosses is unfortunate since their location was ideal for the kind of use they were proposing. "From a 'P and Z' perspective it's an almost perfect spot," she said, but it failed because zoning officials made it cost-prohibitive. "We just have to try to get the city to realize this is hurting local businesses. Right now, I wouldn't recommend that anyone go through that process."

the city's planning and

#### **Process creating** legal jeopardy

Planning and zoning can be serious business in Minnesota, as it is elsewhere in the country. Any time private individuals or companies propose development projects, potentially big money is at stake, both in terms of development costs as well as potential income from a project.

That's why planning and zoning decisions often wind up in court. And if a local planning and zoning board doesn't have a clear process or fails to follow that process, that can put zoning officials on the

And Keith may have already given Rose potential ammunition in a possible lawsuit. Telling Rose, in writing, that her list of requirements is subject to constant change, reflects a planning and zoning process that is, in effect, being made up by Keith as it goes. As Keith wrote to Rose earlier this year: "Please clearly understand that this is not an all-inclusive list, things may be added as time goes by, it is too hard to anticipate everything that may be necessary.'

Rose was blunt in mments last week before the planning and zoning commission. "My attorney told me if it isn't in your ordinance, I don't have to do it," said Rose.

Maki said the conditional use process is typically straightforward. "You have a list of stuff they need to make a complete application," said Maki. "If they don't have all of that, you have 10-15 days to tell them what else they need to provide.

Once they provide that, the application is complete." Once complete, state

law dictates how things proceed. The planning and zoning authority has 60 days to issue a determination, complete with written findings, either allowing or disallowing the proposed use. If it goes longer than 60 days, without approval, the conditional use is automatically approved.

Planning and Zoning board chair Steve Altenburg argues that the city's process is simply following the ordinance passed by the city council and that as long as the RV park proposers obtain all of their other permits, they will receive their conditional use permits. Altenburg said it's required by law that they be issued permits if they comply with the ordinance.

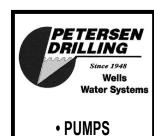
Yet just last week, when Rose asked the city's planning commission if they could guarantee they would approve his plan if he completed all of the items that Keith was now requiring, Altenburg said, "No."

And Altenburg's claim misses another key point - that the determination of whether a proposed use is consistent with the ordinance is largely a judgment call. The city's ordinance states that, to be approved, a conditional use "is likely to be compatible with development permitted under the general provisions of this ordinance... that it will not be injurious to the use of the environment or detrimental to the rightful use and enjoyment of the other property in the immediate vicinity, nor substantially diminish or impair proper-

ty values in the vicinity." The ordinance also requires that the use "is consistent with the overall comprehensive municipal plan and with the spirit and intent of the provisions of this ordinance."

"I don't think they're getting it figured out," said Ross. "It's just a mess."





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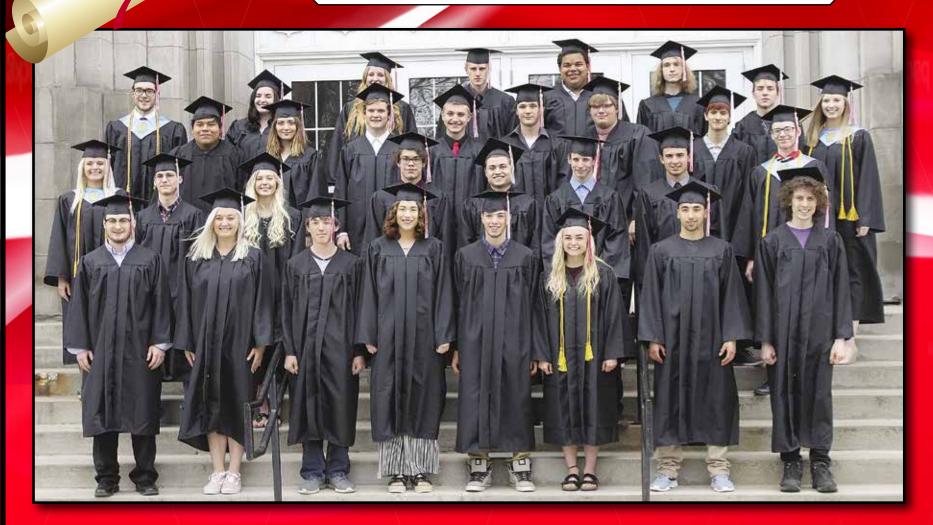
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# SPORTS

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Grizzlies off to state tournament in June to notch first-place team Olson said. "The weather

VIRGINIA— Both the North Woods girls and boys golf teams are headed to the state tournament next month after sweeping the section championship here last week. Playing conditions hampered all the teams with rain delays, but the North Woods squads both pulled through

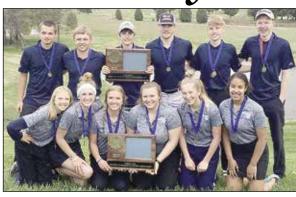
Coley Olson led the girls' team with a score of 123 on the shortened 27-hole course. Kylie Parson carded a 147 and Haley Bogdan notched a

"I was very pleased with their play and their fortitude during the difficult playing conditions," girls Head Coach Kandi

was not ideal, and if this had been any other tournament it probably would have been canceled. Each player battled through the rain and cold without complaint and finished with some nice scores."

For the boys, Sam Frazee carded a 72 on a shortened 18-hole course. Ian Olson notched an 78 while Davis Kleppe posted

"They built a lead on Wednesday and continued building on Thursday," boys Head Coach Will Kleppe said. "This golf season was a challenge with the late start and the weather conditions, The teams will compete in the state tournament beginning on June 11 at Pebble Creek Golf Course in Becker.



The North Woods golf teams.

BASEBALL

# New nets at Ely baseball field

Fan safety improved at Ely ball field, new nets replace fencing in front of bleachers

by KEITH VANDERVORT

ELY -Fans gearing up for a summer's worth of baseball tournament at Veteran's Field here will have increased protection from foul balls and pop ups inadvertently flying into the stands. Duluth Nets installed new netting this week with money from the Ely Baseball Association, which has been funding improvements to the field.

Duluth Nets usually makes a variety of fishing nets. They have more than 130 years of experience, and even provide their expertise to the U.S. Forest Service and other contractors.

This week Rory Rasmussen, the company's production manager, and Joshua Tigner from the company spent a couple of days here suspended in the air in front of the baseball field stands as they installed three new

"The material is used and manufacturing process is the same for these as for our fishing net, only these are way bigger,' Rasmussen said. They installed three separate nets, one in front of the covered stands, 55 x feet, and one on each side of that

See **NETS**...pg 2B





Above: New netting divides the field from bleachers at Ely's Veterans Field. The nets were installed by contractor Duluth Nets. The company has a historic past dating back more than a century when it was founded as a supplier for local fishing villages and fishing boats on Lake Superior.

At left: Two crewmen from Duluth Nets take to the sky to tie-down new netting at

Veterans Field in Ely. photos by K. Vandervort

TRACK AND FIELD

# Ely boys take second at sub-Section 7A

Brielle Kallberg earns two tops spots as girls finish fourth



submitted photo

Brielle Kallberg takes a jump.

by MARCUS WHITE

HIBBING— The Ely track teams posted another

strong outing here late last week as they swept to top spots in multiple events at the sub-section 7A championships at Cheever Field. The boys team finished second overall against a 12-team field, while the girls finished

fourth out of 13 teams. Junior Brielle Kallberg led the way for Ely with first-place finishes in both the long and triple jump, with leaps of 16-01.75' and 33-08.5'.

She also finished in third place in the 100-meter dash falling just a half-second off the top spot.

Junior Eric Omerza took first in the boys triple jump with a score of 41-09'.

Junior Luke Olson took first in the 800-meter run, besting the competition by nearly two seconds with a time of 1:57.38.

In relay events, Ely boys took first place in the 4x800-meter with a time of 8:41.25. The team took second in the 4x400-meter relay with a time of

3:36.07. Junior James Schwinghamer took second in the 3,200meter run with a time of 10:00.62, about eight seconds behind the top

The girls 4x800-meter relay team took third with a time of 11:02.13.

Freshman Kellen Thomas took third in the discus throw with a distance of 96.09.

As the *Timberjay* went to press, the Timberwolves were headed to the section tournament on Thursday at UMD.

# Grizzlies upset Wolves

by MARCUS WHITE

Cook-Orr Editor

VIRGINIA – Top-seeded Ely took a swing and a miss against fifth-seeded North Woods here on the first day of section tournament play on Tuesday. The Grizzlies took down the Timberwolves, 6-5 in one of the bigger upsets of the tournament's opening day.

The Grizzlies scored runs in the second, third and fourth innings to stake a 6-3 lead over Ely.

North Woods senior Jake Hyppa, sophomore Tate Cly and junior Danny Crocket notched two hits apiece off Ely pitchers. Timberwolves hurler Trevor Mattson struggled through twoplus innings, giving up four runs on six hits. Bryce Longwell and Dalton Schreffler finished up for Ely. On the mound for the Grizzlies, Crocket pitched three and a half innings striking out three. Jake Hyppa came on in relief for the

Tyler Housley led Ely offensively with two hits and two RBIs.

Earlier in the day it was more of the same for the Grizzlies as they topped fourth-seeded Deer River. 7-4. Hyppa led the team with three hits and an RBI. Hyppa also took to the mound for the Grizzlies, giving up three runs on five hits over five innings of work.

As the Timberjay went to press, the Grizzlies were set to take on second-seeded South Ridge in Hibbing on Thursday. First pitch is set for 4:30 p.m.

# **Timberwolves** dominate **Nighthawks**

by Marshall Helmberger Managing Editor

VIRGINIA— The top-seeded T-Wolves laid waste to Northeast Range pitching in the opening game of the Section 7A boys baseball double-elimination playoffs, rapping 18 hits enroute to a 25-2 victory. Tyler Housey led the hit parade for Ely, going 4-4 while scoring three times. Mason Davis chalked up three hits, while Dalton Schreffler tallied two in the five-inning game.

Ely freshman Harry Simons worked the mound, scattering five hits while striking out six. Brody Anderson took the loss for the Nighthawks, giving up 13 earned runs in 1-2/3 innings.

Robert Bielejeski had two hits for the Nighthawks, while Jackson Levens rapped a double. BOYS BASKETBALL



# **Goggleye commits to Jamestown**

by Marcus White

Cook-Orr Editor

FIELD TWP-Record-setting North Woods point guard Cade Goggleye ended speculation this week as to his intentions to pursue his basketball career at the collegiate level. This past weekend, Goggleye announced on Twitter that he was committing to the University of Jamestown in North Dakota.

"When I visited there it seemed like the right place," Goggleye said on Tuesday over the lunch hour. "I'm getting ready for life. If basketball goes somewhere, that will be good, but I still need to prepare for life."

The university has offered Goggleye \$12,000 in scholarship money to take his career there.

Goggleye will join 2018 North Woods graduate and teammate Tate Olson, who also plays basketball for the Jamestown Jimmies. The Jimmies, who compete in the Great Plains Conference of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics

(NAIA) had a 29-6 record this year and last won their conference in 2014. Goggleve leaves

North Woods holding the record for the most career points, at just over 2,100. He has also led the team to three consecutive state tournament finals in Minneapolis.

Goggleye said he is still uncertain about the direction of his academic pursuits, but is looking forward to being on his

"This will be a new experience," he said. "My coaches here have been

great but learning from new people will be good."

Goggleye said he considered attending St. Scholastica in Duluth along with Concordia-Moorhead and Valley City State and Mayville State in North Dakota before deciding on Jamestown.

An official signing ceremony was planned for the second half of the week, but as the Timberjay went to press, the plans had not been finalized.

SOFTBALL

## Heartbreaking loss for Timberwolves in playoff finale

Managing Editor

GRAND RAPIDS— It was one heartbreak after another for Ely here last Thursday as the Wolves watched leads slip away in the late innings to end their Section 7A softball playoff run.

In the opener in the double-elimination round against Carlton, Ely jumped to a 3-0 lead but couldn't hold off the Bulldogs, who scored five unanswered runs in the late innings to win 5-3. Ely outhit Carlton 5-4, "but we just couldn't string anything together late in the game," said Ely Head Coach Tom McDonald.

Junior Erika Mattson threw a strong game despite the loss, striking out seven while allowing just four hits.

At the plate, Mattson plus Charly Flom, Jenna Merhar, Sydni Richards, and McCartney Kaercher each had hits.

In the nightcap, the Wolves fell behind to Mt. Iron-Buhl 4-0 in the early going before

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER scoring eight unanswered runs to take an 8-4 lead in the sixth inning. But the Rangers bounced back to tie the score in the botton half of the frame and a single run in the bottom of the seventh iced the win for MI-B.

Mattson again took the loss, allowing nine hits while striking out five. Mattson was hot at the plate, with three hits and four RBIs, but it just wasn't enough. Senior Lida Dodge added two hits and batted in three runs, while Merhar had two hits.

Despite the disappointing end, McDonald said the team showed a lot of improvement this year. "It was a great season and we set a school record for wins with 13. Our previous record was 12 set two years ago."

With a junior-dominated squad, the team will have plenty of experience returning next year. "Lida Dodge is our only graduating senior and it will be hard to replace her as she was a solid player for us," said McDonald.

#### **NETS...**Continued from page 1B

in front of the bleacher, 75 x 34 feet and 60 x 34 feet.

Some quick math shows that Ely baseball fans will now have 6,460

square feet of protective netting as they cheer for their favorite teams at Veterans Field.



# Memories of the Early Days

A fascinating look back at the early history of the Lake Vermilion area

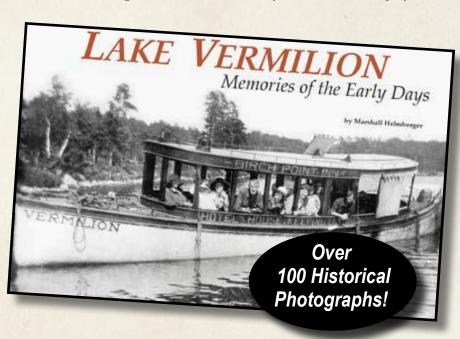
Written by Marshall Helmberger • Published by the Timberjay

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#### **World Wild Rice Hotdish-Eating** contest on June 22 at Fortune Bay

TOWER- The No. 5-ranked competitive eater in the world, Darron Breeden from Orange, Va., and other top-ranked eaters will gather at Fortune Bay to seek the title of Wild Rice Hotdish-Eating Champion at the first-annual Fortune Bay World Wild Rice Hotdish-Eating Championship. This competition will take place at 3 p.m. on Saturday, June 22 at the Lakeside Tent at Fortune Bay Resort Casino, 1430 Bois Forte Rd. in Tower.

This inaugural event will take place over eight minutes of sanctioned competition time. A new world record will be set in the wild rice hotdish dis-

"We are thrilled to announce the first-ever Wild Rice Hotdish-Eating Championship, on top of Fortune Bay Resort's Indian Taco-Eating Championship," said Richard Shea, President of Major League Eating. "There will be a dramatic showdown between Breeden and Sudo in the fight for this new title," he said.

#### Ely Grief Education and Support Group begins June 5

ELY- The East Range Hospice Coordinator of Family Grief Support Services is offering a sixweek Grief Education and Support Group in Ely on Wednesday afternoons from 2 - 4 p.m., beginning Wednesday, June 5 and continuing through July 10. The group will meet at Ely-Bloomenson Community Hospital, Conference Room B, 328 W Conan St. in Ely.

This grief education and support group is open to anyone in the area who has experienced the death of a loved one. Experiencing the death of a loved one can be a very difficult experience. Learning about the grief process and having support from others can help a great deal. Please consider reserving your spot to participate in this six-week grief education and support group. There is no cost for

This Grief Education and Support Group is sponsored and facilitated by Essentia Health St. Mary's East Range Hospice.

Registration is recommended but not required. To register, please call the hospice office at 218-749-7975 or 1-877-851-2213 by Friday, May 31.

#### Virginia Grief Education and Support **Group begins June 3**

VIRGINIA- An eight-week Grief Education and Support Group will begin on Monday, June 3 and will continue through July 22. The group meets weekly Monday evenings from 6 - 8 p.m.

The group will meet at Peace United Methodist Church, 303 9th Ave. S in Virginia. There is no cost for this group. Experiencing the death of a loved one can be a very difficult experience. Learning about the grief process and having support from others can help a great deal. Please consider reserving your spot to participate in this eight-week grief education and support group. It is open to anyone in the area who has experienced the death of a loved one.

With questions or to register, please call 1-877-851-2213 or 218-749-7975 by Friday, May 31. This group is sponsored and facilitated by Essentia Health St. Mary's East Range Hospice.

#### Tour of Minnesota bicycle ride comes through area June 17-19

REGIONAL- The annual Tour of Minnesota (formerly Jim Klobuchar's "Jaunt with Jim") will come through Tower and Ely on June 17, 18 and 19. About 175 bicyclists will be riding in the group. The ride route and more information can be found at www.tourofminnesota.com.

MINNESOTA QUILT SHOW & CONFERENCE



- 9 4 SATURDAY



#### Art Unlimited certified as a women-owned business

by MARCUS WHITE

Cook-Orr Editor

COOK - Long-time Cook advertising agency, Art Unlimited, recently was certified as a women-owned business by both the federal and state governments.

The certifications put the business on registries that allow greater visibility to potential clients who want to work with businesses owned by women along with providing priority access to government grants and programs.

Art Unlimited is run by sisters Anna Anderson and Elizabeth Chapman who are the company's CEO and CFO respectively. The two took over the company from their parents, Tom and Pat Chapman who began the company in 1982.

Originally the company focused on print media such as print ads and t-shirts but has since evolved into a fully online company working almost exclusively in a digital-only environment.

While the high-tech business may seem out of place in the woods west of Cook, it's part of the businesses plan to keep the company right where it is.

"Because of technology our business doesn't need to be in a large metropolitan area," Chapman said. "We can operate wherever we are, and we like the woods. The company was founded in Northern Minnesota and we support our communities."



Elizabeth, Tom, and Pat Chapman, and Anna Anderson

She added that being in nature offsets the stresses of being around technology constantly.

"We can enjoy the outdoors while still doing our jobs," Chapman

Anderson said the company hopes to add a fourth "T" - technology - to the traditional three "T's" of Northern Minnesota - tourism, taconite and timber.

"We've challenged the community to have more technology," she said. "We're able to provide a skillset that can fuel all facets of the Iron Range.'

Anderson said she hopes other

technology companies will see the benefit of setting up shop in rural areas drawing more business to rural areas of the state.

The company currently employs about 24 people, most of whom make the commute down the rural-dirt road to the company's small farm property compound.

Aside from technology, the Art Unlimited property also includes a dog kennel started by Chapman and Anderson as a 4-H project when they were in high school and still run it as a service to the local community.

# Daisy Bay resort expansion, RV Park, put on hold

by MARCUS WHITE

Cook-Orr Editor

GREENWOOD TWP - The proposed purchase and expansion of the Daisy Bay Resort on Lake Vermilion has been put on hold according to county officials. The proposed expansion included the installation of up to 43 recreational vehicle sites, expanded dockage, and ice fishing facilities.

Mary Anderson with the county's planning department confirmed to the Timberjay on Friday that the case file on the property had been closed and would not be moving forward as planned.

Along Cty. Rd. 77, the former resort signs are gone and now a lone barrier reading "Private Drive" crosses what once was the resort's entrance. The resort's phone number has been disconnected and Google reports that the resort is now permanently closed. The Timberjay emailed Christine Schlotec, who had proposed to purchase and expand the facility, but Schlotec had not responded as of press time.

Schlotec's proposal had faced stiff opposition from neighbors when it went before the St. Louis County Planning Commission this past winter. At two separate hearings, residents presented their own research on potential erosion and noise levels to member of the commission.

The county, too, had stiff recommendations for Schlotec regarding soil erosion and water runoff, but eventually did approve her conditional use permit application.

#### Briefs

#### **Lake Country Power** scholarships help 30 students chase their dreams

REGIONAL- Lake Country Power is pleased to announce 30 local high school seniors from 30 different schools have been awarded the Lake Country Power 2019 Les Beach Memorial Scholarship. The Les Beach Memorial Scholarship honors a former co-op employee and recognizes student commitment and contribution to local communities.

Thirty \$4,000 scholarships, issued at \$500 per semester for four years, were awarded. Local recipients were Shane Spangler of Ely-Memorial Secondary School, Anna Trip of North Woods School, Sophie Lenz of Northeast Range High School, Taylor Peck in the At Large category, and Kaitlyn Graf in home school.

The Les Beach Memorial Scholarship is available to local

students from more than 30 area high schools. Qualified students must be co-op members through their parents or legal guardians who receive electricity services from Lake Country Power.

The electronic application process for high school seniors will open again on Jan. 1, 2020, when qualifying high school seniors may apply for the next round. The online application is available from the cooperative's website.

The Les Beach Memorial Scholarship is made possible through unclaimed capital credits. The State of Minnesota permits electric cooperatives like Lake Country Power to use unclaimed funds for charitable purposes, such as scholarships.

Lake Country Power also offers \$1,000 scholarships to five area community college foundations and three Minnesota lineworker schools to support students in trade schools and community/technical college programs. Applications for these

scholarships are available directly through the colleges.

#### **Babbitt Scholarship** Scramble awards **\$12,000 to NER grads**

BABBITT- The Men's Club of the Babbitt Golf Association has awarded \$12,000 in scholarships to six graduates of Northeast Range High School in Babbitt. Each scholarship is in the amount of \$2,000. The scholarships were awarded to Jacob Bjork, Maija Maki, Brett Porisch, Mikayla Mellsemoen, Mersadies Stordahl, and Sophie Lenz.

This is the 21st year the Men's Club has been awarding scholarships. The \$12,000 awarded this year brings the total amount awarded to \$167,500. The scholarship money is raised during the annual Scholarship Scramble Golf Tournament held during Labor Day weekend.





#### Sandra M. Wiermaa

Sandra Marion Harri Wiermaa, 83, of Vermilion Lake Township, passed away on Saturday, May 18, 2019, at New Journey in Biwabik. A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, June 1 at Range Funeral Home in Virginia with visitation beginning one hour prior to the service with Rev. Don Stauty officiating. Arrangements are with Virginia.

Range Funeral Home in She is survived by her five children, Jay (Mary Jo) Wiermaa, Thomas Funeral Home in Aurora (Louise) Wiermaa,

Charles (Anne) Wiermaa,

Scott (Kay) Wiermaa and Rebecca (David) Dvorak; 20 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; siblings, Carol, Thomas, Faith and Leonard; brother-in-law, Dale (Arlene); sister-in-law, Elsie; and numerous nieces and nephews. **Helen L. Manthey** 

#### Helen Louise

Mickelson Manthey, 89, of Hoyt Lakes, died on Monday, May 20, 2019, at Spectrum Carefree Living in Aurora. A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. on Friday, May 31 at Ziemer-Moeglein-Shatava

with Pastor Peter Bartlett

officiating. Visitation will be one hour prior to the service at the funeral home. Inurnment will be in the Hoyt Lakes Memorial Cemetery. She is survived by

two children, Susan (Brad Fontaine) Almquist of Embarrass and David (Sheila) Manthey of Roseau; grandchildren, Eric (Jen Wudinich) Almquist of Biwabik, Amanda (Jesse) Froseth of Salol and Dillon Manthey of Roseau; great-grandchildren, Emma and Grace; and numerous nieces and nephews.

#### **Donald L. Knutson**

Donald L. Knutson, 92, of Babbitt and Mission, Texas, passed away on Monday, May 20, 2019, at the Boundary Waters Care Center in Ely. A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, May 31 at Babbitt Evangelical Lutheran Church. Family arrangements have been entrusted to Kerntz Funeral Home of Ely.

He is survived by his wife, Mary Ann; son, Craig (Mary) Knutson; daughter, Sharon Knutson; grandson, Carl Knutson; granddaughter; Greta Knutson; and sisters, Viola Crabb and Lila Wray.

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#### 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 demonstrating their artistic skills at Festival of Artists on Saturday, June 8. The event includes 45-minute long demonstrations by 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 beverages. 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 on Sunday, **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.

#### **Meet skier and sports** commentator Chad Salmela with Finnish Americans and Friends, June 4 in Hibbing

HIBBING- Meet skier and sports commentator Chad Salmela at the Finnish Americans and Friends meeting on Tuesday, June 4 at Grace Lutheran Church, 4010 9th West Ave. in Hibbing, across from Lowes.

Chad Salmela gained national recognition as a highly enthusiastic color commentator for NBC during the 2018 Winter Olympics where he brought a wealth of Nordic skiing knowledge to TV viewers. As a teenage competitor, Salmela was one of the top Nordic skiers in the Midwest. After competing nationally and internationally, at the age of 19, Salmela began to concentrate on the biathlon event of racing and shooting, again competing in national and international races. In 1998 he became an assistant coach for the U.S. Biathlon team, concurrently completing his degree at Middlebury College in Vermont. Currently, Salmela coaches men's and women's cross country teams at St. Scholastica in Duluth, where his athletes have had great success.

Anyone interested in Finnish culture will enjoy hearing Salmela talk about growing up Finnish-American on the Range, his experiences skiing internationally, and his Olympic announcing career for NBC.

The public is welcome; bring a refreshment to share with coffee. This will be the last meeting until the group resumes in September.

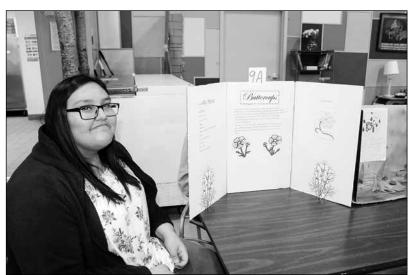
#### VERMILION COUNTRY SCHOOL

# **Environmental learning, literature, math** take center stage at this year's Expo Day





Student projects in environmental education and literature were on display at this year's Expo Day at Vermilion Country School. Above: Seniors (from left) Daqari Shanks, Jason Premo Jr., Shaylin Peliska, and Jacob Karasti showed their projects. photos by J. Summit and S. Ukkola





Left: Abbi Zapata researched the many uses of the buttercup, and also used the flower as an inspiration for a beading project. Right: Math students created a Sierpinski pyramid.





Left: Todd Zibrowski talked with visitors about his literature project. Right: VCS School Board member Marit Kringstad helped judge the environmental education projects. Here she is discussing a project with Dakota Hanninen.

# NWFA Spring Art Expo events run June 5 - 29 in Cook

COOK- Northwoods Friends of the Arts in Cook is launching its annual "Spring Arts Expo" on Wednesday, June 5 with a reception from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the NWFA Gallery next to Dream Weaver Salon at 210 S River St. Enjoy refreshments to celebrate brand new artwork from over thirty artists whose work will be on display at the NWFA Gallery and in participating local businesses during business hours until Saturday, June 29. Three weeks of regional art exhibits!

#### Schedule

Wednesday, June 5 -Opening reception from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the NWFA Gallery. Saturday, June 8 - Timber Days. Kids Art Booth in the park from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Sunday, June 9 - Timber Days Parade. NWFA members will walk in costume in the parade at 12 noon.

Tuesday, June 11 - Open Mic. Readings by the NWFA Writers Group at 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, June 12 - Music in the Park begins with The Beefeater Brothers at 6 p.m. Music, Burgers and Brats by St. Paul's Lutheran Church. Music in the park will continue every



summer and is free of charge.

Thursday, June 13 - Bill Conger's Jazz. An exploration into the appreciation of a true American musical art form at 7 p.m. at NWFA Gallery. These sessions aim to equip the listener with tools that unlock an understanding of Jazz. All ages are welcome. The class is part of NWFA's Summer Arts Program made possible by Art Unlimited and Operation Round Up. Call Lisa to pre-register at 218-780-1151.

Friday, June 14 - Concert. Simple Gifts with Billy McLaughlin: "The Young and The Rest..." An acoustic tribute

to Neil Young and the rest of your

favorite artists who defined an hits and B-side favorites. Free era and remain popular-Crosby, Stills and Nash, The Eagles, Joni Mitchell, and more. Tickets are on sale now for \$20 or are \$25 at the door. Reserve your ticket with Lisa S. at 218-780-1151, Shawna at 218-780-6510, at Andrews Cameras in Virginia, at Natural Harvest Food Coop in Virginia, or at the NWFA Gallery in Cook. The concert will be held at the Cook Community Center, with a pre-concert by Eric Pederson, raffles and refreshments at 5:30 p.m. and the main concert at 7 p.m.

Friday, June 14 - The 50/50 raffle will be drawn with the prize being Wanda Parks' framed wolf sketch print titled "The Loner" (see photo at left). Purchase tickets from board members and at the NWFA Gallery for \$5 each. Winner chooses 50 percent of the cash or the framed print prize. The drawing will be held at the fundraising concert.

Tuesday, June 18 - The NWFA Annual Meeting will be held at the gallery from 5-8 p.m.

our Ancestors".

in the Park at 6 p.m. featuring the

group R&B performing classic

It will be a potluck, with speaker Dr. Ellie Larmouth presenting "The Kalevala: The Voices of Realty, Cabin Quilting, Cook Wednesday, June 19 - Music

concert.

Thursday, June 20 -"Alcohol Ink" class at 6:30 p.m. at NWFA Gallery presented by Karen Lamppa. Make handsome pendants with metal washers. \$5 supply fee.

Wednesday, June 26 - Music in the Park featuring "Robert Walker Outlaw Country", a collection of originals and rockin' country classics beginning at 6 pm. Free concert.

Every Saturday there is Open Studio Art from 9 a.m. -1 p.m. Artists meet at NWFA Gallery to work on their own projects in a community setting. Join the group for fun, inspiration, and information.

#### **Art Exhibits**

Look for art exhibits in the Cook area including Orr, Tower, Crane Lake and Cusson. Informational brochures are available at each exhibit. The volunteers of NWFA appreciate and thank the following business for participating in Spring Art Expo by exhibiting art during business hours:

Building Center, Cook City Hall,

Cook's Country Connection,

Cook: American Bank, BIC

Cook Public Library, Country Store, Dream Weaver Spa and Salon, First National Bank, Gustafson Motors, NWFA Gallery, Homestead Mills, La Croix Ranger District Visitor Center, Marty's Heating and Air Conditioning, Montana Cafe, Moosebirds, Northwoods True Value Hardware, North Star Credit Union, Scenic Rivers Health Services Dental, Sue Wolf's residence garden, The Crescent Bar and Grill, The Landing, The Tire Shop, Tim Johnson State Farm Agency, Trinity Lutheran Church, Vermilion Cottage Antiques, Vermilion Land Office. Crane Lake: Voyagaire

Lodge and Houseboats. Orr: Aspen Resort

(Cusson), Myrtle Lake Resort, Orr Community Center, Ryan's Rustic Railings.

Tower: Bois Forte Heritage Center and Cultural Museum, Sulu's Cafe.

NWFA is celebrating its ninth year as a non-profit membership organization. The Gallery welcomes artists and art lovers for viewing art and for learning and teaching opportunities.

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# Congratulations,—

**CLASS OF 2019!** 













The public is cordially invited to the Vermilion Country School Graduation

# Saturday, June 1 • 1 PM

Guest Speaker: Mike Joint, former VCS staffer, current Associate Program Director at Northern Tier Adventure Base in Ely

Graduates: Presley Johnson, Jacob Karasti, Shaylin Peliska, Jason Premo, Dagari Shanks

Katarina Schmidt (PSEO Student, also graduated from VCC)

Class Colors: Maroon and Gold

Class Song: "Standing in the Borderline"

Favorite Quote: "I can't wait for tomorrow, but I'll always miss yesterday." by Dagari Shanks

## Come and wish our graduates well! This ad is sponsored by these fine community businesses:

Aronson Boat Works
Bob's Service & Towing
Breitung Township
Embarrass-Vermillion Federal
Credit Union
D'Erick's Tower Liquors
Fortune Bay Resort Casino

Frandsen Bank- Tower

Glenmore Resort Good Ol' Days Marjo Motel Nordic Home North Sulu's Espresso Café Tech Electric The Timberjay Tower-Soudan Agency Ubetcha Antiques & Uffda Thrift Vermilion Club Vermilion Fuel & Food Vermilion Land Office Vermilion Mini-Storage & IBI Construction Vermilion Park Inn Zup's Grocery- Tower **6B** May 31, 2019 TIMBERJAY Newspapers



**VOLUNTEERS** 

# Family, friends, and volunteering for Lake Vermilion

by PENNY JACKSON

Timberjay Contributor

LAKE VERMILION-There are many amazing people in the Northland who call Lake Vermilion their home. I have had the opportunity to meet some of these people and listen to them tell their stories.

Don and Jane Johnson are two of those special people. Their story begins in the Biwabik area when they met in high school and fell in love.

After high school graduation they both continued their education. Don became an Industrial Arts teacher in the Fridley School District and Jane went on to be a principal's secretary in the Spring Lake Park School District.

During this time their love for each other continued to grow. And like all good love stories, they got married. The year was 1961 and they headed north to Lake Vermilion for their honeymoon hideaway at Jane's grandparents' cabin. It was a perfect start for their life together and once more they fell in love. This time their love revolved around the lake and the little towns in the surrounding area.

Fast forward twenty-three years to when they had the opportunity to purchase the same lake property from Jane's relatives. They worked hard at building their new life together. They tore down the old seasonal cabin and built a new home together. Don, who is very much the handyman, has completed many construction projects to and around their

**Right: Don and Jane** Johnson on the deck overlooking Lake Vermilion. submitted

home. In 1996, Don and Jane moved full time to their home on the lake. They are very happy here and enjoy not only the lake, but their two grown children, four grandchildren and old and new friends they have made along the way.

They both believe that volunteering is important to

See VOLUNTEERS...pg. 7B





This week's featured flower **NORTHERNWHITE VIOLET** 



You'll need to look closely to find the Northern White Violet, Viola mackloskeyi. It's one of our earliest yet also most diminuitive wildflowers. You'll find them blooming now in mossy coniferous woods and bog edges. This species is identified by its classic "violet" shaped blossom that hangs atop a hairless, one-to-three-inch stem. The white petals are offset by the deep violet veins on the lower lip of the blossom. The blooms themselves are very small, ranging from as little as a quarter inch across to as much as half an inch.

The basal leaves are round to heart-shaped.





Don't mistake a young fawn found alone in the woods for an orphan. This is actually their best defense against predators. The mother is very likely nearby.

#### See a fawn? **Leave it be**

REGIONAL - Whitetail fawns are born starting mid-May and peak late-May through early June. Don't be surprised if you see a deer fawn on its own during their first few weeks of life, fawns avoid predators by hiding in thick vegetation or cover, often away from their mothers, for most of each day. Fawns will remain still even as people or predators approach their location.

Please leave fawns be if you encounter them in the wild. While they might appear to be orphans, the mother is likely close by. You can help fawns by keeping dogs leashed as you walk through the woods and avoiding mowing tall vegetation where fawns may be hiding.



GARDENING FOR NATURE

# Birds, bees & butterflies

# Creating a yard that can help our declining populations of pollinators

t's no secret that most species of insect pollinators are in decline, in some cases, precipitously so. Chemicals in the environment, including the widespread use of pesticides, appear to be playing a role in the loss of both the diversity of insect pollinators, such as bees and butterflies, here in the North Country, as well as the overall numbers of these insects.

Fortunately, there are things we can do to help provide a safe environment for pollinating insects, and the gardening and landscaping choices we make right now can play a significant role in that.

Dale Dodge, who operates Greenstone

Landscaping in Ely, does a lot of work with native flowers and vegetation in the area. According to Dodge, plants like columbine and bee balm are two early-to-mid season species that are attractive to butterflies, bees, and hummingbirds alike. Later season bloomers that benefit pollinators include yellow heliopsis, purple coneflowers, joe pye weed, milkweed, blue vervain, goldenrod



MARSHAL HELMBERGER

and asters. Generally, said Dodge, flowers that are yellow or red are attractive to pollinators. Dodge said he tries to explain to his custom-

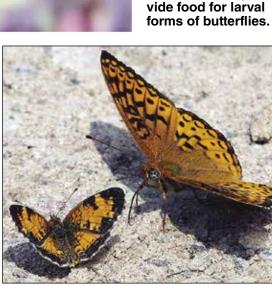
ers about the value of planting for pollinators and finds many people are interested in doing their part. Keep in mind that flower choices are just

one part of equation. The U.S. Forest Service also offers tips on how to make life a little easier for our native pollinators, including:

➤ Plant flowers in groups — flowers not only look better when planted in clumps, rather than single plants, such groupings make it easier for pollinators to find and use them. Include plants

See POLLINATORS...pg. 7B







Above left: A bumble bee, pollen baskets full, hovers over a goldenrod.

Pollen-rich plants,

bees and butterflies

and the nectar will

hummingbirds

Don't forget to

plant species, like

milkweed, that pro-

bring in

as well.

Left:

such this purple coneflower, attract

Above: A checkerspot and a fritillary lap up minerals from damp sand.

Left: A monarch rests on a

May 31, 2019 **7B** TIMBERJAY Newspapers

#### FISHING WITH KIDS



Hudson Cobby, of Virginia, seems mildly impressed with his first-ever walleye, caught recently on Lake Vermilion while fishing with his grandparents Randy and Marjorie Johnson. While pleased, he apparently was not going to touch the walleye. Maybe next time.

#### POLLINATORS...Continued from page 6B

native to your region. Natives are adapted to your local climate, soil and native pollinators. Do not forget that night-blooming flowers will support moths and bats.

➤ Avoid modern hybrid flowers, especially those with "doubled" flowers. Often plant breeders have unwittingly left the pollen, nectar, and fragrance out of these blossoms while creating the "perfect" blooms for us.

➤ Eliminate pesticides whenever possible. If you must use a pesticide, use the least-toxic material possible. Read labels carefully before purchasing, as many pesticides are especially dangerous for bees. Use the product properly. Spray at night when bees and other pollinators are not active.

➤Include larval host plants in your landscape. If you want colorful butterflies, grow plants for their caterpillars. They WILL eat them, so place them where unsightly leaf damage can be tolerated. Accept that some host plants are less than ornamental if not outright weeds. A butterfly guide will help you determine the plants you need to include.

➤ Create a damp salt lick for butterflies and bees. Use a dripping hose, drip irrigation line, or place your bird bath on bare soil to create a damp area. Mix a small bit of table

salt or wood ashes into the mud. You can also try putting a sponge in a tray of lightly salted water. Remember that sea salt has more micronutrients than regular table salt, so it makes a better salt source for whichever method you

➤ Spare that dead limb. By leaving dead trees, or at least an occasional dead limb, you provide essential nesting sites for native bees. Make sure these are not a safety hazard for people walking below. You can also build a bee condo by drilling holes of varying diameter about 3 to 5 inches deep in a piece of scrap lumber mounted to a post or under eaves.

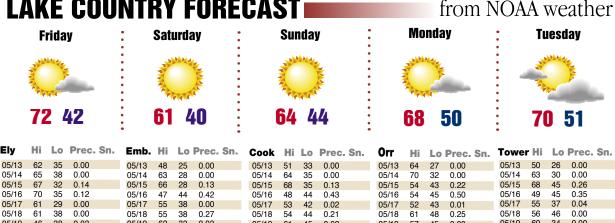
➤ You can add to nectar resources by providing a hummingbird feeder. To make artificial nectar, use four parts water to one part table sugar. Never use artificial sweeteners, honey, or fruit juices. Place something red on the feeder. Clean your feeder with hot soapy water at least twice a week to keep it free of mold.

➤ Butterflies need resources other than nectar. They are attracted to unsavory foodstuffs, such as moist animal droppings, urine and rotting fruits. Try putting out slices of overripe bananas, oranges and other fruits, or a sponge in a dish of lightly salted water to see which butterflies come to investigate.

#### LAKE COUNTRY FORECAST

05/15 67

05/19 46 38



05/19 57

#### **VOLUNTEERS...**Continued from page 6B

05/19 62

their happiness. It makes life better, not only for those you help, but for vourself. It really does make you feel good. Jane volunteers some of her free time to the Vermilion Lake Association by helping with the annual Loon Count that takes place yearly on the second week in July.

Don also volunteers some of his time each spring at the Pike River Hatchery to help the Vermilion Lake Association with their annual Sucker Sale. He helps to transfer the suckers from the netted area into large trash cans to be sold to those in attendance.

In his free time Don likes to hang out in the garage and turn on his welder. He is very artistic and uses the welder to cut shapes out of pieces of recycled metal that he in turn makes into works of art. These pieces can be displayed on your home, lawn, shoreline, etc. Many of his friends and neighbors have been recipients of his work and creativity. They proudly display the art objects that he makes. To Don, making art is his "constructive exercise" to create even more art objects. Many of these beautiful creations were donated to the Vermilion Lake Association and used as Door Prizes for their 50th Anniversary Party last summer.

05/19 61 45

Don truly believes that through volunteering you get to know more folks, find out about them, and help them if you can. Because of this, volunteering will continue to be a big part of his life.

You too can meet new people, try new ideas and have a good time learning about Lake Vermilion and its surrounding area. Consider the opportunity to join Don, Jane and a host of others by volunteering for the



Vermilion Lake Association. Maybe you have something in mind that you would like to do or have no idea of what's even available. It's easy, just contact Pat Michaelson, Volunteer Program Leader at plmichaelson@ gmail.com or check out the website at www.VermilionLakeAssociation.

#### Fishing reports

#### Ely area

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 afficionados are scoring good numbers while 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 up to seven or eight pounds. The largest number of "eyes" have been coming from shallower depths as the waters are warming faster there, although these fish tend to run on the smaller eating size from twelve to eighteen inches. Crawler harnesses are beginning to make their debut as one of the most productive bait presentations in these staging areas. As these waters begin to warm further, more folks will turn to bottom bouncer and spinner rigs tipped with either crawlers or minnows.

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. Burntside anglers trolling for walleyes have been pleasantly surprised by catching some lake trout up to thirty inches while trolling in waters from fifteen to twenty-five feet over mud flats. The walleyes have been running in lengths in excess of twenty-five inches and are readily engulfing larger crank baits fished near the bottom.

Courtesy Babe's Bait at Ely's west entrance.



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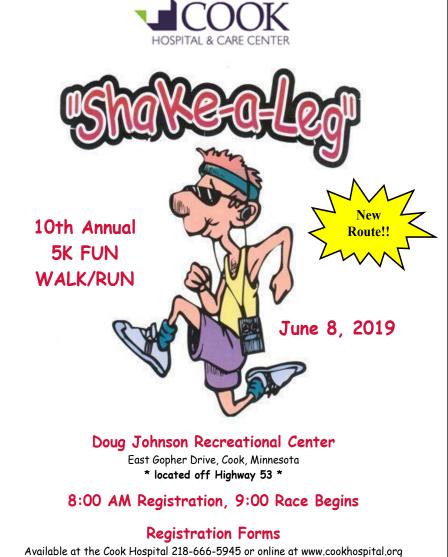


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**8B** May 31, 2019

#### TIMBERJAY Newspapers

# **CITY OF ELY**

**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 reg-ularly 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

#### **GREENWOOD TOWNSHIP** SEEKING PROPOSALS

Greenwood Township, 3000 County Rd 77, Tower MN 55790 is seeking proposals to repair and seal the parking lot at the township hall. Quotes will be received until 3 PM on Tuesday, June 11, 2019 and will be opened at the regular Town Board meeting on that date.

Proposals should include: Cost to repair failed bituminous pavement as marked on the lot; Cost to provide proper drainage on east end of lot near the flag pole; Cost to sealcoat all remaining surfaces; Cost to provide striping as currently exists

> Proof of insurance will be required-1 million dollars minimum coverage

Please provide a description of the repair and seal coat process that will be provided. On site meetings with road supervisor Ralston can be arranged by contacting the Township Clerk ăt 218-753-2231.

Published in the Timberjay, May 31 & June 7, 2018

**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@citvoftower.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. ested individuals should forward

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

**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. tfn

**EMPLOYMENT** 

# **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 Št. 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 Time: 5:30 PM Location: City Hall, 209 E Chapman St,

Tim Riley, Planning and Zoning Administrator City of Ely

Published in the Timberjay, May 17 & 31, 2019

#### **Don't Miss a Single Issue** (218) 753-2950

#### **Charter School** Administrator **Vermilion Country School**

Qualifications: Minimum 4-year degree in relevant area. Administrator licensure or coursework preferred but not required. Experience with charter schools and school leadership. Experience/interest in project-based learning, with an environmental education focus, and working in a teaching team environment. Ability to write/manage grants, interact with state agencies, help with school technology, and all stakeholders. This is a .50 position, with the remainder of the position to be filled with a teaching, or special education position, if desired.

Job Summary: The Vermilion Country School is a grades 7-12 public charter school that opened in the fall of 2013. It is located in Tower, Minn. The school serves a multicultural student body of 40-50 (est. 70% White, 25% American Indian), with a higher special education population and higher free/ reduced lunch rate population than neighborlearning model that is uniquely-adapted for our students. Our school attracts students from a 30-mile radius and provides individualized learning plans for students who have not been well served in the traditional public school model. For more information, visit our website at www.vermilioncountry.org or see our facebook page.

The Vermilion Country School Administrator will assist in several aspects of program development and implementation while working side-by-side with our staff to oversee the educational programming. Our school's staff oversees day-to-day student management. The administrator is responsible for guiding our staff to reach our school goals, and will report directly to the school board, and act as our administrator of record for MDE and our authorizer. VCS is authorized by Audubon Center of the Northwoods. The school was just re-authorized for five years, which shows our authorizer's confidence in our school model and record of student achievement.

Job Description: For complete job description, email Board Chair Jodi Summit at vcs. charter@gmail.com. Interested applicants, please email resume, cover letter, and any letters of recommendation to vcs.charter@ amail.com.

Vermilion Country School, 1 Enterprise Dr., PO Box 629, Tower, MN 55790 VCS is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Answers

	Answers																			
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Meeting Date: Wednesday June 5, 2019

Council Chambers

#### **EMPLOYMENT**



#### OPEN POSITIONS

#### Care Center

PT Nursing Assistant (sign-on bonus)

Casual Restorative Nursing Assistant

Imaging
Full Time Radiologic Tech

Rehabilitation

FT Physical Therapist (sign-on bonus)

PT Registered Nurse (sign-on bonus)

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# 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

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♦ ♦ ♦ HOO BOY!



#### **Full-Time** 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-re-

garded 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

Equal Opportunity Employer



# TIMBERJAY CLASSIFIEDS

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

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CENTER. INC. 45 E. Chapman Street **ELY** 

365-3132

#### **Langevin Auto** & Truck Repair

Full Service Auto Repair & Garage



#### HAIR CARE

218-749-0751

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 BUREAU- -221 HEAU- -221 S. Hwy Cook. Open-M-F 9-5. FastTrack Title Service-MVR-DNR-Limited DL, Dry Cleaning off/Pick Drop up, 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

#### RENTAL WANTED

LOOKING TO RENT NEAR ELY- House or apartment with garage. Willing to sign 1-year lease. Recent VCC hire, single, no pets or kids. Needed by Aug. 1 or sooner. Call Jack, 714-273-2933. 6/28p

#### **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 365-6745. tfn

#### **RUMMAGE SALES**

GARAGE SALE at VIRGINIA SENIOR CENTER located at 511 Chestnut Street (Across from Goodwill in 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

# **GROOMING**

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8825 Hwy 101, Iron, MN 55751

#### HELP WANTED 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 work-Experience ing with youth and the outdoors this is an opportunity for you. Contact deb@campvoyageu com or call 218-365-6042. tfn

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

ASSISTANT

KITCHEN

WANTED- Duties include prep work, some baking and assisting during and after assisting during and after meals. Flexible hours/days. Experience not and we will train. necessary This is an ideal opportunity for some-one 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

#### **SUPPORT GROUPS**

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

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

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

#### 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

#### **MARINE**



#### MOCCASIN POINT **MARINE**

timbuktumarina.com

4655 Moccasin Point Rd Lake Vermilion 218-753-3319

Storage, Boat Rentals. Service/Repairs/Sales Mechanic on Duty

moccasinpointmarine.com



#### **SUPPORT GROUPS**

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.

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

VIRGINIA AA WOMEN'S MEETING- Ladies by the Lake. Tuesdays at 12 noon. Peace United Methodist Church, 303 and parking

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**120** [Oliver]

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Smart, e.g.

[Revelation]

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**39** Big spoon

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#### **ACROSS** 1 Persian

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- Vasco -**11** Mark
  - Twain, e.g.,
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- 44 Nasty sort 47 Actor Thicke
- 48 Award for "Moonlight"
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- **81** Extremist 83 London loc. 84 Beast of burden
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      - Down 16 22

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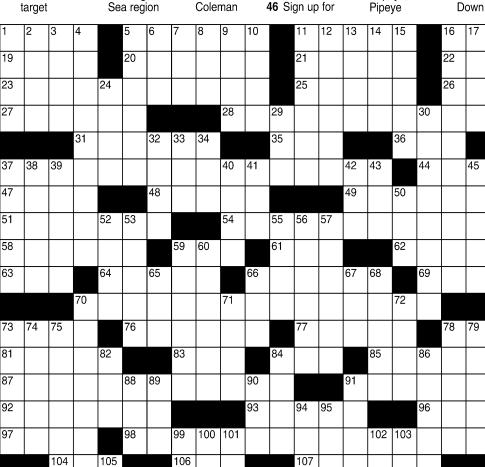
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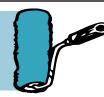
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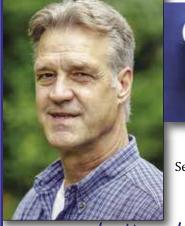
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