

## Effie Rodeo...

See /1B



## Inside:

**Bear bites runner...See /10**

**Logging horses... See /1B**

**Searching for muskies...See /4B**

# The TIMBERJAY

VOL. 30, ISSUE 30 August 2, 2019

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## TOWERGATE

# Keith, Carlson charged for misconduct

### Falsification of city records, abuse of authority among criminal offenses

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

TOWER— Former Tower Mayor Josh Carlson and now-suspended Tower Clerk-Treasurer Linda Keith have been charged criminally for their roles

in the illegal ouster of Marshall Helmberger from his position as president of the Tower Economic Development Authority (TEDA) in 2018.

Both individuals are charged with a single count of violation of Minn. Stat. 609.43, also known

as Misconduct by a Public Official — a gross misdemeanor punishable by up to a \$3,000 fine or a year in detention. Keith is charged with producing a false official document, while Carlson is charged with using his official authority as mayor to violate

Helmberger's legal rights.

The St. Louis County Attorney's Office filed the charges July 25 with the District Court in Virginia. Both Carlson and Keith are summoned to appear in court in Virginia on Aug. 30 to answer the charges.

The charges stem from a detailed criminal complaint that Helmberger filed with the county attorney back in February, which has been under investigation ever since. The complaint alleged that

See...TOWER pg. 9

## BWCAW

# Necessary response?

### Rescue officials: Second-guessing could hamper future rescues

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

ELY— Questions linger about the overnight rescue of a group of nine Girl Scouts from the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness last Friday night after a lightning strike that occurred as thunderstorms rolled across northeastern Minnesota. The harrowing rescue, undertaken in darkness, created a social media sensation as it unfolded late Friday and early Saturday morning — so much so that the incident soon attracted national media coverage and a tweet from Minnesota Gov. Mark Walz, hoping for the safe rescue of the girls.

Initial reports suggested the Scouts had gotten lost in a storm and that as many as two of the girls had perished after being struck by lightning. The actual story proved significantly less dramatic. The rescue squad reached the group at about 11 p.m. on Friday, on Knife Lake, located about

See...BWCA pg. 10

## ELY BLUEBERRY/ART FESTIVAL



# Blueberries galore

### Organizer: 39th Ely festival better than ever

by KEITH VANDERVORT  
Ely Editor

ELY- The 39th annual Blueberry/Art Festival here was bigger and better than ever, with close to 300 vendors and tens of thousands of visitors descending on the city at the end of the road last weekend.

"We started this whole thing in the early 1980s on a side street off Sheridan," said organizer Ellen Cashman, of the Ely Chamber of

**Bristol Jones, 5, from Indiana, takes a big gulp of blueberry pancakes Sunday morning at the Ely Blueberry/Art Festival.** photo by K. Vandervort

Commerce, as she sat beside a flower garden under a shade tree in Whiteside Park early Sunday morning. "Now just look around. We have hundreds of artists and crafters here and thousands and thousands of visitors to our wonderful town over the course of three days."

"We had lots of new

vendors again this year, and it seems like the turnover of artists and crafts people was bigger than ever, Cashman said. "That keeps our festival fresh and new for everyone — those who make the trek up north every year and those who are here for

See... FEST pg. 11

## POLYMET

# Lawmakers urge Walz to suspend permits

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

REGIONAL— Gov. Tim Walz is continuing to face pressure to set aside state permits issued to PolyMet Mining over concerns that the process used in issuing those permits was flawed. This week, that pressure took the form of a letter to the governor signed by 18 DFL members of the Legislature urging the governor to suspend permits, issued by both the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and the Department of Natural Resources, that have cleared the way for the planned copper-nickel mine, located near Hoyt Lakes, to proceed.



Gov. Tim Walz

The lawmakers say they want the permits suspended until a number of investigations, including ones by the EPA's inspector general and Minnesota's legislative auditor, have been completed.

Those investigations are examining revelations that top officials at the MPCA discouraged EPA professional staff

See...POLYMET pg. 10

**LETTER**  
Area legislators respond  
Page 4

## TRAFFIC SAFETY

# Motorists hands-free law now in effect

by CRYSTAL DEY  
Cook/Orr Editor

REGION — Thursday marks the first official day of the Minnesota Hands-Free Law for motorists. In northern Minnesota drivers encounter dangerous road conditions every day, including wildlife, construction zones and

**The Minnesota Hands-Free Law went into effect on Aug. 1.** Timberjay photo illustration

severe weather, yet some still take a chance and glance at their mobile devices. Now taking that chance could cost you.

The penalty for a first offense will be \$50, plus court costs. A second ticket, and additional

offenses, graduates to \$275, plus accompanying fees.

While law enforcement encourages people to put cell-phones in their gloveboxes to

See...LAW pg. 11



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# COMMUNITY EVENTS AND NOTICES

## BLT Night returns on Aug. 23

TOWER- BLT Night is back! After a year's hiatus, the Tower Farmers Market is again partnering with Randy and Carol Semo and the staff at Good Ol' Days to offer the best BLT on the Iron Range, for one night only. Mark your calendar for Friday, Aug. 23, under the tent on the back patio, starting after the farmers market closes at 6 p.m.

Come get a fabulous BLT made with local ingredients - bacon from Bear Creek Acres, Karl's bread, lettuce and tomatoes from market vendors - accompanied by chips and dilly beans. Desserts will be sold separately. Beverages can be ordered from the bar.

Good Ol' Days Bar & Grill is located at 314 Main St. in Tower. Proceeds from BLT Night are shared with the Tower Area Food Shelf.

## Free GED opportunity open now

REGIONAL- UCare, MinnesotaCare, and Families and Children (Medical Assistance) members can earn their GED for free with GEDWorks through a grant provided by UCare. To be eligible, you must be a current MinnesotaCare or Families and Children (Medical Assistance) member, a resident of St. Louis, Mower, Blue Earth or Freeborn counties, not enrolled in an accredited high school or have a high school diploma, and over the age of 19. (17 or 18 year-olds must complete an approved age waiver.) The course includes a dedicated advisor to provide support every step of the way, unlimited practice tests and study materials, the official GED credential tests, and access to bilingual (English and Spanish) advisors, tests and study materials. For questions, email GEDWorks@ged.com.

To apply, go to ged.com/ucare. Applications opened July 1 and the number of participants is limited. GEDWorks is an online program from the GED Testing Service designed for individuals to earn their high school diploma with costs completely covered by a sponsoring organization.

## Bear River Fair, Aug. 17 and 18

BEAR RIVER- The Bear River Fair is coming soon! Mark your calendars now for the fair on the third full weekend of August, Aug. 17 and 18. There are many wonderful things to enjoy throughout the weekend. Exhibits will be entered on Saturday morning and we ask you to take part by entering something. Exhibits, after all, are the reason for the fair in the first place. There will be a pig roast on Saturday night, including live music from 3-7 p.m. by Lake Street Gang.

Sunday brings a morning worship service up in the pines at 10:30 a.m., followed by a dinner of Swedish meatballs with mashed potatoes. Dessert will follow with coffee and pie served by the folks from Bear River Church. Casey Aro will be sharing his music and humor on Sunday afternoon. A scavenger hunt will be great for ages 12 and over, with cash prizes at the end. Throughout the two-day event, attendees can enjoy the ball tournament (contact Tony at the Viking 218-376-4622), bazaar (contact Hazel at 218-969-3755), and shopping at the Fair Market (contact Jane at 218-376-4556). Bingo is back this year, too.

Are you able to help out with the fair in any way? Let us know. We would love to have you join our crew. Keep your ears open for more information on this wonderful annual tradition. If you have questions or are willing to help, please contact Bruce at 480-213-0767 or Jane at 218-376-4556.

The Bear River Community Center/Old Bear River School is located at the intersection of Hwy 22 and 5. Go online to [www.BearRiverMN.com](http://www.BearRiverMN.com). The building is handicapped-accessible.

## ST. LOUIS COUNTY FAIR

# North Star Draft Horse Association at the St. Louis County Fair on Aug. 2

CHISHOLM- Real horsepower will be on display on Friday, Aug. 2 from 4 to 6 p.m. at the 135th Annual St. Louis County Fair. Members of the North Star Draft Horse Association will present an educational and entertaining demonstration on the use of draft equines for work and pleasure.

The program will include light and heavy horses pulling carts, wagons, and farm implements. There will be a parade of breeds featuring Belgians, Percherons, and Haflingers as well as a donkey named Jack. Horses will be hitched single, double and in multiple hitch combinations. Log skidding, bale picking, and obstacle course competitions will round out the program. Spectators are welcome to meet the teamsters and see the horses up close and personal. Draft horses will be on display in the horse barn during the fair.

The event will be followed by



the Pittman Family Six-Horse Hitch demonstration at 7 p.m. and again on Saturday, Aug. 3 at 6 p.m.

For more information, contact Ed Nelson at 218-966-1354.

# Ely's Relay for Life is all about hope

ELY- Hope is the belief that, despite a difficulty, we can find our way to the best outcome possible. Hope is the feeling that what is wanted can be had, or that events will turn out for the best. Hope is a community gathered together in unity with a common cause, to help save lives, celebrate lives, and lead the fight for a world without cancer.

Please join the community on Friday, Aug. 16 with stories and memories of a personal battle, or that of a loved one, against a disease that takes too much from too many. Their memories are powerful. On Friday, Aug. 16 from 4 - 11 p.m. come join us in Whiteside Park for Ely's Relay for Life.

This particular night we will gather with not just the desire to remember, but with the desire to find hope. We find hope when a newly diagnosed cancer patient calls for support and information and finds a friendly voice determined to help.



We find hope when a volunteer pulls into the driveway of a cancer patient to help them get to their treatment. We find hope in the eyes of a caregiver who logs on to their computer to connect with others who understand how they are feeling as they care for their loved one facing this disease. We find hope in the heart of every cancer survivor.

Your support of the Relay for Life movement and the American Cancer Society is creating hope and saving more lives. Whether your luminaria glows in honor or in memory of someone, please take pride in the fact that it also glows

with the light of hope. Luminaries can be purchased from one of the participating teams; cost is \$5 per bag.

EBCH- Tiffany Zemke, Jodi Martin  
Essentia Health- Sandy Kari  
Ely Fire Department- Chris Vesel  
Eagle Nesters- Shirley Sayvoitz  
Bunny Hoppers- Kelsey Borchert  
Teme Zeke- Anna Urbas  
Miss Ely- Nichole Boitz, or any of the Miss Ely/Little Miss candidates

Or at POTLUCK.  
As a community, please come help us walk laps, gather for the BBQ fundraiser, bid on donated silent auction items, or purchase a gift card. Join us for Ely's Relay for Life from 4 - 11 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 16 in Whiteside Park. Cancer never sleeps.

Article submitted by Shelby Swanson

# Looking Skyward opens Aug. 8 in Ely

ELY - "Looking Skyward," a multimedia production featuring dance, live music, poetry, photos, videos, and art surrounding the theme of "sky," will be presented Aug. 8-11 at Vermilion Community College. Performances will be begin at 7 p.m. on Thursday-Saturday, Aug. 8-10, and at 2 p.m. on

Sunday, Aug. 11.

Dancers ages five through adult will showcase their talents including ballet, contemporary, tap, and acro dance pieces. Local musicians Joey Kenig, Irene Hartfield, Jef Cerniak, Andy Messerschmidt, Sarah Mason, Keiko Williams and former Ely resident Zack Baltich among others will be sharing their music.

Photos from Heidi Pinkerton and videos from Simon Stouffer, as well as others, will become a

backdrop for the show. Timothy Stouffer will be reading his poetry live during the show. An art exhibit in the lobby will display pieces related to the sky theme. The show is in honor of Zane Kenig and her love of dance.

Tickets are \$10 (ages 5 and under free.) All tickets will be paid at the door using cash or check payable to the Northern Lakes Arts Association. To reserve tickets, go to [www.docs.google.com](http://www.docs.google.com). For more information, go to

the the Reflections Dance Company's Facebook page.

This activity is made possible in part by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Arrowhead Regional Arts Council, thanks to appropriations from the Minnesota State Legislature's general and arts and cultural heritage funds as well as a grant from the Donald G. Gardner Humanities Trust.

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COUNTY SCHOOLS

# Board voices support for area broadband initiative

by CRYSTAL DEY  
Cook/Orr Editor

VIRGINIA – Broadband may be basic in most homes throughout the nation but it continues to be hit and miss in the Northland. Could it be affecting our students? St. Louis County School Board members discussed a new broadband initiative at a meeting on Tuesday, July 23.

Joann Bassing approached the board requesting a donation toward a Blandin Foundation matching grant. Bassing, from the Tower area, represents the Blandin broadband initiative feasibility committee. Bassing said if the committee can raise \$75,000, Blandin will match the funds. The committee would then use the \$150,000 to study the best route to implement broadband services in the rural areas north of Virginia and around Lake Vermilion.

“The reason I’m here is

## ISD 2142 readies for the upcoming school year

if we ever want broadband in the areas of Tower-Soudan, Vermilion Lake, all the townships, Greenwood, Eagles Nest, we need to get this feasibility study done. It’s the first step and if we don’t get that done, we’re set back that many years, and it does affect your district,” Bassing said.

School board members Christine Taylor and Chris Koivisto voiced support for the project and said they would support a contribution. Bassing’s committee has already raised \$60,000. The consensus of the school board was to donate, however, Superintendent Reggie Engebretson directed school business manager Kim Johnson to look into the legality of whether the board could make a donation the same day as a request. In a follow-up discussion since the meeting, Engebretson said the board

learned it cannot donate taxpayer dollars to a private entity such as Bassing’s cause.

During the meeting, Bassing said the availability of broadband to rural students in the north levels the playing field between them and kids from larger cities where the service is readily available. She added that reliable internet access may help recruit young families to the area, increasing enrollment numbers, and boost the economy by affording people the opportunity to be employed through work from home jobs.

### Staffing and curriculum

Continuing discussion on jobs, the board approved the hiring of 17 new teachers and three support staff. New teachers joining North Woods include: Kylee Uncini, preschool; Jennifer Burnett, special education; Nathan Anderson, science;

Sara Twedten, language arts, and Daniel Reing, special education. Sara Niska and Jessica Hannine were hired as paraprofessionals at North Woods. New hire Brian Burton will be providing school transportation as a van driver and substitute bus driver.

“We need more bus drivers,” Koivisto said. “We should continue to promote that.”

The board recognized seven teachers for achieving tenure; special education teacher Ruth Porter from North Woods was among those mentioned.

The board also approved an English curriculum, which Koivisto described as having a standardized book list with a nice variety. Board member Dan Manick noted the list, “even includes print books.”

Study Sync English Language Arts will be used for grades 6-8 with consideration given to the same curriculum for grades 9-12 next year. The program cost \$75,000 for 500

students and is active for six years. Digital novels and materials are also included.

### Coaching assignments

The 2019-2020 coaching staff roster was also announced. North Woods coaches are: John Jirik, head football; Jeff Chaulklin, assistant football; Joel Anderson, assistant football; and Dan Squires, assistant cross country. Squires will also work cooperatively with South Ridge.

Northwest Range coaches are: Michael Summers, head football; Barry Wolfe, assistant football; Jodi Reichensperger, head volleyball; Misty Roseth, assistant volleyball; Julianna Gerlovich, assistant volleyball; Lynn Gulbrandson, co-head girls swim; Cheri DeBeltz, co-head girls swim; Sue Pasmic, assistant girls swim; and Ellen Pierce, assistant cross country. Pierce is also working with South Ridge cooperatively.

See **SCHOOLS...pg. 5**

## NORTH WOODS

# Grant to fund online activities hub for Cook, Orr, Nett Lake

by CRYSTAL DEY  
Cook/Orr Editor

COOK – A Grizzlies brainstorming session sparked the minds of student supporters last Thursday while a thunderstorm pounded the grounds outside the Cook Community Center. The group inside the building formed to forge a plan that could link the Nett Lake, Orr and Cook Grizzlies communities – through a centralized event hub.

Bois Forte Information Technology Director Randy Long put the plan in motion in hopes to start a website that would gather pertinent Grizzlies

game information prior to the start of school this fall. The vision is in a preliminary phase, but funding through a \$50,000 Blandin Foundation grant could help push the project along.

“My anticipated goal is to provide all sports schedules, game times, coach information, team information,” Long said. “Another goal is to purchase the high school cube app so we can link the site to the app.”

The Blandin grant is designed to expand current programs in the Nett Lake, Orr and Cook communities and the proposed new website is just one of the ideas for using the

funds, but it’s a natural fit since the North Woods School, and Grizzlies sports, tie all three of the communities together.

“A local webpage where everything is would be amazing,” said Kandi Olson, Grizzlies volleyball and girls golf coach. “It’s not just school sports. These are Grizzlies communities.”

Olson has been using various outlets, including multiple Facebook accounts and media releases, to distribute sports schedules and student forms. As the school year is fast approaching, Olson has been trying to notify parents that student physicals need to

be completed.

Marty Connor, programming manager with KBFT Radio, said the website would make scheduling simpler from a parent’s perspective. Providing a student perspective, is North Woods sophomore Morgan Burnett. Long recruited Burnett to help launch the website.


Burnett agreed with Connor that a Grizzlies community website would help her with sports and social life scheduling.

Burnett has been tasked with compiling a list of sports and events that would benefit from Long’s project along with maintaining a calendar. Presently, the

school has a Google calendar with volleyball and football game dates and times. If Long’s site is successful, the two calendars could merge into one master hub. One possibility Long sees is turning maintenance of the website over to the school. Olson, a language arts teacher at North Woods, said that would require time, resources and input from the school.

Students who don’t participate in sports won’t be left out. The website would also provide students with a hands-on learning opportunity. Long,

See **WEBSITE...pg. 5**



## Ely's Relay for Life

**Friday, August 16 • Whiteside Park**

Register your team \*\*\* Walk with a team \*\*\* Come for the BBQ  
Bid on Silent Auction Items \*\*\* Buy a Grab-n-Go Gift Card  
*There will be fun events throughout the night!*

**4 PM: The fun begins! BBQ, Gift Certificate Grab-n-Go, Silent Auction and Walking Starts**

**6 PM: Survivor Lap and Music Begins**

**8 PM: Silent Auction Ends**

**9 PM: Luminaria Walk, Speech by Dr. Bianco**

**11 PM: Wrap Up and Thank You! Close of Relay**

Luminarias are available for a \$5 donation and can be purchased from Relay Teams or at POTLUCK.

Register a Team or Donate at: [www.relayforlife.org/ely](http://www.relayforlife.org/ely)

**Silent Auction Items**

Fishing Package - Arrowhead Outdoors \* 'Summer Lichen' Print - Brandenburg Gallery \* Crapola Package - Crapola \* Garden Cart - D&D Accounting \* T-shirt/Gift Bag - Dee's Bar \* Year Memberships & Root Beer - Dorothy Molter Museum \* One Year Subscription - Ely Echo \* Gift Basket - Ely Old Fashioned Candy \* Northwoods Outerwear & Tote - Hand Done T-Shirts \* Game - JD Mills \* Stained Glass Hanging - Kekekabic Studios \* Jewelry & Decor - Kess Gallery \* 'Northwoods Night' Metal Print on Rock Easel - Kris Kidd \* Fishing Rod/Reel Package - Lucky 7 \* Oil Change - Mike Motors \* Jewelry & Classic Massage - Pebble Spa \* 'Morning Light' Matted Print - Heidi Pinkerton \* Women's Fleece, Hat & Water Bottle - Piragis \* 'Bakers' Basket - POTLUCK \* Paddle Board Rental - Spirit of the Wilderness \* Wells Fargo Gift Package - Ely Branch \* Pontoon Rental - White Iron Beach Resort \* Wine/Truffles - Wildlife Liquor/Beth Johnson \* Gift Basket - Winton Roadhouse \* 'Nose Art' DieCast Aircraft - Wolfand Computers \* Gift Package - Zaverl's \* Kayak - Zup's \* One Year Subscription - Ely Timberjays

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*The Relay for Life Committee would also like to thank the following businesses for their monetary, in-kind and food donations:*

Adventure Inn \* American Legion Auxiliary \* Boundary Waters Bank \* Brandau Plumbing \* Dairy Queen \* Deb Campbell \* Crystal Chopp \* Ely Area Credit Union \* Ely Chiropractic Clinic \* Ely Northland Market \* Frandsen Bank \* Northwoods Collision Center \* R&R Transfer \* Razor's Edge \* Silver Rapids Lodge \* Tony's Service Station \* Twin Metals \* VP Toilets \* Zup's

(Watch for more items to be added in next week's paper!)

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# OPINION

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The First Amendment of the United States Constitution

e-mail: editor@timberjay.com

## Editorial

### New challenge to the ACA

As GOP seeks to eliminate Obamacare, Democrats can't dismiss viable alternatives

Health insurance coverage for tens of millions of Americans and hundreds of thousands of Minnesotans could be wiped away pending the outcome of a legal case heard by a federal appeals court on July 9.

A total of 18 Republican-led states are working closely with the Trump administration in hopes of overturning the Affordable Care Act. If the GOP attorneys general and the Trump administration have their way, it will have major implications for millions of Americans. Approximately 20 million Americans gained affordable healthcare insurance coverage as a result of the ACA, with about three-quarters of the gain coming from the expansion of the federal Medicaid program. Subsidies for many of those who didn't qualify for Medicaid (due to higher income), helped several more million Americans pay for private insurance.

For those 20 million Americans, health insurance coverage would mostly be wiped away should the GOP and the Trump administration win their case in court.

Many more Americans would be affected in other ways. The ACA also requires insurance companies to cover pre-existing conditions, eliminates co-pays for many preventative medical services, and allows young people to remain on their parents' insurance plan until age 26.

All of these provisions could well be eliminated depending on the outcome of the case. The Republican effort to kill the Affordable Care Act passed its first legal hurdle earlier this year when a federal judge in Texas ruled that the ACA's requirement to purchase health insurance, known as the individual mandate, is unconstitutional.

The Supreme Court ruled 5-4 in 2012 that the individual mandate was constitutional because Congress imposed a fine for those who failed to purchase insurance. Chief Justice John Roberts determined that the fine was really a tax and since Congress is specifically authorized to levy taxes, the ACA could stand. But the latest GOP tax cut, passed in 2017, eliminated the tax for non-compliance with the insurance mandate, and the Texas judge said if there's no tax associated with the mandate, it's unconstitutional. If the mandate must go, the entire law should be struck down, Republicans argue.

The recent appeals court panel appeared open to the argument, which led many to believe they could strike down the ACA later this year. If so, the case is almost certain to go to the Supreme Court, possibly

as early as late this year or early in 2020.

The impact of the case, if successful, could well be devastating to the millions of Americans who rely on the ACA. While far from perfect, the ACA managed to cut the number of uninsured Americans nearly in half within just a few years. Eliminating the ACA would send the numbers of uninsured in the U.S. skyrocketing and would, once again, allow insurance companies to deny coverage to people with pre-existing conditions. While the Trump administration is eager to undo one of the key legacies of the Obama administration, it has no actual replacement should the law be swept away by the courts. The result, as is usual with this administration, would be chaos.

The political implications are many. The ACA has grown significantly more popular in recent years, which means the GOP could well pay a price at the polls for taking affordable health insurance away from tens of millions of Americans.

It could also play a role in the ongoing debate within the Democratic Party, over how to advance health care access for more Americans. Presidential contenders like Joe Biden, Pete Buttigieg, and Amy Klobuchar say they want to build on the ACA, as opposed to adopting more inclusive programs, such as Medicare-for-All, backed by Bernie Sanders and Elizabeth Warren.

If the ACA is struck down, there's nothing left to improve. It will, if anything, strengthen the argument for single-payer options, which are clearly constitutionally-compliant.

Which is why the recent false attacks and scare-mongering, by Biden and other Democrats, on single-payer options are so unwise. The latest Biden trope is that single-payer solutions will deny Americans the right to keep their private insurance plans.

Such scare tactics could well come back to haunt the Democrats if the ACA is struck down by the courts. The ACA, with an individual mandate, was the only viable option for salvaging private insurance in the U.S., which was on the verge of collapse due to lack of affordability. That's why the GOP could never come up with an alternative to the ACA. Going back to the bad old days before the ACA isn't viable politically, at least not for Democrats. Which is why Biden Buttigieg, and Klobuchar, are doing real damage by seeking to undermine support for a single-payer solution. In the end, it may be America's only hope for providing affordable health care to its citizens.



## Letters from Readers

### Legislators respond to calls for PolyMet permit suspension

The claims by metro legislators and anti-mining groups about PolyMet Mining are downright fabrications. It is very disappointing that people don't know or don't care what our strong rules and regulations require, and that the media continues to perpetuate the misinformation.

The people of the Iron Range deserve better. The people of the state of Minnesota deserve better. There is no scandal. The agencies have done their jobs. The letter of the law was followed to a "T". Enough of the fake news already. Here are the facts:

Fact: Our DNR required PolyMet Mining to post bankruptcy proof of financial assurance (only accessible by the DNR) before they even issued PolyMet's permit to mine. It doesn't matter who or what the ownership looks like. The resources needed to close the mine if the company went bankrupt are currently in place and only the state can release the funds.

Fact: PolyMet has undergone the most thorough and transparent environmental

review and permitting process, more than any other project ever in our state. Extra-long public review periods, with thousands of public comments, all of which were responded to, and extra meetings were held around the state including the Twin Cities. When was the last time a project in the Twin Cities was required to hold public meetings on the Iron Range?

Fact: We live in a state with a long mining history. We know how to mine safely. We hold our companies to high standards. Note: According to the Environmental Quality Board's report card on Minnesota water, we have the only clean water in the state. PolyMet's tailings design is an enhanced version of what all but one of our taconite mining companies currently use and have been using for over 50 years of operation. We have never had a dam failure in Minnesota. And based on the level of scrutiny and multi-level independent review of the PolyMet project, we fully expect the PolyMet tailings basin to be no different.

These letters containing fabricated information to Gov. Walz and to Attorney General Ellison are frustrating, but let's call them what they are: desperate last-ditch efforts by anti-mining folks to stop an

important project for northeastern Minnesota, because their efforts to stop the project through the multi-state and federal agency environmental review and permitting process, a process they put into law, is now not adequate for them.

PolyMet has spent over 14 years diligently following and complying with every required state and federal process to legally permit and operate a mine. They have shown their project meets state and federal environmental standards and meets or exceeds all factors of safety. As lawmakers we should be celebrating this monumental accomplishment, not perpetuating lies and misinformation manufactured by anti-mining groups.

It's time for long awaited good-paying jobs on the Iron Range. Jobs that will contribute to our new economy of windmills, solar panels, electric cars, cell phones, computers and whatever our future brings.

It's time to mine.  
**Sen. David Tomassoni**  
**Sen. Justin Eichorn**  
**Rep. Dave Lislegard**  
**Rep. Rob Ecklund**  
**Rep. Julie Sandstede**  
**Rep. Dale Lueck**  
**Rep. Sandy Layman**

## COMMENTARY

### How should Americans engage globally?

I've been struck recently by news coverage of climate change and humans' degradation of the planet. Two opposing themes keep appearing. One is the sense that, as individuals, there's little we can do; the forces are too large. The other – and I think many Americans would agree with this – is that as citizens of the planet we have a responsibility to protect it and to pass it on in good shape to those who follow us.

So how do we reconcile

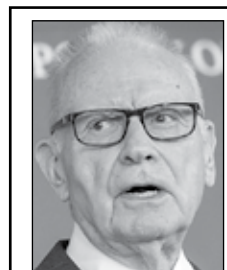
those warring impulses – not just on the environment, but on many global and international issues? How, in other words, do we engage with the world?

Because make no mistake: as Americans, we are global citizens. It's not just that the world has deep-seated, unavoidable problems that, if ignored, will bite us where we live. It's that we inhabit a preeminent world power that bears a responsibility to lead.

If you pay attention to

international meetings, you can't help but notice that other countries have for many years turned to us to take the lead. That's diminishing under our current administration, but not because other countries (with the exception of China and Russia) are eager to take our place. Shaping the global order has been a central feature of our identity and our history. Lincoln spoke of American freedom as "the last best hope of earth." JFK promised to "pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship to assure the survival and the success of

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LEE HAMILTON

## Trump taps the tools of modern monetary theory

For all the vitriol that President Trump has directed at freshman congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, a self-described democratic socialist, the president and AOC actually have more in common than either of them might care to admit.

Both are, in effect, subscribers



MARSHALL HELMSBERGER

to a relatively new economic theory, known as Modern Monetary Theory, or MMT. As theory, it's been around for several years but operated mostly at the lefty margins in a world otherwise dominated by the macroeconomic views espoused nearly a century ago by British economist John Maynard

Keynes.

Keynesian theory has formed the basis of western fiscal policy since the 1930s, advocating government stimulus (through deficit spending or middle-income tax cuts) during periods of economic weakness, followed by fiscal restraint (through higher taxes and lower spending) during periods of strong growth. It was, in theory, a means of achieving a kind of Goldilocks economy, neither too hot nor too cold. While most politicians naturally favor strong

economic growth, Keynesian economists have argued for decades that a super-heated economy, fueled by fiscal profligacy, will generate too much inflation pressure, excessive government debt, higher interest rates, and speculative bubbles, hence the need for restraint in the use of stimulus during periods of robust growth.

In recent years, however, Keynes's theory has been challenged, originally by some on the left, who felt that the government could actually do

more to improve economic conditions for lower-and-middle income Americans and reduce income inequality in the process. Ideas originally espoused by Vermont Independent Sen. Bernie Sanders, such as free public college tuition, universal health care, a higher minimum wage, and concepts like the Green New Deal and a federal jobs guarantee, espoused by AOC, were some of the ways that those on the left hoped

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# THEORY...Continued from page 4

to boost opportunity for Americans on the lower and middle rungs of the economic ladder.

Such ideas, which many assumed would be financed either through higher taxes or higher deficits, have been questioned by many mainstream (read: Keynesian) economists, many Democrats, and almost all Republicans, as unaffordable or likely to spark inflation and higher interest rates.

Keynesian theory would suggest those critics are right. It's the economic reality of the past few decades, however, that suggests it was Keynes who may have shot wide of the mark.

Here's an illustrative story that comes from Scott Pelley, the CBS newsman who recently wrote the book "Truth Worth Telling: A Reporter's Search for Meaning in the Stories of Our Time."

In a chapter about the 2008 financial collapse, he wrote about then-Fed chairman Ben Bernanke. As a student of the Great Depression, Bernanke was petrified that the global financial system was going to seize up in 2008, prompting a repeat of the 1930s. In order to inject liquidity into the global financial system, he simply inflated the balance sheets of every major bank in the world with a U.S. Federal

Reserve account. He didn't print more money. Instead, he directed Fed staff to type bigger balances into the accounts of banks around the world. The Fed, in effect, created trillions of dollars with little more than a few key strokes on a computer.

Bernanke, a Keynesian himself, quite naturally worried about the risk of inflation, but felt at the time that the risks of financial collapse were far greater.

Of course, Bernanke wasn't acting alone. At the same time, the Obama administration passed a massive fiscal stimulus package designed to inject money into the U.S. domestic economy through both infrastructure spending and tax cuts geared toward the middle class.

The combined actions had their intended effects. The financial system reeled, but didn't collapse, and the stimulus package, much decried at the time by Republicans, provided the jolt the economy needed to end the freefall that President Obama inherited, and laid the groundwork for the longest economic expansion in American history.

Economic growth would have been faster had Obama kept applying the gas through fiscal stimulus, but the GOP takeover of the House in

2010 cut the spending tap and put a focus back on deficit reduction. The Fed did continue its loose monetary policy, through record low interest rates and quantitative easing, which at least kept the economy moving forward.

While the economy continued to expand, its modest pace and the inconsistency of the recovery laid the groundwork for Trump to take the Rust Belt and win the White House in 2016.

Since then, Trump has thrown the old rules, and economic orthodoxy, out the window, by adopting much of the toolkit espoused by proponents of MMT. Trump, from his first day, was determined to throw gas on an already expanding economy, when traditional economic theory argued for restraint. He's done so mostly by significantly increasing government spending while simultaneously cutting taxes, which has sent the federal deficit skyrocketing. He has also consistently argued for the loosest possible monetary policy.

Despite such policies, inflation has remained remarkably flat, as it has for the past quarter century. Obama's 2009 stimulus had no effect on prices, either, nor did Bernanke's injection of trillions of dollars into the balance

sheets of financial institutions in the wake of the 2008 crash. And interest rates have remained historically low even as the country has run historically high federal deficits.

All of which has helped make the case that, perhaps, Keynes had it wrong. Maybe, in a country like the U.S., that controls its own currency and that is not overly dependent on foreign debt, things like deficits and high government spending don't really matter — at least not at the levels we're experiencing today.

If we believe that the government must either tax or borrow to pay its bills, there would seem to be an argument to keep spending in check. But what if the government isn't entirely dependent on those sources of revenue? As Bernanke showed, the U.S. can create new money at the stroke of a computer key.

Proponents of MMT, in fact, believe that the U.S. government doesn't really need to run "deficits," per se, since it has control of its own currency and is perfectly able to create funds at will to fuel the economy and achieve full employment, which is their primary goal. It doesn't even require printing money, since most financial transactions today are entirely digital

in nature.

Just as the Fed simply typed extra zeros into the balance sheets of banks in 2008, the federal government could do the same with its Social Security payments, tax refunds, or payroll disbursements. Who needs tax dollars, when you can create at least a portion of your funding stream out of thin air to advance your goals?

For those of us schooled in traditional economics, it sounds like madness that will surely lead to very painful consequences. And even its proponents acknowledge that there is a limit to this method. Eventually, if you create too much money, the value of a dollar will decline, but MMT proponents say we're nowhere near that point, and they can cite decades of low inflation and interest rates, as well as the strength of the dollar internationally, as proof. They also point to a number of other controlling mechanisms, such as taxation, which can be applied to restrict the money supply if inflation were to reappear.

While President Trump would undoubtedly disavow any belief in MMT, his economic policies are largely in sync with those espoused by supporters of the theory, in that he's happy to boost government spending,

cares little about deficits, and advocates the loosest possible monetary policy, all for the purpose of juicing the economy — which he hopes is his ticket to re-election.

The primary difference between Trump and MMT believers on the left is a question of priorities. Trump has focused his government profligacy on a senseless military buildup and corporate tax cuts, which has sharply limited the economic impact of his government largesse.

Those on the left would focus the government on providing universal health care, affordable housing, educational opportunity for low and middle-income Americans, and on advancing solutions to climate change — and argue that such investments will help expand the economy more evenly and boost incomes from the bottom-up.

While most economists still dismiss MMT as crank theory, it has obvious appeal in the political sphere, which is where economic theory ultimately translates into actual policy. And, at some point, as traditional economic theory continues to prove a mismatch with economic reality, new ways of thinking about spending, deficits, and monetary policy are certainly in order.

# HAMILTON...Continued from page 4

liberty." Ronald Reagan spoke of this country as a "shining city upon a hill."

I don't actually agree with the boundless sense of American power and responsibility suggested by Kennedy's promise. The truth is, we couldn't "pay any price" or "bear any burden" back then, and we can't now. Our obligation in its broadest terms is to try to make our nation and the world safer, freer, and more prosperous when and where we can. But we can't do it all.

What does this mean

for us as citizens? It means we have an obligation to inform ourselves about the world we live in. It means we should learn about international affairs, visit other countries if we're able, learn a foreign language, read what foreign leaders have to say. We should engage with people from other countries, both here and abroad, and work hard to understand the challenges that other countries and their citizens confront. In short, we should try to see problems not just from an American

perspective, but more broadly.

Beyond that, I think that as Americans, we ought to be first in line to respond to humanitarian disasters and to raise our voices in support of innocent people who have been mistreated. Where we can, we should try to lessen tensions between nations and groups, reduce conflict, and improve the quality of life for all. We should be perceived to be a benign power.

Yet we have to do all this with keen awareness

of our limitations. We can't solve all the world's problems. We can't pour our resources into every challenging place and problem. We need the help of others and should welcome it. We have to be smart about how we use our power. We have to reserve the right to use force as a last resort, but diplomacy and development should be our preferred tools of engagement.

I'm uneasy talking about "American exceptionalism," even though I really do believe we

have a responsibility to the world. I'm far more comfortable when we show we're exceptional. If we really are exceptional, others will notice. We don't need to flaunt it.

In the end, we have to look at our responsibilities as global citizens quietly and confidently, with humility, and try to contribute to a safer, more prosperous world. That's something we can all do, and a goal we should push our leaders to pursue.

Lee Hamilton is a Senior Advisor for

the Indiana University Center on Representative Government. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 34 years.

# SCHOOLS...Continued from page 3

Cherry coaches are: LeAnn Adkisson, head volleyball; Becky Greenly, assistant volleyball; Jason Marsh, head football; Gerald Barry, assistant football; and Chris Carpenter, assistant football.

South Ridge coaches are: Brad Olesiak, head volleyball; Mikayla Olesiak, assistant volleyball; Bridget Paulson, assistant volleyball; Brent Johnson, head football; Adam Janke, assistant football; Dan Nelson, assistant football; Jeremy Polson, head cross country; and Alissa Boyhtari, assistant cross country.

## Construction updates

Engebritson updated the board on construction projects and renovations during the superintendent's report. Engebritson said the Tower-Soudan School will receive \$109,200 in grant funding to assist with school safety renovations and modifications. The

school was selected by lottery. Improvements can now be planned and implemented at any time. The award period runs through Dec. 31, 2022.

Engebritson informed the board the South Ridge project will require an additional \$140,000 to replace backfill material where the high school addition is being constructed.

"When that area was dug up for the new addition there was found to be branches and poor quality backfill tree stumps in the area next to the existing building," Engebritson explained. "This wasn't discovered when Braung Intertec did their boring samples last summer."

The district is investigating why measures weren't taken previously to ensure quality backfill was used to provide a foundation on which the already planned high school addition could be built.

In an add-on agenda

item, the board authorized the superintendent to approve all change orders pertaining to expansion and renovation projects at the Cherry and South Ridge locations. A \$50,000 per change order restriction is in place and the board must be apprised of all approvals in a timely manner. Recent change orders have ranged from \$500 to \$1,100.

A public hearing has been set for Tuesday, Aug. 27 at 5 p.m. in consideration and approval of a property tax abatement to use property taxes imposed by the district to fund parking lot reconstruction at various school sites. The estimated abatement would not exceed \$2.75 million over 15 years.

In other action, the board:

- ▶ Approved a professional services contract with Range Mental Health Center for the 2019-2020 school year.
- ▶ Approved the pur-

chase of a service agreement for transportation of children and youth in foster care placement for the school year with St. Louis County.

▶ Accepted the retirement of paraprofessional David Lamwers of North Woods and counselor David Erickson of South Ridge.

▶ Accepted the resignations of district payroll coordinator Wendy Fahey and community education coordinator Denise Parson of North Woods. Parson changes titles as she was hired as the new district community education director.

▶ Approved the termination of pre-school teacher assistant Mikala Kowarsch at South Ridge, with no discussion.

▶ Approved a long-term facility maintenance plan. The plan is described as a preliminary living document.

▶ Adopted a resolution for membership in

the Minnesota State High School League.

▶ Approved an alternate bid for the Cherry expansion and renovation project.

## TUESDAY NITE LIVE · AUGUST 6

9am-7:59pm	<b>Steger Mukluk Store:</b> Sign up for a drawing for Mukluk give-away-1 pair any style
2-3:30pm	<b>Dorothy Molter Museum:</b> Camp KWITCHURBELIAKIN, outdoor learning, Kids 4-12. Registration recommended
2-4pm	<b>Pioneer Mine/Ely Arts &amp; Heritage:</b> Historic Ely Pioneer Mine Museum Open
4pm	<b>Historic Walking Tour:</b> Meet Your Guide in front of City Hall
5-7pm	<b>Whiteside Park:</b> Farmers Market/NLAA Artist Market
5:30-6:30pm	<b>Mealey's Tiki Deck-Music:</b> Heidi Schiltz
7-9pm	<b>Mealey's Tiki Deck-Music:</b> Gene LaFond & Amy Grillo
6-9pm	<b>Rockwood-Music:</b> Alan Phillips
7-9pm	<b>Snowbank Lodge-Music:</b> Barb Hall

Sponsored by the Ely Chamber of Commerce [www.ely.org](http://www.ely.org)

## APARTMENTS FOR RENT

**Vermilion Housing Corporation**  
 currently is taking applications for  
**1 and 2 bedroom apartments in  
 Tower and Soudan.**  
**RENT SUBSIDY AVAILABLE**  
**CALL 218-753-6111**  
 Please leave your name and address  
 and application form will be sent.



# WEBSITE...Continued from page 3

having a background in internet technology, hopes students could be trained on how to maintain the site. Likewise, students interested in journalism and writing sports blogs would be given a platform to refine their talents. Olson said she would like to see photography training

as well. "That gives them more of an idea of what they want to do after school too," Connor said.

To see the site come to fruition, the community will need to provide input. Some of the things Thursday's group discussed adding are knowl-

edge bowl, adult education, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and open gym times. In keeping with the community theme, Long said he plans to use as many local resources as possible.

The trio who met at the Cook Community Center are the beginning of an informal committee. The

committee is in the process of developing a name for the website, a name for the committee and a plan for its future. A progress update is planned prior to the first day of school on Monday, Sept. 4.





# Tick Talk

by GINA EMPEY  
Timberjay contributor

Iron Rangers are by far one the toughest communities of people I have met in this lifetime. It has been a learning experience unlike I have ever known. Rarely do I hear folks complain about aches and pains or anything else for that matter. They seem to just take life as it comes and make the best of it. I hope that people keep this in mind when someone has severe unexplained pain that stops their entire life. I want to stress how important it is to avoid the judgment of others who would love nothing more than to return to work and their daily activities.

Many people who have Lyme disease and it's multiple co-infections can test negative for Lyme due to the inaccurate tests. These same people see anywhere from 7 to 14 different doctors or specialists without getting a diagnosis.

For instance, my close friend in Stanchfield went to the Mayo Clinic with Bell's Palsy and dragging her left leg, auditory hallucination, ringing in her ears, abnormal irritability and rage, only to be sent home with a diagnosis of Fibromyalgia and Chronic Fatigue, three weeks and thousands of dollars later. She started researching on her own and became an advocate for herself. She was able to get treated by a Lyme Literate doctor and get better. There is

a symptoms list at [mnylme.org](http://mnylme.org) under resources and printable materials. It is a great tool to keep track of changes in your symptoms month to month. The Lyme spirochete tends to multiply every four weeks. Bartonella multiplies every two weeks and Babesia multiplies every 10 days. This is helpful to give clues on what your body is fighting in case you are noticing a worsening of symptoms at those intervals. My best advice is to take a few deep breaths and quiet your mind. Ask yourself what is causing your symptoms? When did they start? Was there a great deal of stress or a tragedy in your life right before the symptoms became worse? Many times the first thought that comes to you will be the right answer. Our immune system can generally heal us with most illnesses. But this bacteria is different. It is able to avoid our body's natural defenses. It can and needs to be stopped with treatment.

The most popular question I am getting right now is "Where can I get my tick tested?" Please see [www.Tick-Report.com](http://www.Tick-Report.com) or call 413-545-1057. I am planning a Lyme meeting this summer in Tower. Please email [Lvlymegroup@outlook.com](mailto:Lvlymegroup@outlook.com) if this is something you are interested in attending and when the best time would be to do this.

## Heiam Foundation 26th Annual Benefit set for Saturday, Aug. 17

COOK- The annual summer benefit of the W.C. Heiam Medical Foundation will be held on Saturday, Aug. 17. It will be a fun evening with excellent food, all for a good cause. The benefit will be held at the Lake Vermilion Fire Brigade hall from 5 to 9 p.m. Cost is \$125 per person, which includes live music, silent and live auctions, complimentary beverages, and dinner catered by BoomTown Woodfire Grill. RSVPs are required by Monday, Aug. 5. To register, please contact Tiffany at 218-750-1352 or email [info@heiamfoundation.org](mailto:info@heiamfoundation.org).

## Letters from Readers

### Think about it?

We need more of our two local communities and all who can help support our Lakeview-Tower Cemetery.

Why is it? \$700 can be spent on fireworks

each year but yet many of our locals do not want to donate money for our cemetery.

Maybe someday, someone will leave in their estate a nice sum of money to the Tower-Lakeview Cemetery. It has been a while since that happened.

Please donate if you can. Thank you.

**Leonard Stefanich  
Soudan**

# Get Informed! Get the Timberjay!



## Breitung Township meeting briefs

by STEPHANIE UKKOLA  
Staff Writer

SOUDAN- The Breitung Town Board met Wednesday, July 24 and:

➤ Accepted the low propane bid from Edwards Oil of \$0.998 for up to 20,000 gallons of fuel with market rate pricing after that limit is reached in a two-year contract. The township usually uses about 7,000 gallons yearly and expects usage could be lower due to efficiency improvements made during construction. Edwards Oil is the current provider for the township.

➤ Approved payments to JPJ Engineering for \$1,655 on the town hall rehab project, to JPJ Engineering for \$979 for the West Church Street sewer project, and \$197,505 to Lenci Enterprises for

work on the townhall rehab project.

➤ Heard that the township will ask Leustek and Sons to grind the waste concrete that has accumulated in the township's gravel pit, with a cost limit of \$15,000 including mobilization.

➤ Heard that the Town Hall Rehab Project is 41-percent complete, excluding parking lot work.

➤ Heard that the township hired CW Winger for \$600 to raise a driveway on Church Street that had been flooding due to work completed on the street last year.

➤ Heard from maintenance supervisor Dale Swanson that he will be retiring on Sept. 1, 2020.

➤ Heard that Old Settlers was well attended and McKinley Campground has been busy this summer.

➤ Decided to mow lawns and

charge two residents who had received blight letters and had still not mowed their lawns.

➤ Heard from Chairman Tim Tomsich that the IRRRB has opened up a new grant cycle for infrastructure and trail projects.

➤ Approved a private reservation of the Breitung Park's shelter on Aug. 11.

➤ Noted that the McKinley Park building was dedicated 25 years ago.

➤ Asked Swanson to trim overgrown trees on city sidewalks after hearing from concerned citizens.

➤ Next meetings will be Thursday, Aug. 8 at noon and Thursday, Aug. 29 at noon.

## Old Settlers winners announced

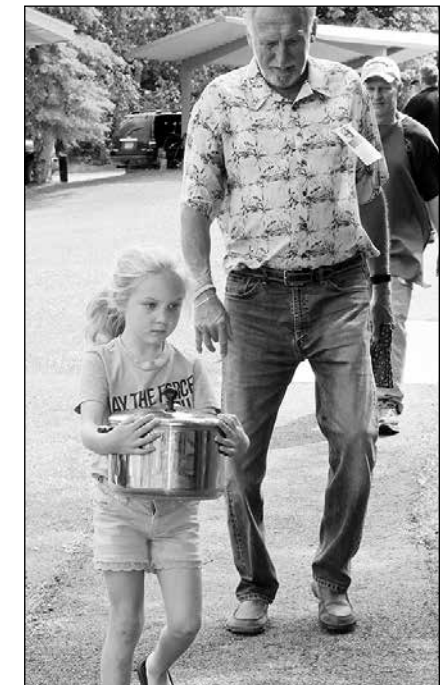


Left: Nathan Kralich and Owen Ruml enjoyed their booyah.

Below: Five-year-old Valerie Young attended the picnic with her grandparents Sarah (Sundeen) and Charles Young.

Below left: Seven-week-old Barrett Picard was the youngest to attend the picnic this year.

photos by J. Summit



Attendance at this year's Old Settlers was 244, slightly higher than the previous year's 240.

Next year's picnic will be held Saturday, July 18.

The following Old Settlers won door prizes this year. The Old Settler's Committee would like to thank all the generous business owners and individuals who donated prizes this year.

### 2019 door prize winners

Vermilion Range Old Settlers Association, 2020 paid memberships: Shaylee Hanson, Presley Chiabotti, Mary Helen Pelista, Ann Yapel

*Tower News*, one-year subscription: Zach Schroeder

*Tower News*, Chaos and Grit book by Phyllis Burgess: Joan Arbogast

*Tower News*, From the Nook book: Claire Jonas

*Tower News*, Book: Hux Broten

*Timberjay*, one-year subscription: Amy Hinkel

*Timberjay*, Lake Vermilion Book: Patrick Kralich

Zup's, cooler: Sandy Kitto

Zup's, T-shirt: Sara (Bystrom) Pelstring

Northern Pine Embroidery, hat and cozy: Eunice Korpi, Kasandra Bjorjo

Northern Pine Embroidery, shirt and cozy: Bruce Carlson, Nick Schmitz, Jayson Yapel

Northern Pine Embroidery, bag: Judy Sundahl

Range LP Gas, Carlson 20-lb. fill: Willard Potila

D'Erick's, wine: Kal Reinhardt, Jodi Summit

Robin Majerle, Norwex: Greg Dostert

Soudan's Only Store, ice cream cones: Nassic Dottz, Tani Wilson, Tim Lind, Al Ehrich, Roseanna Kemppaninen, Josiah Jonas, Ann Moravek, Kristine Jonas, Jeff Lind, Carol Norberg, Tom Suihkonen, Dave Mesojedec, Frank Korpi, Bernie Pelstring, Lee Branwall

Good Ol' Days, gift pack: Dena Suihkonen, Chad Kangas

Tower-Soudan Agency, monetary gift: Carol Peil, Laurie Greben

Hook N Stone Jewlery by Liz: Gen Bjorgo

Sulu's Espresso Café, gift

card: Shirley Jamison

Tower Farmers Market, basket: Dylan Mesojedec

Tower Farmers Market, bread: Jack McCarthy, John Kemppaninen

Bob's Standard, gift card: Emily Michaels

Hoodoo Point Campground: Leroy Homes

Golden Rule Lumber, gift certificate: Tasha Trucano

Northwoods Poetry: Scott Chiabotti

Uffda, watch: Susan Carlson

Jeanne's Cards and Gifts, gift certificate: Kathy Carlson

Tower Café, gift certificate: Dave Bjorgo, Karma Lind

Nordic Home North, cribbage board: Mindy Axer

Homestead Mills, gift certificate: Kaela Mesojedec, Jorgine Gornick

McKinley Park Campground, sweatshirt: Marshall Helmberger

Mesabi Symphony Orchestra, tickets: Kaylee Bjorgo, Dave Lind, Dianna Sundahl

## COLLEGE NEWS

Dean's List honors for earning GPAs between 3.50 and 3.99.

For more, visit [bemidjistate.edu](http://bemidjistate.edu) or visit BemidjiState on most social media networks.

### Korissa Kishel named to MN State Mankato's Spring Honor List

MANKATO- Korissa Kishel of Tower has been named to the Dean's Honor List for the past spring semester at Minnesota State University in Mankato.

Among 3,140 students, a total of 829 students qualified for the

High Honor List by achieving a 4.0 straight "A" average, while 2,311 students earned a 3.5 to 3.99 average to qualify for the Honor List. To qualify for academic honors, undergraduate students must be enrolled for at least 12 credit hours for the semester.

Minnesota State Mankato, a comprehensive university with 14,227 students, is part of the Minnesota State system, which includes 30 colleges and seven universities.

**Cook VFW**  
Open Daily at Noon  
**CLOSED on TUESDAYS**

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

**Event Rentals Welcome**  
218-780-6709

**Pull-Tabs Sold Daily**  
Lic. 00390

**Sunday FREE Pool**

**Thursday Bingo**  
Early Bird 6 p.m.  
Progressive Prizes

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

**Take-Out 666-0500**

TOWER-SOUDAN HIGH SCHOOL

# Class of 1959 reunion



Front row (from left): Diane (Vollendorf) Grigal, Emanuel (Beans) Sunsdahl, Karen (Soderberg) Karne, George Peyla. Second row: Dominick (Nick) Tekautz, Helen (Mesojedec) Erchul, Janet (Carlson) Erchul, Curtis (Jack) Barsness, Pauline (Peil) Housenga. Back row: Leroy Wilson, John Stefanich, Bruce Carlson. Not pictured: Raymond Stefanich. submitted photo

The Tower-Soudan class of 1959 celebrated their 60th class reunion on July 5 at Vermilion Park Inn. Seventeen classmates and their spouses/friends had a won-

derful time renewing friendships and reminiscing about the "good old days at T-S High School." The wine and jelly makers shared their bounty with classmates along with

coasters marking the 60th reunion. Before everyone departed the class decided would meet informally next summer, date to be announced later.

Week of Aug. 5

### Class of 1969 to hold 50th reunion on Aug. 17

TOWER- The Tower-Soudan Class of 1969 will gather on Saturday, Aug. 17 at 5 p.m. at the Wilderness Grill. RSVP by calling or texting Marian Greene at 612-432-1283 or Wayne Dahl at 218-290-2118.

### T-S Class of 1979 plans reunion Aug. 2-3

TOWER- The Tower-Soudan class of 1979 is planning 40th reunion activities for the first weekend in August. On Friday, Aug. 2 there is a pizza mixer at the Vermilion Club at 7 p.m., followed on Saturday, Aug. 3 by dinner and sharing of memories at Benchwarmer's at 6 p.m.

It doesn't matter if you graduated from Tower or not. If you shared a class, they want to see you! Call Bill at 218-735-8009 with any questions.

### Little Church meeting, Aug. 10

VERMILION LAKE TWP- Supporters of the Vermilion Lake Little Church are invited to a meeting on Saturday, Aug. 10 at 10 a.m. Anyone who is interested in keeping The Little Church preserved and maintained is welcome. In addition, a men's group meets every Thursday at 9 a.m. for coffee and conversation. All are welcome. The Little Church is located in Vermilion Lake Township on Cty. Rd. 26/Wahlsten Rd. at the Pike River. For questions, contact Len Hujanen at 218-749-2014.

**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 Aug. 20.

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.

**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](http://vermilioncountry.org).



## COMMUNITY NOTICES

### Yin Yoga on Thursdays in August

TOWER- The public is invited to an ongoing gentle Yin Yoga class at the Tower Civic Center from 10 to 11 a.m. on Thursdays. Please arrive 10 minutes early to set up your yoga space.

This class is a gentler, more passive style of yoga which allows your body to slowly open as we hold the poses while supported with blocks, bolsters, and blankets. It's great for post-surgery, injury, illness, or for those who just no longer want to participate in the more active yoga flow style. All poses are done on the floor.

Class dates are Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29. The pre-paid monthly fee is \$25, drop-in rate is \$15. Call or text Nancy with questions at 218-750-7514.

### Morning Yoga on Tuesdays and Thursdays

TOWER- Start your day with stretching and quieting your mind, relieve your body of aches and pains. One of the reasons yoga is so effective at alleviating pain in the lower back, neck, and shoulders is that it works on a number of different levels simultaneously, loosening up joint restrictions, stretching tight muscles, re-activating weak muscles, adjusting alignment, relaxing the body, and calming the mind. Yoga can be really effective at relieving the pain. We can release tension, restore range of motion, and re-activate weakened muscles. A regular yoga practice has the potential to prevent and heal injury, to make you stronger, fitter and more supple, to enhance your physical performance, and to sharpen your mental focus.

Bring a mat or use one of our mats at no cost. The class is open to all ages, male and female, beginners and experienced yogis. A variety of modifications are offered to help you move within your own range of motion. The class is intended to help you take the practice of yoga on the mat to a full, vibrant practice of life off the mat.

Morning Yoga in Tower continues into August at the Tower Civic Center from 8:30 to 9:45 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Class dates are Aug. 1, 6, 8, 13, 15, 20, 22, 27 and 29. The pre-paid monthly rate is \$55, drop-in rate is \$15. Call or text Nancy Larson with questions at 218-750-7514.

## BREITUNG POLICE DEPARTMENT

### June Report

Calls: 381  
Arrests: 0  
Citations/formal charges: 13  
Monthly mileage: 2,769 (Tahoe 1,778, Explorer: 991)



### June Police Report

Breitung Police Chief Dan Nylund

### Speeding

Speeding endangers everyone on the road. In 2017 speeding killed over 9,700 people, accounting for 26-percent of all traffic fatalities that year.

### Squads

Current end of the month mileage for the gold 2012 Chevy Tahoe (Tower) is 85,874. Current end of the month mileage for the 2017 Ford Explorer is 20,584. The Tahoe had its spotlight repaired.

### Citations/formal charges/arrests

(2) Driving after suspension - citation  
(10) Speed  
(1) Expired vehicle registration

### Additional shifts

During the month of May the Breitung Police Department did not work any additional shifts.



## the TIMBERJAY

The Tower-Soudan Timberjay and Cook-Orr Timberjay are published weekly on Friday by The Timberjay, Inc. Offices are at 414 Main St., Box 636, Tower, 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](mailto:editor@timberjay.com). Visit our website at [www.timberjay.com](http://www.timberjay.com).

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General Manager	Jodi Summit
Staff Writers	Melissa Roach Stephanie Ukkola Keith Vandervort
Ely Editor	Crystal Dey
Cook/Orr Editor	M. M. White
Office Manager	Scarlet Lynn Stone
Graphics/Ad Sales	Jay Greeney
Ad Sales/Sports	

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**Member:** Minnesota Newspaper Association, Lake Vermilion Resort Association, Lake Vermilion Area Chamber of Commerce, Ely Chamber of Commerce, Orr Chamber of Commerce.

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Read the entire paper on-line every week. On-line subscriptions cost \$29.95/year; details at [www.timberjay.com](http://www.timberjay.com).

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

jewelry  
woodworking  
photography  
felted wool

**4-6 PM**

**St. Louis County Solid Waste Facility Area site hours**

<b>Northwoods Transfer Station</b> 9384 Hwy 21 N., Ely/Babbitt Summer Hours Mon, Thu, Fri, Sat: 8am-3pm Tue: 9:30am-3pm Wed: noon-6pm	<b>Cook Transfer Station</b> 2134 S. Beatty Rd., Cook Hours Mon: 10am-6pm Tues thru Sat: 9am-3:30pm
<b>County 77 Canister Site</b> 2038 County Rd. 77, Greenwood Twp Summer Hours Tues: 1-6pm Thurs: 8am-1pm Sat: 8am-5pm Sun: noon-6pm	<b>Soudan Canister Site</b> 5160 Hwy 169, Soudan Hours Mon, Wed, Sat, Sun: 8am-5pm
<b>Embarrass Canister Site</b> 7530 Koski Rd., Embarrass Hours Sat: 12:30-4:30pm Thu: 10am-5pm	<b>Aurora Transfer Station</b> 5910 Hwy 135 N., Aurora Hours Mon, Thurs, Fri: 8am-4pm Tue, Wed: 10am-4pm Sat: 8am-noon
<b>Household Hazardous Waste Facility</b> 5345 Regional Landfill Rd, Virginia Hours Tues and Sat: 8am-1pm	<b>Regional Landfill</b> 5341 Regional Landfill Rd, Virginia Hours Mon-Fri: 8am-4:30pm Sat: 8am-3:30pm

Summer hours effective April 15th through September 30th  
For solid waste and recycling information go to [www.stlouiscountymn.gov/recycle](http://www.stlouiscountymn.gov/recycle)

**St. Louis County Environmental Services Department**  
1-800-450-9278  
Office hours 8-4:30 Monday through Friday

## Bookmobile Schedule

**Wednesday, Aug. 21, Sept. 11, Oct. 2, 23**

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

For further information, call the Arrowhead Library System at 218-741-3840 or [www.arrowhead.lib.mn.us](http://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.

**Aug. 6** - Jeff Hanson - Clearwater Biologic

**Aug. 13** - Barb Jones - A Tour Of The Neighborhood

**Aug. 20** - Lee Frelich - Boreal Refugium Project

**Play Smear**  
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](http://www.elycommunityhealth.org) or Facebook page.

**Breathing Out**  
by Cecilia Rolando © 2019



moving to august  
summer sunshine, summer heat  
swim the blessed lake

CITY GOVERNMENT

# Ely mayor honored by state cities group

Chuck Novak presented with Excellence in Service award

by KEITH VANDERVORT  
Ely Editor

ELY - Mayor Chuck Novak was recognized last week by the Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities (CGMC) for his excellence in service to Greater Minnesota. The Excellence in Service Award was presented during the Coalition's three-day summer conference in Bemidji.

The award is presented to city leaders who demonstrate knowledge, leadership and active participation in CGMC program areas over the past year.

According to GCMC president Ron Johnson, Mayor Novak has long been a tenacious advocate for his community and other Greater Minnesota cities. "A well-known presence at the State Capitol, he regularly makes the trek to



**Ely Mayor Chuck Novak, left, received an Excellence in Service award from Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities President Ron Johnson. The award was presented at the organization's summer conference in Bemidji.** submitted photo

St. Paul to meet with lawmakers to garner support for key CGMC priorities such as Local Government Aid, broadband expansion and rural economic development.

In addition, Johnson said Novak is a fixture at CGMC events, rarely missing a conference or

lobbying event. "Chuck is the CGMC's secret weapon during the legislative session - everyone at the Capitol knows him," Johnson said. "He is always willing and eager to do whatever it takes to help advance the issues that are important to Greater Minnesota communities."

CGMC is a nonprofit, nonpartisan advocacy organization representing 97 cities outside of the Twin Cities metropolitan area. The Coalition educates legislators about issues important to Greater Minnesota.

SUPPORTING THE ARTS

## Gardner Trust releases survey results

ELY - In May of this year, the Donald G. Gardner Humanities Trust conducted a community survey. The results of the survey were revealed this week.

"As the Trust celebrates 30 years of arts funding in our community this year, it's a good time to reflect on how we are doing and what to look forward to in the next three to six years," said Keiko Williams, executive director.

Individual Artist Grants again came up as the most important grant program with nearly 37 percent of the votes. The last community survey was completed in 2012. "The Trust wants to be responsive to what the community feels is most important," Williams said.

Individual artist grants are awarded for unique, short-term opportunities that will impact an artist's career and can be awarded for up to \$1,000.

The community survey had two grant programs tied for second: organization project grants and youth grants.

The Trust's project grant program supports activities in the fine arts and is intended to make possible presentations or productions. Examples of project grants this year were the Ely Winter Festival's Snow Sculpture Symposium, Ely ArtWalk, Mesabi Symphony Orchestra's February concert in Ely and school outreach, and the Boundary Water



**Clockwise from upper left: Individual Artist Grant, Nancy Schiebe and Emma Kari - Moose Team Mural; Ely Winter Festival, Snow Sculpture Symposium; Individual Artist Grant, Rachel Colber exhibit of new work/techniques; Mesabi Symphony Orchestra, February concert in Ely.** submitted photo

Choral Festival.

The Youth Grant program helps meet the needs of students who demonstrate a high motivation in the fine arts and can help a student afford training opportunities through workshops, classes, lessons or mentorships. The youth grant program is for students in grades 6 to 12 attending Ely schools or homeschool students.

Remaining grant program priorities are for college scholarships and organization operational funding grants. The Ely Public Library is also allotted funds each year.

"Overall, the people who responded to the community survey seemed to be aware of the Trust grant programs, have attended events, and are generally supportive of the arts,

artists and art organizations in Ely," Williams said.

The public had an opportunity in the survey to give feedback on any ideas or concerns, as well as provide ideas for community giving grants as extra dollars are available.

"Overall, people were very appreciative of the Trust's community grants that have brought the LOON opera to the Ely elementary school children," she said. "Most people have also been enjoying the outdoor music instruments installed in Whiteside Park in collaboration with the city of Ely. People would like to see more instruments installed in town, maybe at Semer's Park in the future.

There was also mention of enjoying the current outdoor murals; many

which received some support from the Trust as project grant awards. "Other ideas will be considered as funding allows," Williams said.

The public is invited to attend Breakfast in the Garden on Saturday, Aug. 3 at Whiteside Park from 10 a.m. to noon to celebrate 30 years of enriching life in Ely.

The 2019 Board of Directors include: Laura Moberly, Beth Ohlhauser, Cade Thibodeaux, Becky Zientek, Andrea Strom, Jill Swanson, Andy Messerschmidt and Angela Campbell. Keiko Williams, executive director, and can be reached at 365-2639 or [info@gardnertrust.org](mailto:info@gardnertrust.org) with any questions regarding the community survey or the Trust grant programs.



**the TIMBERJAY**

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**Have coffee with a cop**  
ELY - Join members of the Ely Police Department at the Front Porch Coffee and Tea Co. on Wednesdays at 9 a.m. for Coffee with a Cop.  
The program was started as a community-police initiative to build relationships between law enforcement and the community they serve. "This event will provide a way to meet a police officer from the Ely Police Department in an informal and relaxed setting," said Chief John Lahtonen.  
Feel free to stop by, grab a cup of coffee and have a chat with the police officer, who will have discussion topics on hand for those who just want to listen.



BLUEBERRY/ART FESTIVAL 2019

# Kiwanis Club sets blueberry pie record

by KEITH VANDERVORT  
Ely Editor

ELY - "Thank you, locals. Thank you, vacationers. And thank you to all those who drove up for the weekend," said Tom Kobierski of the Ely Kiwanis Club as he described the success of the group's record-breaking 2019 Blueberry/Art Festival.

"With your help and continued support, plus all the media hype, the Ely Kiwanis Club established a new total blueberry pie sales record at this year's festival."

The new blueberry pie record now stands at 608 pies sold in three days, with 254 whole pies flying off the shelves.

"Our club was continuously amazed as festival-goers waited patiently for pies to come from the kitchen (across town the at Ely-Bloomenson Community Hospital) when demands were at their heaviest," Kobierski said. "Just as incredulous to us were the people who bought



three and four whole pies at a time."

He also made special mention of the creativity two of the club's long-term "pie angels," Gwen Bakken and Joellyn Murphy showed when

pies ran out early Sunday afternoon. "These hospital kitchen staff members put their aprons back on and came up with tray after tray of delicious blueberry crisp served warm out of the oven, to

keep our hungry customers happy," Kobierski said.

"Our club works extremely hard to deliver a good product every year," he said. "We have seemed to become a

Ely Kiwanis Club members and volunteers toil for days in the kitchen at Ely-Bloomenson Community Hospital prior to and during the annual Blueberry/Art Festival making hundreds of blueberry pies. The photo at left was taken last year. file photo

yearly destination at the festival for many. Most of our workers toil without breaks every minute the festival is open. Saturday, for example, the line was already long 20 minutes before the 11 a.m. opening time, and we never saw the end of it until 4 p.m. It's certainly become a big deal."

Kobierski admitted that the work becomes easier when the smiles and compliments come back with such regularity. "What makes us feel good is the fact that it's all worth it for the local young people we support and the appreciation folks have when they say, 'I was here

last year and I'll be back again next year. It's not a Blueberry/Art Festival without a piece of your pie," he said.

Kobierski was quick to also add a thank you "to all the volunteers who helped make and serve pies, Gene Hicks who donates coffee every year, Zup's and Northland Markets, J&L Hardware, R & R Transfer, and all other local businesses involved in helping us during the three-day festival. You were incredible with your support."

He also added a Kiwanis Club recruitment plea. "Consider joining us for some hard work coupled with a lot of smiles," Kobierski said. "Maybe you are ready to give back a little for all the blessing we receive from living in our great city of Ely. We need new members."

The Ely Kiwanis Club meets at the Grand Ely Lodge at 8 a.m. on the second and fourth Thursday of each month. "See you at the Harvest Moon Festival," he said.



The Ely Fire Department, with Kevin Gilbert manning the grill, above, sold corn on the cob and pork chops at the 2019 Blueberry / Art Festival last weekend.

Studio North dancers, Janae Murphy, Tiley Larsen and Senja Kess, right, sold lemonade across from Whiteside Park to raise money for an upcoming trip to Hawaii.

Isaac Jones, of Hibbing, below left, took a break with a smoothie.

Pat Surface, of Ely, below right, entertained the crowd all three days. photos by K. Vandervort



## News In Brief

### Fall sports meeting set for Aug. 5

ELY - Memorial High School will hold its annual fall sports registration meeting on Monday, Aug. 5, at 6 p.m. in the high school gymnasium.

Students in grades 7-12 may sign up at this time for football, volleyball, boys and girls cross country and girls swimming. Dance team members will also meet at this time.

Parents are strongly urged to attend this meeting to get information about practices, schedules and necessary paperwork. After a brief general meeting, each individual activity will hold its own meeting to pass along information about the upcoming fall season.

In addition, please note that in order to participate, students must have, on file, record of a completed physical examination in the last three years. Please complete physicals prior to the start of practices on Aug. 12.

For more information, contact your respective coach, or contact high school athletic director Tom Coombe at 218-365-6166, extension 1723, or email to tcoombe@ely.k12.mn.us.

### Breakfast in the Garden Saturday, August 3 from 10 am - 12 noon

Whiteside Park Pavilion • Art for Kids & Adults!!



### ART & TEA FOR EVERYONE!

Donald C. Gardner Humanities Trust

An annual event to celebrate the creation of Ely's Donald G. Gardner Humanities Trust.

Enriching Life in Ely! - For 30 Years!

Area St. Louis County Solid Waste and Recycling Facility site hours		
<b>Ash River Trail Canister Site</b> 11391 Ash River Trail Summer Hours Wed: 1pm-4pm Sat: 2:30pm-5:30pm	<b>Kabetogama Lake Canister Site</b> 10150 Gamma Rd Summer Hours Mon. & Wed: 9am-noon Sat: 10:30am-1:30pm	<b>Sturgeon Canister Site</b> 8380 Hwy 73 Hours Sun: 10am-4pm
<b>Orr Canister Site</b> 4038 Hwy 53 Summer Hours Tue: 9am-1pm, Thu: 2pm-7pm Sat: 8am-noon, Sun: 10am-2pm	<b>Portage Canister Site</b> 6692 Crane Lake Rd. Summer Hours Mon & Tue: 2pm-6pm Thu: 10am-1pm, Sun: 3pm-6pm	<b>County 77 Canister Site</b> 2038 County Rd. 77 Summer Hours Tue: 1-6pm, Thu: 8am-1pm Sat: 8am-5pm, Sun: noon-6pm
<b>Cook Transfer Station</b> 2134 S. Beatty Rd. Hours Mon: 10am-6pm Tues thru Sat: 9am-3:30pm	<b>Regional Landfill</b> 5341 Regional Landfill Rd, Virginia Hours Mon-Fri: 8am-4:30pm Sat: 8am-3:30pm	<b>St. Louis County Environmental Services Department</b> 1-800-450-9278 Office hours 8-4:30 Mon. thru Fri. stlouiscountymn.gov/recycle
<b>Household Hazardous Waste Facilities</b> 5345 Regional Landfill Rd., Virginia Tue, Sat: 8am-1pm	3994 Landfill Rd, Hibbing Sat: 8am-1pm	Summer hours effective April 15th through September 30th

COOK CONSTRUCTION



Construction crews excavate the median on Hwy. 53 at the intersection of State Hwy. 1 East and County Rd. 22 south of Cook Thursday afternoon. photo by C. DeY

Man injured in Orr motorcycle accident

ORR – An International Falls man was injured in a motorcycle accident in rural Orr on Wednesday, July 24. The incident occurred at approximately 9:21 p.m.

Andrew P. Kochaniuk, 55, sustained injuries when he was driving on the 11000 block of the Ash River Trail near the Ash River Visitor Center entrance on Mead Wood Rd. Kochaniuk was entering a left-hand curve in the roadway when the motorcycle went off the road on the right side, according to a release from the St. Louis County Sheriff's Office. Kochaniuk was treated at the scene for what appeared to be non-life-threatening injuries and transported to Essentia Health in Duluth for further care, the release said.

The accident is under investigation by the sheriff's office. Alcohol appears to be a contributing factor in the accident. Kochaniuk was not carrying any passengers.

The St. Louis County Sheriff's Office was assisted by Minnesota State Patrol, Kabetogama Fire and First Responders, International Falls Ambulance, and North Memorial Air Medical.

Minnesota goes hands-free Aug. 1

Thursday marks the first official day of the Minnesota Hands-Free Law for motorists.

Remember hands-free means you cannot have your mobile device in your hand. The penalty for a first offense will be \$50 plus court costs. A second ticket, and additional offenses, graduates to \$275 plus fees.

For more information, visit <https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/ots/hands-free/Pages/default.aspx>.

Annual citywide bowhunt endangered Mayor opposes, city council divided on event

by CRYSTAL DEY  
Cook-Orr Editor

COOK – An annual bow hunt for deer in the City of Cook may be mixed. Council members were divided over whether to proceed with the 2019 hunt at their Thursday, July 25 meeting.

Mayor Harold Johnston and council member Kim Brunner voiced opposition to the hunt.

"I've just seen too many holes in them when they're walking around," Brunner said.

Council members Jody Bixby and Elizabeth Storm said they would support a hunt this year. Council member Karen Hollanitsch was not in attendance at the meeting.

The hunt was proposed to begin Aug. 22 continuing through Dec. 31 with an orientation for hunters on Sept. 4. Official sign-up for the event takes place after the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

press release is printed in newspapers, usually during the first full week of August.

A total of 25 bow hunters are permitted for a cost of \$20 each. The deadline to signup is Aug. 22 at noon, that is if a hunt is approved.

The council took no definitive action on the bow hunt. Since the council was divided and the hunt begins before the next regularly-scheduled council meeting on Thursday, Aug. 22, the council will be setting a future meeting date to address the issue.

Other business

The council also discussed citywide safety during the meeting. Ambulance Director Tina Rothleitner, who was not at the meeting, reported a concern for

retaining staff and a need for more EMR and EMT volunteers. The council approved the ambulance report as part of the consent agenda. Ambulance personnel responded to 31 calls during the month of June.

"I've just seen too many holes in them when they're walking around."

Kim Brunner  
Cook City Council

Rothleitner reminded the council of National Night Out which will be held Tuesday, Aug. 6 from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Cook Community Center. The event will include local emergency personnel, animals from Cook's Country Connection and a visit from the North Memorial helicopter.

In other safety-related discussion, City Administrator Theresa Martinson said OSHA will be coming to the city to conduct a workplace safety session on Oct. 23 from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Cook Community Center. The session will be open and free to area businesses.

Storm introduced a crosswalk signage project she said she has seen used effectively in other communities. The project involves hanging receptacles fashioned out of plastic piping affixed to existing street signs and orange flags near high-traffic crossings. When a pedestrian is crossing the street they would remove the flag and wave it as they cross, later depositing it in the receptacle on the opposite side of the street. Participation is

voluntary.

"Right now, when our traffic is heavy people are not stopping for a pedestrian," Storm said.

The council agreed the city will purchase a crosswalk station to place at the high-traffic area and the Lions Club will make and install the flags and receptacles.

In other action, the council:

- Approved putting infrastructure work out to bid for the Zup's rebuild on Hwy 53.
- Approved a bulletin board policy and expanding hours for the library.
- Approved a propane bid from Lakes Gas for 88 cents per gallon.
- Heard an update from Storm on the "Feed My Sheep" free lunch available on Wednesdays from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Cook City Park. The lunches will be available through the last Wednesday in August.

Electronics seized at border



U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers seized counterfeit LED TVs, gas pricing displays, chargers and earphones. submitted photos

INTERNATIONAL FALLS – Border officials seized more than \$1 million in counterfeit electronics stored in rail containers destined for Ranier. Items included LED televisions, gas-pricing displays, Samsung and Apple chargers, and earphones.

The U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Office of Field Operations targeted three rail containers destined for the Minnesota city this summer. A release from the department stated there were 1,455 televisions with an estimated manufacturer's suggested retail price (MSRP) of \$436,500, however the MSRP value is calculated on genuine goods, not counterfeit. Gas-pricing displays which could fetch \$594,750 MSRP were detained as well as Samsung and Apple

chargers and earphones totaling \$55,172 genuine MSRP.

Inspection from CBP officers revealed the products were in violation of intellectual property rights regulations. Seizure of property occurred between June 26 and July 16. The total MSRP of the recent seizures is \$1,086,422.

"The enforcement of trade laws at U.S. ports of entry remains a high priority for us," Anthony Jackson, International Falls Port Director, said in a release. "CBP works diligently to protect companies from unauthorized use of their trademarks as well as consumers from counterfeit products."

Officials with the CBP said stopping the flow of illicit goods is a priority trade issue as importation of counterfeit merchandise can damage

the U.S. economy and threaten the health and safety of the American people. To combat the illicit trade of merchandise violating laws relating to property rights, trademark and copyright holders may register with CBP through an online system. Such registration assists CBP officers and import specialists in identifying merchandise that violates U.S. law. For more information, see [www.cbp.gov/fakegoodsrealdangers](http://www.cbp.gov/fakegoodsrealdangers).

CBP asks if you have any information regarding suspected fraud or illegal trade activity, call 1-800-BE-ALERT. Intellectual property rights violations can also be reported to the National Intellectual Property Rights Coordination Center at <https://www.iprcenter.gov/referral/> or by telephone at 1-866-IPR-2060.

Grizzly volleyball practice starts next week

COOK – North Woods Grizzly Volleyball season begins Monday, Aug. 12 with captain's practice starting Monday, Aug. 5.

Practice is open to students in grades seven through 12. Each player is responsible for bringing their own practice gear along with clean, indoor volleyball shoes.



Players should be on the court by 8 a.m. with dismissal at 12 p.m. Students are encouraged to bring a water bottle and small snack.

Prior to starting

practice, players must have a current physical. Physicals must be done every three years which typically means all seventh and tenth grade players will need a new check up in 2019.

Captain's practice will be held Monday, Aug. 5 through Friday, Aug. 9 from 6 to 8 p.m.

Stay informed on Cook-Orr happenings by picking up a copy of The Timberjay at the following locations:

- Northwoods True Value Hardware
- Lucky Seven Convenience Store
- The Country Store

Check out our e-edition and find us on Facebook: The Timberjay Newspapers - Tower-Soudan, Ely, and Cook-Orr

Subscribe Today  
218.753.2950  
[timberjay.com](http://timberjay.com)

COMMUNITY EVENTS

# Cook-Orr Calendar

## Community Events

**Saturday, Aug. 3**  
**CLASS REUNION:** Cook High School classes of 1964-65 will meet on Saturday, Aug. 3 at 11:30 a.m. at The Crescent in Cook for their annual class reunion luncheon.

**ART:** Northwoods Friends of the Arts hosts Open Studio Art every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 210 S River St. All ages and mediums welcome.

**Tuesday, Aug. 6**  
**National Night Out** will be hosted at the Cook Community Center from 5 to 8 p.m.

**Wednesday, Aug. 7**  
**CONCERT:** Music in the Park on Wednesday, Aug. 7 at 6 p.m. at the Cook City Park Gazebo. Dionysian Dithyramb Band will play a unique blend of classic rock and jam band classics.

**ART:** "Art for Fun!" begins Wednesday, Aug. 7 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. downstairs at Cook's Evangelical Covenant Church. The meeting of artists with non-artists is hosting a two-hour welcome session for the **new monthly group**. If you have a portable spinning wheel you'd like to display or learn how to use, bring it to the meeting. Coffee, tea and sometimes treats are served. For more information, contact interim Pastor Linda Freeman at 218-410-1768.

**Thursday, Aug. 8**  
**LIBRARY:** Arrowhead Library System Bookmobile, Thursday, Aug. 8: Nett Lake Community Center 9:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.; Crane Lake Ranger Station 11:15 a.m. to 12 p.m.; Orr Lake Country ReMax building 1:45 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.; Kabetogama Town Hall 3:15 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. For more information, visit [www.alslib.info](http://www.alslib.info), call 218-741-3840 or write Arrowhead Library System, 5528 Emerald Ave., Mt. Iron, MN 55768.

**ART CLASS:** Northwoods Friends of the Arts hosts Linda Freeman's Rosemaling, Thursday, Aug. 8 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the gallery, 210 S River Street in Cook. Ages 11 to adult. Pre-registration required by calling 218-780-1151.

**Saturday, Aug. 10**  
**LADIES LUNCHEON:** Ladies of the Lake will host their annual event in Crane Lake on Saturday, Aug. 10. "A Fish Story," begins with social hour at 11 a.m. followed by a 12:30 p.m. luncheon on Nelson's Resort in Crane Lake. Proceeds benefit the Crane Lake Chapel. Door prizes, silent auction, raffles and music will be featured. Advance tickets only, call Jody at 320-249-4302. Reservations also available through Nelson's Resort or Handberg's Marine.

**ART:** Northwoods Friends of the Arts hosts Open Studio Art every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 210 S River St. All ages and mediums welcome.

**Sunday, Aug. 11**  
**GOLF BENEFIT:** Golfing for Cancer Awareness will be hosted Sunday, Aug. 11. Tee off is at 1 p.m. at Vermilion Fairways. Entry fee is \$25 per person, men and women are welcome and you do not need a full four-person team. The event includes golf, fellowship, food and prizes. Attendees are asked to wear lavender, the color

associated with all cancers. If unable to participate, monetary donations can be sent to: Vermilion Fairways Women's Club, 2407 Vermilion Dr., Cook, MN 55723. Register with Carol at 218-666-2679 or [CJG62@aol.com](mailto:CJG62@aol.com). Net proceeds benefit local cancer support groups.

**Wednesday, Aug. 14**  
**CONCERT:** Music in the Park on Wednesday, Aug. 14 at 6 p.m. at the Cook City Park Gazebo. Robert Walker's Outlaw Country will play a collection of originals and contemporary country.

**Friday, Aug. 16**  
**WEAVING CLASS:** Northwoods Friends of the Arts hosts Elsie Hyppa's Native American Weaving, Friday, Aug. 16 from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Cook Library. Ages 8 to adult. Pre-registration required by calling 218-780-1151. Visit [nwfamn.org](http://nwfamn.org) for upcoming classes and events.

**LIBRARY:** Arrowhead Library System presents Brave Girls & Wise Women, a storytelling event led by Rose Arrowsmith DeCoux, on Friday, Aug. 16, at 3:30 p.m. at the Cook Public Library. The 60-minute program is intended for ages 7-12.

**Saturday, Aug. 17**  
**BENEFIT:** The W.C. Heiam Medical Foundation will host its annual summer benefit on Saturday, Aug. 17 from 5 to 9 p.m. at the Lake Vermilion Fire Brigade hall. Cost is \$125 per person, which includes music, silent auction, live auction, complimentary beverages and dinner catered by BoomTown Woodfire Grill. **RSVP required by Monday, Aug. 5** by contacting Tiffany at 218-750-1352 or [info@heiamfoundation.org](mailto:info@heiamfoundation.org).

**ART:** Northwoods Friends of the Arts hosts Open Studio Art every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 210 S River St. All ages and mediums welcome.

**Wednesday, Aug. 21**  
**CONCERT:** Music in the Park on Wednesday, Aug. 21 at 6 p.m. at the Cook City Park Gazebo. Hunter Bunch will play folksy Americana and traditional hits.

**Saturday, Aug. 24**  
**ART:** Northwoods Friends of the Arts hosts Open Studio Art every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 210 S River St. All ages and mediums welcome.

**Wednesday, Aug. 28**  
**CONCERT:** Music in the Park on Wednesday, Aug. 28 at 6 p.m. at the Cook City Park Gazebo. Beefeater Brothers, Erick and Mike, close out the summer concert series with a musical variety.



**Mary Beth Downs presents a two-day watercolor painting workshop "Pouring It On" at the Cook Community Center on Thursday, Sept. 12 and Friday, Sept. 13. The autumn-themed class is hosted by Northwoods Friends of the Arts (NWFA). All levels of talent are invited to participate. The community center, known as Doug Johnson Recreation Area, is located at 510 E Gopher Drive. Class hours are from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Pre-registration is required by calling 218-666-2153. Cost is \$75, or \$60 for NWFA members.**



submitted images

**Thursday, Aug. 29**  
**LIBRARY:** Arrowhead Library System Bookmobile, Thursday, Aug. 29: Nett Lake Community Center 9:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.; Crane Lake Ranger Station 11:15 a.m. to 12 p.m.; Orr Lake Country ReMax building 1:45 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.; Kabetogama Town Hall 3:15 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. For more information, visit [www.alslib.info](http://www.alslib.info), call 218-741-3840 or write Arrowhead Library System, 5528 Emerald Ave., Mt. Iron, MN 55768.

**Saturday, Aug. 31**  
**FUNDRAISER:** Northwoods Friends of the Arts will host the first ever "Pop Up" Fundraiser Sale on Saturday, Aug. 31 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the NWFA Gallery, 210 S River St. in Cook.

**ART:** Northwoods Friends of the Arts hosts Open Studio Art every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 210 S River St. All ages and mediums welcome.

**Sunday, Sept. 1**  
**5K RUN/WALK:** Crane Lake 5K "Haakyn Strong," will be on Sunday, Sept. 1, at 9 a.m. at Nelson's Resort.

To register for the race or send a donation, call Brenda Pohlman at Nelson's Resort, 218-993-2295. Pre-registration by Aug. 18 guarantees a t-shirt. Registration fee is \$30 for the race and t-shirt or \$40 for a t-shirt alone. Race day registration will be from 8 to 8:45 a.m. at the resort. Nelson's breakfast and lunch buffet and Bloody Mary bar will be open for refreshments.

**Thursday, Sept. 12 and Friday, Sept. 13**  
**ART CLASS:** Watercolor Workshop on Thursday, Sept. 12 and Friday, Sept. 13 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Northwoods Friends of the Arts features a two-day autumn watercolor painting workshop taught by Mary Beth Downs. Pre-registration required, cost is \$60 for NWFA members and \$75 for non-members. Workshop will take place at the Cook Community Center, 510 E Gopher Dr. Register by calling 218-666-2153 or write NWFA, PO Box 44, Cook, MN 55723.

## Meetings & Groups

**Wednesday, Aug. 7**  
**SENIORS:** Cook Seniors meet on the first

Wednesday of each month at 1 p.m. For more information call 218-666-2726 or 218-666-5578.

**Tuesday, Aug. 13**  
**WRITERS:** Northwoods Friends of the Arts Writers Group meets from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

**Tuesday, Aug. 27**  
**WRITERS:** Northwoods Friends of the Arts Writers Group meets from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

**To submit an item for consideration in the Cook-Orr community calendar, please email [crystal@timberjay.com](mailto:crystal@timberjay.com). Please send two weeks prior.**

## Student News

• Michael Bodri, of Cook, was named to the Minnesota State Mankato honor list for spring semester 2019.

### 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](mailto:editor@timberjay.com). Visit our website: [www.timberjay.com](http://www.timberjay.com).

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

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## Area St. Louis County Solid Waste and Recycling Facility site hours

<b>Ash River Trail Canister Site</b> 11391 Ash River Trail Summer Hours Wed: 1pm-4pm Sat: 2:30pm-5:30pm	<b>Kabetogama Lake Canister Site</b> 10150 Gamma Rd Summer Hours Mon. & Wed: 9am-noon Sat: 10:30am-1:30pm	<b>Sturgeon Canister Site</b> 8380 Hwy 73 Hours Sun: 10am-4pm
<b>Orr Canister Site</b> 4038 Hwy 53 Summer Hours Tue: 9am-1pm, Thu: 2pm-7pm Sat: 8am-noon, Sun: 10am-2pm	<b>Portage Canister Site</b> 6992 Crane Lake Rd. Summer Hours Mon & Tue: 2pm-6pm Thu: 10am-1pm, Sun: 3pm-6pm	<b>County 77 Canister Site</b> 2038 County Rd. 77 Summer Hours Tue: 1-6pm, Thu: 8am-1pm Sat: 8am-5pm, Sun: noon-6pm
<b>Cook Transfer Station</b> 2134 S. Beatty Rd. Hours Mon: 10am-6pm Tues thru Sat: 9am-3:30pm	<b>Regional Landfill</b> 5341 Regional Landfill Rd, Virginia Hours Mon-Fri: 8am-4:30pm Sat: 8am-3:30pm	<b>St. Louis County Environmental Services Department</b> <b>1-800-450-9278</b> Office hours 8-4:30 Mon. thru Fri. <a href="http://stlouiscountymn.gov/recycle">stlouiscountymn.gov/recycle</a>
<b>Household Hazardous Waste Facilities</b> 5345 Regional Landfill Rd., Virginia Tue, Sat: 8am-1pm	3994 Landfill Rd, Hibbing Sat: 8am-1pm	

Summer hours effective April 15th through September 30th

### Pat and Donna Surface to play at Community Night Out, Sept. 8

EMBARRASS- Sisu Heritage of Embarrass is celebrating their annual Community Night Out on Sunday, Sept. 8 from 4-7 p.m. at the historic Seitaniemi Homestead. Come for a free concert, tours of the housebarn restoration project, visiting with friends and neighbors, and good food. Chili, cornbread, homemade pie, coffee and soft drinks will be for sale, or bring your own picnic to enjoy on the lawn. There is lots of room for children to run and play. The musical entertainment will be Pat and Donna Surface of Ely.

Freewill donations are gladly accepted. All proceeds go to the restoration and upkeep of Sisu's historic properties in the Embarrass area. The Seitaniemi Homestead is located on Comet Road, north off Hwy 21, in Waasa. Watch for signs. Call 218-984-3402 with any questions.

### Old Time Fiddle Championships on Saturday, Aug. 3 at Merritt Elementary

MT. IRON- The Minnesota State Old Time Fiddle Championships are in their eighth year at Mt. Iron's Merritt School Auditorium and will take place on Saturday, Aug. 3. We are so happy to be able to continue this tradition, which began 38 years ago in Cotton.

The contest is open to all U.S. and Canadian fiddlers as well as all other stringed instrumentalists. Rules and pre-registration information can be found on our website, [www.mesabisymphonyorchestra.org/FiddleContest](http://www.mesabisymphonyorchestra.org/FiddleContest).

The preliminary round starts at 1 p.m. and all contestants play two of their pieces. The final round starts at 6:30 p.m. and this round features the four top scorers from each age division. All contestants play three new pieces in the final round and this round also features twin fiddling. Both rounds are open to the public for a fee of \$8. Last year's champion, Olivia Skaja, will be returning to defend her title. Judges are Sara Pajunen of Duluth. These activities are made possible in part by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Arrowhead Regional Arts Council, thanks to appropriations from the Minnesota State Legislature's general and arts and cultural heritage funds, and in part by a grant from Lake Country Power's Operation Round-Up®.

### Vacation Bible School at Gloria Dei to be held Aug. 5-7 from 5:30 - 7:30

SANDY TWP- Gloria Dei Lutheran Church on Hwy.169 North invites all ages to their family Vacation Bible School from 5:30-7:30 p.m. on Aug. 5, 6, and 7. The theme is "God's Promise through Joseph." The classes will be held outdoors and will include a Bible lesson, light supper of Bible foods, crafts, and yard games, ending with campfire singing. All children must be accompanied by a parent or responsible adult.

### Grief education and support group begins Aug. 5

VIRGINIA- A six-week grief education and support group will be taking place this fall on Monday evenings from 6 - 8 p.m. on Aug. 5, 12, 19, 26; Sept. 9 and 16 at the Peace United Methodist Church, 303 9th Ave. S in Virginia.

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. It is open to anyone in the area who has experienced the death of a loved one. There is no cost for this group. Registration is recommended but not required.

If you have questions about this group or would like to register, please call 1-877-851-2213 or 218-749-7975 by Friday, Aug. 2. This group is sponsored and facilitated by Essentia Health St. Mary's East Range Hospice.

### Sons of Norway annual potluck, Aug. 4

VIRGINIA- Sons of Norway, Haarfager Lodge 40, will meet for the annual potluck picnic at noon on Sunday, Aug. 4 in the Lions Den at Olcott Park. Beverages and table service will be provided. Serving committee is Wayne and Bernie Christiansen, Nathan and Stephanie Lutzka, and Nancy Birkeland. Please bring a dish to share. You will be given a chance to practice your Kubbskills. Anyone interested in Norwegian heritage and culture is invited to attend.

## STATE LEGISLATURE

### Rob Ecklund receives CGMC Legislator of Distinction Award

ST. PAUL- State Rep. Rob Ecklund (DFL-3A) was recognized by the Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities (CGMC), on July 25 during the Coalition's three-day summer conference in Bemidji, for his positive impact on economic development in Greater Minnesota.

Rep. Ecklund, a Democrat from International Falls, is serving his third term in the Minnesota House. The Legislator of Distinction Award is given to legislators who played key roles in advancing CGMC's policy during the preceding legislative session.

As a member of the House Jobs and Economic Development Finance Committee, Rep. Ecklund has emerged as a key leader for rural Minnesota. This session he was instrumental in securing \$40 million for the Border-to-Border Broadband Development Grant Program, which will help bring high-quality, reliable broadband to more households and businesses across the state. In addition, he was a strong support of Local Government Aid (LGA) and other top priorities for Greater Minnesota communities.

"Rep. Ecklund's work on broad-



band will have an impact on Greater Minnesota for generations to come," said Ron Johnson, a member of the Bemidji City Council and president of the CGMC. "Beyond his work on broadband, Rep. Ecklund has emerged as a leading voice for economic development in rural Minnesota and we know we can count on him in the years to come to look out for the growth and vitality

of our rural communities."

CGMC is a nonprofit, non-partisan advocacy organization representing 97 cities outside of the Twin Cities metropolitan area. The coalition educates legislators about issues important to Greater Minnesota.

### Randy Lee to perform Aug. 8 at the Lyric Center

VIRGINIA- The Lyric Center for the Arts will host Randy Lee and his ensemble for an evening of jazz on Thursday, Aug. 8.

Randy Lee is a busy, free-lance musician for various jazz gigs, dances, and receptions involving everything from Dixieland duos, jazz combo, Latin American music, to big bands. Randy has performed with the Guy Lombardo (Al Pierson and the Royal Canadians), Russ Morgan, Harry James and Jimmy Dorsey orchestras, the Temptations and the Four Tops. Mr. Lee's professional bands and other associations have found him accompanying the Mills Brothers, Wayne Newton, Steve Lippia, the Drifters, Bobby Vinton, Johnny Mathis and Marvin Hamlisch, and such jazz notables as Bobby Shew, Rufus Reid, Lee Konitz, Bob Brookmeyer, Paul McKee, Tom Matta, Randy Brecker, Bob Baca, Rick DellaRatta (Jazz for Peace) and the "Straighten Up and Fly Right" Nat King Cole Tribute.

Lee has frequently performed at six casinos across Minnesota and Wisconsin and has performed at Big Top Chautauqua and the Lucius Woods Performing Arts Center. Randy is the founder, artistic director, and a featured woodwind soloist of the Big Time Jazz Orchestra ([www.bigtimejazz.org](http://www.bigtimejazz.org)), a group

twice chosen to play at the MN Music Educators Convention, selected to perform at the American School Band Directors Association's (ASBDA) 50th Anniversary Convention, and which has recorded two studio CDs of original compositions and arrangements (thanks to grants from the Arrowhead Regional Arts Council and the MN State Legislature).

Lee has presented saxophone and jazz clinic sessions at national ASBDA Conventions and has performed with demonstration and jazz literature groups at MN Music Educators Conventions. Randy performed with a sax ensemble for the World Saxophone Congress, judged the Iowa High School Jazz Championships, was sax section coach for the MN All-State Jazz Band and Symphonic Band, has been selected three times to perform for the All-State Band Camp students and staff, has been a featured jazz soloist with the U of MN-Duluth Jazz Bands, and has worked with all three Duluth-Superior area college jazz bands. Randy is also active as a saxophone clinician. Other performance credits include the Lake Superior Chamber Orchestra, the Duluth-Superior Symphony Orchestra, the Lake Superior Saxophone Quartet, Twin Ports Wind Ensemble, and

the Itasca Symphony Orchestra. He earned his Bachelor of Music degree in Music Education with a minor in Jazz Studies from the University of Minnesota-Duluth and his Master of Science degree in Education-Instruction (MSE-I) from the University of Wisconsin-Superior. He has served as adjunct staff at UMD and has directed Regional High School Honor Band and Jazz Bands and other regional Wisconsin and Minnesota jazz events. Mr. Lee taught public school bands, jazz bands, and other music classes from 1982-2019 and was MN Music Educator of the Year in 2018 and has served as the President of the American School Band Directors Assoc.

For the Lyric House Concert, Lee will be joined by Paul Lerino, John Thorene, and Jerry Siptroth, known as the Depot Quartet. Enjoy the show at the Lyric Annex, 516 Chestnut Street in downtown Virginia for this evening of a mix of jazz styles and great music. Tickets are \$15, available at the door or online at <https://squareup.com/store/admin/editor>.

### Wildlife Forever and Bent Paddle host free Crawfish Boil on Saturday, to raise awareness of invasive species

DULUTH- Wildlife Forever, in partnership with Bent Paddle Brewing Co., present the first annual Tails & Ales Crawfish Boil and fundraiser to help raise awareness about invasive species. The event will be held at Bent Paddle Brewery in Duluth on Saturday, Aug. 3 from 4 to 8 p.m. Wildlife Forever, coordinator of the national Clean Drain Dry Initiative™, is partnering with St. Louis County, Minnesota Sea Grant, Lake County, and North St. Louis SWCD for a unique opportunity to teach the

public about invasive species while enjoying great food and beverages.

This free event will be offering fresh boiled crawfish, jambalaya, sausage, corn, and potatoes. There will also be raffles with over \$200 in prizes. "There's just something about eating a delicious plateful of invasive species that leaves you feeling extra satisfied," said Dane Huinker, Conservation Program Manager for Wildlife Forever. "All are welcome, come hungry, and learn what you can do to prevent non-native

crawfish and other harmful invaders from spreading to our favorite lakes and rivers." The free event will also engage kids to participate in an invasive species quiz where they can test their knowledge and have the chance to win fun prizes. Proceeds from the free-will donation will support Wildlife Forever's ongoing efforts to prevent the spread of invasive species.

The Clean Drain Dry Initiative™ is the national campaign to educate outdoor recreational users on how to prevent the spread of invasive species. Strategic communications, marketing, outreach and educational services provide access to consistent messaging, and resources for local communities to implement

prevention programs. To learn more, contact Dane Huinker at [DHuinker@WildlifeForever.org](mailto:DHuinker@WildlifeForever.org) or visit [www.CleanDrainDry.org](http://www.CleanDrainDry.org).

Wildlife Forever's mission is to conserve America's wildlife heritage through conservation education, preservation of habitat, and management of fish and wildlife. For 30 years, WF members have helped to conduct thousands of fish, game and habitat conservation projects across the country. As a registered 501c3 charity, recent audit reveals a 94 percent to mission rating. To join and learn more about the award-winning programs, including work to engage America's youth, visit [www.WildlifeForever.org](http://www.WildlifeForever.org).

## TOWER BINGO Monday, Aug. 5

TOWER- Senior Bingo will be held in Tower on Monday, Aug. 5 at the Tower Civic Center 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. Senior Bingo is organized by the Friends of the Vermilion Country Charter School. Questions, call Jodi Summit at 218-753-2950.

### Upcoming dates for 2019:

- Monday, September 9 (2nd Monday)
- Monday, October 7

Lake Vermillion • Tower, MN

### MAILBOAT EXCURSIONS

See 80 miles of Lake Vermilion  
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Starting August 8  
**Open Every Thursday 5:30-7 p.m.**

Providing NO COST basic healthcare and referrals  
111 S. 4th Ave E, Ely

*Volunteer opportunities also available*

CITY OF TOWER

# Tower P and Z looks to revamp cumbersome CUP

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

TOWER— Members of the city’s planning and zoning commission here agreed last week to consider revamping the city’s cumbersome conditional use process, which has come under fire for blocking proposed economic development in the community.

But the decision didn’t come without more than an hour of, at times, contentious argument, much of it by the current planning and zoning chairman Steve Altenburg, who sought to defend the current process, which he created in concert with now-suspended city clerk-treasurer Linda Keith.

New commission member Mary Shedd suggested that a review of the ordinance was needed to address the lengthy delays

in advancing projects. The city’s conditional use process, as well as an inflexible requirement for an automatic environmental assessment worksheet for any planned unit development, have been creating obstacles for prospective small-scale development, such as RV parks.

Shedd found support from others on the commission. “I agree that the process itself is broken. That it does need to be reviewed,” said commission member Jolene Herberg. “It’s got too many steps going in too many directions.”

“I agree with that,” said commission member and now-zoning administrator Steve Abrahamson.

Shedd suggested the city could adopt the St. Louis County ordinance and conditional use process, which provides prospective

developers with a relatively quick approval of proposed uses while leaving it up to developers to obtain all of the other agency approvals before the county issues a final permit. County planners say that approach helps developers by letting them know, up front, if their proposed use will be granted before they spend the many thousands of dollars that are often necessary to obtain other agency approvals.

In Tower, the current process requires that developers spend all of that money up front, before the planning and zoning commission will consider a CUP application. That process has stymied at least two prospective RV park developers for years.

Altenburg suggested the change was unneeded, incorrectly stating that the ordinance automatically allowed conditional uses.

He said both RV park proposals were already allowed under the ordinance, but that the developers involved needed to show they had all other agency approvals in place before the commission could consider a conditional use permit application.

But the city’s ordinance specifically defines a conditional use as a “a use that would not be appropriate generally, or without restriction throughout the district, but which, if controlled as to area, location, size and number would not be injurious to the public health, safety, moral, appearance, general welfare or detrimental to other properties and their values.”

In practice, it is not unusual for planning commissions to deny conditional use applications, which is why the

two prospective RV park developers have sought to go through the process as a first step, before incurring additional development costs.

After nearly an hour of debate, which included comments from RV park developer Dave Rose and Tower Economic Development Authority representative Marshall HelMBERGER, the commission voted unanimously to recommend to the city council to review the city’s conditional use permit process for possible changes.

In other action, the commission voted unanimously to recommend a review of a portion of the city’s animal control ordinance to consider

greater flexibility in the keeping of dogs and cats. Currently, the ordinance allows three pets, with up to two being dogs. The commission will also reconsider the city’s current prohibition on raising chickens within city limits. Chickens have become increasingly popular additions to many city backyards around the country and even many large cities allow residents to keep chickens under certain conditions. The possible changes would need to be brought to a public hearing and, ultimately, the city council, prior to any final change to the ordinance.

## TOWER...Continued from page 1

Keith and Carlson, with the apparent knowledge of former council member Kevin Fitton, acted to oust HelMBERGER from his position on TEDA despite state law that prohibits the removal of appointed members of an economic development authority without stated cause and without an opportunity for due process.

The charge against Keith focuses on her apparent falsification of the city’s roster of commission and committee terms. Official minutes from the city’s 2017 reorganization show that the council appointed HelMBERGER to a three-year term on TEDA, expiring at the end of 2019.

TEDA, which had been inactive for several years prior to 2017, made substantial progress in 2017, including facilitating construction of a new facility for Lamppa Manufacturing, the sale and redevelopment of the former Standing Bear Marina, obtaining funding from the Department of Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation for a Main Street improvement project, as well as a \$125,000 grant to advance the planned town home project at the city’s harbor.

At the same time, however, city officials became increasingly angry over critical reporting by HelMBERGER on several subjects related to the city, including Open Meeting Law violations, a Hoodoo Point Campground sewer extension, and a switch to paid on-call staffing by the Tower Ambulance Service. Keith and HelMBERGER had also differed over how to handle the \$125,000 grant

from the IRRR.

Evidence obtained by St. Louis County Sheriff’s Office investigators through a search warrant executed in June suggests that Keith was actively lobbying for HelMBERGER’s removal from the economic development authority. “The mayor says for Christmas this year he got me a present which is to take Marshall off of TEDA in January,” Keith wrote in a Dec. 7, 2017, email to Fitton, which is cited in the complaint.

Carlson, who agreed to an in-person interview with investigators, confirmed that the 2017 minutes, which showed HelMBERGER appointed to a three-year term, were accurate. At the same time, he said he was unaware that the roster terms had been changed since the changes had never been authorized by the city council. He also indicated that Keith maintained the term roster in question and would have been the one who made any unauthorized changes.

Carlson acknowledged that he had intended to remove HelMBERGER from TEDA because he believed that he had acted without proper authority in obtaining a grant from the IRRR without council approval. In fact, the city council unanimously authorized the acceptance of the \$125,000 IRRR grant to TEDA on May 22, 2017, which is the only way that TEDA could have received the funding.

Carlson acknowledged to investigators that he did not provide HelMBERGER any notice that he would be removed or provide any explanation

or opportunity for due process, as is required under Minnesota law. He told investigators that Keith had informed him that he could remove HelMBERGER from TEDA with nothing more than a motion— which was incorrect.

The city council suspended Keith as clerk-treasurer on June 17 following the service of a search warrant in the county investigation. Keith refused to meet with county investigators so it’s uncertain what explanation she might offer for her actions.

In the complaint, investigators note the discrepancies between earlier versions of the commissions and committees term roster maintained by Keith and the altered version. “Notably, in this formal document, the 2017 City of Tower reorganization chart was created and placed Mr. HelMBERGER in a one-year term with expiration of 2017. This is in direct contradiction to the January 23, 2017, minutes,” notes the complaint. “The person who would have created these two documents and would have known the second one to be false is Defendant.”

The complaint concludes: “It is clear that the official records of the TEDA commission were altered in official forms kept and maintained as well as created by Defendant in her capacity as city clerk for the City of Tower.”

While former council member Kevin Fitton was aware of the decision to oust HelMBERGER, and supported the move, pros-

ecutors opted not to charge him in the matter. Fitton had opposed HelMBERGER’s reinstatement to TEDA during the city’s 2019 reorganization, arguing that his dismissal was appropriate because HelMBERGER had contacted the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency as part of a story he was writing on a planned sewer extension to the Hoodoo Point Campground. During that call, HelMBERGER confirmed that the city had filed an inaccurate permit application with the MPCA that drastically underreported the number of units that would be connected to the Tower-Breitung Wastewater District as part of the extension. That revelation angered and embarrassed some city officials but was unrelated to HelMBERGER’s service on TEDA. Fitton also complained that HelMBERGER had differed with some of the positions taken by the previous city council, suggesting that his ouster had been retaliatory. “So basically, you burn enough bridges with enough council members, that everyone was, okay, well, enough is enough of that.”

City officials, Keith, and her union representative were in a mediation session on Wednesday over a grievance she filed in response to her paid suspension. A special city council meeting is tentatively set for Monday, Aug. 5, to take action on any possible agreement. The filing of criminal charges against Keith is likely to significantly weaken any argument she might have had for reinstatement or a large cash settlement.

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## WILDERNESS SAFETY

## DNR issues bear warning after jogger bitten near Ely

by KEITH VANDERVORT  
Ely Editor

ELY—The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is advising people in the area to exercise vigilance in the wake of a reported bear attack last week.

On Monday, July

22, a 16-year-old girl was bitten by a bear while jogging on a path near White Iron Lake, east of Ely. The incident occurred at about 4:30 p.m., according to a notice to area land owners published by the Minnesota DNR.

The unidentified teen

reportedly was treated and released at Ely-Bloomenson Community Hospital for leg wounds. The hospital did not comment on the incident.

That same evening, a DNR conservation officer found a bear at a garbage bin near the location of the attack. The

bear reportedly showed no fear of people, and the DNR officer killed the animal, according to the notice.

“At this time, based on its behavior, the DNR believes the bear that was killed was the same bear that bit the jogger, based on its behavior, proximity

in both space and time between the biting and the bear’s appearance at the garbage bin, and no bear activity at the garbage bin since the bear was killed,” the notice said.

The DNR added that it has yet to definitively link the killed bear to the

attack but is conducting DNA testing to confirm the animal was involved in the incident. Those tests could take several weeks to complete. The bear did not have rabies and did not appear to be undernourished.

## BWCA...Continued from page 1

30 miles northeast of Ely, along the U.S.-Canada border. They immediately worked to evacuate the entire party and all involved managed to make it back to the Moose Lake landing just before 4 a.m. on Saturday, and were then taken to Ely. All of the girls were reported to be in satisfactory condition following examination at the Ely-Bloomenson Hospital.

The situation left some wondering in the aftermath about the initial reporting of the incident and whether the rescue was necessary under the circumstances.

Some media reports even suggested that the St. Louis County Rescue Squad had “overstated the urgency of the situation.”

Rescue squad officials dismiss that suggestion and note it was the initial 911 call that had pointed to a real emergency requiring a full-blown response.

Dispatchers with both St. Louis and Lake counties insist that the reports they received suggested a very serious situation, involving as many as five victims, one in severe condition.

“It did come in as a severe accident,” said Janel, the Lake County dispatcher who took the call, but declined to give her last name. “We were told she was having severe reactions to a lightning strike,” she added, referring to the most seriously-affected girl.

That’s the report that Lake County dispatchers forwarded to St. Louis County when they requested support from the St. Louis County Rescue Squad, which has more personnel and equipment closer to the scene of Friday’s incident.

The initial number of Scouts involved wasn’t clear. Some reports suggested the initial call

reported six Scouts in the party, although Lake County initially reported five victims to St. Louis County, with two of the girls suffering injuries from a lightning strike, one in severe condition. “That’s the report that we got,” said Jason Matthias, an emergency assistance center supervisor for St. Louis County.

And that’s the only information that the St. Louis County Rescue Squad received as they prepared to respond. “That was the mission that we were charged with,” said Kurt Erickson, a first lieutenant with the rescue squad. “That is what motivated us to attempt the rescue and reach out to the National Guard and the state patrol for air support.” Erickson called for those resources to help pinpoint the location of the Scouts, since the initial coordinates the Scouts had provided did not appear to be accurate.

One of the state patrol aircraft did make it to Ely in the early morning hours on Saturday, but by that time the rescuers had reached the Scouts near the Knife Lake side of the portage from Vera Lake, so the plane and its crew refueled and returned to their home base.

Erickson was concerned when the story told by the Girl Scouts appeared to change, suggesting the girls involved had felt only a slight tingle from a nearby lightning strike. It was that statement, issued by the Girl Scouts public relations staff, that provoked some of the media speculation about the reaction to the call from rescuers. “I can understand that the Girl Scouts want to protect their image and suggest they would never put these girls in danger,” Erickson said.

The volunteers who make up the rescue squad are used to the fact that

initial reports don’t always give a full or accurate portrayal of emergency incidents. And, particularly in remote locations, such as in last Friday’s rescue on Knife Lake, communication can be difficult and updates infrequent. “A lot of times, we don’t get an update until we arrive at the scene,” said Jon Olson, a veteran member of the rescue squad.

Yet such reports are often the only information that rescuers have to go on as they decide how to respond to calls for help. “If you tell me it’s critical, I’m going to move hell and high water to get you out of there,” said Erickson.

Erickson said he’s concerned such second-guessing could hamper future rescue efforts in the area. “We spent political capital trying to get the state patrol and the Army National Guard involved,” he said,

and he worries that such resources could be withheld in the future if local officials are accused of overreacting, or “crying wolf.”

In the end, said Erickson, evacuation of the girls was the right call in either case.

“By the time we got into them, the effects of the lightning had pretty much worn off,” acknowledges Erickson. Still, he said the body is affected by lightning in unpredictable ways that may not be apparent until hours later. “The recommendation in all of our wilderness training is if someone is affected by lightning, they need to be evacuated.”

The *Timberjay* reached out to the Girl Scouts for comment on this story. They did not respond as of presstime.

## POLYMET...Continued from page 1

from submitting written comments critical of the NPDES (water discharge) permit that MPCA issued to PolyMet late last year.

“We need to recognize that this flawed process resulted in flawed permits,” the lawmakers concluded.

The letter cites three major new developments that the legislators believe merit a reexamination of the permits. Those developments include:

► The discovery that agencies involved in the permitting process failed to seriously address both EPA concerns and those

raised by their own consultants, preventing the rigorous analysis needed,

► The tragic dam collapse, and the subsequent decommissioning of other mining dams in Brazil similar to the proposed PolyMet tailings dam, showing the folly of approving such a risky system in Minnesota, and

► The recent news that a corporation as irresponsible as Glencore now holds a majority of PolyMet shares, making it clear that the sham “financial assurance” required of PolyMet will leave Minnesota taxpayers

financially responsible for the expensive cleanup.”

Teddy Tschann, spokesperson for Gov. Walz, said the governor takes the legislators’ concerns seriously, but declined to indicate whether the governor would address their concerns more substantively. “The NPDES permit is currently being reviewed in court, and he believes that process should continue,” concluded Tschann.

This week’s letter, signed mostly by metro-area legislators, also

urges modification of the DNR’s permit to mine to require an alternative method of tailings disposal, such as dry stack disposal, rather than the reuse of the existing LTV tailings basin near Hoyt Lakes. The lawmakers are also seeking modification to the financial assurance provisions in the permit, to ensure that Glencore is financially tied to an eventual cleanup of the site. “Because PolyMet is unable to provide the appropriate damage deposit, the DNR must have an iron-clad requirement that Glencore, now majority owner of PolyMet, be held liable for all cleanup costs by providing a full up-front damage deposit,” wrote the lawmakers.

Finally, the legislators say they want a public health impact study, which the Minnesota Academy of Family Physicians and the Minnesota Nurses Association have already

called for publicly.

“Sulfide mining releases toxic chemicals into the environment, and we should listen to the medical experts who believe the health impacts from the mine must be studied,” concluded the lawmakers.

The letter from legislators came in the same week that a coalition of 25 environmental groups called on Attorney General Keith Ellison to investigate the financial connections between PolyMet Mining and Glencore.

While the letter from lawmakers cheered opponents of the PolyMet project, supporters were sharply critical.

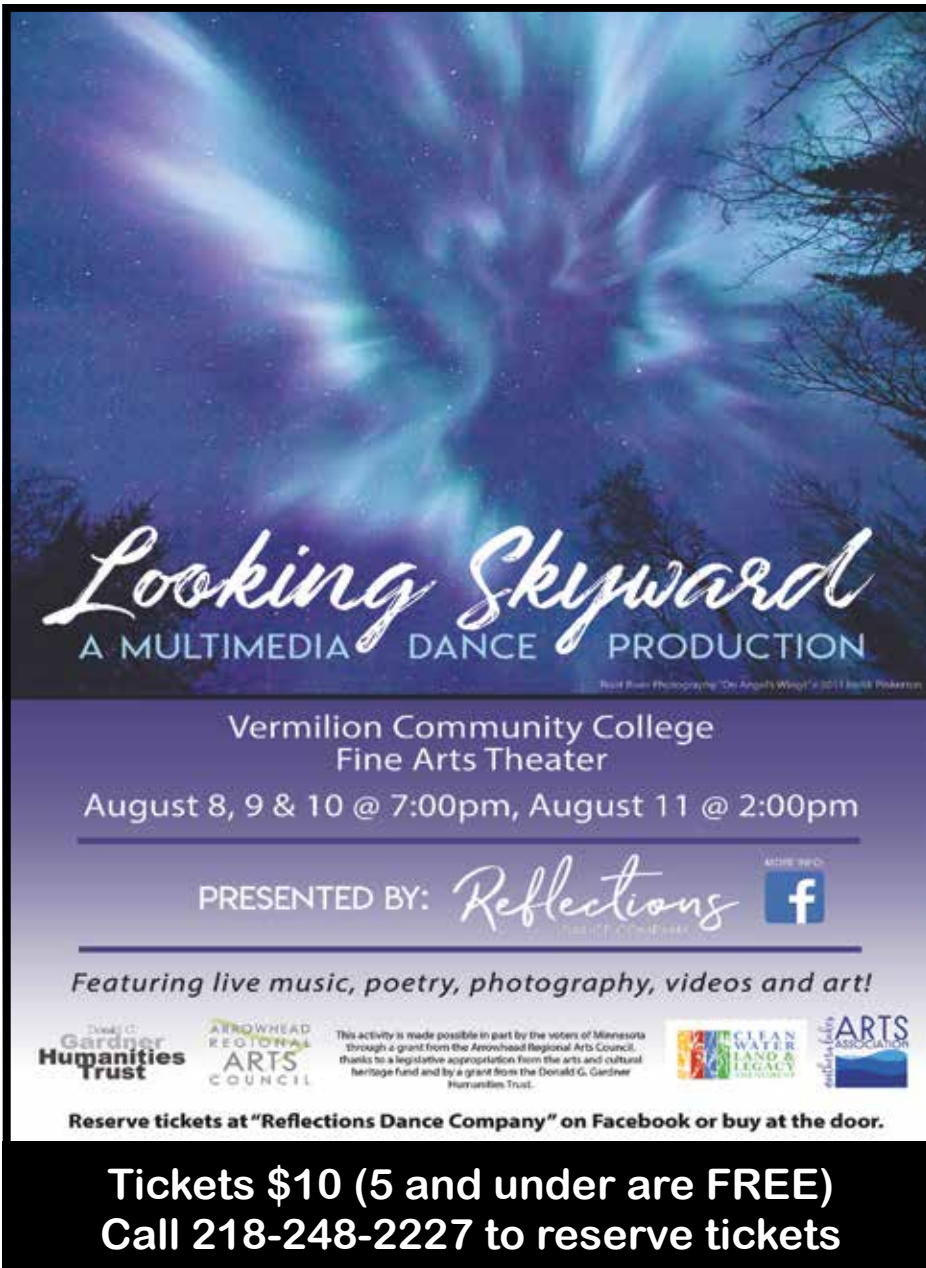
“This is so classic that the opposition groups who are behind this letter are doing exactly what we anticipate them to do,” said Nancy Norr, chairperson of Jobs for Minnesotans, a PolyMet supporter. “They’re trying to

create further delay in the process, because delay kills projects.”

“It’s disappointing that metro Democrats are spreading misleading and false information about the environmental review process in an effort to derail this project,” said GOP House Minority Leader Kurt Daudt. He promised to draft his own letter, which he said will include a more “geographically diverse and bipartisan” group of lawmakers.

In a statement PolyMet said “Multiple internal and external reviews, along with unprecedented public comment opportunities, have occurred on all aspects of the project, and it has been determined that PolyMet meets or exceeds all factors of safety.”

*Minnesota Public Radio contributed reporting for this story.*



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ELY BLUEBERRY / ART FESTIVAL

# Live from Ely KBJR 6 stops up north as part of Summer Getaway series

by KEITH VANDERVORT  
Ely Editor

ELY – Smile Ely, you are on TV! KBJR 6 television station from Duluth stopped in Ely last Thursday as part of their Great Summer Getaway series.

The KBJR 6 on-air news team is taking the Thursday 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. newscasts on the road this summer to Hayward, Wis., Ashland, Wis., and other Minnesota communities including Grand Rapids, Grand Marais, and Hibbing. Ely is their fourth stop in the series.

They descended on Ely just in time to preview the 39th annual Blueberry/Art Festival, with live broadcasts from Whiteside Park.

But KBJR 6 also highlighted Ely's other attractions, including the International Wolf Center and the Dorothy Molter Museum. "And we went canoeing and highlighted the Birch Bark Canoe Project at the Ely Folk School," said KBJR News Director Kevin Jacobson.

"We also did some live interviews with Ellen Cashman, the driving force

behind the Blueberry/Art/Festival, and B.J. Kobierski, who helps organize the production of 500-plus blueberry pies for the festival."

Despite some spotty cellular phone service that hindered communication with the Duluth production studio, the KBJR 6 news team pulled off the news show and put Ely in the spotlight during the biggest weekend of the year. "Ely is such a wonderful little town, Slater said. "I know we all had a great time here and hope to come back soon."



KBJR 6 newscaster Jessie Slater talks with Ely Blueberry / Art Festival organizer Ellen Cashman during a live broadcast from Whiteside Park last Thursday. photos by K. Vandervort



A member of the KBJR 6 production crew, above, checks sound levels at the Whiteside Park bandshell prior to the live broadcast for the 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. news shows last Thursday. Jessie Slater and Dan Wolf, right, review their scripts.



## FEST...Continued from page 1

the first time." She noted there were about 85 new vendors this year.

Crowds were ready to hit the park right away Friday morning when the festival opened. "It was constant all day," she said. "We did close an hour early on Friday afternoon

because of the rain and wind that hit Ely. We opened up the school as a shelter from the storm, but no problems were reported."

Other than the end-of-the-day rain, the weekend turned out to be "perfect festival weather,"

Cashman said. "We had 600 homemade blueberry pies this year, and we had some with fresh wild blueberries that were just picked last week. Visitors to the Ely area could enjoy another bumper crop of berry-picking opportunities this year during the

festival." As usual, the pies were sold out on Sunday.

Cashman revealed the winners in the art and crafts categories:

► Art - first place, A to Z Creative Art, second place, Ryan Tischer Photography, third place, Watercolors by Bonnie;

► Craft - first place, Cyrus the Potter, second place, Close Quarters Studio, third place, Weagel Works.

"We have a fantastic variety of art and craft from so many professional people," Cashman said. "I am impressed by the

work of all our vendors. Overall, I am pleased with the results again this year, and I have to thank the city of Ely and the Ely Police Department for their fabulous job. We could not do this without their help."

## LAW...Continued from page 1

completely avoid temptation, it is not illegal to have a device in your car. It is, however, punishable to have the phone in your hand.

"In the past, it was hard for law enforcement to tell the difference whether someone was texting, which was illegal, or looking up a phone number to call someone," said St. Louis County Sheriff's Office Supervising Deputy Shannon Schultz. "With the new hands-free law, no driver can have their phone in their hands at all. If a driver does have their phone in their hands, they can be cited."

Schultz said drivers

should plan ahead before getting behind the wheel and look into having a securely mounted phone holder so they can use the one-touch method.

The Minnesota Department of Public Safety (DPS) offers the following ways to go hands-free: %o Keep the phone turned off and out of view and reach.

► Use a single earphone with a microphone such as Bluetooth (cost varies from \$10 to \$50).

► Sync your phone with your vehicle, use an auxiliary cable to connect to your vehicle (cost is about \$5). In older vehicles, an auxiliary adapter can be connected through

a cassette player (cost around \$30).

► Mount your phone to your dash with a clip (prices range from \$5 to \$50).

According to the DPS, the new law allows a driver to use their cell phone to make calls, text, listen to music or podcasts and get directions, only if the action can be completed by voice commands or single-touch activation.

The only time a phone can be held in your hand is to obtain emergency assistance, if there is an immediate threat to life and safety, or when in an authorized emergency vehicle

while performing official duties. The DPS advises drivers to pull off to the side of the road in a safe area to make emergency calls. In a non-emergency, stopping on the shoulder of an interstate freeway or controlled access highway is already illegal in Minnesota, according to the DPS.

"Pulling over onto the shoulder and coming to a complete stop, and then placing a call or accepting a call, will still be the safest method of not becoming a distracted driver and causing an accident," Schultz said.

Actions prohibited by the new law include video calling, video

live-streaming, Snapchat, gaming, looking at video or photos, using non-navigation apps, reading texts and scrolling or typing with the phone in your hand.

Amateur radio, two-way radio and citizens band (CB) radio are exempt under the new law since the law does not define the transmissions as electronic messages. However, safe handling of the radios is required.

Schultz explained, under the new law, law enforcement needs no other reason to make a traffic stop if a driver is seen using their cell phone while driving.

"The new hands-free

law will be enforced and I think we will see fewer distracted driving accidents in the future," Schultz said.

Since hands-free laws have been implemented in 15 states, 12 have shown an average decrease in traffic fatalities of about 15 percent. The law targets cellphone usage but mobile devices aren't the only distraction drivers face. Law enforcement reminds motorists to always keep safety first while behind the wheel. For more information, visit <https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/ots/hands-free/Pages/default.aspx>.

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CITY OF ELY

# Council members study Ely's garbage pick-up service

by KEITH VANDERVORT  
Ely Editor

ELY – A recent complaint about the city of Ely's sanitation service contract prompted the city council to host a study session here on Tuesday night to hear more from the public.

"It is hard to get a full understanding of just where the community is on this," said Sanitation Committee chair Al Forsman, who voiced his own support for the job G-Men Environmental Services has done for the city over the years.

"We have a very good service, but there have been questions about cost and pickup dates, but I want to see the depth of where this is with the public," Forsman said.

Mayor Chuck Novak reminded Forsman that the purpose of the study session was for council members to explore an issue and not to hold a public hearing on any matters. "This is for us to hold a discussion," Novak said. He asked Forsman what direction he intends to go with the issue.

Forsman said he is in favor of having multiple waste disposal carriers within a community. "I feel that with bidding on the contract, that is where we have capitalism and competition with multiple companies able to bid on (providing garbage pickup service). The city has a responsibility to the residents to provide this service, and it is my intent that we have one contract for one bidder to provide residential garbage service," he said.

But Forsman's aide some commercial businesses feel that their needs aren't currently being met and he wants to see that part of the city's garbage service contract addressed.

Council member Heidi Omerza questioned whether it makes sense for the city to split up the collection contract that way. "My concern is our city's size. I don't want to put a business out of business simply because we are parceling it out. We are splitting the baby, essentially. We are telling a business they can only do one thing, and not both. That is my main concern.

I have no interest in splitting up our residential and commercial sanitation." She doubted any formal complaints have been filed with the city.

When pressed for a response, Forsman said complaints have been discussed at Sanitation Committee meetings.

"How many?" Omerza asked. "Not many," Forsman responded.

The waste management issue has apparently come to light because one local grocery store owner complained last spring to the Sanitation Committee that Sunday garbage pick-up service is not available in Ely.

Clerk-Treasurer Harold Langowski noted that the G-Men contract calls for trash pick-up to occur after 6:30 a.m. Monday through Friday, or Monday through Saturday on a holiday week. "There is no requirement for garbage pick-up on Sundays, but if that's the direction you want the Sanitation Committee to go, we can look at requiring a contractor to have pick-up service seven days

a week."

He noted that the garbage pick-up contract is required to be put out for proposals. "When we put this (current contract with G-Men) together five-plus years ago, those who were on the council supported it. There was one proposal received. That's how the contract was awarded," Langowski said. "This was not something that was just thrown together and no one else was offered the contract."

He added, "In the 12 years I have been involved with this, there has been one complaint and it was about service on Saturdays and Sundays."

G-Men owner J.J. Day brought his family and many company employees with him to the study session. "Since I bought this company in 2011, I have done nothing but improve service, equipment and contract value. Everything we've done since day one is to improve over previous contracts."

He said he heard no complaints from the council at the study session. "I am struggling to understand what I've done

to deserve to be attacked," Day said. "My contract was put out for fair bid and there was not one player that came forward. There was no other interested party."

He highlighted the investment in new pick-up equipment, new garbage containers, and well-paid employees to maintain garbage service in the city of Ely. "I put everything into this company."

Day read a letter of re-consideration he presented to the council, as well as a glowing letter of recommendation from a fellow soldier he served with in the U.S. Marine Corps.

Day also touched on the issue of recycling in the city of Ely, particularly the effort by another party to try to establish a curbside pick-up recycling service. Apparently, the owner of Safe Ride had proposed collecting from residents and hauling recyclable materials to the county transfer station.

That effort hit a roadblock, however, before it got started. G-Men's contract calls for them to be allowed to pick up all

household trash, including cans and bottles, empty cartons, crates, boxes, wrapping materials, magazines, discarded toys, discarded clothing and similar materials.

"Recycling is not affordable in Ely," Day said. "The way it was presented (by Safe Ride) to be collected was not legitimate or legal." He added, "To have recycled material picked up here at the curb would likely be double the cost of garbage pick-up."

Representatives from several Ely businesses, including Dairy Queen, J&L Hardware, Merhar's Ace Hardware, even the mayor of Winton, spoke at the study session in support of Day, his business model, and G-Men's support for the community. The Ely grocery store owner did attend the study session but did not address the council.

Novak said the Sanitation Committee will continue to address the issue.

Meeting notices will be published in the *Ely Timberjay*, the city of Ely's official newspaper.

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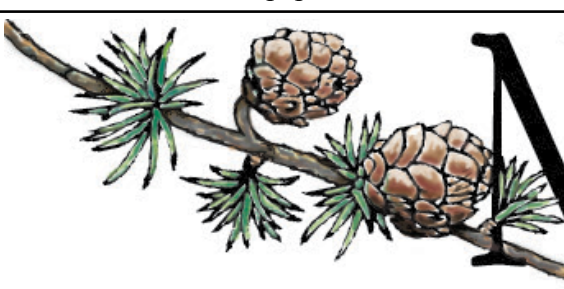


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## RODEO ROUND UP



## HORSING AROUND AT THE NORTH STAR STAMPEDE



The North Star Stampede once again entertained fans during the three days event in Effie, July 26 -28. Pictured are a few of the riders showing off their skills for the crowd.

Clockwise from top left: Hunter Ziska from Roseau; Amanda Forster from Aitkin and Gabby Carmichael from Hudson, Wis.; Amanda Dronen from Finlayson; Colton Baumann of Aitkin in junior bull riding; Jason Cole from Warroad; Christopher Zimmer from Iron; and Molly Otto from Grand Forks, ND.

**Photos by Pam Wettering**



STEGER WILDERNESS CENTER

# Low-impact logging

## Blowdown salvage done with 'horse power'

by KEITH VANDERVORT  
Ely Editor

ELY - At times, returning to old-fashioned methods to get the job done is not only more efficient but admirable. Removing downed trees from a 2017 windstorm was on the to-do list at the Steger Wilderness Center this summer and that provided a lesson in one old school method.

The homestead of Will Steger, located about ten miles outside of Ely, saw many old-growth trees fall in the storm, valuable resources that Steger hoped to salvage with minimal impact on the surrounding forest.

That's why he turned to longtime associates Lisa Ringer and Mike Berthiaume, of Minneapolis, who brought their team of four "Shire" horses to the site. Ely resident Mike Gilgosh was there and told the story of how the horses got the job done.

"Shires are draft horses that originated from Great Britain and are thought to be descendants of the British "great horse," used in battle," Gilgosh said.

"Shires are noted for having an easy-going temperament and physical features that can simply be described as extraordinary," he said. "They stand tall and proud, have massive hooves with distinctive fine, silky, feathering hair above them. It's told they typically stand 16 or more hands high and often

weigh 1,600 to 1,800 pounds, or more. One gets the feeling that they might be labeled massive," Gilgosh added.

Teams of two horses each with a single handler, worked their way up the hilly terrain in the blowdown area. "With some patience and slow, determined maneuvering, Mike and Lisa alternately coaxed each team up the slopes where fallen timbers had been chain-sawed into manageable lengths," said Gilgosh.

Responding to their handlers, the teams were directed to turn, backup, come forward, and "whoa," of course. "The surefootedness and power in each of their steps could be likened to pistons of iron-age machines, although much more precise and measured than modern logging machines and tools," Gilgosh said.

One by one, massive trunks of both white and red pines were dragged down to a staging area. Later, the massive logs were hauled to the Wilderness Center's lumberyard area where a portable sawmill processed each tree into various sized pieces of lumber.

"Will lets little go to waste at the Wilderness Center by using site-sourced materials for the growing number of housing and building structures scattered at, and near, the multiple campus activity areas," Gilgosh said.. "The whirr and hum of various woodworking machines

can often be heard operating at the site."

Much of the timber will ultimately be used to construct future cabins and buildings on site, Steger said, including the largest pieces finding their way into structural framing pieces.

Smaller pieces may find their way to the most minute places, being used for items such as pins used to hold down flooring boards or, as in the past, for frames of the many handcrafted stained glass windows and doors Will and staff have assembled. During and after each workday, the work crew assembled for meals, having the chance to socialize. "Their conversations and demeanor could be regarded as a reflection of what some of our distant ancestors may have experienced," Gilgosh said. "Nostalgia was a big part of the day across the multiple generations present, a day filled with satisfaction and accomplishment."



Mike Berthiaume (above) leads a crew during a horse logging venture.

photo courtesy of M. Gilgosh

Below: Members of the logging camp. Will Steger is third from left.

photo by J. Ratzloff



SUSTAINABILITY

# Building the ultimate wall to for maximum efficiency

Over a series of weeks, the Timberjay has been highlighting the effort by local builder Andy Hill to build a retirement home that's truly sustainable. But it's not just a building project— Hill is hoping to spread the word about the concepts that the rest of us can and should consider as we contemplate our own future projects.

"It's no big deal for me to build this house," says Hill. "What matters is getting other people dialed in on how to build this house."

Step One? Build a wall. That is, the Perfect Wall.

One of Hill's first considerations was how the building envelope would contribute to the site's eco-friendly status. This is where the Perfect Wall begins; "What makes a

Perfect Wall is that all the control layers are on the outside of the frame," says Hill. "Therefore, the insulation is unbroken by framing members."

Have we lost you yet? Let's break down this wall before we build it up any further. Here's the skinny:



HANNAH NIXON

A Perfect Wall is made up of insulating foam and a vapor barrier, which are placed exterior to a wall's studs and frame. Furring strips and the siding finish off the job.

With a traditional wall, insulation is

placed on the interior side between the studs, which allows for a significant transfer of warm and cold air between the resulting gaps in the insulation and the studs themselves. This means more energy, and more money, to heat or cool



Andy Hill points to the vapor barrier, located behind the salvaged insulation sheets on the Perfect Wall. submitted photo

a home. Similarly, the vapor barrier – or the barrier that keeps water vapor from collecting inside a building's walls – is traditionally set on the inside. When placed on

the inside, humans' other desired interior amenities, such as wall outlets, require us to drill holes through the vapor barrier. This, too, creates the potential for warm and cold air to be more easily exchanged between the outdoor and indoor environments. The Perfect Wall bypasses these deficiencies and offers a sustainable alternative.

A Perfect Wall has insulation exceeding the rating of R20, which is the rating of a standard wall. That's construction speak for: A Perfect Wall helps to naturally manage climate control.

All of the walls comprising Hill's new home will feature the Perfect Wall style. While a single piece of wood has a rating of R1, and a standard building wall maxes out at R20, every wall in Hill's

home will have a rating of R92. However, sustainability doesn't stop with a design. Hill went above and beyond what many may consider a typical environmental-friendly threshold when he sought out sponsors for used building materials. Nelson Roofing out of Hibbing, for example, is providing Hill with salvaged insulation sheets. "The sheets typically cost \$28.00 a piece," says Hill, and included that the sheets would have otherwise been thrown away. Upon completion, 90% of the home's insulation will have been recycled. By focusing on reuse, says Hill, "the Planet's resources don't have to generate new product to keep up with our buildings."

As Hill passes the baton onto other home builders and remodelers in the Northwoods, use his guidance to remember that your home's walls do more than separate the cool indoors from the steaming, dense summer air; they offer a starting point for designers to build upon, and a framework for a sustainable future.

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NORTH AMERICAN BEAR CENTER

# Ely Bear Center dedicates new exhibits, pond for bears

by KEITH VANDERVORT  
Ely Editor

ELY – The North American Bear Center had much to celebrate in late July. Dr. Lynn Rogers, the center's founder, celebrated his 80th birthday, and also marked 50 years of bear research with the dedication of new exhibits at the facility located just outside of Ely.

It's been a period of growth and development for the center, and staff had much to tout during the weekend of activities here, including the dedication of a new children's interactive play area, dubbed the "Cub Room."

The Northwoods Bear Foundation also hosted the 10th annual Lily Pad Picnic to help raise funds for the Bear Center. "Lily Fans" were "born" in 2010 as people watched in awe

as Lily the Black Bear gave birth to her first cub, Hope, said NABC Senior Operations Director Scott Edgett.

"Lily became an Internet sensation. People were glued to their chairs watching this three-year-old bear in her remote den via a live den cam," he said. "Lily Fans watched and they learned, but mostly they connected via social media and strong bonds and friendships developed. Ever since, the name Lily Fans stuck and they continued to watch other den cams over the years and show their support for the North American Bear Center."

Edgett outlined the varied improvements and additions at the Bear Center, including the new exhibit highlighting 50 years of bear research by Dr. Lynn Rogers. "This

new addition to the NABC puts validity in all the research that is here," he said. "The entire body of work highlighted here was initiated by Dr. Rogers, and this whole place, opened in 2007, is an outgrowth of his work."

The centerpiece of the latest growth initiative has been the completion of the Cub Room, that has been under construction for the past two years at the Bear Center.

Cub Room visitors are greeted by a large white pine tree trunk in the center of the room, modeled after a local tree that was struck by lightning. "Artists molded that trunk and made a model for us," Edgett said. "Lynn (Rogers) thought it was real. And check out the mom and cubs in the canopy."

"The Cub Room was

all put together by donations, particularly from the Give to the Max Day," he said. The project cost about \$150,000 and was completed by Antlers by Klaus, a Wisconsin company that also worked on the Four Seasons and Camping with Bears displays at the NABC.

"The Cub Room allows our little visitors to have fun while learning about bears and wildlife," Edgett said. "A reading area, interactive bear den cave, and hi-definition audio-visual capability, all in a forest setting, focuses on the cub-mother interaction. It is a very realistic area. Even the floor is made of special material to make it feel like you are walking on a forest floor. It turned out fantastic with the space we had to work in."

The NABC ambassador bears are also enjoying a new pond area, thanks to Ely's Low Impact Excavators and a

\$50,000 project to expand that area. "Our four ambassador bears, Ted, Lucky, Holly and Tasha enjoy a new, deeper pond, three waterfalls, and visitors will be able to watch them as they take a dip," Edgett said.

"A new biologist, Spencer Peter, joined the NABC staff last year and is in charge of our growing education programming," Edgett added. "We now utilize our new fully-functioning Hope Learning Center," with new programming for 2019. Peter initiated monarch butterfly tagging and releasing, which is a popular part of the educational programming.



Ely Mayor Chuck Novak, left, visited with Lynn Rogers. photo by K. Vandervort

New and improved trail cams are also up and running.

"And future expansion calls for a larger enclosure for the ambassador bears as we grow our acreage," he said.

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### CITY OF ORR - TIF DISTRICT 2018 ANNUAL REPORTING FORM

Orr EDA - TIF 1-1 EDA - 2018 Annual Reporting Form

Home Overview District Info Debt Interfund Loans PAYG Project Costs Transfers Rev & Expr B

#### 2018 Annual Disclosure Statement

1 Name of Development Authority: Orr EDA

2 Name of Municipality: Orr

3 The Timberjay 8/5/2019  
(Name of the Newspaper) (Date of Publication)

The following information represents the annual disclosure of tax increment districts for the year ended December 31, 2018.

TIF 1-1 EDA	
4 Current net tax capacity	\$ 4,419
5 Original net tax capacity	\$ 189
6 Captured net tax capacity	\$ 4,230
7 Principal and interest payments due in 2019	\$ 0
8 Tax increment received in 2018	\$ 6,069
9 Tax increment expended in 2018	\$ 6,016
10 Month and year of first tax increment receipt	5/1999
11 Date of required decertification	12/31/2024
12 The total increased property taxes to be paid from outside the district if fiscal disparities Option A applies*	\$ 0

\* The fiscal disparities property tax law provides that the growth in commercial-industrial property tax values is shared throughout the area. In a tax increment financing district, this value sharing can either result in a decrease in tax increment financing district revenue or a tax increase for other properties in the municipality depending on whether the tax increment financing district contributes its share of the growth. Amounts displayed here indicate that the district did not contribute its growth in commercial-industrial property tax values and represent the resulting increase in taxes on other properties in the City for taxes payable in 2018.

Additional information regarding this district may be obtained from:

13 Name: Cheri Carter  
14 Address: PO Box 237  
15 City: Orr  
16 State: MN  
17 Zip Code: 55771  
18 Phone: (218) 757-3288 Enter as 6512962551.  
19 Email: orrm@centurytel.net Enter 'none' if no email address.

Published in the Timberjay, August 2, 2019

## Obituaries and Death Notices

### Rita J. Myntti

Rita Jean Beron Myntti, 91, of Duluth, born on April 7, 1927, died on Tuesday, March 5, 2019, at the Hospice at St. Luke's Hospital in Duluth. Visitation will be at 11 a.m. on Monday, Aug. 12, followed at 12 noon by a Memorial Mass of Christian Burial, at the Westwood Chapel of the Benedictine Living Community of Duluth, 935 Kenwood Avenue, on the campus of the College of St. Scholastica. Father Seamus Walsh will officiate. Interment will follow at 4 p.m. in the Scandia Cemetery, 3200 London Road in Duluth. Arrangements have been made by the Cremation Society of Minnesota.

### Peggy L. Kainz

Peggy Lee Starkman Kainz, 61, of Ely, died unexpectedly on Sunday, July 21, 2019, at St. Mary's Medical Center in Duluth. A gathering to remember Peggy (party as Peggy wanted) was held at Samz Bar in Ely on Sunday, July 28. Family arrangements were entrusted to Kerntz Funeral Home of Ely. She is survived by

her loving husband, Leo "Cubby" Kainz; daughters, Brandi Richards and Brittany Schwarz; son, William "Billy" Richards; daughter-in-law and special friend, Tracy Anderson; son-in-law, David Berger; grandchildren, Michael Berger, Kael Richards, Ty Richards, Sydni Ross, Madelyne Roderick, Lilli Berger, Rustin Carlson, Nikolas Berger and Miley Schwarz; special niece, Michelle Kosnitch; father of her children, Mark (Michele) Richards; biological father, Terry (Judy) Ostrander; sisters, Roxann (Chuck) Graff, Valerie (Ben) McGrath and Gail (Larry Schwochert) Ostrander; brothers, Terry (Deb) Ostrander and Jared (Dena) Ostrander; many nieces and nephews; very dear childhood friends; and loyal companions Dieter, Bob and Martha.

### Michael Folman

Michael "Farmer" Folman, 65, of Pike-Sandy, passed away on Tuesday, July 23, 2019, after a short battle with cancer. Please join us in a celebration of his life at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Aug. 3 at Range

Funeral Home in Virginia. Bring your treasured memories to share, to help those who loved him remember to smile during this difficult time, and to hold onto until we see him again.

He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Lorraine; children, Peter Folman and Mindy Folman, both of Eveleth; granddaughter, Ashley Folman; brothers, Patrick (Joy) Folman and Jerry (Cathy) Folman; sisters, Elaine (John) Braun and Debra (Cleet Conaway) Folman; and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

### Carol Koska

Carol Lamppa Koska, of Brooklyn Park, died on Monday, July 22, 2019. At her request, there will be no services. Inurnment will be in the Embarrass Cemetery. Memorials may be directed to C.E.A.P. or the Animal Humane Society.

She is survived by her husband, Richard "Dick" Koska; and brothers, Bill Lamppa of Embarrass and Marvin (Carolyn) Lamppa of Duluth.



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- Outdoor Skill Applications/Recreation
  - Directed Project Based Learning Opportunities
- School Wide Community Service



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# Outdoors

Our lives in the  
Northwoods

## FOREST PESTS

### Birch leafminers are active right now

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

REGIONAL— Ever wonder why birch trees frequently end up with unsightly brown blotches on their leaves? It's a common occurrence in the North Country and the most common cause is the larval stage of an insect known as the birch leafminer.

The adult form of this insect is a tiny, black, fly-like insect that lays a single egg at a time in slits that it makes in birch leaves. The eggs hatch into tiny

worm-like insects which feed between the surfaces of a birch leaf, creating a hollowed-out portion of leaf, which eventually turns brown. If you spot this at the right time, and hold a leaf up to light, you can often see the wiggling larva, and its droppings, inside the leaf. After about two to three weeks of feeding, the larva chews its way out from inside the leaf and drops to the ground, where it digs into the soil before entering the pupal stage. Depending on the time of year, the pupa will either develop into

**Right: Recent damage from birch leafminers.** photo by M. Helmberger

an adult in about two weeks or it will overwinter and come out as an adult in late May or early June, just about the time that birch leaves are forming.

While the damage from leafminers can be unsightly, particularly for birches growing in your yard, they typically don't do any permanent damage to birch trees, particularly when the trees have sufficient water.



## Wildflower Watch

This week's featured flower  
**FIREWEED**



Magenta swatches of the **Fireweed**, *Chamaenerion angustifolium*, are appearing now across the North Country landscape—and they're a sign that we're well past the midway point of summer.

As its name suggests, this native wildflower likes disturbed areas, and will quickly take advantage of the aftermath of forest fires to revegetate the scorched earth.

Once established, they can linger in colorful patches for years. This plant is recognized by its height (growing up to six feet high) its bright magenta, four-petaled flowers that grow along a loose spike, and by its long, narrow leaves.

It's a member of the Evening Primrose family.



## FISHING

### From Sweden, for muskie

Couple travels nearly 4,000 miles in quest for elusive lunkers

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

LAKEVERMILION— The muskie has long been known as the “fish of ten thousand casts,” a title reflecting the challenge of connecting with this elusive top predator. But for a couple that just wrapped up their own quest for giant muskie here this week, the experience also required putting in plenty of miles—3,927 to be exact.

That's the distance from Grums, Sweden, where Bjorn Nystroem and Liisa Hedin call home, to Tower, Minnesota, where they spent much of last week in search of big muskie.

The Swedish couple are serious anglers, and they usually have little trouble hooking into big fish near their home, which sits on the north shore of Lake Vaenern, Sweden's largest freshwater lake. Liisa's Instagram page is full of photos of her and Bjorn hoisting enormous northern pike, which are also found in Sweden.

But the muskie, or muskellunge, is native only to the Hudson Bay, St. Lawrence, Mississippi, and Great Lakes watersheds in North America—and they're what brought Bjorn and Liisa to Tower this past week. “It's like fishing

**Above: Liisa Hedin poses with the 42-inch muskie she landed on her final day of fishing on Lake Vermilion.**

**Right: Bjorn and Liisa pose for the camera with a typical North Country backdrop.**

**Right: Bjorn hoists the 37-inch muskie he caught on the fourth day of their fishing adventure.**

submitted

for pike, but harder,” said Liisa. They both say it's the challenge of hooking and landing a monster muskie that makes a nearly 4,000-mile journey worth the effort.

The feeling of setting the hook on such a giant is hard to describe, said Liisa. “Maybe you just become addicted! It's an amazing feeling when you have been out for days and hours in both good and bad weather. And suddenly you are on the right spot and do that little extra thing that those big, smart, old fishes like.”

This week wasn't their first trip to the U.S. in search of those big, smart, old fishes. They visited Leech Lake two years ago, but said they had better success here on Lake Vermilion, where

See **MUSKIE**...pg. 5B



## Fishing reports

### Ely area

Summer patterns are in full swing now, with walleyes hovering around mid-lake structure such as reefs and points of islands. Successful anglers have been trolling crank baits and spinner rigs around the transition zones where the rock formations begin to level out and change over to dirt or sand bottom. Crawlers and leeches rigged on a spinner can be very effective right now. Early and late in the day you'll find that the fish are moving up shallow on these rock patches in search of bait that move shallow for the evening and night time hours. Some folks are also fishing up in the shallows near weed edges or skinny water structure. Where a smooth flat bottom is interrupted by a rock and or rubble field might be just the ticket to success.

Northern pike have been very active on most area lakes, with spinner baits and spoons a preferred choice. Work the shorelines where smaller fish might congregate. Some of the largest pike are running in the mid-forties in length and have been running a bit deeper, down to fifteen or twenty feet. Try using larger profile crank baits such as Deep Tail Dancers by Rapala. Another good option is to use a shallow running bait weighted down with some sort of sinker like a bottom bouncer.

Courtesy of Babe's Bait, located at Ely's west entrance.

**Outdoors briefly**

**Deer open houses set for later this month**

**TOWER**— Local wildlife managers across the state are again inviting the public to come to open house meetings to ask their deer-related questions and offer thoughts on deer issues.

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is dedicating time from mid-August to early September to discuss deer-related topics including upcoming hunting regulation changes that will be released in early August.

These local, open house meetings are a way to encourage conversations about deer and deer management, enhance local relationships and foster two-way communication between the DNR and the public.

In addition to discussing general concerns about deer, individuals can ask DNR staff about last year's harvest data, provide topics that the DNR's deer advisory committee should be aware of, and discuss upcoming hunting season changes.

The open houses do not include formal presentations, so people can arrive any time during the scheduled meeting times. Open houses in northeastern Minnesota include the followings locations and times:

► Tower area- to be held from 5-6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 27, at the Mt. Iron Community Center, located at 8586 Enterprise Dr.

► International Falls area- to be held from 5-6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 28, at the International Falls Area DNR office,

located at 392 E. Hwy. 11. The DNR encourages people who can't attend a scheduled meeting, but who have questions about deer management, to contact a local wildlife manager. A list of area wildlife offices is available online at [mndnr.gov/areas/wildlife](http://mndnr.gov/areas/wildlife).

**New VNP paddling maps available soon**

**REGIONAL**— In collaboration with National Geographic, Voyageurs National Park has designed a map specifically geared toward visitors who travel the park by canoe or kayak.

These topographic maps feature recommended paddle routes along the shorelines of Voyageurs National Park, divided into labeled sections. Each section has a brief route description that includes highlights one can expect to see while paddling, as well as any special conditions to be aware of, such as exposure to prevailing winds and areas of heavy boat traffic. The maps are printed on a durable material that is waterproof and tear-resistant.

Maps are expected to be available at all Voyageurs National Park visitor centers in the coming weeks. Plan a trip to a visitor center near you to learn more about the park, pick up our newest map, and plan your own paddling adventure in Voyageurs National Park.

Those paddlers planning on camping in the park are reminded that campsite reservations are required. Visitors may make reservations by going online at [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov) or by calling (877) 444-6777.

**LAKE COUNTRY FORECAST**

from NOAA weather

Friday					Saturday					Sunday					Monday					Tuesday				
<b>80 58</b>					<b>79 57</b>					<b>79 60</b>					<b>77 55</b>					<b>73 50</b>				
Ely	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Emb.	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Cook	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Orr	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Tower	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.
07/22	72	42	0.00		07/22	71	41	0.00		07/22	70	48	0.00		07/22	77	52	0.02		07/22	72	42	0.00	
07/23	78	46	0.13		07/23	76	41	0.11		07/23	76	48	0.04		07/23	81	54	0.00		07/23	78	51	0.20	
07/24	81	51	0.00		07/24	80	49	0.00		07/24	81	55	0.02		07/24	82	55	0.00		07/24	82	50	0.00	
07/25	85	52	0.00		07/25	84	50	0.00		07/25	83	56	0.00		07/25	77	57	0.32		07/25	84	51	0.00	
07/26	77	55	0.63		07/26	76	53	0.78		07/26	na	na	na		07/26	82	63	0.00		07/26	82	61	1.95	
07/27	81	57	0.57		07/27	84	53	0.30		07/27	na	na	na		07/27	79	57	0.00		07/27	na	na	0.55	
07/28	79	53	0.01		07/28	78	52	0.00		07/28	78	58	1.89		07/28	77	57	0.00		07/28	na	na	0.00	
YTD Total 10.75					YTD Total 14.23					YTD Total 11.52					YTD Total 12.37					YTD Total 13.15				

**Fishing reports**

**Kab-Nam area**

Here are guide reports from the Kab area from July 27:

**Trent Snyder**

This week the fishing was on fire. Rock piles and drop offs in 17-20 ft. range. Lindy it or jig—either one works. Minnow was the bait of choice for me. Weed lines earlier in the morning work well, too.

**Travis Carlson**

Was a good week on Kabetogama. Shallow water, ranging from 8-12 ft. along weed edges produced well. Deeper water in the 22-26 ft. range, also produced fish and some days lots of fish. Spinners with crawlers and live bait rigs with leeches still working best for me.

**Dominic Ruis**

**MUSKIE...Continued from page 4B**

they both caught large muskie, despite conditions that their guide Jason "Muskiebreath" Hamernick described as "tough." "Thankfully I had very skilled anglers who picked up on the proper muskie technique immediately!," Hamernick noted on Instagram. "I'm grateful they each caught their first muskies, which both were on Nick Eddy's stagger blade Apaches. Liisa executed a perfect figure 8 for hers!"

Vermilion didn't just serve up the couple's first big muskies— it also served as a kind of home away from home, reminding them of the terrain surrounding their own home



**Above: A nice portrait of the Richardson family with their Kabetogama catch.** submitted

This week I have transitioned to fishing more on Namakan Lake.

Out there I'm fishing deep water 25-30 ft., with Lindy and minnow or leech. I am also fishing lots of shallow water weed edges and mud flats 8-10 ft. pulling spinners and crawlers! See you on the water!

in central Sweden, with the big water and pine-dominated forest. They also liked Tower, which is even smaller than Grums, which is best known as the home of the world's largest cardboard manufacturing plant. Bjorn works for a Caterpillar distributor near Grums, which primarily serves the area's thriving timber industry. Liisa is a graphic designer who works for a sign company. That is, when they're not out fishing.

While serious about their quest for big fish, the couple has participated in only a few tournaments back home in Sweden. They say

they prefer the serenity of fishing without the competition. Now at the peak of the summer season, serenity was a bit tougher to find on Vermilion this past week, according to the couple. "You can tell people here really like fishing," said Bjorn.

While they wrapped up their stay in Tower on Monday, the couple had a few more days to spend in Minnesota. They were next headed to the Crosby area to check out the new mountain biking park that's been a big hit in that former mining town.

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

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

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

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EMPLOYMENT

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Head Start Teacher (Nett Lake)

The Head Start Teacher will provide educational services to preschool-aged children in an assigned classroom setting. Provide educational and support services to families of enrolled children...

Experience: One year experience in a preschool classroom. Education: Baccalaureate or advanced degree in early childhood education...

Please visit the Bois Forte website at www.boisforte.com for a full job description and to download an application

Published in the Timberjay, Aug. 2, 9 & 16

POSITION OPENING - ISD No. 696 ELY PUBLIC SCHOOLS Long Term Substitute 1.0 FTE Elementary Teacher

Starting approximately August 27, 2019, and ending November 1, 2019. Salary and fringes as per Master Agreement Between ISD #696 and the Ely Education Association...

POSITION OPENING ISD 696 ELY PUBLIC SCHOOLS Cafeteria Aide

Permanent part-time; 2 3/4 hrs./day; 5 days/week; student contact days; \$14.79/hr.; must be able to lift 30 lbs. on a regular basis...

Dentist

The Dentist provides dental services assisting in implementation and operation of the dental program which includes preventive, educational, and corrective dental services.

Experience: Two year post graduate experience. Education: DDS or DMD Degree from a dental school accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation.

Please visit the Bois Forte website at www.boisforte.com for a full job description and to download an application.

Published in the Timberjay, Aug. 2, 9 & 16

Part-Time Sportswriter



We're looking for someone to help cover high school and community college sports in the Timberjay readership area.

Please send resumé, and cover letter describing your interest to marshall@timberjay.com, or call 218-753-2950 and ask for Marshall or Jodi.

Thursday distribution driver

We are looking for someone to help with newspaper distribution on Thursdays. Hours are approx. 8am - 1pm. Duties involve picking up the newspapers in Virginia with Timberjay van...

Call 218-753-2950 and ask for Marshall or Jodi. Position open until filled.

Equal Opportunity Employer

Early Head Start Child Care Teacher (Vermilion)

The Early Head Start Child Care Teacher will implement the Early Head Start Education Plan and provide a full range of early childhood services through curriculum, meet the Performance Standards...

Experience: One year of experience working with children in a classroom setting Education: Associate's Degree

Please visit the Bois Forte website at www.boisforte.com for a full job description and to download an application

Published in the Timberjay, Aug. 2, 9 & 16

Head Start Teacher Aide Openings in Nett Lake and Vermilion

The Head Start Teacher Aide is responsible in assisting the Head Start Teacher in carrying out the classroom activities and component plans and will provide support through classroom and playground supervision of all children.

Experience: One year experience working with preschool aged children. Education: Must possess a high school diploma or GED equivalent.

Please visit the Bois Forte website at www.boisforte.com for a full job description and to download an application

Published in the Timberjay, Aug. 2, 9 & 16

DEPARTMENT OF IRON RANGE RESOURCES & REHABILITATION

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PUBLIC NOTICES

City of Ely, Minnesota

Annual Disclosure of Tax Increment Districts for The Year Ended December 31, 2018

Table with 3 columns: District Name, TIF District #1, TIF District #3. Rows include Current Net Tax Capacity, Original net tax capacity, Captured net tax capacity, Principal and Interest, Payments Due in 2019, Tax Increment Received in 2018, Tax Increment Expended in 2018, Month and Year of first Tax increment receipt, Date of required decertification.

Additional Information regarding each district may be obtained from: Dan Smith, Assistant Treasurer 209 E Chapman St., Ely, MN 55731, 218-226-5473

Published in the Ely Timberjay, August 2, 2019

Read us online at www.timberjay.com Subscribe • (218) 753-2950

EMPLOYMENT



OPEN POSITIONS

10 Fifth Street SE Cook, MN 55723

Care Center

FT Director of Nursing- LTC (sign-on bonus) PT Nursing Assistant (sign-on bonus) Casual Restorative Nursing Assistant PT RN/LPN (sign-on bonus)

Dietary

Full and Part-Time Cook/Dietary Aide

Business Office

Casual Secretary/Receptionist

Imaging

Full Time Radiologic Tech

Environmental Services

Casual Housekeeper & Laundry Aide

Rehabilitation

FT Physical Therapist (sign-on bonus)

Hospital

PT Unit Clerk/Nursing Assistant Current NA Certification and/or EMT

TO APPLY:

www.cookhospital.org/join-our-team/

More Info? Contact Human Resources

218-666-6220

humanresources@cookhospital.org

The Cook Hospital & Care Center offers competitive pay and benefits including PERA retirement, Health and Dental coverage, Life and LTD.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

9x9 Sudoku grid with some numbers filled in: Row 1: [ ] [ ] [6] [ ] [4] [ ] [ ] [ ] [7]; Row 2: [ ] [8] [ ] [ ] [ ] [7] [6] [ ] [ ]; Row 3: [3] [ ] [ ] [8] [ ] [ ] [ ] [2] [ ]; Row 4: [ ] [2] [ ] [5] [7] [ ] [ ] [ ] [8]; Row 5: [ ] [ ] [1] [ ] [ ] [6] [ ] [4] [ ]; Row 6: [9] [ ] [ ] [3] [ ] [ ] [1] [ ] [ ]; Row 7: [1] [ ] [ ] [ ] [5] [ ] [ ] [8] [ ]; Row 8: [ ] [7] [ ] [4] [ ] [ ] [9] [ ] [ ]; Row 9: [ ] [ ] [3] [ ] [ ] [2] [ ] [ ] [4]

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦

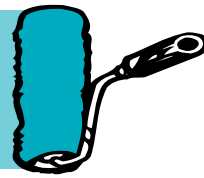
♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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# HOME IMPROVEMENT GUIDE



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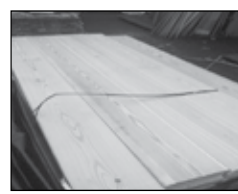
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- #137258 LAKE VERMILION** 3 BR, 2 BA home located on the west end of the lake w/ 125 ft lksh. Parking space w/ hook-ups for your RV, onshore boathouse (with rail system), lift-out dock and 2-stall garage. **\$398,000**
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- #135909 LAKE VERMILION** Exquisite family estate! Half-log siding, 5 BRs, 5 BAs. Lg. kitchen w/tons of counter space/dining room w/patio doors and great room w/soaring floor to ceiling windows and natural stone fireplace. Lg MBRS w/private BA+ walk-in closet. Beautiful deck and much more, a must see! **\$1,350,000**
- #131683 LAKE VERMILION** 500 ft lksh, 2.3 acres, sand beach to rock outcroppings, towering pines, mixed timber, electric on each lot. Approved for septic. **\$167,200**
- #136980 ELBOW LAKE** Road-access, 3.74 acre lot w/ 463 ft lksh! Unsurpassed views overlooking quiet waters on this understated gem in Northern MN. **\$175,000**



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- Elbow Lake-\$37,900** 228 ft of shoreline on 2.3 wooded acres. Boat-access. **MLS#133667**
- Orr-\$84,900** 3 BR home on 40 acres with bonus game room and garage. **MLS#137415**
- Lake Vermilion, Orr-\$750,000** 4 BR home on 60 acres with 2,000 ft of shoreline. **MLS#135533**
- Biwabik-\$434,999** 4 BR, 5 BA home near Giants Ridge with access to Wynne Lake. **MLS#136331**

## FOR SALE BY OWNER

### 2184 Passi Rd. Burntside Lake

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

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## FOR SALE BY OWNER

### 2180 Passi Rd. Burntside Lake

Newly (2017) Reconstructed 1,940 sq ft log cabin. It's beautifully refinished. Majestic, hand-scribed native MN logs. Must be seen. 3 BR areas, 2 BA. It's colored-concrete drive and parking area, sewer mound and water system. In-floor heating system, fireplace, electric and plumbing systems, tile and carpeting – all new in 2017. Granite countertops, washer/dryer, dishwasher, and much more.

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