



**Don't miss the Harvest Moon Festival
Friday - Sunday in Ely....** See /12

Sunday Liquor?...See /3

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Classic boats... See /4B

the TIMBERJAY



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\$1⁰⁰

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Senator Tina Smith visits Ely

Sulfide mining overshadows 'Rural Economy Tour'

by KEITH VANDERVORT
Ely Editor

Ely— Minnesota's junior U.S. Senator, Tina Smith, visited Ely for the first time as a senator on Tuesday, as part of a "Rural Economy Tour" with state and local leaders.

Her visit included brief stops at the Ely-Bloomenson Community Hospital, to learn about EBCH's expansion plans, as well as tours at the Ten Below Networking facility, Crapola World Headquarters, Wolfland Computers and Hobby, and

See...**TOUR** pg. 10

Minnesota's Sen. Tina Smith, along with State Rep. Rob Ecklund, right, visited Tuesday with Brian and Andrea Strom at the Crapola World Headquarters in Ely.

photo by K. Vandervort



CANINE CELEBRITIES

Sled dog movie stars



Tower musher's dogs depict Balto and Togo in 'Great Alaskan Race,' set to open Oct. 25

by JODI SUMMIT
Tower-Soudan Editor

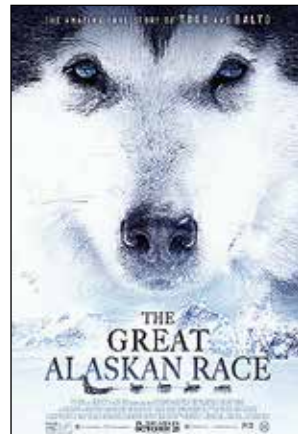
TOWER—They are big, beautiful, and love attention. And this pair of Alaskan malamutes, known as Saffron and Kira to their owner Ashley Thaemert, will soon be experiencing the limelight like never before.

The two sled dogs, who live with Thaemert and about two dozen other dogs in rural Tower, will soon be known as Balto and Togo, the lead "actors"

See...**STARS** pg. 9



Ashley Thaemert gives some extra attention to two of her Alaskan Malamutes, Kira and Saffron, at her rural Tower home. The two sled dogs are starring in a new movie, "The Great Alaskan Race," based on the historic sled dog run to transport medical supplies. photo by J. Summit



RETAIL

Mini-Zup's now open in Cook

by JODI SUMMIT
Tower-Soudan Editor

COOK—"Our first day was wonderful," said long-time Zup's store employee Toni Swanson. "There were so many friendly faces. Everyone is so happy to see us back."

While the reconstruction of the Zup's Grocery Store is yet to begin, a smaller store, a "Mini-Zup's" is now open next door to the former grocery store location, right behind the Subway.

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

See...**COOK** pg. 11



COUNTY SCHOOLS

Tower's 'lunch lady' settles pay dispute with ISD 2142

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

REGIONAL— The longtime head lunch lady at the Tower School has reached a settlement agreement with the St. Louis County School District that ends a lawsuit filed in June over allegations that the district systematically paid her less than she was owed.

Under the agreement, Marilyn Turnbull, of Tower, will receive \$12,500 in a one-time lump sum settlement, \$1,975 of which will go to the Halunen Law Firm, which represented her in the case. Turnbull agrees to drop any further claims for lost income stemming from the school district's refusal to classify her as a head cook despite the fact that she served as the school's only cook

See...**PAY** pg. 10



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COMMUNITY EVENTS AND NOTICES

MSO has openings for strings, low brass, and more

VIRGINIA- The Mesabi Symphony Orchestra starts rehearsals for its 42nd season on Monday, Sept. 9 in Eveleth-Gilbert High School's band room. We have openings in all strings sections, low brass, and others. The year's programming includes Beethoven's Fifth, Mozart's Requiem, Schubert's Unfinished, Handel's Royal Fireworks, and much more. Go to www.mesabisymphonyorchestra.org, and find "Join Us" for all the details.

Harvest Service and potluck at Mesabi Unitarian on Sunday

VIRGINIA- Jenna Ballinger will lead the congregation and visitors in examining "Our Connection to Food" at Mesabi Unitarian Universalist Church on Sunday, Sept. 8 at 10:30 a.m. Food, whether it be growing it, eating it, or cooking it, gives one of the strongest links we have to ourselves and others. Come to learn and share that deep connection during our annual Harvest Service. Please feel free to bring a dish that has significance to you to share at the potluck after the service. We will also incorporate the Water Ceremony into our service, so please bring water from a source special to you.

The church is located at 230 7th Street S in Virginia. Services are on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. The building is handicap accessible.

Cook Library Book Sale on Saturday, Sept. 14

COOK- The Friends of the Cook Public Library are pleased to announce their Fall Book Sale on Saturday, Sept. 14, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The sale will be held at the Book Barn on 1st St. SE in Cook. Stock up on books, audiobooks, and DVDs for the coming winter, and browse the supply of children's books that are ideal for Christmas presents. Cook Library T-shirts and book totes are also available for sale. All proceeds from the sale support the Cook Public Library.

Ruby's Pantry in Cook, Sept. 12

COOK- The next Ruby's Pantry food distribution will be on Thursday, Sept. 12, from 4:30 - 6 p.m. at the old Cook School. Registration begins at 3 p.m. \$20 cash donation at the door. Volunteers are asked to please arrive at 3 p.m. Please bring your own containers. Ruby's Pantry is now offering online registration at rubyspantry.com starting Friday, Sept. 13, for October's distribution. \$21 donation at sign-up. Sponsored by St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Alango. For more information, contact Amy Viita at 218-666-2220.

Senior Bingo in Tower on Monday

TOWER- Senior Bingo will be held in Tower on Monday, Sept. 9 at the Herb Lamppa Civic Center in Tower from 11:45 a.m. - 3 p.m. There is a \$10 charge for the bingo party, which includes lunch. All ages are welcome to attend this community event. Lunch is served starting at 11:45 a.m., and bingo begins at 12:45 p.m. Bingo may be cancelled in case of inclement weather (and if the Tower-Soudan School is closed). Call Jodi Summit at 218-753-2950 with any questions.

Military Retiree Appreciation Day, Sept. 13 at Black Bear Casino

CARLTON- A Military Retiree Appreciation Day will be held from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 13 at Black Bear Casino in Carlton. Retirees from all branches of the armed forces and their family members and guests are eligible to attend to receive updated information about retiree entitlement programs. Pre-registration is required and must be accomplished by Sept. 6. The registration form is available online at https://home.army.mil/mccooy/application/files/1415/6285/9486/2019_HONORS.PDF and contains detailed information about the event. Direct any questions to 800-452-0923 or email usarmy.mccooy.rso@mail.mil.

TOWER

Your Boat Club Labor Day picnic



Your Boat Club in Tower hosted its Labor Day Picnic on Sunday, Sept. 1. They served up BBQ pork and beef, grilled corn on the cob, and all the fixings to a steady crowd all afternoon. There were games, raffles, and more.

Above: Brisa Noyes blows giant bubbles in front of her twin sister Elia, with some help from brother Rogelio. Right: Gavin Haskin on mandolin and John Lane on fiddle and guitar. Slip tenant Steve Davis, who rents a slip at the marina, opened with a set earlier in the afternoon. photos by J. Summit

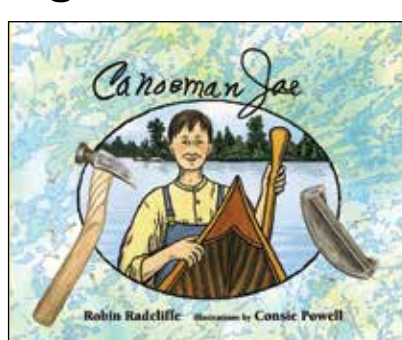


Canoeman Joe Seliga stars in a new picture book

ELY- Ely's own Joe Seliga is the celebrated subject of "Canoeman Joe", a new picture book biography just published by Green Writers Press of North Brattleboro, Vermont. Written by Robin Radcliffe and illustrated by Consie Powell, Canoeman Joe follows Joe from boyhood into elder years and chronicles the fascinating journey by which Joe taught himself to make wood and canvas canoes.

Born in Ely, Joe Seliga was one of 12 children in a close-knit family that owned two wood and canvas canoes made by the Morris Canoe Company of Veazie, Maine. It was the use, care, and repair of these Morris canoes that helped the young Joe ultimately figure out how to make canoes of his own design. This biographical picture book celebrates Joe's life with canoes as well as his independent spirit that instilled a tradition of self-reliance in a whole generation of campers across the lake country of northern Minnesota. The opening page offers just a hint of Joe's independent spirit:

"In a land of water and stone,



where rugged miners in candlestick hats filled railcars with Minnesota ore, there lived a boy who loved canoes and wood more than trains and steel. Other boys listened for the chugs and whistles of the Duluth and Iron Range Railroad, but Joe Seliga listened for the moans and rumbles of lake ice breaking. That meant springtime, and springtime was canoe time in Ely."

Author Robin Radcliffe is one of the inspired campers who grew up paddling a Seliga canoe (number 390) in wilderness waterways. Born and raised in Wisconsin, Robin built a pair of canoes with his twin brother and together they paddled the most remote rivers of Alaska

and the Northwest Territories. In between adventures, he attended the University of Wisconsin at River Falls, and obtained his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from the University of Minnesota in St. Paul. Today he leads international research to conserve the endangered rhinoceroses of the world.

Ely artist Consie Powell (www.consiepowell.com) first paddled a canoe as a young adult, and quickly fell in love with the beauty and responsiveness of wood and canvas canoes. She has written and illustrated numerous books for young readers, including the Sigurd Olson Nature Writing Award-winning "Leave Only Ripples: A Canoe Country Sketchbook." Consie gets outside, in a canoe in summer, or on snowshoes in winter, with sketchbook and binoculars in hand as often as she possibly can.

Information on how to order the book can be found online at www.canoemanjoe.com.

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CITY OF ELY

Public can weigh in on Sunday liquor sales

by KEITH VANDERVORT
Ely Editor

Hearing on proposed ordinance change set for Tuesday, Sept. 17

ELY—City Council members here Tuesday approved the first reading of an ordinance allowing for Sunday off-sale liquor sales in the city and scheduled a hearing for 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 17, to allow for public comment on the issue.

Liquor stores across Minnesota have had the opportunity to be open on Sundays for the past two years, after the Legislature finally lifted the longstanding blue law.

Ely and just two other municipalities in Minnesota have opted to continue the ban on Sunday sales by ordinance, after the owners of three local liquor stores argued they didn't want to be open on Sunday.

However, the new owner of Lakeshore Liquor is looking to improve customer service and his bottom line with the opportunity to sell alcoholic beverages seven days a week.

Eric Saint Martin, of Lakeshore Liquor, requested an application last month for a Sunday sales liquor license,

prompting the city council to consider the ordinance change. A second reading of the ordinance, and a majority vote by the council, is required to authorize the change in the city law.

Two other liquor store owners, Sarah Burger of Wildlife Liquor, and Mark and Dottie Zojanc of Mike's Liquors, are less than pleased with the pending change, and wrote a letter to the council last week expressing their disappointment.

"Two years ago, all liquor store owners came to you as a unified group to request Ely leave in place the ordinance on record banning off-sale liquor sales on Sundays. Imagine our surprise when we read front page headlines that this ordinance is being rewritten on the request of one new owner," wrote the store owners in their letter.

Burger and the Zojancs asked for "courtesy and respect" and wondered why they weren't notified "before any voting took place."

Council members last month directed the city attorney to draft

an ordinance, based on state statute, that would allow liquor store owners the option, not the requirement, of being open from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sundays. Council members didn't vote on the change until this week when they voted 6-1 to approve the first reading of the ordinance.

In his request for the Sunday sales permit, Saint Martin wrote, "I feel it would benefit the town in the fact that you are not giving the visitors to our fine city a reason to stop and shop on their way home. We have visitors that are unaware of our town's no-Sunday sales and get here and are unable to shop for their camping trips on a Monday after a Sunday arrival," he added.

Saint Martin also made the argument that being open on Sundays "opens up one more shift for me to offer to an employee who may need that little extra to stay around and keep Ely that much more sustainable." He touted the economic benefits of Sunday sales in his request "As little or as much as it may add to the town to keep Ely sustainable,

we all need to take advantage of any rules we can, and the state offering Sunday sales with us not taking advantage of it is just says, "No thanks, Ely doesn't need that extra boost of money coming in."

Burger and the Zojancs countered, "In Ely, residents already know to stock up on Saturday, and most visitors end up in our stores on Monday. We see no immediate or future gains in allowing Sunday sales in Ely."

Preliminary levy

Council members set the proposed levy for 2020 at \$1,796,900, a 2.6-percent increase over last year.

The final levy will be set in December, and at a recent study session, council members set a goal of actually reducing the levy for next year.

Clerk-Treasurer Harold Langowski said the city will benefit from a Local Government Aid increase of about \$146,000 this year, but union contract negotiations are still pending for the new budget. "Hopefully, the

overall budget will allow us to get to no city levy increase for next year," he said.

Other business

In other business, the council:

► Approved council and staff to attend 2019 League of Minnesota Cities regional meetings.

► Authorized the payment of dues to the Minnesota Mayors Association for \$30, Greater Minnesota Partnership for \$500, and the League of Minnesota Cities for \$3,815.

► Referred a land annexation Memorandum of Understanding between the city of Ely and Morse Township to the Projects Committee for review.

► Approved a request from the Ely Chamber of Commerce for in-kind services for this week-end's Harvest Moon Festival.

► Approved a storefront rehabilitation loan for Rockwood Bar and Grill for new windows and rooftop HVAC unit replacement for \$17,500, pending proper paperwork and fees.

TOWERGATE

Keith, Carlson make first appearance on misconduct charges

VIRGINIA — Former Tower City Clerk-Treasurer Linda Keith and former Tower Mayor Josh Carlson made their first appearance in St. Louis County District Court here on Aug. 30, on charges of official misconduct — a gross misdemeanor. The first appearance is typically brief and preliminary, designed to ensure that defendants understand the charges against them and have access

to adequate legal representation.

Both Keith and Carlson were represented by private attorneys and both were released without bail. Keith is represented by Andrew Poole, a highly-rated criminal defense attorney based in Duluth. Carlson is represented by Hibbing attorney Jon Rice.

Both defendants are next scheduled to appear in court on Oct. 9 for a Rule 8 hearing.

Keith and Carlson face

charges stemming from their actions to improperly remove Timberjay Publisher Marshall Helmberger from his position as president of the Tower Economic Development Authority in January 2018 without the due process required by state statute. Carlson and Keith sought Helmberger's removal in retaliation for Helmberger's reporting and editorials on city affairs, which raised questions

and concerns about some city council decisions.

By removing Helmberger without legitimate cause, Carlson allegedly violated a provision of Minn. Stat. 609.43 that makes it a gross misdemeanor for a public official to violate someone's legal rights, such as due process rights, as part of an official act. Keith faces charges under a separate provision of the same statute that makes it a

crime to falsify official records. Keith allegedly altered the dates of Helmberger's term of office on TEDA to make it appear as if his term had expired when, in fact, his term continued through the end of 2019. Had Helmberger's term expired, he could have been replaced without the required due process.

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OPINION

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The First Amendment of the United States Constitution

e-mail: editor@timberjay.com

Editorial

Lamppa Manufacturing

They built the best wood furnace on the market and are now poised for growth

We've all heard the old saying — build a better mouse trap and the world will beat a path to your door. It's been a conventional wisdom for as long as any of us can remember, a paean to the value of hard work, ingenuity, and the spirit of entrepreneurship.

And we have the best possible example right here in the North Country, with Lamppa Manufacturing and the remarkable wood furnaces and stoves for which they have come to be famous.

Three generations of the Lamppa family, working in a tiny converted creamery, created the most efficient and cleanest-burning wood heater anywhere in the world. It's a remarkable achievement for a company whose research and development budget was built on little more than years of sweat equity fostered by a desire to bring wood-burning into the 21st century.

This past week, the company began moving into their new manufacturing facility in Tower's industrial park, thanks to the efforts of the Tower Economic Development Authority, the Department of Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation, the city of Tower, and representatives of Lamppa Manufacturing, who all sought to put the project back on track after delays and questionable project management left it derailed earlier this year.

While the company has just moved into the north half of the just-completed 9,000 square-foot industrial building in Tower, company officials are already looking seriously at occupying the south half of the building as soon as possible to accommodate their anticipated growth. When the project was being planned, TEDA officials had advocated building the larger facility, either to accommodate a second tenant or, more likely, to be ready for Lamppa's growth.

In an ideal world, the sky would be the limit for Lamppa Manufacturing. They have clearly built the better mousetrap and it appears the world is finally beginning to recognize that fact. The company has orders stacked up like cordwood just waiting to be fulfilled as soon as they can get their production ramped up to meet the demand.

And that could be one of the company's biggest challenges moving forward. The good news is that the presence of the IRRR means that companies in our region that do

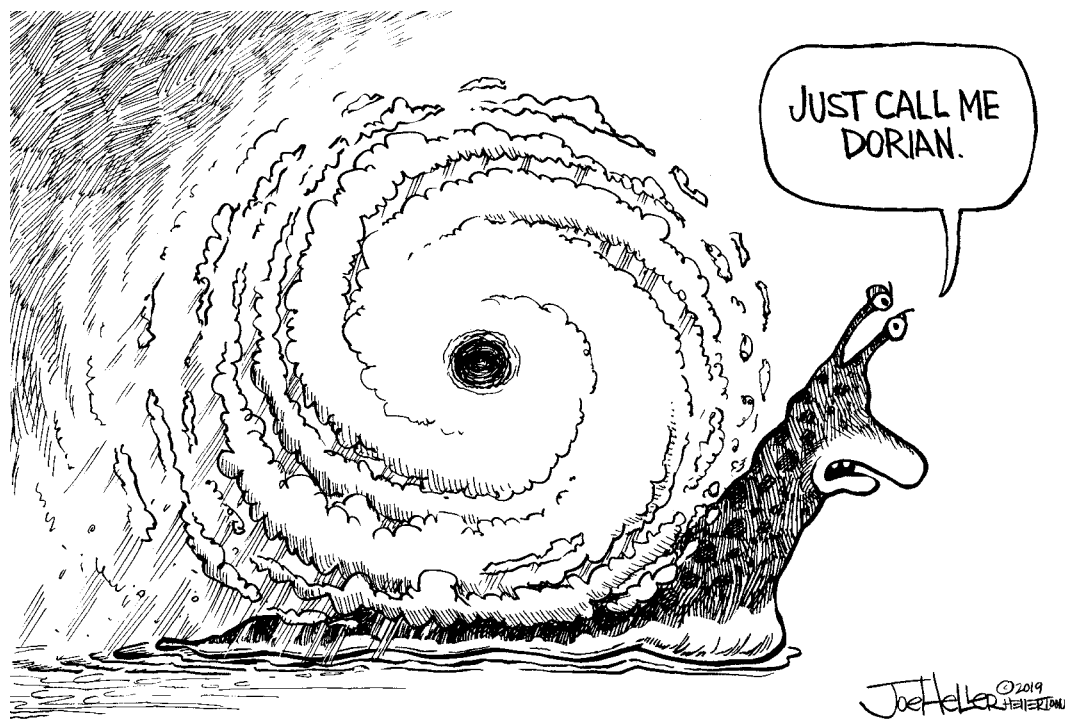
show promise can depend on obtaining financial resources when necessary, whether for construction of new facilities or for the purchase of equipment upgrades or even worker training. One of the reasons that Minnesota ranks so highly in business success is because state agencies and local colleges and technical schools make a concerted effort to meet the varied needs of those companies that show promise.

Yet anyone in business in northeastern Minnesota, or just about anywhere in the state, understands the acute workforce shortages that today pose some of the biggest impediments to business success of all. Our region desperately needs to grow its workforce. That means we need people who are willing to work, who can be trained to do the job, and who have safe and affordable daycare if they children.

We also need workers willing to learn a trade. A company, like Lamppa Manufacturing, needs welders, and that's a skill that takes time and training to develop. But those who make the effort to learn a trade are almost always in high demand and have the satisfaction of knowing at the end of the day, that they've used their skills to accomplish something real, whether it's plumbing a kitchen, wiring a new lake home, or welding the world's best wood stove or furnace.

The people who will help a company like Lamppa Manufacturing grow might not even recognize themselves as such today. We urge everyone, from the retired guy who finds loafing at home a little dull, to a young mother whose kids are now in school seven hours a day, to think about how they can help a local business succeed, and find success and satisfaction themselves in the process.

One thing is for sure — few things succeed all on their own, and that's especially true in business. Access to capital, workers, and know-how are the keys to success in business. Without all three in place, however, even the best idea can struggle. But put those three elements together, and the sky is the limit. Here's to making it all happen for Lamppa Manufacturing. They didn't just build a better mousetrap. They've built the best, and we're excited to watch the world beat a path to their door.



Letters from Readers

Frontier must do right by Minnesotans

For too long, Minnesotans have suffered from unreliable and frustrating phone and internet service from Frontier Communications. As the *Timberjay* editorial board recently noted, the Minnesota Department of Commerce's investigation earlier this year detailed a wide range of issues in Frontier's service to consumers. The bottom line is that Frontier must change.

The Commerce Department's top priority in the proposed settlement agreement with Frontier was getting the company on track to provide better service to Minnesotans. This means making sure Minnesotans get compensated for past problems, and that, going forward, Frontier provides concrete solutions to problems in service quality, customer service and billing practices. Additionally, Frontier would have to meet high standards for delivering service to Minnesotans — from 911 service to timely repairs — report regularly on their performance, and create new accountability requirements so problems are recognized and addressed quickly. It is up to Frontier to meet those obligations, or face the legal consequences.

On a separate note, it is the mission of Commerce to represent the public interest. The editorial board's note about Commerce's objectivity is just plain wrong. Commerce staff pursued an aggressive and comprehensive solution on behalf of consumers. We take our role in representing Minnesota consumers seriously. In fact, it is our entire mission.

Steve Kelley
Commissioner,
MN Dept. of Commerce

Frontier customers deserve better

Years of poor service and many complaints to the Folks at Frontier from me got me nowhere. Several years ago I filed a complaint with the

Attorney General of Minnesota that prompted a phone call from Terry [Bosch] at Frontier in Ely. All I was offered was a \$20 reduction in my bill. I contacted the Federal Trade Commission only to have wasted my time with that, too.

When the news of a public meeting arose I contacted the folks in charge of that and was asked to write a letter and to go on record with my concerns highlighted by the information I just gave you. It seems to no avail. Big business, like always, gets off scot free. Over the years of having, and I must say it tongue in cheek, Frontier Service, people have said that conversations on our home phone were not possible to hear as there was a 60-cycle hum constantly. It got to the point where we had to use cell phones to communicate. And of course their internet was as slow as a snail. Comparable to dial up. They had the unmitigated gall to offer high-speed internet, too. I called them up on that and asked, if they couldn't get me decent internet, how on God's green earth did they expect to offer me high-speed internet? When Lake Connections came along we jumped at the opportunity and haven't looked back since. I feel that the people who have had and still have Frontier deserve better.

Brian LaFrenier
Embarrass

Bring back the assault weapons ban

With the latest mass shooting in Texas, Donald Trump pledged "thoughts and prayers," then repeated the frequently heard N.R.A. mantra, "but we can't act too rashly or move too quickly, or we risk having all our guns taken away." He must've been on the phone with N.R.A. head Wayne LaPierre just before he talked to the press, since that's the same tired paranoid nonsense the N.R.A. has been spouting for years (heaven forbid Trump should come up with an original thought of his own!).

Another bedrock belief of today's N.R.A., frequently

stated, is, "the best way to stop a bad guy with a gun is a good guy with a gun." So how did that work out in Dayton earlier this summer? The "good guys with guns," in this case the Dayton police, were on the scene in less than a minute (one cop estimated it to be closer to 30 seconds), had the shooter on the ground, dead - in less than one minute! - and he still managed to kill nine people and wound 26 more. And all because he had a rapid-fire weapon with a high capacity magazine. So much for the "bad guy - good guy" argument.

In saner days I supported the N.R.A., until their increasingly bizarre paranoia became too hard to stomach. I still believe in the 2nd Amendment, as REASONABLY interpreted, have been a gun owner and active hunter my whole life. I'm also a combat veteran of Vietnam, and I will state categorically that rapid-fire weapons with high capacity magazines, seemingly the weapons-of-choice for the current crop of mass shooters, are designed for one purpose and one purpose only: to kill as many people as possible in the shortest amount of time - in other words, they are meant for the battlefield, pure and simple, and have absolutely no business being in civilian hands. The 10-year ban on such weapons, enacted in 1994, should never have been allowed to expire.

Lynn Scott
Soudan

We welcome your letters

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

We ask that letters be limited to 300 words.

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

Slow down in retirement? I'm too busy for that!

It's been three years since I "retired" from work and I still recall a conversation I had with a woman I'd met who at that time was nearing 70. "Be careful," she warned. "You'll find yourself busier in retirement than you ever were when you were working." Of course, I couldn't understand what she



KATHLEEN MCQUILLAN

meant. For the last 40-plus years, all I knew was hard work and long hours at jobs that demanded either strong muscles or nerves of steel. Any remaining time and energy was devoted to maintaining a home and raising my family. I'm sure this is a story shared by many. But today,

lo, I have discovered this woman was a sage!

I have been cautious not to over-commit to the many requests to "volunteer". Lots of retirees' calendars look as booked as any full-time employed American. Their warnings (or complaints) are definitely worth considering. Don't get me wrong. I truly enjoy the camaraderie and fun that volunteering a few hours a week at the Cook Hospital Auxiliary Thrift Shop brings me. But lately,

I have even had trouble finding time for that!

Time, or lack of it, has become an issue for me lately. I'm going through a period when there is much more to do than adequate time to do it. And the days just seem to speed by! I used to think that was just part of getting older but recently, my son was complaining of his life "just rushing by". His "speeding problem" was no longer something that happened when he was behind the wheel. "What?" I

thought. "Thirty-four is the time of life to wander, wonder, drift, discover, hang with friends, or your children, and explore life together!" At least that's how I remember it.

Children? Mine are cruising through their thirties, both busy with their jobs and keeping their own homes. No problems there. My grandson gets "first dibs" for any of my free time. After all, at thirteen, he's ripe for some

See **BUSY**...pg. 5

Letters from Readers

Government might benefit, but investors should be wary of 100-year treasuries

The Trump administration is “seriously” considering issuing 100-year U.S. bonds. If the Treasury decides to follow through on the idea, their sales should be restricted to financial institutions and be in large denominations. There should be redemption dates when the Treasury can call the bonds.

This is an appropriate time for the administration to issue the bonds. Yields are historically low. For the first time, all of U.S. bond issues, from one month to 30-years, are currently yielding below two percent. In addition,

in the global market, \$17 trillion worth of bonds have negative interest rates.

The portion of the debt represented by 100-year bonds would be immune to interest rate cost increases for the Treasury over the next century. The government could eliminate the cost and interest risks for the periodic funding of the maturing bonds supplanted by the amount of long-term bonds. Another benefit would be improved market conditions with a smaller amount of funds required that otherwise would have to be raised for maturing bonds. In essence, the 100-year bond reduces the need of continuing to refinance, for an example, a ten-year bond ten times.

The issuance of 100-year bonds may be advantageous for

the government, but not for individual investors. The individual investor is exposed to a variety of risks that could reduce the value of the investment: (1) inflation, (2) lack of liquidity, (3) interest rate fluctuation, and (4) currency devaluation.

Of primary concern is the likelihood of substantial inflation over 100 years that can reduce the purchasing power of the investment proceeds. For example, a 25-cent hamburger in 1962, would cost \$1.81 in 2062, at a two-percent annual inflation rate. In the past, inflation rates have been as high as 15 percent.

Another problem for an individual investor is the lack of liquidity. Suppose an estate executor needed to sell a 100-year bond that had been held for 43 years, with 57 years

before maturity. The market for the sale of the bond would be “thin.” There are not many buyers because there are about 25,000 trading days in a century. The daily price offered is likely to be below what an active competitive market would offer and substantially below the original purchase price.

Moreover, there is a concern of fluctuating interest rates. If general interest rates go up, the sale price of the bond declines which can result in losses, if sold before maturity. In the past, bond rates have reached a high of 13 percent.

Further losses may be sustained, if during the holding period of the bond, there is currency devaluation of the U.S. dollar, which would result in the bond proceeds having less

buying power.

Although 100 years sounds like a long time, there are some perpetual bonds outstanding, with no maturity. The government would benefit from issuance of 100-year bonds if analyses indicate there is an interest by institutions with extremely long-term financial obligations for beneficiaries of life insurance policies, pension funds and endowments.

One note of concern, increasing the average maturity of the nation’s outstanding bond portfolio, might encourage irresponsible expansion of U.S. debt.

Gerry Snyder Ely

HEALTH CARE

Hospital district board okays levy increase for next year

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

COOK— The annual levy for the Cook-Orr Hospital District will increase by \$100,000 next year, following final action by the hospital district board on Aug. 27. The increase will add just under ten dollars to a

homesteaded property tax bill for every \$100,000 of value, payable in 2020.

The increase is the first in five years, and it comes as the hospital has seen a dip in revenues this year, mostly due to slower usage of the facility’s imaging equipment.

District board chair Liz

Dahl said the ongoing workforce shortage is also contributing to higher expenses, since it requires the hospital to bring in workers, often from out-of-state, to keep the required staffing in place. “We really need to address the workforce shortage,” said Dahl.

The vast majority— \$95,000— of the levy increase

will go to help fund hospital operations, while \$4,000 is earmarked for local ambulance services and \$1,000 will be added to the district’s capital levy.

The hospital district has levied a total of \$1.39 million annually over the past several years, so the increase would amount to seven percent overall.

In addition to the operational assessment, the hospital district currently levies \$300,000 annually for the nursing home, \$724,000 for capital improvements, and \$148,000 for area ambulance services.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Updated “Elyite” website looks to promote local businesses

by KEITH VANDERVORT
Ely Editor

ELY— Local website designer Richard Stuart introduced a soft launch of an updated version of the Elyite.com website at the Aug. 27 meeting of the Ely Economic Development Authority. About 50 beta testers have signed up to provide feedback as Incredible Ely makes preparation to actively launch the economic development tool for Ely-area businesses.

There are many familiar features from the original website, launched more than two years ago, but the new version has what Stuart called “dynamic search

functionality.”

Just over 300 in-town listings, including restaurants, outfitters, retail shops, and hair salons, etc. are now part of the service, he said. “One of the unique pieces of this new website is that it allows all businesses within the city limits to have a full listing, free of charge, that they are able to manage on their own.”

As many as 16 main categories allow for easy navigation around the site. Those categories can be adjusted as necessary according to feedback received from users. Each listing has a street-side photograph of the facility. There is also a descrip-

tion and location map, and website access. “The business owner can claim the listing and take control of their own information in the listing,” he said.

Other categories, such as living and working in Ely, arts and culture, community resources, non-profit organizations, and more, are addressed with their own narration.

Stuart noted that all of the Elyite website pages have been optimized for Google search engine capabilities.

“I think this will have a tremendous impact for many businesses in town who don’t have marketing budgets to go forward and have a business

listing,” Stuart said. “One of the issues we addressed was the fact that many businesses do not have a website of their own. That is critical today. This can serve as a website for them. They can manage their own listing for themselves.”

The vast majority of the listings can then progress to a Google listing. “This service is free of charge, thanks to Incredible Ely, the good folks at the Blandin Foundation, and the Ely Economic Development Authority,” Stuart said.

Clerk-Treasurer Harold Langowski noted that the push for a business website was initiated back in 2006 and the first

round of funding through the Broadband Community program through the Blandin Foundation.

“When the first Elyite website was pitched two-plus years ago, we wanted to show what was available here and the quality of life we have here,” Langowski said. “This is what was envisioned, and I think Richard took this to the next level from the tremendous efforts of the first group who volunteered their time to launch this website. I think this is a great showcase for the community.”

An official launch date of the Elyite2.0 website will be announced after completion of the testing period.

BUSY...Continued from page 4

grandmotherly love and wisdom. He’s also one of the most fun people I know to have around. Then there are friends, most of whom are near my age, traversing this period of life that once promised more freedom, but, only if you had your health. I can’t tell you how many times I heard elders asserting that if you had your health, you had everything. The converse was also true. If you didn’t, a lot of other things mattered a whole lot less or just didn’t matter at all. At 66, I and my cohorts are discovering just how right they were.

So far, I’ve been lucky. My occasional health issues have all been fixable. You know what

they say, “Thank God for modern medicine!” But many other folks I know have not been so fortunate. Their health problems have proven more complicated and challenging, and some have threatened their very survival. In these past three years, I’ve seen how the direction and focus of our lives can change in an instant. It’s informed me that we need to be available for each other in ways we may not have anticipated, assisting and supporting in whatever ways can. We may be called to help ease the stress of healing or caregiving. I once read, “The greatest gift we can offer someone is the gift of our time.” Hmmm. This

brings up that persistent struggle with “needing more time.”

If you’ve read the work of great philosophers and spiritual teachers, you’ve probably come across wisdom surrounding the process of discernment, defined as keen insight and good judgment applied to the most important concerns of life. Some believed that discernment was key to a happy life especially when we developed our ability to discern in matters that were of utmost importance to us. These wise beings were telling us that discernment is a skill that improves with practice. It reminds me of the bumper sticker which

reads, “Happiness is not a destination. It is a way of life.” I think I’m beginning to get it.

So, here I am, at my computer, working hard to fulfill a commitment — to produce a piece of writing that will be worthy of the time it takes for you to read it. I love this assignment even though it isn’t something that comes easy. The opportunity to write for others is a privilege. It’s “required time”, a break in my busy world of “doing”, to slow down and ask the question, “What matters to me, right now, in this moment, that I want to share with others in a way that evokes, or provokes, serious thought?” The

time devoted to this valued practice competes sharply with other important items on my “To Do” list.

Yes, I could can those green beans and beets tomorrow. And that pile of firewood that needs to get stacked in the shed? That’ll get done — eventually. But there are all those people waiting for me to call them back! They’re important, too. My dear friend house-bound from a broken foot while also mourning the loss of her dog. A fellow traveler to Zambia in 2016 who wants to share news about the community we visited. And my brother turned fifty this week. He certainly deserves a phone call. The list will continue

to go on and on because I will cross out one item only to add another until I’m no longer able to make lists. I guess this is where discernment comes in, a constant process of prioritizing and reprioritizing to create a meaningful life.

So, here’s my morning prayer, May the benevolent forces that be continue to inspire me to offer the “gift of my time”. May they grant me the wisdom to discern what matters most and the willingness to act when I’m needed. Oh, and since I’m asking, is there any way you could tack a few more hours on my day — just until I get caught up?”

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.




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of International Falls!

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or call Teri at 218-283-1311 for more info!



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is a drug free workplace.
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Sign on bonus good through 10/31/19.

UMD ALUMNI AREA REUNION


Ely-Babbitt-Tower-Soudan-Embarrass

All alumni and friends are welcome to
attend Bulldogs on the Block!

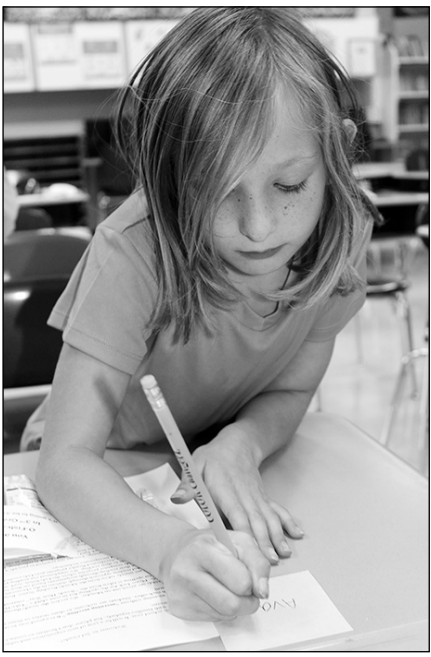
Date: October 2, 2019
Place: Grand Ely Lodge
Time: 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Cost: FREE

(food and beverages on your own)

RSVP at z.umn.edu/elyBOTB
before Sept. 23



TOWER-SOUDAN ELEMENTARY OPEN HOUSE



It was a busy night at Tower-Soudan Elementary for the Back to School Open House last Thursday. Pictured, clockwise from top left: First-grader Blake Pineo-Vogh, third-grader Katie Larson, Kindergarten teacher Wendy Jordan with Vincent Chocas, Kindergarteners Kai Lehti and Levi Clemenson check out the play kitchen, third-grader Ava Redetzke, Denique Dupree helps her sister Delonnie at the ice cream sundae station. photos by J. Summit



COMMUNITY EVENTS AND NOTICES

Big Truck Night on Tuesday, Sept. 10

SOUDAN- Tower-Soudan ECFE and Breitung Township invite you to Big Truck Night on Tuesday, Sept. 10 from 4 - 6 p.m. at the Soudan Park and Recreation Area. Come check out big rigs like fire engines, ambulances, dump trucks, dozers and more. Hot dogs and refreshments will be available. Contact ECFE at 218-753-4040 ext. 6113 for more information. Listen to WELY for event can-

cellation due to inclement weather.

Early Childhood Family Education Kickoff on Thursday, Sept. 12

TOWER- Early Childhood Family Education Open House is set for Thursday, Sept. 12 from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. in the Early Childhood Education Room at Tower-Soudan Elementary.

ECFE is a two-hour education program for children ages infant to five. Classes include parent-child activity time, parent discussion time, and child activity time. Classes begin on Thursday, Sept. 19 and will be held on Thursdays from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. Contact Mary Larson for further information at 218-753-4040 ext. 6113 or email mlarson@isd2142.k12.mn.us.

St. Martin's Quilt Ministry is sponsoring a quilt raffle

TOWER- St. Martin's Quilt Ministry is raffling a beautiful hand-crafted Christmas-themed quilt during the Annual Christmas Bazaar in November. The quilt is on display

in the social hall of St. Martin's; during the first two weeks of September, it will be on display at Jeanne's Card Shop. Raffle tickets cost \$5; only 200 tickets are being sold. The drawing will be held on Saturday, Nov. 16. You do not need to be present to win.

When you purchase a raffle ticket you are supporting the St. Martin's Quilt Ministry. The ministry supports life at all stages - from conception to the end of life:

► Our handmade quilts are given to each baby born in the parish, as well as homebound parishioners.

► We have provided a quilt to each of the current residents of the Vermilion Senior Living facility in Tower and will continue to gift each new resident.

► We work with the Women's Care Center in Duluth. Each May, we sponsor a community-wide Baby Shower for Life for the center. A Diaper Club has also been established to purchase diapers for the center. A shipment of diapers is sent to the center every quarter.

We thank you for your continued support of this ministry.

Too Much Stuff Sale, Sept. 6 and 7

TOWER- The Tower-Soudan Civic Club will hold its annual "Too Much Stuff Sale" at the Tower Civic Center on Friday, Sept. 6 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Saturday, Sept. 7 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. All proceeds from this sale will help to support the Lakeview Cemetery and to beautify the public spaces in our community. If you are interested in joining the T-S Civic Club, the first meeting of the year will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 18 at 7 p.m. at the Civic Center. New members are always welcome.

RCIA Classes offered at St. Martin's, Sept. 12

TOWER- The RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) Class is for any adult who is considering joining the Catholic Church. They may never have been baptized, been baptized in another faith, or be Catholic but never have completed their sacraments of initiation (such as Confirmation).

If you or anyone

you know from the Tower-Soudan area might be interested, call the parish office at 218-753-4310 for more information, or email Father Nick at fr.nicholas.nelson@duluthcatholic.org.

Classes will be held on Thursday evenings, beginning Sept. 12. We will determine the location of meetings dependent on who is interested and what location works best for them.

H. Jeffrey Peterson named a Super Lawyer

VIRGINIA- H. Jeffrey Peterson, a founding partner at Cope & Peterson, Ltd. in Virginia, has once again been named a Super Lawyer in the State of Minnesota in 2019. Less than five-percent of the lawyers in Minnesota are named a Super Lawyer for over 20 consecutive years. Mr. Peterson, who has been a trial lawyer for 45 years, along with his son Andrew R. Peterson, represents individuals who have been injured in accidents. Mr. Peterson, who has tried in excess of 125 jury trials, also assists lawyers in resolving their cases by acting as a

mediator on the Range, Grand Rapids, Duluth, International Falls, Rochester and the Twin Cities.

Peterson is a past president of the Range Bar Association and served many years on its ethics committee. Mr. Peterson is the past national president of the Association of Defense Trial Attorneys (ADTA). He is also a past president of the Minnesota Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates (AB-OTA). 2019 is the 27th year in a row that Mr. Peterson has been rated by Martindale-Hubbell, the national rating service of lawyers, with an AV Preeminent Rating - the highest possible peer review rating in legal ability and ethical standards.

Peterson, who was appointed by the Minnesota Supreme Court, served three six-year terms as a member of the Judicial Selection Committee for judges in the 6th District, which includes Carlton County, Lake County and St. Louis County.

Peterson, along with his wife, Nancy, resides at Lake Vermilion near Tower.

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

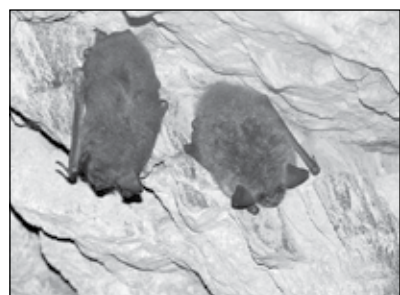
TOWER-SOUDAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Come learn about bats at TSHS Annual Meeting on Sept. 17

TOWER- The annual dinner meeting of the Tower-Soudan Historical Society will be held on Tuesday, Sept. 17 at the Tower Civic Center. Social time starts at 5 p.m.; silent auction items will be available for bid. Donated auction items are appreciated. Please contact Doug Workman at 218-404-3331. The presentation and guest speaker start at 5:30 p.m. The public is encouraged to attend the program at no cost.

James Pointer will speak about "Bats of the Soudan Underground Mine State Park Mine." James is currently the Interpretive Supervisor at the Lake Vermilion-Soudan Underground Mine State Park. He has been in the interpretive field for over 22 years, working at camps, nature centers, historical facilities, and as a 4-H Youth Development Agent. In his spare time, he enjoys hiking, canoeing, camping, cross-country skiing, and biking with his family. He also enjoys practicing his archery skills and other outdoor survival skills.

Dinner will be served at approximately 6:30 p.m. and features a champagne chicken and beef au jus buffet catered by Chef Marko Stefanich and Pam Abrahamson. There is a \$15 cost (payable that evening) for the dinner, which is open to all. Dinner reservations are required and must be made in



Above: James Pointer, at left, during a state park interpretive program. Left: Bats in the mine. file photos

members of the Historical Society will hold their annual meeting with a summary of the year's activities.

TSHS membership dues for 2020 will be accepted at the annual meeting. A single membership is \$10, and a family membership is \$20.

advance. Please call TSHS at 218-753-5021 by Friday, Sept. 13 and leave a message with your name, phone contact, and number of attendees.

Immediately following dinner,

Vermilion Lake Annual Potluck Picnic on Sept. 15

VERMILION LAKE TWP- Vermilion Lake Township will hold its Annual Potluck Dinner and Get-Together on Sunday, Sept. 15 at the Vermilion Lake Town Hall, 6703 Wahlsten Road.

The event will be held from 4 - 7 p.m., with dinner served at 5 p.m.

All township residents, former residents and friends are invited. Come and visit with neighbors and

friends.

Please bring a casserole dish, salad, or dessert to share. Township supervisors will be grilling Polish, brats and hot-dogs. The township will provide coffee, punch, buns, plates and plastic ware.

This year the Little Church at 6268 Wahlsten Road will be open for tours from 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. Supervisor Bruce Swieringa will be

available to answer questions on the history of the building.

If you have any questions, contact one of the Town Board members: Bruce Swieringa at 741-1789, Sarah Schmidt at 750-2524, Phil Anderson at 749-3462, Steve Lotz at 753-4129, or Crystal Alaspa at 750-4752.

BREITUNG POLICE DEPARTMENT

July 2019

Calls- 292
Arrests- 1
Citations/Formal Charges- 13
Monthly Mileage- 2,295 with 1,219 in the Tahoe and 1,076 in the Explorer.



July Police Report

Breitung Police Chief Dan Nylund

When you get behind the wheel be an example to your family and friends by putting your phone away. Texting and driving isn't normal behavior- it is selfish, deadly, and oftentimes an illegal activity that could kill you, a loved one, a friend, or a stranger. If your friends are texting or using their cell phones, tell them to stop.

Generally, a cellphone ticket is a petty misdemeanor. A first violation results in a \$50 base fine

(around \$135 with surcharges). The base fine is increased to \$275 for subsequent violations (about \$360 with surcharges included). For motorists under the age of 18, a cellphone violation is a petty misdemeanor. The base fine is \$50 but, with the added surcharges, the total cost of the ticket is closer to \$135. Two or more violations can also delay the issuance of a full driver's license.

Citations/Formal Charges/Arrests: 1 disorderly conduct, 8 speed, 1 child endangerment, 1 carrying a pistol while intoxicated, 1 weapon reckless, 1 weapon careless, 1 child neglect.

Tower-Soudan Civic Club meets on Wednesday, Sept. 18

TOWER- The Tower-Soudan Civic Club will be meeting at the Tower Civic Center on Wednesday, Sept. 18 at 7 p.m.

The presentation will be on The Kalevala-Finnish Epic Poems, and the voices of the Finnish Ancestors. Ellie Larmouth will present the history of

The Kalevala as well as profiles of the characters and stories. All are welcome to attend.

Call to Subscribe (218) 753-2950



the TIMBERJAY

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Ely Editor	Keith Vandervort
Office Manager	M. M. White
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Ad Sales/Sports	Jay Greeney

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

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Bookmobile Schedule

Wednesday, 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

Market OPEN Until Mid-September

Fridays, 4-6 PM at the Train Depot

St. Louis County Solid Waste Facility Area site hours

Northwoods Transfer Station 9384 Hwy 21 N., Ely/Babbitt Summer Hours Mon, Thu, Fri, Sat: 8am-3pm Tue: 9:30am-3pm Wed: noon-6pm	Cook Transfer Station 2134 S. Beatty Rd., Cook Hours Mon: 10am-6pm Tues thru Sat: 9am-3:30pm
County 77 Canister Site 2038 County Rd. 77, Greenwood Tap Summer Hours Tues: 1-6pm Thurs: 8am-1pm Sat: 8am-5pm Sun: noon-6pm	Soudan Canister Site 5160 Hwy 189, Soudan Hours Mon, Wed, Sat, Sun: 8am-5pm
Embarrass Canister Site 7530 Koski Rd., Embarrass Hours Sat: 12:30-4:30pm Thu: 10am-5pm	Aurora Transfer Station 5910 Hwy 135 N., Aurora Hours Mon, Thurs, Fri: 8am-4pm Tue, Wed: 10am-4pm Sat: 8am-noon
Household Hazardous Waste Facility 5345 Regional Landfill Rd, Virginia Hours Tues and Sat: 8am-1pm	Regional Landfill 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

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

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,
 and 7:30 p.m.
 Wednesdays, 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.

Sept. 10 - Ely's Mayor Chuck Novak

Sept. 17 - Lonnie Dupree - "Life in the Middle of Nowhere"

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 Thursday evening from 5:30-7 p.m. in the AFU Building, 111 S 4th Ave. E.

For more information, call 218-365-5678, or visit their website, www.elycommunityhealth.org, or Facebook page.

Breathing Out

by Cecilia Rolando © 2019



September arrives with coldness, a lack of warmth how then the winter

ELY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Ely students return to school

PTO provides school supplies

by KEITH VANDERVORT
 Ely Editor

ELY - "Cool," said Washington Elementary School student Bryce Houde as he opened his locker last Thursday afternoon and marveled at the bright red sack hanging there.

A first grader at Washington Elementary School, Bryce attended a back-to-school open house with his brother, Blake, who is going into fourth grade, and grandmother Donna Meier.

"This stuff is just what I need," Bryce said as he pulled out the supplies and spread them on the hallway floor.

All parents of Washington School students received a special welcome-back-to-school gift this week. The school's Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) is providing every student in grades Kindergarten through fifth grade with much-needed supplies.

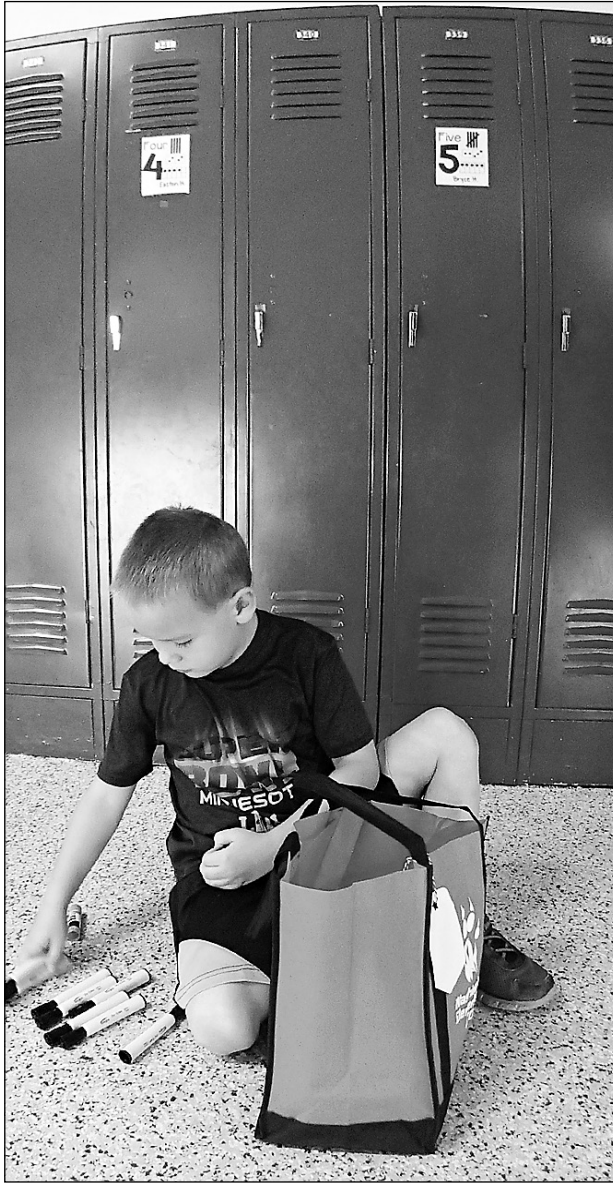
"This is so wonderful and thoughtful," Meier said as she watched her young

Ely first-grader Bryce Houde checks out his bag of school supplies, provided by the Ely PTO, during the back-to-school open house last week at Washington Elementary School.
 photos by K. Vandervort

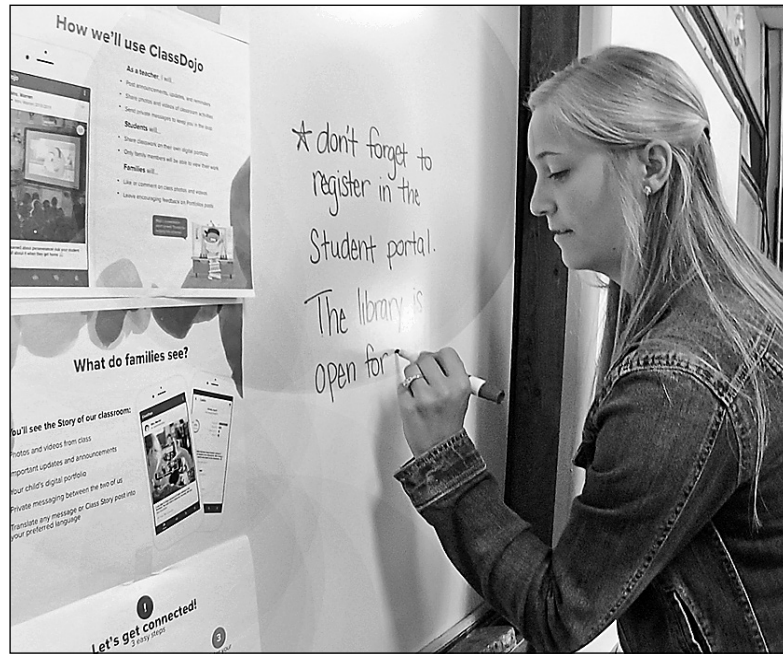
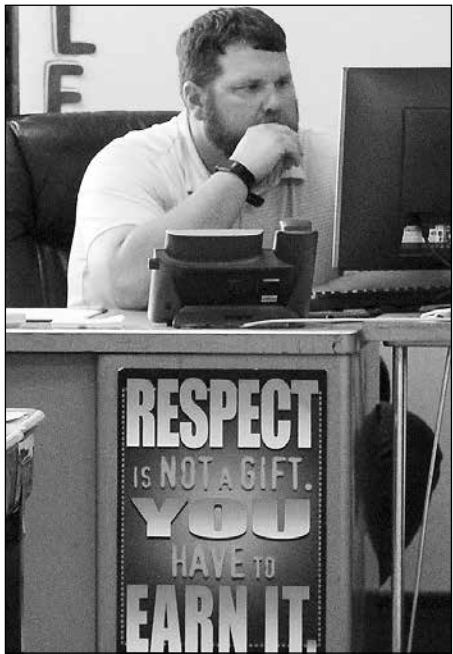
grandson beam with pride. The PTO raised more than \$6,000 over the summer and spent many hours purchasing, sorting and distributing the supplies in individual lockers.

According to PTO officials, sponsors donated \$4,300 for the program, with donations coming from Essentia Health, Ely-Bloomenson Community Hospital, Lake Country Power, Walmart, Town of Morse and Town of Fall Lake. PTO members also took advantage of major discounts at the recently-closed Ely Shopko Hometown store.

Every Kindergarten student and new students also received a Wolf Pride t-shirt.



Kristi Marshall, school readiness coordinator for ISD 696's Early Childhood Family Education department, conducted a Kindergarten training camp for new students.



Washington Elementary School third-grade teacher Cory Lassi, left, and new second-grade teacher Clara DeRemee, right, prepared for the new school year last Thursday prior to the open house event. Parents and students, below, were greeted with a steady rain on the first day.




the TIMBERJAY

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

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

LABOR DAY WEEKEND



2019 Boundary Waters Blues Festival

Cool weather couldn't hold back the hot blues last weekend at the 2019 Boundary Waters Blues Festival in Winton. The Dave Lambert Band kicked off the third and final day of the three-day music fest. photos by K. Vandervort



News In Brief

Registered sex offender moves to Ely

ELY - The Ely Police Department released information regarding public notification of a Level Three sex offender registrant moving to Ely. A community notification meeting is scheduled for 6 p.m. on Monday, Sept. 9 at City Hall. Representatives from the Department of Corrections and the Ely Police Department will be available to provide information on public safety.

Michael John Nord, 41, a Level Three registrant subject to public notification, has recently moved to the 200 block of West Harvey Street. Nord has a history of sexual contact with known adult females, according to a notification from the EPD. Nord gained access at a bar where he mixed a chemical into their drinks rendering them vulnerable. Contact included penetration.

For more information, contact the EPD at 218-226-5477.

Higher Education



Ryne Prigge named 'athlete to watch'

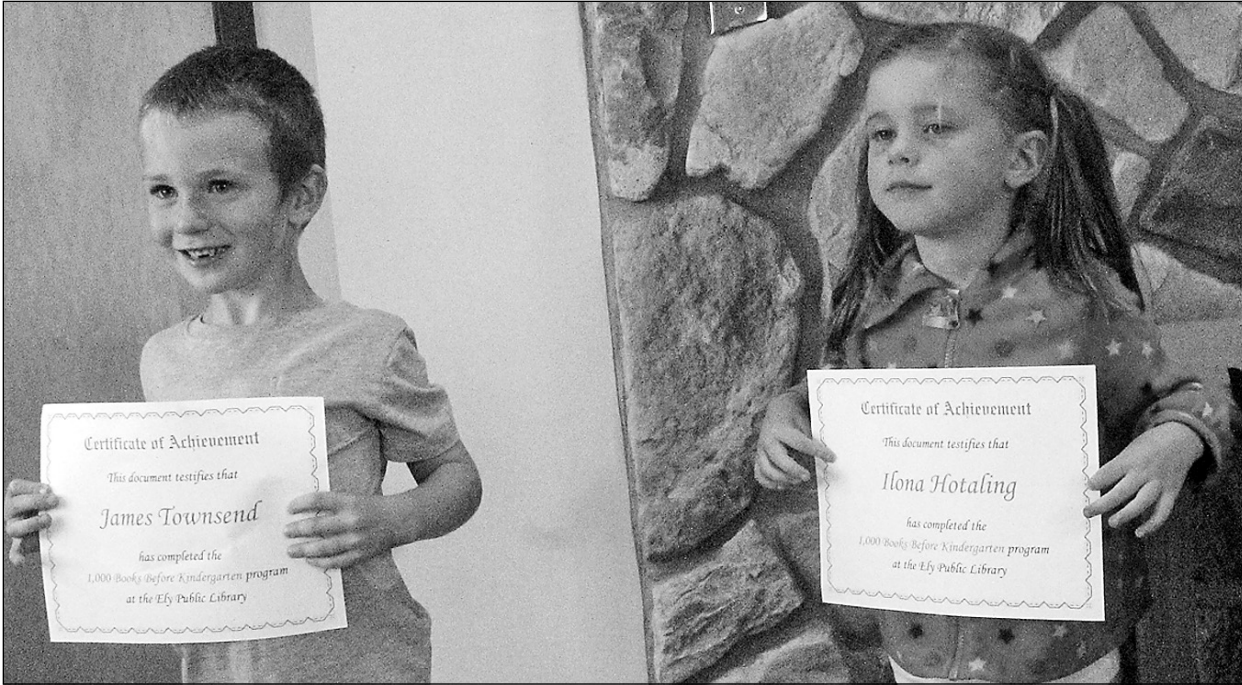
ELY - The Bemidji State University cross country team was voted to finish 14th in the 2019 Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference Preseason Coaches' Poll, and Ely native, Sophomore Ryne Prigge, was selected as the BSU Athlete to Watch after leading the team in every meet last season.

Prigge placed as the team's top finisher in all six meets during the 2018 season, setting personal record times of 19:51.6 in the 5,000-meter race at the Ron Pynn Classic and 23:23.2 in the 6,000-meter race at the NSIC Championships during her freshman campaign.

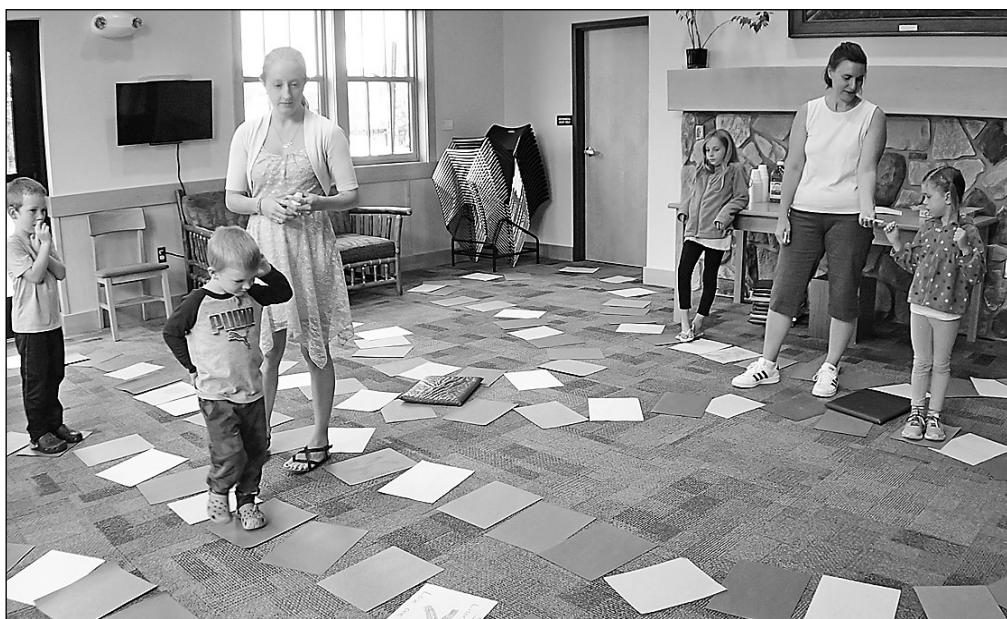
Three returning letter winners earned 2018 Fall Academic All-NSIC Team honors including juniors Carissa Decko, Ashley Herdering and Kristin Petron. Head Coach Kevin Kean enters his fifth season with the program while bringing back five letter winners and welcoming six newcomers.

Bemidji State garnered 49 points in the NSIC Cross Country Preseason Coaches' Poll to rank 14th, ahead of Upper Iowa University in 15th and University of Minnesota Crookston in 16th. The University of Mary was voted to win the conference with 223 points, including 13 first-place votes, while Augustana University was voted to finish second with 212 points and three first-place votes.

ELY PUBLIC LIBRARY



James Townsend and Ilona Hotaling received diplomas last week for completing the 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program at the Ely Public Library. The kids also played several rousing games of Candyland and enjoyed treats at the ceremony. photos by K. Vandervort



Donald C. Gardner Humanities Trust

We are now accepting 2019 Arts Grant Applications

for Individual Artists, Project & Youth Grants, Scholarships & Operational Funding

Updated grant applications and guidelines are available online at www.gardnertrust.org

APPLICATION DEADLINE IS: 12:00 noon on Wed., Sept. 25

Applicants are strongly encouraged to contact Keiko Williams, Executive Director, by August 30 for help and review of their applications. Call 365-2639 or email info@gardnertrust.org

Youth Grant applicants must call by August 30 to schedule a grant review meeting with Keiko. Office closed Sept. 2-13.

St. Louis County Area Solid Waste Facility Site hours

Northwoods Transfer Station 9384 Hwy 21 N. between Ely and Babbitt Summer Hours Mon, Thu, Fri, Sat: 8am-3pm Tue: 9:30am-3pm Wed: noon-6pm	Aurora Transfer Station 5910 Hwy 135 N. Hours Mon, Thurs, Fri: 8am-4pm Tue, Wed: 10am-4pm Sat: 8am-noon
Embarrass Canister Site 7530 Koski Rd. Hours Thu: 10am-5pm Sat: 12:30-4:30pm	Soudan Canister Site 5160 Hwy 169 Hours Mon, Wed, Sat, Sun: 8am-5pm
Household Hazardous Waste Facility 5341 Regional Landfill Rd Hours Tues and Sat: 8am-1pm	Regional Landfill 5341 Regional Landfill Rd (east of Virginia) Hours Mon-Fri: 8am-4:30pm Sat: 8am-3:30pm

Summer hours effective April 15 through September 30th
For recycling information go to www.stlouiscountymn.gov/recycle

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

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.

Drop and Shop donates to ECR

ELY - Ely Drop and Shop manager, Amanda Stevens, recently presented Ely Community Resources' Julie Hignell with a check for \$457.83 collected from a Community Chest Round-Up Event. "A huge thank you goes to everyone who came in and helped support this great program," Stevens said. "ECR does so many great things for the youth in our community."

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NORTH WOODS BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT



Staff welcomed students back to North Woods School during the open house last Thursday. Pictured, clockwise from top left: Leatah and Nora Anderson meet their kindergarten teacher Mrs. Wilenius. Students and parents getting class schedules and paperwork. Brittany Phillips is excited to start Kindergarten and posing with her teacher Mrs. Swensen. Mialynn Metsa filling up her locker with school supplies with sister Emma. Haley Bogdan and Olivia Niska working the school store. Brothers Christian (Kindergarten) and Johnny (pre-K) are excited for open house and proudly pose with big smiles and with backpacks. photos by C. Stone



COOK PUBLIC LIBRARY

Autumn Landscape Painting with 321 Art Studio on Sept. 13 at the Cook Public Library

REGIONAL- The Arrowhead Library System is pleased to present Autumn Landscape Painting with 321 Art Studio, a free program being offered for older teens and adults at the following dates and locations:

- Friday, Sept. 13, 4 p.m. at the Cook Public Library
Tuesday, Sept. 17, 10:30 a.m. at the Ely Public Library
Monday, Sept. 30, 6 p.m. at the Babbitt Public Library

Adults and older teens of all art skill levels from beginner to advanced will enjoy spending time with other artists while learning to draw and paint from teaching artist Amy Lucas-Peroceski. Each participant will draw their landscape on a 11 x 14 canvas with the instructor and then paint their landscape with water-miscible oil paints in their choice of colors. This hour-and-a-half program is free with all supplies provided.

This program, sponsored by Arrowhead Library System, was funded in part or in whole with money from Minnesota's Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund. To learn more about Arrowhead Legacy Events, please see our calendar at www.alslib.info, follow us on Twitter at @ALSLibraryNews, or like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/alslibinfo.



TOWER-SOUDAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Come learn about bats at TSHS Annual Meeting on Sept. 17

TOWER- The annual dinner meeting of the Tower-Soudan Historical Society will be held on Tuesday, Sept. 17 at

the Tower Civic Center. Social time starts at 5 p.m.; silent auction items will be available for bid. Donated auction items

are appreciated. Please contact Doug Workman at 218-404-3331. The presentation and guest speaker start at 5:30 p.m.

The public is encouraged to attend the program at no cost.

James Pointer will speak about "Bats of the Soudan Underground Mine State Park Mine." James is currently the Interpretive Supervisor at the Lake Vermilion-Soudan Underground Mine State Park. He has been in the interpretive field for over 22 years, working at camps, nature centers, historical facilities, and as a 4-H Youth Development Agent. In his spare time, he enjoys hiking, canoeing, camping, cross-country skiing, and biking with his family. He also enjoys practicing his archery skills and other outdoor survival skills.

Dinner will be served at approximately 6:30 p.m. and features a champagne chicken and beef au jus buffet catered by Chef Marko Stefanich



and Pam Abrahamson. There is a \$15 cost (payable that evening) for the dinner, which is open to all. Dinner reservations are required and must be made in advance. Please call TSHS at 218-753-5021 by Friday, Sept. 13 and leave a message with your name, phone contact, and number of attendees.

Immediately following dinner, members of

the Historical Society will hold their annual meeting with a summary of the year's activities.

TSHS membership dues for 2020 will be accepted at the annual meeting. A single membership is \$10, and a family membership is \$20.

Above: James Pointer, at left, during a state park interpretive program. file photo

Area St. Louis County Solid Waste and Recycling Facility site hours. Includes contact info for St. Louis County Environmental Services Department: 1-800-450-9278. Office hours 8-4:30 Mon. thru Fri. stlouiscountymn.gov/recycle

NORTH WOODS GRIZZLIES



Football parents honored

The North Woods Grizzlies held Parents Night during the home opener last week.

Top left: Trevor Morrison, son of Travis and Teri Morrison

Top right: Senior Levi Byram and Ethan Byram (sophomore), sons of Lee Byram and Angela Byram

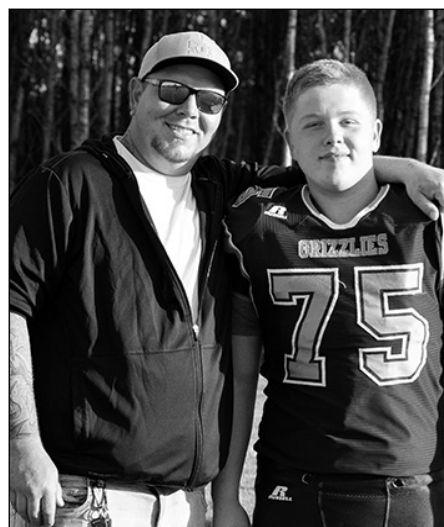
Middle right: Clayton Janssen, son of Jim and Gretchen Janssen

Bottom left: Nathan Crain, son of Jason and Geri Crain

Bottom middle: Jerome King, son of William King

Bottom right: Wyatt Kneen, son of Brian and Erika Kneen.

photos by C. Stone



Cook-Orr Calendar

Fall service Schedule at First Baptist of Cook

COOK- First Baptist Church of Cook is switching to their fall service times starting on Sunday, Sept. 8. Sunday School is at 9:15 a.m., and Worship Service is at 10:30 a.m.

Trinity Lutheran holding service at Little Fork Church on Sunday, Sept. 8

COOK- On Sunday, Sept. 8 at 9:30 a.m., Trinity Lutheran Church of Cook will be holding its annual Sunday morning worship at the Little Fork Church on the corner of Wein and Samuelson roads in Field Township. We are gathering to worship at this picturesque Norwegian Lutheran church and remembering its importance in building and nurturing the faith of our pioneers as well as confessing our belief in Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior.

Following the service, there will be a sandwich picnic. If you are able, please bring a salad or dessert to share. Beverages will be provided. You may want to bring a lawn or camping chair for sitting outside. There is a handicap-accessible ramp in the back of the church. Need a ride? Rides will be provided to the church starting at 8:30 a.m. from the west

parking lot at Trinity. In case of rain, worship will be held at the church in Cook. All friends, family, and neighbors of Trinity Lutheran and the Little White Church in Field Township are welcome to attend! We would love to see you there.

Woodcarving group meets Thursdays

COOK- The NWFA woodcarving group will meet on Thursdays, at the gallery from 6 to 8 p.m. The curious and carving beginners of all ages are encouraged to attend and share this learning experience together. Call Howard Hilshorst for more information at 218-741-7941.

Readers and Rappers meets Sept. 10

COOK- Readers and Rappers, a Cook area book club, meets on Tuesday, Sept. 10 at 1 p.m. in the community room at the Homestead Apartments in Cook. The book to be discussed is "The Alice Network" by author Kate Quinn. Vickie Lang is the moderator and Lois Trygg is the hostess. October's book selection is "Rare Birds" by Kathleen Novak. Readers and Rappers regularly meets the second Tuesday of every month. New members are always welcome.

Open Studio Art at NWFA Gallery on Saturdays

COOK- On Saturdays, artists meet at Northwoods Friends of the Arts Gallery at 210 S River St. in Cook to enjoy working art from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. All artists and would-be artists are welcome to share the time and space every Saturday.

"Fish, Flora and Fauna" reception and art exhibit, Sept. 6 at NWFA

COOK- An extraordinary exhibit by artists Jim DeVries and Jane Wertanen will be unveiled and celebrated beginning with a reception on Friday, Sept. 6 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the NWFA Gallery in Cook.

At 6:30 p.m., there will be a special drawing for the winning raffle tickets for the Lake Vermilion Trail Fundraiser. This future trail will be a paved scenic route for healthy, safe, non-motorized, year-round transportation and recreation connecting Cook and Tower/Soudan. See information at lakevermilion-trail.com.

The exhibit will be available for viewing during regular business hours throughout the month of September at Northwoods Friends of the Arts, 210 S River St. Jim DeVries is a smooth painter. He uses

pen and ink drawings with watercolor paint and acrylic paint to produce realistic "Fish, Floral and Fauna." He works as a naturalist at the Laurentian Environmental Center by day, and has become a painter by night. Jim receives most of his inspiration from the outdoor places where he works and plays. DeVries resides in Britt with his wife and daughter and has been a member of NWFA since 2016. You can find Jim most Saturdays at "Open Studio Art" sessions at NWFA in Cook, when the other parts of his life don't get in the way.

Jane Wertanen's oil and acrylic paintings of the outdoors are textured with vibrant color. She grew up on the Mesabi Iron Range, a product of four generations of iron miners. Jane's early years were spent working in both Aurora and Eveleth where she was inspired by co-workers to seek more education. In midlife her art education began at Mesabi Community College, continued at the University of Minnesota-Duluth and was completed at the Savannah College of Art and Design. While living in Georgia and Florida,

Jane became an art educator, sharing her love of art with young students from preschool through high school and college students to senior citizens

in community education programs. "...These paintings are my visual shout of joy, gratitude and a celebration of life," she said.



the TIMBERJAY

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Community Night Out: Pat Surface Concert, Sept. 8 in Embarrass

EMBARRASS- On Sunday, Sept. 8 from 4 to 7 p.m. you are invited to a free concert of delightful music along with the opportunity to sit on the lawn at the Seitaniemi Homestead and Housebarn and purchase a tasty helping of homemade chili and cornbread, along with a slice of the best pie you can find anywhere in Minnesota. Coffee will be served. This event is organized by Sisu Heritage.

Pat Surface comes to us with some of the best sound around; he entertains and gives enjoyment for all ages. You can visit with your friends and neighbors and explore the housebarn site, listen to the music, and enjoy supper with your kids or your better half. Several Sisu members will be available to guide you on the tour and answer your questions. If the weather turns rainy, we will have the Sisu tent set up on the grounds.

The free musical event begins at 4 p.m. at 8162 Comet Rd., two miles to the north off Hwy. 21 between Embarrass and Babbitt. Signs will be up to show the way to the historic site. Community Night Out is the annual end-of-the-summer event presented by Sisu Heritage during the second weekend of September. Community Night Out serves as a fundraiser for Sisu Heritage to assist with restoration and preservation of older log buildings and farmsteads in the community. Freewill donations from those who attend are appreciated and the proceeds from the meal are also used for this cause.

The details of this Sunday afternoon event have been planned by the volunteers of Sisu—pies of many flavors and design will be baked with love, and the beef chili is prepared from Linda's famous recipe, along with Jeannine's delicious buttered cornbread. You won't want to miss it.

Any questions, call 218-984-3012.

"Monroe Crossing" brings bluegrass to Bigfork in concert on Saturday, Sept. 21

BIGFORK— From a group that is in their 19th year of performing throughout the USA, Canada and Europe, the "Monroe Crossing Band" presents a variety of music with selections for a wide variety of audiences. It is their own brand of the genre that keeps them in popular demand. They specialize in traditional bluegrass, bluegrass gospel, R&B, and rock and roll, all designed to be pleasing and memorable. The group includes songwriters who add their own to a mix of familiar tunes. Performing a family-friendly concert, they will be at the Edge Center in Bigfork on Saturday, Sept. 21 at 7 p.m. Prices are \$15 dollars for adults and \$5 for children.

The Edge Center for the Arts in the northern Minnesota city of Bigfork exists "to enhance the Edge of the Wilderness by providing a welcoming and well-managed space where creating, enjoying, and sharing art experiences build community." Its 283-seat, state-of-the-art theatre and 1,400-square-foot art gallery provide opportunities for residents, guests, and vacationers. Visit the Edge website online at edgecenterarts.org, on Facebook at [facebook.com/EdgeCenterArts](https://www.facebook.com/EdgeCenterArts), email admin@edgecenterarts.org, or call 218-743-6670.

Ely Community Health Center

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

TOWER BINGO Monday, Sept. 9

TOWER- Senior Bingo will be held in Tower on Monday, Sept. 9 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. In case of inclement weather school closure in Tower, bingo will be cancelled. Questions, call Jodi Summit at 218-753-2950.

Upcoming dates for 2019:

- Monday, October 7
- Monday, November 4
- Monday, December 2

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online at timberjay.com

TOFTE LAKE CENTER

Ottie the Mink to perform at Tofte Lake Center on Friday

TOFTE LAKE- Ottie the Mink will be performing on Friday, Sept. 13 at 7 p.m. at the Tofte Lake Center in Ely. Suggested donation is \$10.

Ottie the Mink features the widely diverse talents of Jacqueline Ultan, Tim O'Keefe and Laura Harada in an adventurous exploration of original compositions and traditional music from Brazil, the Middle East and beyond. The Minks explore these rich rhythmic and tonal worlds in their own compositions and inventive improvisations. Featuring all-acoustic instruments, including traditional ones, the trio mixes percussion, plucked strings, winds, cello and violin in new and exciting ways. Each member of the trio offers distinct areas of expertise and decades of musical knowledge and experience to their collaboration.

Named for a rescued baby "otter" which turned out to be a mink, found on a path at Tofte Lake Center, Ottie the Mink similarly defies immediate categorization and swims in-between the sonic worlds of the traditional and new. You may hear Afro-Cuban rhythms supporting jazz standards, a Brazilian choro interspersed with Spanish buleria, North African beats played on cello, violin and oud, or an original composition evoking the epic landscape of the Badlands.



The trio features Jacqueline Ultan on cello, Tim O'Keefe on percussion, plucked strings and winds, and Laura Harada on violin, percussion and oud. Newly formed at Tofte Lake Center in 2018, Ottie the Mink has just begun to scratch the surface of what is possible with this unique and deeply grounded combination of musicians. World music? Jazz? Folk? It's all just good music! Your ears will thank you for this fresh inspiration.

Tofte Lake Center's Aerie

Dance & Performance Studio is located at 2209 Fernberg Rd. in Ely. For more information, call 218-365-7769 or email info@toftelake.org.

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 McKnight Foundation and the Minnesota State Legislature's general and the arts and cultural heritage funds.

VERMILION COUNTRY SCHOOL

VCS welcomes students and community during open house

TOWER- Vermilion Country School celebrated the first day of school, on Aug. 29, with a community open house. Students and their families, along with many community members, stopped by to tour the school, sign up for classes, meet new staff, and sample the hot lunch. There were games, contests, and prizes. Many senior citizens also stopped by for senior dining, which has now resumed for the year.



Right: VCS ninth-grader Kelsie Walker signs up for classes with teacher Paula Herbranson.



Above left: VCS Administrator Frank Zobitz (right) visited with St. Louis County Commissioner Paul McDonald (left), who stopped in to tour the school.

Above: Eighth-grader Brody Anderson creates a marble maze.



Talyn Hedin (right) and Kyla Stellmach (left) cheered on their minnows, seeing which one was fastest.



Above: Kasen (left) and Koooper (right) Dostert kept busy with minnow racing. photos by J. Summit

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STARS...Continued from page 1

in the real-life adventure movie that premieres in 1500 markets in the U.S. on Oct. 25. The major motion picture is based on true events, surrounding a 1925 diphtheria outbreak in Nome, Alaska. With vital medicine all but depleted and the city's port locked in ice, rescuers turned to a sled dog team to deliver the medicine, saving many lives.

Saffron and Kira, along with Thaumert, will be flying out to Hollywood in late October for the film's big premiere.

While many know the outlines of the story that was fictionalized in the animated 1995 film "Balto" (where Balto was voiced by Kevin Bacon), this film tells the true, inspirational story of the almost-impossible plan to bring the life-saving serum in over 650 miles from Nenana (near Fairbanks) to Nome by a relay of sled dog teams. Intense winter weather meant planes couldn't fly, and the sea was already frozen over, preventing shipments by boat.

Ashley Thaumert had no intention of making stars out of her two all-time favorite dogs.

Saffron was her first-ever sled dog, which she obtained as a puppy when she was 14 years old and living in the Twin Cities.

"The first time I hooked Saffron up to a sled he knew what to do," she said. This was good, she noted, because at that point she had no formal sled dog experience. Kira came along three years later. Thaumert moved with her dogs to Colorado when she was 18, to work for a sled dog outfitting company based in Pagosa Springs. There she worked for five years and learned the art and sport of handling sled dogs, both for hauling gear and racing.

In 2017, writer/director Brian Presley, who also stars in the movie, contacted the company she was working for, seeking dogs and handlers for the movie he was filming in Colorado, and Thaumert, along with six of her dogs, and four more dogs owned by the kennel, were hired for the shooting.

"He'd only been dog-sledding once," she said, "while he was on a vacation in Alaska. I had to teach him everything."

All the mushing in the movie was "real," said Thaumert. "We'd do runs of 10 to 20 miles, filming all day." A lot of the



Kira and Saffron are just two of Ashley Thaumert's over two dozen sled dogs. The three of them will be flying out to Hollywood later next month for the premiere of "The Great Alaskan Race." photo by J. Summit

filming was done as high up as 13,000 feet on the Red Mountain Pass, near Silverton.

The film crew had little experience working in deep snow in cold conditions, and sometimes they weren't equipped for the weather that came their way. At least once, Thaumert, whose dog-hauling truck was equipped for travel on snowy mountain passes, had to help the film crew dig their truck out of the ditch. When in particularly difficult terrain, she sometimes helped drive the snowmobile that was used for filming on the trail.

"Most of the crew came from Hollywood," she said. "They didn't always have the gear or experience they needed out in the snow."

They filmed in all types of weather, including some blizzards.

Thaumert said Saffron was well-suited to take on the role of Balto, even though the Alaskan Malamute does not look like the real-life Balto, who was a mixture of Malamute and village dog. "He is the best lead dog I've ever had," she said. Saffron trained in Kira, who plays Togo.

The real-life Togo was an Alaskan Husky, a speedier dog than the Malamutes, who are slow and strong-bred to haul freight in deep snow.

The dogs did a great job on the set. The entire team, she said, was in top shape after running guided trips most of the season.

"The dogs made me so proud," she said.

The team did take a while to get used to having Presley as their musher. They were used to responding to Thaumert

or other female mushers and hadn't really worked with a male before. In the beginning, Thaumert was often right behind Presley, off camera, instructing the dogs, but eventually they did get used to Presley.

"There was a lot of training for Brian and the crew on how to manage the dogs and the sled."

On challenging terrain, Thaumert usually ran the team, acting as a stunt double. Filming was done by cameras either in front of or in back of the team, and often by overhead drone.

Some scenes were a challenge, she said. The dogs didn't like having to turn around and retrace a route if a scene needed to be reshot. There were also times when the dogs were all harnessed and ready to run, but then they would have to wait several hours because of a camera or lighting issue. That, sheo-

said, was hard for the dogs.

But mostly, she said, the dogs had a great time. They were fed very well while on set, she said.

The filming was also challenging for Thaumert. The workday often lasted 12 hours, and she still needed to do her "dog chores." At night, most of the dogs slept in kennel boxes on the back of her truck, which meant lifting each dog up and down multiple times a night. Some of these dogs weigh nearly as much as Thaumert.

"I was tired," she said.

Back at home

Thaumert moved to rural Tower with her partner, Michael Tam, a couple of years ago. Her dogs have settled into northern Minnesota life quite well. Saffron is now retired, sleeping indoors at night, and spending lots of time outdoors during the day.

The sled dogs spend the summer in a heavily-wooded and well-shaded area, and are out in a more open area in the winter. Thaumert keeps an exceptionally clean dog yard and feeds her dogs meat and fish year-round. They are very fond of both beaver (bought from trappers) and suckers, purchased from the Vermilion Lake Association each spring during walleye netting season. The retired dogs and this year's pups have a large kennel next to their house. The retired dogs have "yard privileges" and can sleep indoors.

Kira will probably be retiring this year. Thaumert is worried that she is developing arthritis and was bringing her up to the Ely Vet Clinic this week for a check up.

"When my dogs are ready to retire, they retire," she said. Some dogs may run for 15 years and get upset if you leave them at home, but others, she said, are ready for a more leisurely life.

"Saffron and Kira both know they are lead dogs," she said. "Lead dogs have special privileges. They get to wander in the yard. Lead dogs make all the difference, and I reward them."

Thaumert, who is currently working as a waitress at the Vermilion Club, is still training in her teams of dogs, both for guiding and hauling. She had a litter of five puppies last year, and another litter of three this year, so she has plenty of new dogs to get ready. She plans to offer trips and introductory sled

dog adventures in future years.

The Great Alaskan Race

The film, which is rated PG, features Brian Presley as the musher Leonhard Seppala, Treat Williams as Dr. Welch, Brad Leland as Mayor Maynard, and Henry Thomas as Thompson.

The trailer was just released and can be seen on YouTube (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CNdch-6hWjEM). Thaumert has not seen the film yet and is excited to see her dogs on the big screen.

The film, which is produced by P12 Films, has also chosen the John Beargrease Sled Dog Marathon as one of several nonprofits that will financially benefit from the film.

"We were fortunate enough to be granted the final nonprofit slot to benefit from a portion of proceeds of the film," said Monica Hendrickson, Beargrease spokesperson. "The Great Alaskan Race will bring attention to the unique history of sled dog mushing, and to the importance of its role in places like northern Minnesota and Alaska that relied on this mode of transportation due to terrain and weather for so many years."

A Minneapolis film premiere is also planned, along with a private screening event in Duluth.

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TOUR...Continued from page 1

lunch at Gator's Grilled Cheese Emporium.

Smith also heard from both sides in the ongoing debate over the proposed Twin Metals copper-nickel mine. She met privately with Twin Metals officials at their Ely facility and later traveled to Voyageur Outward Bound to meet with members of the Campaign to Save the Boundary Waters. Both of those meetings were closed to the media.

Smith had little to say prior to her closed discussions with local sulfide mining officials and environmental advocates, except, "It is just a visit."

Last month, staff members of Minnesota's Sen. Amy Klobuchar were accused of meeting secretly with environmental advocates at an unadvertised listening session at Vermilion Community College.

"One thing about (Sen. Smith), she's not chicken to jump into the fray," Ely Mayor Novak said in introducing her to city officials at the hospital. "There are a lot of people who won't come up here because they know what the attitude will be on the streets about Twin Metals. They get all their money from the other side."

At a brief press availability session later in the day, Sen. Smith was pressed on her views of sulfide mining.

She stressed she is not opposed to iron mining, but she called for a "thorough review process" for planned copper-nickel mining, including PolyMet and Twin Metals. She said she had a thorough conversation with Twin Metals officials and heard about the recently-proposed dry stack tailings storage options. "I learned a lot," she added.

"These are important decisions for this community and, more broadly, our state and our country, where these mining projects get done and this is an



Ely-Bloomenson Community Hospital CEO Michael Coyle, left, discusses the hospital's new MRI equipment to Minnesota Sen. Tina Smith and State Rep. Rob Ecklund on Tuesday.
photo by K. Vandervort

important discussion that we all have to have," Sen. Smith said. Referring to her cell phone she said, "I personally believe that we have to responsibly mine the metals that go into these phones sustainably."

Sen. Smith took issue with the Trump administration's recent decision to end a study of the impact of a proposed 20-year withdrawal of mineral leasing on about 234,000 acres of the Superior National Forest, including the land that Twin Metals hopes to mine. "It was a mistake when they stopped the study," she said, noting that the two-year study was to look at both the economic and environmental benefits and costs of sulfide-based mining in the Ely area. "The Trump administration stopped that before it was done and that is too bad," she said. "One way or another, the people are going to want to know what is in that study and what the data showed. The data should lead us. We shouldn't be afraid of that."

She was reminded by a representative of another publication that her views puts her at odds with Twin Metals and mining advocates in the community, who opposed the study.

"Where I stand is that I think the data and the science should lead us to where these mines should

be located, and that's what I'm pushing for here," Sen. Smith said. "My main goal was to learn as much as I could. I looked at the core samples that they have accumulated, and I had the chance to ask lots of questions."

After the Twin Metals presentation, Sen. Smith traveled out to Voyageur Outward Bound to meet with environmental advocates. "We heard from some outfitters and again, it was just information gathering. I spent a lot of time listening today. It was very helpful."

Rural economy

Sen. Smith has conducted several such tours in rural communities around the state during her legislative recess this summer. Earlier last month, she announced a new bipartisan "Rural Economic Working Group" that will highlight what is working in rural communities, and where local leaders, businesses and schools are coming together to overcome challenges in order to create jobs and spur economic development.

"I am working to bring successful local ideas and partnerships to Congress and to spur efforts aimed at restoring rural economic prosperity in Minnesota and across the country," she said at an informal coffee gathering at Ely-

Bloomenson Community Hospital where she kicked off her local tour.

Novak welcomed her to the community. "Our hospital has some very important projects moving forward and one of the biggest issues in a small town like Ely is that we don't have the resources to research where all the pots of money are in Washington so if you could help them locate some of those, that would be great," he said.

Sen. Smith talked about the kind of assets that work for small communities. "Such things as hospital services, broadband, housing that fits the workforce need, a diverse economy, access to higher education, the Ely community already has many of those assets," she said. "I'm interested in learning how communities like Ely are able to recruit folks back here, especially those in the age-35 range who think about where they want to raise a family," Sen. Smith said. "In order to do that there has to be a place where they can live that works for them. There has to be broadband. There have to be job opportunities."

EBCH CEO Michael Coyle highlighted many of the growth opportunities at the local health care facility. "While other hospitals are shrinking, we are

growing," he said.

He showed Smith and her staff the tight quarters of the city's one and only pharmacy. "We were doing 150 prescriptions a day before Shopko shut down and now we are at 400-plus prescriptions a day, and we made that adjustment literally overnight," Coyle said.

The hospital's emergency tele-health capability, expanded MRI facility, hospital pharmacy expansion and other expansion projects were all part of the tour. "A complete infrastructure change-over is also part of our growth," he added.

A \$20 million facility expansion project is nearing a kick-off date, Coyle added. "Our board of directors has been very open to growth," he said. "They are very proactive in looking toward the future. "Conceptual drawings could be available to the public as early as next week, he said.

Sen. Smith queried Coyle on where the \$20 million for the expansion project is coming from. "With your help, thanks for offering," Coyle was quick to respond.

"Seriously, we have been financially frugal over many years, so we have some funds available. We are also launching a capital campaign. Tax-free government bonds

are very important for us. It really comes down to the community using our services," he said.

Sen. Smith was quick to agree that EBCH's "critical access hospital" designation is important for the local facility. "Without that title, we don't exist," Coyle stressed. "With cost-based reimbursement is the only way we survive."

Local outfitters Bob LaTourell, owner of LaTourell's Resort and Outfitters and Steve Nelson, owner of Spirit of the Wilderness, drew Smith's attention to the ongoing permit reservation and recreational needs assessment issues in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.

"When you look at Ely," Nelson said, "of course we have the hospital, and a good education system, and we also have mining and logging, and we have people working for different agencies. We need to continue to embrace tourism. This is not something that we can just push aside and take another avenue."

The two likely spoke for a number of outfitters in the area who are concerned that the outcome of the current federal needs assessment could have repercussions for their businesses. "We have been around for a long time, and so has mining," said Nelson. "We need to be able to do this in the correct way. To balance everything out is the critical factor. We have the U.S. Forest Service, and I hope they are listening."

Sen. Smith responded, "When it comes working with federal agencies like the Forest Service, I want you to know that we want to be your partner. I respect the knowledge that they have, but I also think that you have to find a meeting ground. I want to be able to be useful to you here in Ely."

PAY...Continued from page 1

for years. It was Turnbull's food handler's license that, for years, allowed the school district to continue to operate the food service in Tower. Despite that, the district had classified her as an assistant cook, which pays two dollars

less per hour than a head cook. The lower designation had resulted in tens of thousands of dollars in lost income for Turnbull, who has lived alone since her husband Ballard died 13 years ago.

Turnbull's struggle

for appropriate compensation was highlighted in a *Timberjay* report last November.

Under the settlement, Turnbull agrees to retire from her employment with the school district effective Aug. 9 and will not seek

any future employment with the district. The agreement does not affect any retirement benefits that Turnbull is eligible to receive under her union contract. The district's food service workers are currently represented by the Teamsters Local 346.

The school district acknowledges no wrongdoing in the case and contends the settlement was the most economical decision going forward. "While the district strongly disputed the claims raised in the lawsuit and was prepared to defend itself, the district and its insurance company determined that the cost of quickly settling the dispute for a minor sum outweighed the anticipated costs of prolonged litigation," Superintendent Reggie Engebretson said



The longtime head lunch lady at the Tower School, Marilyn Turnbull, reached a settlement agreement with the St. Louis County School District that ends a lawsuit filed in June over allegations that the district systematically paid her less than she was owed. file photo

in a statement on the settlement. "The district's insurance company will be making the payments outlined in the agreement, and

the district has not admitted to any wrongdoing and specifically denies that it discriminated against Ms. Turnbull at any point during her employment with the district. We are happy to put this matter behind us, and as always, the district remains committed to fostering a workplace that is free from discrimination for all of its employees and providing the best possible education for our students."

Turnbull said the settlement offer was less than she had expected, but that she was happy to have the matter behind her. "I'm really unhappy about the whole ordeal," she said.

CITY OF TOWER

Dogs and chickens up for discussion at public hearing

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

TOWER— The planning and zoning commission here has set a public hearing for 6 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 24, to take public comment on possible changes to three city ordinances. Up for consideration are changes that could increase the number of dogs that can be kept within city limits and also allow the keeping of chickens in some situations.

Local residents have recently asked for greater flexibility in the ordinance for the keeping of both chickens and dogs.

The commission is also considering a change in Ordinance 19, which still allows the burning of trash in the city, even though state law prohibits burning as a way to dispose of household garbage. The city's primary zoning ordinance, number 82, is also up for possible changes.

The commission is expected to discuss the changes, and make possible recommendations for changes, at a special meeting tentatively set for Tuesday, Oct. 1.

In other business, zoning administrator Steve

Abrahamson asked to meet with Dave Rose about his proposed RV park. The project has been stuck in neutral for more than two years as a result of the refusal of commission chair Steve Altenburg and former zoning administrator Linda Keith to take up a conditional use application for the project. Altenburg insists the application is not complete, which is disputed by Rose, who contends that he completed an initial list of items that Keith had sent him. Subsequent to that, Keith sent Rose a second list with 17 tasks along with an advisory that new items would likely be added if he completed the 17 tasks she listed. Rose, at last week's commission meeting, called that "piling on," and has suggested he may pursue legal action against the city. Rose asked Altenburg to confirm that he had sent him an unsigned email again informing him that his project would not be considered by the commission until he had completed the 17 tasks and any and all additional requirements that the commission invents.

Abrahamson said he'd like to talk to Rose about his project to see if a

conditional use permit application can be brought forward to the commission for consideration.

Joan Broten, representing nearby residents who live near Rose's proposed RV park, asked under public input that the commission hold another public hearing if it plans to consider Rose's proposal as a conditional use. Commissioners said another hearing would almost certainly be held if the project advances to that stage.

In other business, Abrahamson agreed to research an apparent typographical error in a version of the city's ordinance that Altenburg has been using, which has prompted him to seek changes in the city's R-3 zoning rules. Altenburg had proposed to cut the setback requirement from the centerline of a back alley to 20 feet, but Abrahamson noted that the ordinance already calls for a 20-foot setback. That left Altenburg somewhat confused, since the version he was using showed the setback at 30 feet. Both Altenburg and Abrahamson agreed 30 feet would be excessive, but Abrahamson said it's been 20 feet as long as he could remember.

CITY OF ELY

City to negotiate garbage contract

by KEITH VANDERVORT
Ely Editor

ELY—In a short special meeting on Tuesday, Ely City Council members voted 4-3 to direct the city attorney to renegotiate the refuse collection license with G-Men Environmental Service's legal counsel. The current license is set to expire at the end of October.

"According to the state statute, we are out of time," said Mayor Chuck Novak. "We don't have six months. We need a resolution, so we are going to move forward with this. In my opinion, now that our current vendor has

lawyered up, discussions should go directly to the attorneys."

Novak asked the council to consider having the city attorney negotiate an agreement that would allow for other commercial vendors to cover commercial customers at the days and times that the current provider does not or will not provide service.

Council member Paul Kess suggested splitting up the residential and commercial garbage collection licenses in the city. "Maintaining the residential service is a separate issue. The current licensee is unwilling to negotiate on pulling the commercial business out. We are being

held hostage," he said.

Council member Heidi Omerza reiterated her stand against splitting up the refuse collection license for residential and commercial service. "This is a slippery slope," she said. "We don't even have a committee put together to negotiate this by the end of next month (October). I think it is a mistake to separate the two collections. It will likely be more expensive for our citizens."

Council members Jerome Debeltz, Omerza and Ryan Callen agreed with the mayor. Al Forsman, Kess and Angela Campbell voted against the motion.

COOK...Continued from page 1

plans were to get the new store built as soon as possible, but the unexpectedly high cost for rebuilding has delayed, but not cancelled, plans to rebuild.

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

The new mini-store is now open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

The store opened Tuesday, and a steady stream of shoppers was in and out all day.

"Everybody was looking for Zup's sausages and porketta," said Swanson. "The porketta was the first thing to run out."

But shoppers don't need to worry. When items run out, they are quickly resupplied from another Zup's location.

The store is stocked with fresh and frozen meats, Zup's sausages and other Zup's specialty meats, fresh vegetables and fruits, dairy products,

groceries, and a sampling of most basics needed for day-to-day cooking.

"We are so excited to have our little store open until we get the new store built," said Swanson. "And 12 employees are back at work."

"It feels good to be back in business," she said.

Zup's is still doing grocery delivery to homebound seniors in the Homestead and Pioneer

Apartments.

"This service has been very popular," said Swanson, who along with Mark Eyre, of the Cook Lions, does the actual deliveries.

Swanson said they are still doing the homebound delivery. "It keeps us in touch with friends and family," she said.



First day of school
A Washington Elementary School student in Ely dashes through the rain to her first day of school Tuesday morning.
photo by K. Vandervort



Kija Chosa, left, a second-grader at Tower Elementary School, shows his missing front teeth on the first day of school Tuesday, while first-grader, Harley Banks, right, works on a science project.
photos by J. Summi



Ely fourth-grader Brady Forsberg checks his classroom assignment outside of Washington Elementary School with the help of his brother, Tyler, who is in sixth grade, and Sidney Marshall, a 10th-grader.
photo by K. Vandervort



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This project is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) under the Rural Health Network Development Program, grant number 706R-01847. This information or content and conclusions are those of the author and should not be construed as the official position or policy of, nor should any endorsements be inferred by HRSA, HHS or the U.S. Government.

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VOLLEYBALL

North Woods dumps Bigfork

Take three straight sets to improve to 2-0 on the season

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

FIELD TWP— The Grizzlies improved to 2-0 during their home opener on Tuesday, as they beat Bigfork in three sets, 25-15, 25-22, and 25, 22.

Senior Coley Olson

Left: Senior Kayla Tschida makes a clean response on serve-receive.

had a big night for the Grizzlies, posting 14 kills and ten set assists to lead North Woods.

“It was exciting to finally have a home game,” said Grizzlies Head Coach Kandi Olson, who said she’s excited to see how her team develops this season. “This year’s team is comprised of a good mix of experienced players and youthful energy,” she said.

“The players are learning and growing every game.”

In addition to Coley Olson, three other seniors, including Karlyn Pierce, Kayla Tschida, and Kenzie Fox, are expected to play a leading role in the team’s success this season. Pierce posted six kills in Tuesday night’s contest, while Fox added three ace serves. Sophomore Olivia Udovich added ten set assists and

four ace serves. She’s one of four sophomores on the team who are also likely to play a key role this year.

This week’s win comes in the wake of a 3-2 victory last week over International Falls.

The Grizzlies are set to host Deer River on Monday and will travel to Eveleth to take on the Golden Bears on Tuesday. Both games get underway at 7 p.m.

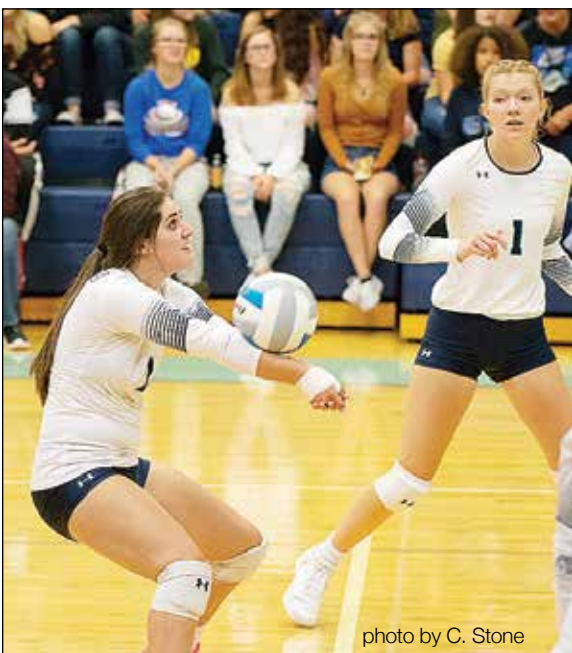


photo by C. Stone

FOOTBALL

Grizz dominate in 20-12 loss

Hold International Falls to 137 yards on offense, but fall in double OT

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

FIELD TWP— The Grizzlies all but shut down the International Falls offense in their season opener here on Thursday night, but still lost to the Broncos, 20-12, in double overtime.

For the Grizzlies, it was a missed opportunity as they launched their first season playing at the 11-man level.

It was a defensive battle throughout regulation play. North Woods scored on their opening drive to take a 6-0 lead, and those were the only points that either team would score until late in the fourth quarter, when International Falls intercepted a deflected pass. Moments later, Broncos quarterback Jace Hellin completed a 23-yard pass for six points, and that’s how regulation play ended.

Both teams scored six and failed to convert in the first overtime. In the second OT, the Broncos scored and converted, and held off the Grizzlies in their possession to clinch the win.

“We really let one slide there,” said Grizzlies Head Coach John Jirik. “We basically shut down the Falls for most of the game.”

The Grizzlies were able to move the ball fairly effectively on offense, racking up 240 yards in regulation, and five times reaching inside the Broncos’ ten-yard line—but wrapped up with just six points to show for it.

By contrast, the Grizzlies held the Broncos to just 137 yards offensively, nearly half of which came in that single fourth quarter pass play that tied the score. “We had a few mental mistakes, but overall we played pretty well,” said Jirik.

TJ Chiabotti had a big night as the Grizzlies workhorse, rushing for 106 yards on 23 carries. Hallin provided nearly all of the Bronco’s offense, rushing for 98 yards, while completing a pass for 23 yards.



Above: Sophomore runningback TJ Chiabotti slips a tackler on his way to the end zone during the Grizzlies’ opening drive.

Left: Junior Zach Cheney looks to pitch to Chiabotti.

photos by C. Stone

Sports week

FOOTBALL

Friday, Sept. 6

North Woods hosts Rush City, 7 p.m.

Ely hosts Kelliher/Northome, 7 p.m.

Northeast Range hosts Lake of the Woods, 7 p.m.

VOLLEYBALL

Monday, Sept. 9

North Woods hosts Deer River, 7 p.m.

Northeast Range at South Ridge, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 10

North Woods at Eveleth-Gilbert, 7 p.m.

Ely hosts Kelley, 7 p.m.

Northeast Range hosts Littlefork-Big Falls, 7 p.m.

SWIMMING

Thursday, Sept. 12

Northeast Range vs Duluth Denfeld at Lincoln Park Middle School, 5 p.m.

CROSS COUNTRY

Thursday, Sept. 12

Ely at E-G Invite, 3:30 p.m.

VOLLEYBALL

Wolves nip L-BF in three

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

LITTLEFORK— The Timberwolves played with more confidence here on Tuesday night and it helped them improve to 2-1 on the season with a straight set win over the Vikings.

Ely won 25-18, 25-17, and 25-15.

“We really stepped it up from last week,” said Ely Head Coach Andrea Thomas. “Our passing was much better and that resulted in more kills.”

Ely’s septet of seniors continued to dominate play for the Wolves. Brielle Kallberg racked up ten kills, nine digs, and three blocks, while Erika Mattson posted nine kills and 11 digs. McCartney Kaercher put up 26 set assists, while Jenna Merhar tallied five kills and two blocks. Junior McKenna Coughlin pitched in with four kills and four ace serves.

Ely hosts Kelley next Tuesday. Game time is set for 7 p.m.

Shorthanded Wolves fall hard at Mt. Iron

by KEITH VANDERVOY
Ely Editor

MT. IRON— The Timberwolves played hard in their season opener last Friday, and that was the sole bright spot as Ely fell 58-0 to the Rangers on the astroturf in Mt. Iron.

The Wolves were short-handed on the field as just 13 players suited up for the contest, providing few opportunities for players to rest. “We were short on numbers, but we played hard out there,” said second-year coach Cory Lassi.

“We knew we were going to

be challenged with our number of eligible players this week, but our whole coaching staff was very proud of the way they played hard for the entire game. MIB is good on all fronts and they are pretty big up front,” he said.

Rangers freshman quarterback Asher Zubich scored twice in the opening frame. He scampered into the end zone from 38 yards, then kept the ball for the two-point conversion. He ran again from the four-yard line to give the Rangers a 14-0 lead. It was just the beginning of a long evening for Ely. The two teams headed to the halftime break with

MIB staked to a 36-0 lead.

The coaches agreed to running time in the second half. The Rangers put six more on the board in the third quarter when Zubich hit Dillon Drake with a 17-yard pass. Drake added the two-point conversion. A 19-yard run late in the third quarter advanced the score to 50-0. The Rangers closed out the scoring when Hunter Weigel took a pass from Riley Busch from 27 yards out.

“Our coaching staff challenged the team to have a better second half,” Lassi said. “They held their heads high and I’m proud of every one of them.”

Runningback Dalton Schreffler lead the Timberwolves with 50 yards rushing on 14 carries. Fullback Eddie Prijatel had 39 yards rushing on 11 carries.

On the defensive side, Bryce Longwell led the team with 11 tackles. “He also forced a fumble and had an interception,” Lassi said.

The Timberwolves are set to host Northome-Kelliher Friday night. “They could be right up there at the top of our section this year, so it will be a big challenge,” Lassi said.

Kickoff is set for 7 p.m.

Obituaries and Death Notices



Laurence M. Smith

Laurence McLaughlin "Larry" Smith, 82, of Coralville, Iowa, and Burntside Lake-Ely, died of cardiac failure on Monday, Aug. 26, 2019, at the University of Iowa Hospital. A celebration of life for Larry is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 21, from 1 to 4 p.m. at the University of Iowa Athletics Hall of Fame in Iowa City. All are invited. The date was selected because it's a football bye week, so there's no excuse not to show up and celebrate a great human and Hawkeye. Donations may be made to the Stephen Smith "Keep on Movin'" Fund at Systems Unlimited in Iowa City. Arrangements are with Lensing Funeral Home.

Larry was born on Oct. 2, 1936, in Nevada, Iowa, the son of Laurence and Helen (Gottschalk) Smith. Growing up in Coon Rapids with his younger sister Nancy, Larry was "bright and cute as a button." He played basketball and worked in

an ice cream parlor during high school. He went on to attend the University of Iowa, where he was a member of the Sigma Chi fraternity (and was reportedly a less-than-serious student). Upon graduating, Larry accepted his first teaching position at a junior high in Grinnell, Iowa.

When he moved on to his next job in California, Larry took the scenic route, by way of Tucson, to drop off 18-year-old Judith Howe at the University of Arizona. The two were married in January of 1961 and welcomed their first child, Kevin, later that year. Larry decided to get a master's degree from the University of Iowa while he, Judy and Kevin lived in student housing on campus.

Larry's work took the young family to Omaha, where he completed his doctoral degree at the University of Nebraska in Lincoln. Son Stephen was born in Omaha in 1964. Diagnosed with a rare chromosomal disorder, "Stevie" exceeded medical, social and cognitive expectations for all of his 43 years. Subsequent career moves for Larry included positions as an assistant professor at the University of Arizona and as principal at Minnetonka High School in Minnesota. Son Nile was born shortly after the family moved to Minnetonka in 1972. Larry's Ph.D. earned him the nickname "Doc" among his students, faculty and friends at Minnetonka.

Returning to Iowa City in 1984, following his retirement from Minnetonka, Larry took a position as academic advisor for incoming freshmen at the University while Judy helped his mother run the Blue Top Motel, a local landmark. The family spent nearly 50 summers in Ely, where Larry's parents owned a cabin on Burntside Lake.

Among his accomplishments, Larry maintained sobriety for 37 years and was always available to counsel young people and families struggling with addiction. He maintained deep relationships with his advisees, who included student athletes, many of whom became like family to Larry and Judy. He also became acquainted with a student from China, Patricia Wong, and promised her father he'd look after her. Decades later, Larry and Judy remain her honorary godparents.

For better, for worse, in sickness, and in health, Judy was Larry's foundation and soulmate. This was never more apparent than in Larry's final weeks, when he continued to reach for her hand as the two shared the couch.

Survivors include his wife, Judith of Coralville, Iowa; sons, Kevin (Cynthia) Smith of Eden Prairie and Nile (Lisa) Smith of Evergreen, Colo.; goddaughter, Patricia Wong of Danville, Calif.; grandsons, Derek, Connor, Tristan, Owen and Wyatt Smith; goddaughter,

Mei Ling Wong; and sister, Nancy Robinson of Bellingham, Wash.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and son, Stephen.

Kenneth Brisbois

Kenneth Brisbois, 79, of Tower, formerly of St. Paul, died on Monday, Sept. 2, 2019.

Private family services will be held at a later date.

He was a beloved husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather.

John R. Phillips

John Robert "Bob" Phillips, 58, of Hibbing, passed away on July 21, 2019.

Bob was born on Feb. 6, 1961, to Jerry and Shirley Phillips. He was a man who had many, many collections. Whether it was Disney movies and classic musicals, vintage coins or stamps, Coca-Cola or Monopoly games - if it was old or had a potential for value, he wanted it.

He spent most of his life in Northern MN where he helped raise his three beautiful daughters - his greatest achievements!

Samantha, 27, was born on June 10, 1992. She is an LPN in Duluth and currently living in Hermantown with her three fur babies - Meika, Nora and Isabelle.

Maya, 12, was born on Nov. 8, 2006. She lives in Hibbing and she is a great hockey player. Bet she got her agility from Bob - he could water ski on one ski all while smoking a cig and with a drink in hand.

Autumn, 14, was born on May 8, 2005. She is an aggressive volleyball player. Want to bet she got some of those skills from Bob too - for many years he was also an aggressive "Polleyball" player out at Polley's Resort.

In addition to his daughters, Bob is survived by his brothers, Gerald (Sharon) of Baltimore,

Md., and Jim (Stephanie) of Proctor; and sister, Kerry (Rick) Herbst of Placerville, Calif.

If Bob would have chosen his words of advice, to ring through his girls' ears as they grow, they would have been the words of Walt Disney:

*A dream is a wish your heart makes
When you're fast asleep
In dreams you will lose your heartaches
Whatever you wish for, you keep
Have faith in your dreams and someday
Your rainbow will come smiling through
No matter how your heart is grieving
If you keep on believing
The dream that you wish will come true*

David R. Bakk

David Robert Bakk, 70, of Cook, passed away on Friday, Aug. 23, 2019. A memorial visitation and service will be held on Monday, Sept. 9 from 5-7 p.m. at Mlaker Funeral Home in Cook. Visitation will begin at 5 p.m. with the service with Military Honors to commence at approximately 6 p.m. Arrangements are with Mlaker Funeral Home of Cook.

He is survived by his sisters, Elizabeth Halik of Mt. Iron; Julie (Lee) Marconett of Virginia; and brother, Brian (Jeri) Bakk of Minneapolis, nephews and niece, Bruce, Dale and Michael Halik, Caleb (Kristy) Marconett, Tricia (Matthew) Scott, Dylan, Taylor and Connor Bakk; great-nephews and nieces, Ashley, Ryan, Brogan, Brady, Marlie and Macie; and extended family and friends.

James J. Mehle Sr.

James J. Mehle Sr., 76, of Hibbing, originally of Ely, passed away surrounded by family on Thursday, Aug. 22, 2019, at Fairview Range Medical Center. A Celebration of Life open house gathering will be held on Saturday, Oct. 12, from 3-5 p.m. at the Grand Ely Lodge in Ely. Arrangements are with Dougherty Funeral Home in Hibbing.

He is survived by his children, James (Jill) Mehle Jr. of Otsego, Paul (Jolene) Mehle of Lakeville, Pam (Jason) Liestman of Becker and Christy (Andy) Berndt of St. Michael; stepchildren, Christy (Christopher) Peterson and Michael Tuomi; siblings, Michael (Jan) Mehle of Minnetonka and Robert (Jayme) Mehle of Maple Grove; 10 grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; three step-grandchildren; and many cousins, nieces and nephews.

Gerald J. Adamic

Gerald Joseph "Bud" Adamic, 95, of Ely, passed away peacefully on Thursday, Aug. 22, 2019. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 14 at St. Anthony's Catholic Church in Ely.

He is survived by his wife, Doris Pagliaccetti Adamic; children, Geraldine (Frank) Lahti, Joel (Deb) Adamic, Barbara (Randy) Neumann and Martina (David) Jarecki; 14 grandchildren; and 21 great-grandchildren.

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Outdoors

Our lives in the Northwoods

TREZONA TRAIL

Brazen wolf attack prompts warning

by KEITH VANDERVORT
Ely Editor

ELY - Cameras and signs will soon be posted along the Trezona Trail in Ely to warn users of the trail about recent wolf encounters in the area.

According to International Wolf Center Communications Director Chad Richardson, a dog out for a run with its owner was attacked by a wolf at about 8:30 p.m. on Aug. 15. The dog's owner, Ted Schlosser, of Ely, reported the attack, which occurred near the boat landing on Shagawa Lake, to the Department of Natural Resources.

“As I was running, I heard a yelp from my dog behind me,” Schlosser said. “I turned around and saw that a wolf had him down on the ground. I turned around and saw that a wolf had him down on the ground. I screamed extremely loudly at it and it took off running with my dog into the woods. I immediately started chasing after him and screaming as loudly as I could. I had gotten into the woods about a hundred feet and my dog was free. The wolf was still standing there about twenty feet away.”

Schlosser grabbed his dog and started walking the roughly three-quarters of a mile back to his pickup. “I had my other three dogs with me as well,” said Schlosser, noting that all his dogs are small. “After walking a few hundred yards, the wolf ran up to us again. He came close to the edge of the trail (about 50 feet

See **ATTACK...**pg. 5B

Wildflower Watch

This week's featured flower
LARGE-LEAVED ASTER



The **Large-leaved Aster** *Eurybia macrophylla*, is arguably our region's most abundant wildflower. This plant's large, roughly heart-shaped leaves form an almost continuous ground cover throughout area forests, particularly where some sunlight reaches the ground. It is recognized by its lavender flowers that grow in a somewhat rangy cluster. It's not the prettiest of the asters, but it is certainly among the most common, particularly in the wake of forest disturbance like fire or clearcutting.



EVENTS

Stories in wood



Hundreds turn out for Lake Vermilion Antique and Classic Boat Show

LAKE VERMILION— Family tradition and the luster of fine woods were on display in abundance this past Sunday as part of the annual Antique and Classic Boat Show, held at The Landing.

Crowds worked their way carefully across the narrow docks, to ooh and aah over the dozens of classic, mostly wooden, boats moored here for the occasion.

Every one of the classic boats comes with a story. Some of the boats have been in families for generations, others were acquired more recently, perhaps the start of a new family tradition.

While some of the entrants had brought their boats from far away for the show, for others, their wooden boat is deeply connected to their Lake Vermilion experience.

Tom Kern, of Chicago, was a young man back in the early 1970s when his family first bought property on Vermilion as a summer get-away. His father bought their wooden boat about 20 years ago, to keep at their cabin. He had it restored, and now it's the job of Tom and his two siblings, one in Connecticut, the other in Montana, to maintain both the lake cabin and the classic boat that's now an important part of their time at the lake.

For other boat owners, it's the rich look of lacquered wood and the classic lines of many older wooden boats, that prompted them to invest in such a costly project. Chris Bullen, of Lake Muskoka, Ont., was relaxing in the back of his re-creation of a 1924 speedboat, known as the Baby Bootlegger, which the Clarion Boat Company built for him in the 1990s. The company, which operated from the 1970s to the 2000s had specialized in restorations but did build a handful of new replicas of classic old boats, including Bullen's, dubbed The Riot.

It's a boat that might have served a bootlegger well. With a 540 cc motor, generating 530 horsepower, tucked under the boat's extended front hood, this boat will cut through the water at a brisk 55 miles per hour.

"It doesn't sit in the boathouse very often," said Bullen. "It gets used all the time."

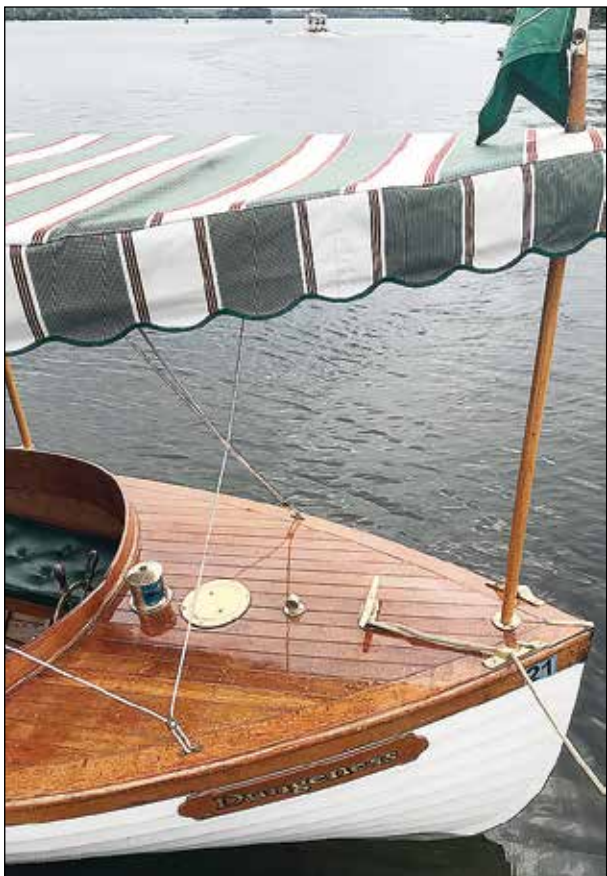
See **BOAT SHOW...**pg. 5B



Top: The newly-restored "Sunray," once owned by the actor Robert Redford, was a big hit at this past Sunday's boat show.

Above: Passengers, and Captain Tom Juul, were all smiles aboard this former tender for a yacht once owned by Andrew Carnegie.

Left: The bow of the tender.



Above: Jeff Larson and Dana Hein, of Sunrise River Boatworks in Tower, accept the People's Choice Award for the Sunray, which they restored.

Left: A large old Grand Craft on display.



ATTACK...Continued from page 4B

away from us). I screamed at him again. We continued walking. A few hundred more feet, and he ran up to the edge of the trail again. I grabbed a large stick to carry and I yelled at him again. He started barking at me. He continued barking for quite a while and had a high tail posture."

Lori Schmidt, Wolf Center wolf curator, described the aggressive behavior of the wolf. "With over 33 years of wolf behavioral experience, I know that barks are a threat display, and a high tail means the animal is confident, and it may indicate aggressive arousal," Schmidt said. "Wolves with low, tucked tails are more fearful and may be easier to deter. This animal may be food-conditioned toward people."

Schmidt manages the wolf helpline, a resource for local residents to report wolf issues and receive advice from local wildlife management agencies such as the DNR and the United States Department of Agriculture Wildlife Services office located in Grand Rapids.

If anyone has issues with wolves on the Trezona Trail or anywhere in the Ely area, contact the Wolf Helpline at 218-365-4695 ext. 134. If you believe you face an imminent threat, call 911 for a local conservation officer.

Schlosser and his dogs did make it safely back to his truck and the dog that suffered the attack was treated at the Ely Veterinary Clinic with a single wound on his right shoulder.

Schmidt is coordinating with Vermilion

Community College's Wildlife Society Chapter to deploy wildlife cameras and signs, identify the patterns of wolf presence, and will attempt to deploy negative conditioning techniques to deter the wolf from the area.

"The fall season can be particularly problematic for wolf issues as the presence of pups in a pack can create a lot of food pressure," Schmidt said. "This may leave some younger animals to go hungry, scavenge, or disperse and become loners in search of another wolf and a new territory. Wolf pups are very mobile this time of the year, so if this wolf is associated with a pack and pups, the chances are they will move on relatively quickly."

Schmidt said it is important that human-related food supplies such as garbage, dog food, even remnants of bird or deer feeders are removed, as they can serve as an attractant for wolves.

Since 2014, Minnesotans can not legally kill a wolf except in the defense of human life, and wolves are a federally-protected species managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

"In the case of the Trezona Trail, the area has a high concentration of human use and would not be conducive to trapping wolves, and the USDA abides by depredation management zones, with the Trezona Trail area being north of the line for removal for domestic livestock depredation," Schmidt said.

LAKE COUNTRY FORECAST

from NOAA weather

Friday					Saturday					Sunday					Monday					Tuesday				
69 45					60 40					61 41					62 48					67 49				

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.
08/26	72	56	0.11		08/26	72	56	0.10		08/26	72	59	0.19		08/26	61	57	0.00		08/19	70	47	0.03	
08/27	62	57	0.54		08/27	62	57	0.53		08/27	61	57	1.25		08/27	61	48	0.50		08/20				
08/28	62	49	0.45		08/28	63	49	0.27		08/28	62	49	0.38		08/28	66	48	0.35		08/21				
08/29	66	41	0.20		08/29	65	41	0.23		08/29	66	49	0.24		08/29	64	54	0.25		08/22				
08/30	66	41	0.00		08/30	65	41	0.00		08/30	67	42	0.00		08/30	68	39	0.00		08/23				
08/31	69	37	0.00		08/31	70	37	0.00		08/31	67	42	0.00		08/31	72	43	0.00		08/24				
09/01	71	47	0.00		09/01	72	46	0.00		09/01	71	46	0.00		09/01	66	50	0.00		08/25				
YTD Total	13.48				YTD Total	17.59				YTD Total	14.63				YTD Total	14.64				YTD Total	14.58			

BOAT SHOW...Continued from page 4B



Left: Chris Bullen relaxes in the back of his replica of a classic 1924 speedboat.

It's expensive fun to be sure. Restorations of old pleasure boats can easily run into the tens of thousands of dollars, and projects that exceed \$100,000 are not necessarily rare.

I told Bullen I wouldn't ask him how much The Riot had set him back, but a friend in the boat docked next door chimed in. "Don't ask him, ask his wife how much it cost," he quipped.

Bullen's wife Julie was on the dock, listening to it all, and I didn't have to ask to get her answer.

"Too much!" she said, before acknowledging that she also enjoys the boat.

Moored just down the dock was the "Pretty Penny," another gorgeous craft, owned by Jeff and Marnie Bigler, of Lake Vermilion, which is no doubt appropriately named.

While most of the boats date back to the mid-20th century, at least a couple of the craft were from an earlier vintage. The Grace, originally built in 1889 as a small steam launch, had a Naptha

Wing twin cylinder, eight-horsepower engine, which is probably the only reason it remains to this day. Among the highlights at the show was the small electric launch, built in the 1890s, that had served as a tender to a private yacht, known as the Dungeness, that Andrew Carnegie kept in port in Duluth, on Lake Superior. The Electric Launch Co., or ELCO, built the boat and similar versions once ferried passengers on Lake Vermilion in the early part of the 20th century.

The boat later became part of a collection owned by Don Logan, of Ely, and the current owner, one of Warren Buffett's original investors, acquired the boat from Logan's widow after his death. Tom Juul, who restores wooden boats from his shop near Alexandria, brought the old launch to the boat show. He had undertaken some restorations on the boat but said it had been kept in remarkably good condition over the years and still has all original wood — white cedar planking and steam-bent oak ribs — on its hull.

Logan had replaced the boat's original electric motor, which propelled the craft at about 5-6 miles per hour, with a four-horsepower gas engine, but Juul had restored the boat to its original electric propulsion system as part of his restoration effort. "It's the oldest boat I've ever worked on," said Juul.

The boat is a throwback of sorts, to a time when travel on the water was slower and quieter. The boat's electric motor was barely audible as the craft cut through a small chop on Lake Vermilion as it took a half dozen passengers for a ride around Head-o-Lakes Bay.

Overall attendance at the show was excellent, according to Stebbins. "It was a great crowd, the biggest we've seen in a long time," he said.

It was one of the older boats in the show that took the coveted Captain's Choice Award this year. The Uliatta, now plying the waters of Lake Minnetonka, is a 22-foot, 1905 launch powered by a 1930 Universal Flexifour engine. It's captained by Ron Potas, with mates George Norling and Rich Harrison.

The People's Choice Award went to Layton Humphrey for his 1984 Grand Craft Tahoe, once owned by the actor Robert Redford. Now called Sunray, and ported on Burntside Lake, the 23-footer was recently renovated by Sunrise River Boatworks in Tower. It's powered by a 350 horsepower, Crusader 454 engine, giving it plenty of juice for waterskiing, as the photo of Redford kicking up a rooster tail behind the boat attests.

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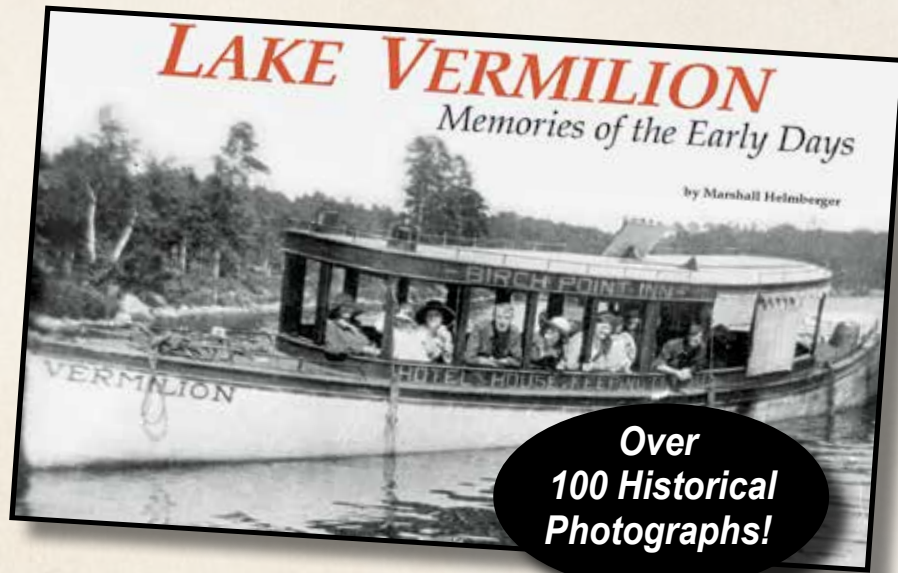


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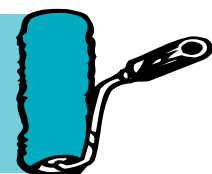
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