

**Inside: New Habitat home...** See /3 Test your internet speed...See /8 Fall sports to resume... See /1B

# BERIAY VOL. 31, ISSUE 39 October 2, 2020

## **Mailbox** mayhem

Biden focuses on issues while Trump targets opponent

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER

Managing Editor

REGIONAL - There's a battle in a mailbox near you as both President Donald Trump and Vice President Joe Biden vie for votes here in the North Country. Both the Republican Party of Minnesota and the state's Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party

See...ELECTION pg. 10

**ELECTION 2020** 



Mailboxes in the North Country are overflowing with political mailers. Timberjay illustration

**EDITORIAL** Saving America Page 4

**COMMUNITY EDUCATION** 

North Woods program back in session

by DAVID COLBURN Cook/Orr Editor

FIELDTWP-Steve Kajala, of Cook, doesn't claim his culinary talents rank with the likes of popular Food Network Iron Chefs Bobby Flay or Mario Batali.

But Kajala's love and knack for cast iron cooking was on full display Tuesday as he helped the North Woods Community Education program get back on track with in-person classes during a cooking fest at the school.

Learning began before the class officially started, as upon arrival each of the five

See...IRON pg. 11





Steve Kajala, of Cook, above, displayed his knack for cooking with cast iron this week as the **North Woods Community Education** program resumed in-person programming. photos by D. Colburn



**CITY BUDGET** 

### No increase in Tower's **levy for 2021**

Council seeks budget cuts, changes that could lead to an actual levy reduction

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER

Managing Editor

TOWER- The city council here, on Monday, voted to keep the city's levy the same for 2021. The council, following a budget presentation by clerk-treasurer Victoria Ranua, approved a preliminary levy of \$394,791 for next year. That's unchanged from 2020.

And council members plan to hold a number of budget working sessions in the coming weeks in hopes of finding budget cuts that would allow them to possibly reduce the city's levy when they finalize it in December. If so, that would be the first actual levy reduction in the city in many years.

The decision comes despite the fact that

See...TOWER pg. 10

**CORONAVIRUS** 

### COVID-19 hits another Ely care facility

by DAVID COLBURN

Cook/Orr Editor

REGIONAL- Two staff members at Boundary Waters Care Center in Ely recently tested positive for COVID-19, the second long-term care facility in Ely and the tenth in the county to report contact with the coronavirus in the past four weeks.

"Despite our extensive infection prevention efforts, we are saddened to share that two staff members have been diagnosed with COVID-19," BWCC Executive Director Adam Masloski said in a statement provided to the Timberjay.

See...COVID-19 pg. 12

ELY SCHOOL DISTRICT

## Ely school project advances

Bond sale, updated concept designs reviewed

by KEITH VANDERVORT Ely Editor

ELY - School board members here received the results of a successful bond sale and reviewed enhanced concept designs for ISD 696's \$20 million facility renovation during a study session

This architectural rendering shows the proposed new secure entrance to Ely schools. courtesy ARI

Monday night.

The recent voter-approved bond sale

See...SCHOOL pg. 9





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### **Community notices**

#### Ruby's Pantry, Oct. 8 in Cook

COOK- The next Ruby's Pantry will be a drive through food distribution at the old Cook School parking lot on Thursday, Oct. 8 from 4:30 to 6 p.m. A \$20 cash donation at the door buys an abundance of food. For safety reasons, no one over 60 years of age will be asked to volunteer. Sponsored by St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Alango.

#### "Group of 3" exhibit opens Oct. 2

ELY- "Group of 3," a new art exhibit featuring three of Ely's successful artists, will be on display Friday, Oct. 2 through Saturday. Oct. 31 at Crapola World Headquarters, 16 N 1st Ave E in Ely.

As part of the rotating artist series, October's show will feature selected works from Cecilia Rolando, Andy Messerschimdt and John Ratzloff.

For more information on this exhibit, please contact John Ratzloff at 952-564-7029.

### **#Beasouperhero for North St. Louis County Food Drive**

REGIONAL- The North St. Louis 4-H County Ambassadors and the Youth In Action program invite you to join them as they partner with St. Louis County Extension, Rutabaga Project and AEOA for a Food Drive on Monday, Oct. 5 through Friday, Oct. 30.

Looking for a great way to pledge your hands to larger service and help North St. Louis County communities? Here's how to help:

Give nonperishable food items. They will be placed in the Rutabaga Project's Little Free Pantries. Donations can be dropped off between Monday, Oct. 5 and Friday, Oct. 30 at the back door of the Virginia AEOA building, at Super One South in Virginia, or Zup's in Tower or Ely.

Make a monetary donation. They will be donated to NE MN Food Shelves. To make a monetary donation, please make checks payable to Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency and mail them to Kelsey Gantzer, Food Access Manager, AEOA Rutabaga Project Manager, 702 Third Ave S, Virginia, MN 55792.

### North St. Louis County Youth to Celebrate National 4-H Week

REGIONAL- Every year, National 4-H Week sees millions of youth, parents, volunteers and alumni come together to celebrate the many positive youth development opportunities offered by 4-H. The theme for this year's National 4-H Week, Opportunity4All, is a campaign that was created by National 4-H Council to rally support for 4-H Youth Development and identify solutions to eliminate the opportunity gap that affects 55 million kids across America.

With so many children struggling to reach their full potential, 4-H believes that young people, in partnership with adults, can play a key role in creating a more promising and equitable future in communities across the country. In 4-H, we believe every child should have an equal opportunity to succeed. We believe every child should have the skills they need to make a difference in the world.

North St. Louis County 4-H will observe National 4-H Week this year with a number of activities:

➤ 4-H youth and adult volunteers will be sharing what opportunity means to them on North St. Louis County 4-H social media pages on Instagram and Facebook. Find us @northstlouiscounty4h.

➤ 4-H Youth and adult volunteers will be displaying signs that a Proud 4-Her lives here during National 4-H Week.

➤ Show your @MN4H pride and share what opportunity means to you by wearing green or the 4-H clover on Wednesday, Oct. 7 for #National4HWeek Spirit Day! Share your pictures on social media using the hashtag #Opportunity4All.

ARTS

### **Essential Worker Portrait series opens Oct. 2**



Grocery Store Cashier and Bagger by Carolyn S. Olson, one of many of Olson's works to be on display at the Lyric in Virginia, Oct. 2 through Nov. 7. submitted photo

VIRGINIA- The First Stage Gallery in the Lyric Center for the Arts is featuring a new exhibit of prints titled Essential Workers – COVID 19, created by northern Minnesota artist Carolyn S. Olson. The exhibit will be in the gallery from Friday, Oct. 2 through Saturday, Nov. 7.

Olson is a narrative artist who uses gouache, oil or pastel to depict everyday life stories. Figures are intentionally exaggerated and gestures emotive. She intends her art to inspire us to be better people as we become more aware of ourselves and the world around us.

Olson recently retired after teaching art for over thirty years. Inspired by her own concern over the

exposure to the pandemic that her children have faced on the job, in March she began pastel work focusing on the Essential Worker Portrait series. With COVID-19 requiring many to remain in their homes for work and safety, our essential workers have become a life line and Olson tells their stories through these portraits.

Olson's website at http://carolynolson.net/current-work-2020-2024/essential-workers-covid-19-virus/ shows many of the images.

"The risks being asked of essential workers are life threatening," says Olson. "The intention of the series is to draw attention to these and other dangerous conditions essential workers are

required to work under, as well as asking our leaders for better wages, affordable housing and health care for all." For their sake, Olson wants the rest of us to do better. She intends to continue the series until there is a vaccine for all.

Some giclee scans and prints were made possible through the Emergency Working Artist Project Grant provided through the Arrowhead Regional Arts Council. ARAC's funding is derived from appropriations from the Minnesota State Legislature with money from the state's general fund and Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund (Legacy Amendment) as appropriated by the Minnesota State Legislature with money from the vote of the people of Minnesota. The prints can be ordered during the exhibit with some of the proceeds going toward the Lyric Center's future renovations.

Due to the pandemic, the gallery is open limited hours, Fridays and Saturdays, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Masks are required. If you don't have one, some are available at the gallery. There is also a limit of 10 persons at a time inside. The gallery is located at 510 Chestnut St. in downtown Virginia. Additional information is available online at www.lyriccenteronline. org or on Facebook at LyricCenter4Arts. The gallery is free and open to

ISD 2142

## **Community Education adapts**

### Classes and games offered online

REGIONAL- In addition to doing classes in-person, ISD 2142 Community Ed has gotten creative in response to COVID-19 by holding some classes outdoors and some online on Zoom and social media. People can now enjoy classes provided by other schools more easily by attending them online.

#### **Northeast Range**

Starting this October, kids find Mr. Joe. Each week Mr. Joe will send out a selfie from a secret location. Be one of the

first five to reply with #wheresmrjoe and the correct location name to be entered in a monthly prize drawing. Follow NE Range on Twitter, Instagram or Facebook to join in.

Have an Alphabet Scavenger Hunt through Zoom on Nov. 7 (register by Nov. 2.) A form will be sent to each registered child regarding the rules. Prizes will be awarded.

Share family recipes with virtual cooking. In the first class, the Kaufenberg family will share their traditional Pepperoni Bread recipe. Participants can join in and make bread with the Kaufenbergs from the safety of their own kitchen or simply watch and learn.

#### **North Woods**

Take fitness classes.

Dan Pellinen is offering both personal training and group classes from home.

Capture that image with Photography, the second Thursday of each month beginning Oct. 8 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

There are many more classes available

online such as quilting, journaling, book club, edible forage, driver's ed.., aromatherapy, houseplants and succulents, hand quilting, backyard conservation, essential oils, wellness Wednesdays and more. Community Education booklets are mailed to all households in the district so grab yours for more information on classes and how to register. The booklet can be found online at www.isd2142. net/page/3058.



### Flu Shot Clinics in Cook

Oct. 6th - 8:00-12:00

Oct. 12th - 12:00-4:00

Oct. 21st - 8:00-12:00

Doug Johnson Community Ctr.
\*By Appointment Only\*

Call 218-666-5941 to set up an appointment
Bring Photo ID

Please wear a short-sleeved shirt Regular and High-Dose shot available





### Flu Shot Clinics in Tower

October 7th and 13th 12:00-4:00

Tower Civic Center
\*By Appointment Only\*

Call 218-753-2405 to set up an appointment
Bring Photo ID
Please wear a short-sleeved shirt
Regular and High-Dose shot available



### Ely Habitat for Humanity rehab home dedicated

by KEITH VANDERVORT

Ely Editor

ELY-Community members here gathered last Friday to dedicate a Habitat for Humanity rehabilitation project on 11th Avenue near the Ely Rec Center.

Brittany Satterwhite and her three daughters, Kiersten, 7, Claire, 5, and Kaitlyn, 3, are working with North St. Louis County Habitat for Humanity on renovating an existing Ely "habitat" home from the ground

Nathan Thompson, executive director of the regional organization said "Habitat for Humanity's mission continues to be very relevant in our current times. Our neighbors in need of simple, decent and affordable homes have struggled to meet the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic in overcrowded, unhealthy and substandard living conditions."

He noted that four out of the five families who started home building projects with his organization in 2019 were forced to remain in their current situations as most of society was shut down in March because of the coronavirus.

"You can imagine their joy as we restarted our building program this June. With proper safety protocols in place, they are working alongside our staff and volunteers to complete their homes," he said. Satterwhite's rehab home at

463 11th Ave. E is getting new electrical and plumbing systems and will soon have new windows and siding before winter settles "Brittany is learning a lot

from our construction supervisor, Greg Eisenhuth, as she works with community volunteers on her project," Thompson said.

'Before I knew what Habitat truly was, I thought that a person

applied to Habitat and just got a free home," Satterwhite said. "I didn't want anything free or to be a burden to anyone. I try to work hard enough so I can make everything work on my own. I was glad to learn that Habitat was about an opportunity to work with volunteers to build and then buy my own home."

She and her three girls moved to Ely about a year ago and live in an apartment as they continue to work on their new

"I have to remind the girls that we have neighbors on the other side of the wall where we live now," she said. "I am looking forward to adding my own own touches to the home and to helping the children decorate their bedrooms, something they could not do in the rental.'

She added, "I enjoy learning new things about building and being a part of the process."

She noted that she "wel-



Kiersten, Claire and Kaitlyn show off their personalities in the doorway of their new home-to-be. photo by K. Vandervort

comes the blisters and back pain as we make progress."

Thompson said that typical community volunteer help hours for local Habitat for Humanity projects this year were adjusted because of COVID-19.

"We had to be more cautious

with our volunteers, but we are hopeful that things will soon get back to normal," he said.

Volunteers are still needed, and applications for new house projects are still being taken. Go to their website at www.nslchfh. org for more information.

#### CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES

### Senator calls for special session to save MCF-Togo

by DAVID COLBURN Cook-Orr Editor

REGIONAL- With the inmate population at Togo Correctional Facility dropping and social media posts warning of impending layoff notices, District 6 Senator David Tomassoni (DFL-Chisholm) is urgently calling on Gov. Tim Walz to convene a special session to keep Togo open before the doors are closed for good at the end of November.

Tomassoni addressed the issue of Togo and MCF-Willow River, also slated for closure, in a Monday press release.

Inmate population dwindles as closure looms

"This action by the department [of corrections] is unacceptable for the individuals serving in these facilities, the workers at these facilities, or the people of Minnesota," Tomassoni said. "I am calling upon the Governor to call us back into special session for the express purpose of passing a supplemental budget that will address these shortfalls and to ensure that they can continue to operate."

More than 60 full and part-time staff at Togo will lose their jobs if Corrections Commissioner Paul Schnell moves ahead with his plans to plug a \$14 million budget shortfall, a move he has reluctantly committed to take if the legislature and Walz don't approve Schnell's plea for extra funding that's been repeatedly kicked down the road since in was introduced last February.

"We cannot afford to have these facilities - which have an impressive record of successfully turning the lives of incarcerated Minnesotans around - close due to issues that could be fixed tomorrow,"

Tomassoni said. "Democrats and Republicans both agree we need a supplemental budget; we can certainly get back into session and get it done quickly. There does not need to be agreement on the bonding bill for us to get this done. These programs and jobs are too important, which is why we need a special session to pass a supplemental budget now." In his bipartisan appeal, Tomassoni sidestepped past failures of the Republicancontrolled Senate to bring the House-approved supplemental funding up for a vote. The

Senate also failed to pass a major bonding bill last spring after being unable to reconcile differences in their much smaller proposal with that of Walz.

An October special session is all but certain if Walz wants to continue with his emergency powers to address the COVID-19 pandemic. While Walz recently set benchmarks for ending those powers, there's little chance that the state will reach them soon. While a supplemental funding bill could be part of that session,

See TOGO...pg. 7

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# OPINION

e-mail: editor@timberjay.com

"CONGRESS SHALL MAKE NO LAW... ABRIDGING THE FREEDOM OF SPEECH, OR OF THE PRESS;"

The First Amendment of the United States Constitution

### Editorial

### **Saving America**

The GOP must stand up to oppose their own president's reckless threats

it will be up to the Republican Party to save America from a would-be dictator. President Donald Trump has made it abundantly clear in recent weeks that he has no intention of honoring the will of the voters this election, and he could well get away with dismantling the American system of governance unless Republicans take a stand.

There is no doubt about Trump's intent. He has made false allegations suggesting widespread voter fraud from mail-in ballots, despite overwhelming evidence to the contrary. And he repeated that false claim during his embarrassing performance at this week's presidential debate. When asked recently if he would accept a peaceful transfer of power, Trump refused and complained that "ballots" were the problem.

Clearly, President Trump is reading the polls like most other Americans and he recognizes that the ballots cast by voters may, in fact, be a problem (for him) when the polls suggest he's headed for defeat.

Because we have experienced a peaceful transfer of power in the United States for 230-plus years, it's easy to assume that the Constitution has the mechanisms in place to prevent an unpopular president from holding power after losing an election. While the Constitution is masterful in many ways, it assumes that a president would act honorably in defeat, an assumption that is not possible with the current president.

As letters from George Washington and others of his time reveal, what the founders feared most was the ascendance of what they termed a "demagogue" who would place his own power and glorification above the Constitution and the interests of the country. Washington and others of his era used the term demagogue, derived from Greek, to indicate a type of leader who gains power through emotional appeals to prejudice, distrust, and fear. This is a virtual definition of the Trump presidency.

Our founders feared the demagogue because they recognized that the Constitution, even with its checks and balances, could not contain such an individual's lust for power or his willingness to upend the American experiment.

We know that President Trump will not respect the will of the voters, because he reminds the world of it every day. But Trump can only achieve his plans for an undem-

It increasingly appears that ocratic takeover with the willing collusion of the Republican Party, a party that at least used to contain men and women of honor. Unfortunately, those of honor have mostly left the party, which today appears populated by shameless, unprincipled political operatives guided only by political expediency or the latest Trump tweet.

As was reported this past week in The Atlantic magazine, GOP leaders in Pennsylvania are already plotting with the Trump campaign to disavow the will of the voters in that mustwin state for Trump, where polls show Joe Biden holding steady to a roughly six-point lead. Instead, they are making plans to have the Republicandominated Legislature handpick its own slate of pro-Trump electors, regardless of the will of its electorate

Such a move would almost certainly wind up in court, but the Republicans have a plan for that as well, which is why Trump is so eager to stack the courts, particularly the U.S. Supreme Court, with jurists personally loyal to him. He hopes they will disregard the Constitution and hand him the White House for at least another four years, whatever the voters decide.

While Trump's strategy may be audacious, he has reason to believe that it could work, because similar jaw-dropping actions by this president have already worked many times before. The list of Trump's affronts to the Constitution and our political norms is long and, with the exception of an occasional voice in the wilderness, the Republican Party has done nothing but facilitate a man who clearly wants to be America's Putin. The Republican Party that existed as recently as four years ago had more honor than that. Much has changed in 1,350

We understand that the full U.S. Senate, last week, unanimously approved a resolution stating its commitment to a peaceful transition of power itself an unusual response to a deeply authoritarian president. Yet, as we've seen with the Constitution, it will take more than words on paper to stop Trump from his excesses. It will take political courage from a party that has shown virtually none of it for the past four years. Democrats won't be able to contain Trump on their own. It may well ultimately require bipartisan congressional action to stop Trump from bringing an end to the America we knew. And only Republicans can make that happen.



### Letters from Readers

#### You win some, you lose some, and that's okay

Ron Gardenhire, beloved manager of the Minnesota Twins and Detroit Tigers, recently announced his retirement. He finished his years as a manager with 1,200 wins and 1,280 losses, a losing record, actually, and yet we know that he enjoyed a successful and satisfying career.

This got me to thinking about life in general and politics in particular. "You win some and you lose some" is the way most of us would describe our lives. And I don't think most of us would want it any other way. Being "a total loser" would, of course, be a terrible thing. But always winning and never losing would also be a kind of hell. Life without ups and downs would be pretty boring! Never admitting mistakes, and thus never being able to say, "I have learned from my mistakes," is a sure sign of a shallow life. Life is hard, so if you're consistently batting .300, you're a rock star!

I've often thought that the USA is particularly blessed by having two main parties, and that the victories and defeats pass back and forth, more or less, from election to election. Countries with many different competitive parties have a heck of a time trying to put together a stable coalition government. One-party countries, of course, are autocracies or, worse, dictatorships. The worst thing for our country would be if one party kept winning so consistently that it could bend the rules to weaken our Constitution's wise establishment of a balance of powers. Any party that could stack the deck so that they couldn't lose would be a disaster for freedom and democracy.

To be a total loser or to bat 1000 are both awful, for the health of an individual, a ball team, or a political party.

Elton Brown Morse Twp.

#### A newspaper that made a difference

The Sept. 25 Timberjay article "Cedar trail comes to life" is a great success story. Readers should know that about ten years ago there was a proposal to cut a power line right-ofway through the Ancient Cedars area. Thanks to publicity in the Timberjay, representatives from the power company, DNR, St. Louis County Land Department and interested citizens strapped on snow shoes and inspected the area.

The result was that the power company agreed to reroute the line and the Ancient Cedars were saved. Generations to come will benefit from a newspaper that cares.

**Bob** Tammen Soudan

#### Be careful who you vote for in Greenwood

I can't believe this... I have received my last paycheck from Greenwood Township. The check that was mailed to me is incorrect. After all of the hubbub about changing my pay to hourly, the check says.... salary.

I then emailed, on Sept 18, the supervisors to have this corrected. I did not get a response from anyone.

I sent a second email, on Sept.25, to the supervisors and to the interim clerk. I am waiting for a response.

I also received a check for mileage. This check, which should have been sent out after the reconvened meeting on Sept. 11, was dated Sept 24.

Are these things merely another way to harass me, even after I am not working for the township?

Residents, please be careful who you vote for when the next township election comes in March.

**Sue Drobac** Greenwood Twp.

#### Who did Byron Beihoffer actually talk to?

I have a question for Greenwood Supervisor Byron Beihoffer. Just which neighborhood did you visit to see if there was any interest in high speed internet? I did some checking around on my own and discovered that none of the folks on the road you and I both live on were contacted. So, just who in the neighborhood did you contact?

Let me tell you some of my experiences:

1) Earlier this summer I was unable to access my email for two weeks or more. Reason? They were "working on 'upgrading' that line."

2) Prior to that, there was the day I turned on my computer and discovered that ALL my saved emails, names and email addresses had disappeared! After spending more than an hour on the phone with tech support, they could not restore them. Later that day I called my daughter in Michigan and in a matter of minutes she had it all back for me.

3) (Love this one) Then came the day I called Frontier Tech Support for help. After trying (again for over an hour) to fix the problem he said: "I can't help you, you'll have to wait until someone in your family can help you, goodbye."

> Marilyn Mueller Greenwood Twp.

#### We welcome your letters

The Timberiay 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.

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

### Suggestions for the President's 1776 Commission

When it comes to history, or at least certain parts of it, the reality star incumbent in the White House wants us all to travel with him on a fanciful flight to Fantasyland.

Donald Trump is pushing back against those who would have us openly examine some of the darker

chapters of American history by proposing a "pro-American" 1776 Commission to "restore



patriotic education of curriculum materials for any to our schools."

The commission's name is a direct pushback on the 1619 Project, a New York Times Sunday magazine endeavor from 2019 that takes a critical look at the role of slavery throughout American history by recasting the country's timeline

from the year slaves arrived in the colonies. The project has spawned a corresponding set history teacher who would like to explore this perspective with his or her students. The 1619 Project has gar-

nered its fair share of criticism for placing slavery as the dominant central theme of 400 years of American history, including critiques from well-respected mainstream historians. However, I'm not aware of any who've "thrown the baby out with the bath water" - only a moron would suggest that students shouldn't cast a critical eye on the role slavery has had on shaping issues of race down to the present day.

Never one to take criticism lightly, President Trump, who I'm sure read the 1619 Project in full before his pronouncement, wants a school curriculum that extols the virtues of "American exceptionalism," and indeed, there is much that's exceptional about the American experience that should be taught and celebrated. For all our warts, this is still a beautiful country with a remarkable place in world But in Trump's call for a

1776 Commission, he wants us all to dive headlong with him into that treasured 1942 family

film "Bambi," and to embrace wholeheartedly the wisdom of that clever little rabbit Thumper, who said "If you can't say something nice, don't say nothing at all."Trumper, Thumper, they just go together, don't they?

In the spirit of extolling one of the remarkable historic aspects of the American experience, I'm proposing a history lesson for the 1776 Commission on our exceptional electoral process, a system that despite its campaign negativity has long been an example for the world

See **HISTORY...**pg. 5

### Letters from Readers

#### Put the president's actions in

perspective

With all the wildfires burning on the west coast, it is not hard to imagine the same thing happening in northern Minnesota. Especially after such a dry spring and the beginning of summer, I feared all the dead balsams, spruce, and other down trees would be ripe for fire under our early drought conditions.

Under these conditions, imagine a fire starting about 50 miles west of Ely in the Superior National Forest. Then imagine the head of the Forest Service (we'll call him Ted) telling the public that the fire is under control and no one should worry. As the fire grows in size and moves close to neighboring towns and to Ely, Ted continues to downplay the fire telling everyone all is well and everyone is safe.

The fire burns neighboring towns and reaches Ely, and because of lack of preparedness due to all the misinformation from Ted, hundreds of homes burn and many lives are lost. What would be our reaction? Many would want Ted to be held accountable and at the very least be fired, and likely some would want his head on a spike.

Now replace "fire" with "COVID-19" and replace "head of the Forest Service" with "head of the U.S." As made clear in audio tapes of phone conversations of our President and Bob Woodward, Trump knew how easily the virus spread through the air and how much more deadly it is than a normal flu virus. Yet Trump continuously

lied to the public stating that the virus was under control, would disappear in a short time, and was nothing to worry about.

Currently, more than 200,000 individuals in the U.S. have died of COVID-19. How many lives would have been saved had Trump acted to mitigate its spread, or at the very least been honest with the American people so we could have made more informed decisions and taken our own precautions?

And like a maniacal bettor at the racetrack doubling down on a dead horse, Trump continues to lie and mislead the public in regard to this deadly virus.

But we have the power to fire an incompetent President of the U.S. Vote on Nov. 3 (or vote early)!

Rory Carlson

#### We need leaders to stand up for fairness and decency

We ask U.S. Rep. Pete Stauber and U.S. Senators Tina Smith and Amy Klobuchar to publicly support mail-in voting, so as to protect the voting process in November, and restore confidence in it. President Trump has recently stated, in contradiction to all available evidence, that mail-in ballots are fraudulent and that we must "get rid of the ballots". He also has refused, on multiple occasions, to commit to a peaceful transfer of power, especially if mail-in ballots are counted. In addition, he has repeatedly called for people in North Carolina to illegally vote twice, and has voiced approval of violence towards his political and ideological opponents. To have the President of our democracy attack its sacred institutions in this way is to weaken that democracy, and to intimidate free speech. His words have power; they are being taken seriously, and need to be refuted. People understand by now that he means what he says.

I, and many in my community in northern Minnesota, are extremely worried about Trump's attack on one of the most sacred institutions of our democracy, our right to vote and to have our vote count. In northern Minnesota, a traditionally civil and friendly place, intimidation and aggression against voters is now taking place, with political signs being stolen, especially Biden/Harris signs. This is previously unheard of in our area, violates our values as Minnesotans and Americans, and suggests that some people feel they have been given permission from the very top to engage in this kind of behavior. We need a strong voice from those who represent us Minnesotans nationally to counteract this behavior, to give people confidence that their vote will count, and that they can engage in the political process without fear of aggression.

We need you to be Minnesota's voice in standing up for fairness, decency, and American democratic values.

I respectfully request that you put out a public statement to the people of your district that:

1) You disagree with President Trump that mail-in ballots should be thrown out.

2) That you support the

counting of all mail-in ballots that arrive within the legal time limit.

3) That mail-in ballots are essential to protect people's health in the time of this pandemic, and

4) That you condemn the removal and theft of political signs, reminding people that this behavior is against the law, and you implore people to behave with tolerance to people with different views from them. I ask that you do this immediately, because there is little time left before the election, and intimidation is happening now and will probably escalate without a counterbalance to the President's rhetoric. I ask you to commit to these specific points because general rhetoric such as 'I support free and fair elections,' is ineffective in conveying the above points, as it is open to interpretation, and it is used to mean different things. Thank you.

**Sharon Beatty** Cook

#### Saying one thing, doing another

The President is grasping for votes in Minnesota with his recent visit to the state. There seem to be a lot of blue-collar workers who support him here and I can't understand why. His tariffs on steel have hurt the consumer with higher prices in goods. His support for rolling back workers' rights for collective bargaining has hurt workers in order to help big business. Rep. Pete Stauber voted against the Right to Organize Act and is vying for support from unions in this state. Stauber was a union organizer and president of the

union when he was a police officer. I don't understand the flip flop on that if he's trying to gain union support! He didn't get the Steelworkers' endorsement.

Under the Trump administration, the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) has systematically rolled back workers rights to form unions and engage in collective bargaining with their employers, to the detriment of workers, their communities, and the economy. The Trump board has issued a series of significant decisions weakening worker protections under the National Labor Relations Act (NLRA). Further, the board has engaged in an unprecedented number of rulemakings aimed at overturning existing worker protections. Finally, the Trump NLRB general counsel has advanced policies that leave fewer workers protected by the NLRA and has advocated for changes in the law that roll back workers' rights.

Trump wants to eliminate Social Security but at the same time get the senior citizen vote. I believe at one speech to seniors he said he would protect their Social Security and Medicare but now he says if he's re-elected he will make it go away. Pete Stauber doesn't say what his stand on this issue is so I gather that both Trump and Stauber want our vote so they can take things away from us without an alternative plan.

**Brian LaFrenier Embarrass Twp.** 

See more letters ...page 7

## Stopping Postal Service delays that hurt Minnesotans

As I've traveled across Minnesota, I've seen the important role that the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) plays in the lives of people across our state.

From small towns and rural communities to our largest cities, millionsofMinnesotans depend upon the

USPS to deliver the letters and packages that fuel their lives and our state's economy. And this year, hundreds of thousands of our state's residents plan to vote

Unfortunately, the sudden operational and leadership changes put in place this summer by newly-installed Postmaster General Louis DeJoy—including removing mail-sorting machines and denying overtime to postal workers—have slowed delivery for millions in Minnesota and across the country.

Every American should have reliable postal service, and I've raised questions about the recent disruptions because they hurt veterans, older citizens, rural residents, and those in the military who depend on the mail for important things like life-saving medications, paychecks, Social Security checks, census forms, and ballots.

Minnesotan, at highrisk for COVID-19, has been ordering much-needed prescriptions by mail to avoid going to the pharmacy in person. He told me he had

just five days of medication left and his refills had been somewhere "in transit" for a week. I also heard from a veteran, who after two heart attacks, must take ten pills each day. Like 80 percent of outpatient veterans, he receives these vital medications by mail from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and now he is worried they won't arrive

**SEN. TINA** 

While these delays are hurting Minnesotans, it is clear that they are not the fault of hard-working postal employees who have successfully delivered the mail on time for decades. Recent delays are a result of the chaotic changes made by top USPS officials in Washington, and we need answers about why these sudden changes were made at a time when Americans are relying on the post office more

#### **Pressing for answers**

In August, to get a better understanding of the recent operational changes, I toured a large mail-processing center in Eagan and discussed with local USPS officials how the facility has been impacted. At the time, they had already lost two mail-sorting machines that could each sort 500,000 pieces of mail per day. That day, they told me they were scheduled to lose up to eight more. So, in just this one Minnesota facility, the Postmaster General's decision to remove these machines is slowing down the delivery of millions of pieces of mail.

In response to Minnesotans' concerns, I asked the USPS Inspector General (IG) to investigate the impact that the Postmaster General's changes have had on timely mail delivery. I also asked the IG to investigate any potential conflicts of interest that Postmaster General DeJoy might have, since he is heavily invested in delivery services that compete with the USPS. I'm pleased that only a few days after I pushed for the inquiry, the Inspector General granted my request and is now doing a full investigation.

While Postmaster General DeJoy has since suspended some of his disruptive changes until after the November election - due in large part to the pressure I and many others applied - he still has refused to roll them back and restore Minnesota's mail processing capacity. Nationally, a new report by U.S. Sen. Gary Peters (D-MI) found Postmaster General DeJoy's changes delayed nearly 350 million pieces, or seven percent, of the country's First-Class Mail while they were in effect,

I'm now pressing the SPS Board of Governors, which oversees Postmaster General DeJov and all postal operations, to reverse the changes

he put in place.

Fortunately, a federal judge temporarily blocked Postmaster General DeJoy from implementing these changes after finding substantial evidence that they slowed efficient mail delivery. Minnesota was one of several states objecting to those changes in court, and now the USPS will have to restore some operations back to normal.

#### **U.S. servicemembers** also hit hard

I'm also pushing to ensure that American servicemembers - especially those serving overseas - aren't hurt by the USPS changes. These servicemembers and their families are uniquely impacted because the mail is often the only reliable connection they have to loved ones. Perhaps most important, absentee ballots are the only way that most servicemembers can cast their ballots. Making absentee voting more difficult disenfranchises the very Americans who defend our nation. That is unacceptable.

For many months, our nation has been rocked by an unprecedented pandemic that has created a public health and economic crisis. During this time, we need a postal service we can rely upon to deliver products for businesses, get prescription drugs to people who need them, and this year, to make sure every citizen who votes by mail has their ballot counted. During this pandemic and beyond, I will continue to push to ensure the USPS continues its long history of reliably delivering mail to every community in Minnesota and across the country.

Tina Smith represents Minnesota in the U.S. Senate.

#### **HISTORY...**Continued from page 4 -

Lesson one would start in 1788 with the new nation's first quadrennial presidential election and the peaceful transition of power. While the subsequent 230 years are littered with tragic examples in other countries of military coups, dictatorships, and the like, where the power to choose their leaders has been wrested from the people, the United States has never followed suit. The transition from one president to another has always been peaceful and smooth.

President Ronald Reagan eloquently spoke about this at his first inauguration:

"To a few of us here today this is a solemn and most momentous occasion, and yet in the history of our nation it is

a commonplace occurrence," Reagan said. "The orderly transfer of authority as called for in the Constitution routinely takes place, as it has for almost two centuries, and few of us stop to think how unique we really are. In the eyes of many in the world, this every four-year ceremony we accept as normal is nothing less than a miracle."

Indeed. Reagan's successor, George Herbert Walker Bush, provided a shining and exceptionally presidential example of this on the day he turned the reins of government to William Jefferson Clinton. In a note left for Clinton in the Oval Office,

Bush said this: "There will be very tough times, made even more difficult by criticism you may not think is

fair," he wrote. "I'm not a very good one to give advice; but just don't let the critics discourage you or push you off course. You will be our President when you read this note. I wish you well. I wish your family well. Your success now is our country's success. I am rooting hard for That's history, and a lesson

well worth learning. There's a second history

lesson I would propose, too, and you don't have to go very far back at all for it.

In 2015, Republican Senator Lamar Alexander was the primary driver of a significant re-write of No Child Left Behind, the bill that governed the federal government's role in elementary and secondary education for 15

years. A Republican Congress passed it, and President Barack Obama signed the Every Student Succeeds Act into law that December.

A key portion of that bill should be studied by the current administration. It bans the federal government from establishing or requiring school curricula and prohibits the government from conditioning funding on the adoption of specific curricula favored by the federal government. Curriculum is the sole responsibility of states and localities. Period.

Trump's obsession with pushing down a federal "pro-American" curriculum on schools while banning others is therefore illegal, un-American, and in light of the First Amendment guaranteeing freedom of speech, likely un-Constitutional.

History and civics teachers in the U.S. have long touted the virtues of America and its storied history. But there's also nothing wrong with teaching children about the nation's shortcomings. A quote attributed to philosopher George Santayana, and not to Thumper, says it best: Those who cannot learn from history are doomed to repeat it. A full telling of American history, in all its glory and its shame, is the only true educational path to one day securing the miraculous promises of America for all.

#### Week of Oct. 5

#### Monday

TOPS - Immanuel Lutheran Church, Tower, at 9 a.m. Canceled until further notice.

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

#### **Tuesday**

Tower Area Food Shelf- Open on the third Tuesday of every month from 2:30-5:30 p.m. Located in the back of the Timberjay building on Main Street. Next food shelf day is Oct. 20.

Greenwood Fire Dept.-Meetings on the first (business meeting) and third (drill) Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m.

#### Wednesday

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

#### **Thursday**

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

Vermilion Country School **Board- Meetings** posted online at vermilioncountry.org.



#### DO YOU HAVE A PLAN FOR VOTING?

### **Voting early? Voting at the polls on Election Day?**

Plan ahead to vote by mail, or vote in person on Tuesday, Nov. 3

by JODI SUMMIT Tower-Soudan Editor

REGIONAL- While some area townships such as Eagles Nest and Vermilion Lake have gone to all mail-in voting, all other city and township regular polling places will be open on election day, Tuesday, Nov. 3, from 7 a.m. - 8 p.m. This includes the polling places in Tower, Soudan (Breitung Township), Embarrass, Kugler Township, and Greenwood Township.

Many registered voters have received unsolicited absentee ballot applications. Many have been sent out to registered voters in our area by a non-partisan national group called The Center for Voter Information that works to increase voter participation. Many residents have received multiple mailings with ballot applications from this organization. It is legal for organizations to send out applications for mail-in ballots. No actual ballots are sent unless a registered voter has requested one by mail or online. Mail-in ballots come with a bar code that is linked to the individual

voter, and voters can track the progress of their ballot online.

If voters have already sent in an application for an absentee/ mail ballot, they should be receiving their ballot shortly. If there is a local race (such as Tower City Council), the ballot is sent from the local voting authority, otherwise they are mailed from St. Louis County. Absentee/ mail ballots are still available by mail, but must be requested in time to be able to return your ballot by election

The city of Tower offers in-person absentee voting at Tower City Hall, by appointment only. City of Tower voters who wish to vote early in person need to make an appointment at least two days in advance by calling 218-753-

All township and St. Louis County residents can bring their absentee/mail-in ballots in person at the County Auditor's Office at the following locations if they do not wish to place them



in the mail:

Duluth Courthouse drop box available at the Second St. entrance, 100 North 5th Ave. W, Duluth.

Virginia Government Ser-

vices Center drop box available at 201 S 3rd Ave. W, Virginia. There are two options, the

voter can place their ballot in the drop box or they can deliver it in person during the hours listed below. Mon - Fri: 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.,

Saturday, Oct. 31: 10a.m. – 3p.m., and Monday, Nov. 2: 8 am. – 5p.m..

#### **Voting on election day** Voters can still vote in

person on election day (unless they are in a mail-in ballot only township), if they have not already completed a mail-in ballot. Residents who are qualified to vote can register to vote online, or can register in person (with proof of residence) on election day.

For information on voting and registering to vote in Minnesota, visit https://sos.state. mn.us/elections-voting/.

Tower City Clerk-Treasurer Victoria Ranua said that St. Louis County has supplied all polling places with masks and hand sanitizers for both election poll workers and voters. Other safety measures have also been put in place at local polling

"The city of Tower has acrylic barriers between staff and voters for transferring voting material. Given the large size of the Tower Civic Center all polling actions (registration, voting, and ballot casting) are spaced excessively to support social distancing," Ranua said.

#### LITTLE LEARNERS

### Free preschool offered at Tower-Soudan Elementary

TOWER-Nine young learners are enrolled in the Tower-Soudan Elementary School's new preschool program. The free preschool is offered three days a week, and parents have the option of sending their child for in-school or virtual/distance learning. The preschool is for children who are four years old as of Sept. 1.

The voluntary preschool program replaces the former fee-based Learning Readiness program. The actual program is very similar, said lead teacher Mary Larson. The funding source for this year's program is different, hence the change in name. Students who attend

the program can ride the bus to and from school, if desired.

The preschool program features breakfast and lunch, circle time with songs, letter of the day, introduction to writing skills, arts and crafts, outdoor play, indoor play, storytime, puzzles, and more.

For more information, call the school office at 218-753-4040.



Nai'Lee Moyer plays with play dough during free play time.

### the TIMBERJAY

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#### St. Martin's **Christmas Bazaar**

IUWEK-St. Martin's Catholic Church is happy to announce that they will host a Christmas Bazaar!

The event will be held on Saturday, Nov. 7 in the church social hall. We are in the early planning of the event and are now looking for local crafters to participate. The cost for a table is \$20. If you are interested, please contact Maryann at the rectory at 753-4310.

Office hours are Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday,

from 9 a.m. to noon. Our bazaar will look different this year – tables will be more spread out. Masks will be required; masks and hand sanitizers will be available at

the door. During the Bazaar, the St. Martin's Quilt Ministry will raffle off Christmas-themed, hand-embroidered quilt, made and donated by Liz Villnow. The quilt is currently on display

at Jeanne's Card & Gift shop. Tickets are \$5, with only 200 tickets being sold. You do not need to be present to win. Tickets may also be purchased from Maryann at the rectory office.

#### **Readers and** Rappers to meet on Oct. 13

COOK-The Cook-area book club, Readers and Rappers, will have their next meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 13 at 1 p.m. at the Northwoods Friends of the Arts Gallery in their new "Wolfe Den" room. The book this month is "Harvest Home" by Thomas Tryon. Please note the group's new meeting location. Liz Storm will be the moderator. There is no hostess this month. In November, the book will be "We Stay in our Own

Tree" by Michelle Barry. Social distancing and masks recommended following state mandate.



# site hours

Northwoods Transfer Station 9384 Hwy 21 N., Ely/Babbitt Winter Hours Mon, Thu, Fri, Sat: 8am-3pm Tue: 9:30am-3pm Wed: 11am-5pm

County 77 Canister Site 2038 County Rd. 77, Greenwood Twp Winter Hours

Thurs, Sun: noon—5pm **Embarrass Canister Site** 7530 Koski Rd., Embarrass

Hours Sat: 12:30–4:30pm Thu: 10am-5pm

**Household Hazardous Waste Facility** 5345 Regional Landfill Rd, Virginia Hours

Tues and Sat: 8am-1pm

St. Louis County Environmental Services Department

1-800-450-9278

Office hours 8-4:30 Monday through Friday

www.stlouiscountymn.gov/recycle

#### Cook Transfer Station 2134 S. Beatty Rd., Cook Hours Mon: 10am-6pm Tues thru Sat: 9am-3:30pm Soudan Canister Site

**Area Solid Waste** 

**Facility** 

5160 Hwy 169, Soudan Hours Mon, Wed, Sat:, Sun 8am-5pm

Aurora Transfer Station 5910 Hwy 135 N., Aurora Hours

Mon, Thurs, Fri: 8am-4pm Tue, Wed:10am-4pm Sat: 8am-noon **Regional Landfill** 

5341 Regional Landfill Rd, Virginia Mon-Fri: 8am-4:30pm Sat: 8am-3:30pm

Winter hours effective October 1st through April 14th

#### **AEOA Senior** Dining; carry-out only

TOWER-Vermilion Country School and AEOA sponsor a senior dining site at the charter school in Tower.

Due to COVID-19 safety precautions, meals will be available for carry-out only between 12:15 and 12:30 p.m. Diners need to wear a mask and sanitize their hands once they enter the building to pick up their meal.

New this year, senior diners will need to have an account at the school. To set up an online account, stop in at the school office. Jolene Herberg will set up your account, and then diners will make payments in the school office, not to Cindy Pettinelli in the kitchen.

Reservations are ap-

preciated the day before,

Friday:

or morning of, but walkins are always welcome. Seniors age 60 and older who have registered for the program and their partners qualify for special pricing of \$4.50 per meal, but all ages are welcome at the regular rate of \$6.25. There are no in-

Call the school at 218-300-1447 for reservations, or call AEOA at 1-800-662-5711 ext. 7323 for the one-time registration process.

come guidelines.

Week of Oct. 5 Monday: Enchiladas,

Tuesday: Chicken sandwich, green beans

Wednesday: Lasagna, dinner roll, salad Thursday: Hamburg-

er gravy over mashed potatoes, corn, dinner roll Chicken

chow mein over brown rice, dinner roll

#### 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

Noon-6 pm Monday Noon-6 pm Tuesday Wednesday Noon-6 pm Noon-6 pm Thursday 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 **ELY WOMEN'S OPEN** 

AA - Every Monday at noon at Ledgerock Community Church, 1515 E. Camp St., Elv. **BABBITT AA -** 7 p.m.

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.

Tuesdays, Woodland

**BABBITT AL-ANON** Thursdays, 7 p.m., upstairs 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 218-365-3359,

### In Brief

#### **Tuesday Group** schedule

ELY - The upcoming Tuesday Group schedule is listed below. All talks are at 12 noon on Tuesdays.

All presentations are administered in a virtual presence until further notice due to the coronavirus pandemic. Send email to stevieschon@gmail.com for more information.

Oct. 6 - Laalitha Surapaneni - Health Professionals For A Healthy Climate

#### **Play Bingo at Senior Center**

ELY - The Ely Senior Center, 27 S. First Ave., hosts bingo every Wednesday, 1-3 p.m. The public is invited.

#### **Breathing Out**

by Cecilia Rolando © 2020



colored leaves falling productive garden at end

seasonal changes

#### CITY OF ELY



#### **James Street** project completed

Street construction crews asphalted James Street near **Eighth Avenue last** week, above, and installed sod as the major reconstruction project wrapped up just in time for winter. photos by K. Vandervort



ISD 696

### **Update from Ely Public Schools Superintendent Erik Erie**

Our Ely Safe Learning Plan Advisory Council (ESLPAC) is meeting weekly to examine the latest COVID-19 data from St. Louis County Public Health.

Local COVID-19 data and conditions are also considered. This data is used to make decisions on staying in our current learning model or moving to another model. Currently, students in our Memorial building are in the Hybrid Learning Model which splits the students into two groups where students are in school two days a week and Distance Learning the other three days.

The Washington Elementary remains with the In-Person Learning Model where students are in school every day.

The decision to move the Memorial students to Hybrid was based on data provided by St. Louis County Public Health and guidelines from the Minnesota Department of Education which recommends Hybrid learning for secondary students when the Greater St. Louis County bi-weekly case rate reaches 10.

We actually waited other week before moving to Hybrid on the recommendation of St. Louis County Public Health to confirm a trend. If that number dips below 10 we hope to move the Memorial students back to In-Person

Learning. One of the recommendations coming from ESLPAC members was to post the current "Ely Public Schools COVID-19 Positive Test Count"

Area Solid Waste

**Facility** 

Hours

Mon, Thurs, Fri: 8am-4pm

Tue, Wed:10am-4pm

Sat: 8am-noon

**Soudan Canister Site** 

5160 Hwy 169, Soudan

Hours

Mon, Wed, Sat:, Sun:

8am-5pm

to be transparent with how COVID-19 cases are impacting our schools and community. I am happy to report that as of Tuesday, Sept. 29, that number is zero. Last week that number stood at four positive test cases. Look for that number to be posted weekly to our Ely Public School District Facebook page. We also expect to have the count posted on our

website. On the same day the Memorial students moved to the more restrictive Hybrid Learning Model, the Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL) voted to reinstate volleyball and football for the

fall season. Knowing that a decision by the MSHSL was forthcoming, the coaches, activities director and

administration met to discuss the possible outcomes. Given that we had just moved to a more restrictive learning model to limit exposure to COVID-19 and MSHSL would stand to increase exposure for our athletes and coaches, a decision was made to take some time to research the issue and figure out how to

proceed. We took one day to process and then communicated that Ely Public Schools would follow the MSHSL decision and field volleyball and football teams while following strict protocols to do our best to protect

To find out the new schedules for Volleyball and Football go to: https://www.arrowheadconference.org/ and link to the Ely page.

students and coaches.



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Jay Greeney

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# BETTER WASTE SOLUTIONS

#### site hours Northwoods Transfer Station **Aurora Transfer Station** 5910 Hwy 135 N., Aurora

9384 Hwy 21 N. Ely/Babbitt Winter Hours Mon, Thu, Fri, Sat: 8am-3pm Tue: 9:30am-3pm Wed: 11am-5pm

**Embarrass Canister Site** 7530 Koski Rd., Embarrass Hours Sat: 12:30-4:30pm

Thu: 10am-5pm **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

Winter hours effective October 1st through April 14th

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

www.stlouiscountymn.gov/recycle





Renae Pivelka, director of the Osseo-Maple Grove Legion Riders Post #172, recently presented a donation of \$3,000 to Veterans on the Lake General Manager Neil Weisinger. submitted photo

#### Higher Ed

#### Ely student graduates from UW-Point

ELY - The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point conferred degrees on more than 1,100 graduates for the spring 2020 semester, including Isabella Stellmach, of Ely, who earned a Bachelor of Science in Biology.

### Volleyball season starts

by DAVID COLBURN Cook-Orr Editor

FIELD TWP- North Woods Head Volleyball Coach Kandi Olson has more questions than answers heading into a new season for the Grizzlies, and she couldn't care less. She's far too excited to welcome her players back to practice now that the season has shifted back

"Our whole team was thrilled when they heard they had reinstated volleyball," Olson said last Friday. "I think we're going to have some exciting moments coming from some young players that are going to unexpectedly fulfill some big roles."

The Grizzlies will start the season on the road on Oct. 9 against South Ridge, and return home for matches against Mt. Iron-Buhl and International Falls on Oct. 12 and 13. No spectators will be allowed to attend indoor sporting events due to state coronavirus restrictions.

Olson has the task of

replacing four key seniors from last year's squad, and one player she'll be counting on for leadership is junior Morgan Burnett, a strong contributor to the Grizzlies' efforts last year.

But the Grizzlies will be a young team, and Olson's players will fill multiple roles as the season progresses.

"Morgan's probably the most experienced person on the court," Olson

COVID-19 restrictions limited opportunities for student-athletes to improve their skills during the off season, Olson said.

"We can work on the team skills here at school, but if they want to grow as a player, they need to work individually on their own personal skills," Olson said. "There were some clubs that were still playing, but very few camps were available. I just rely on them to put the time in."

Since the year started with volleyball and football scheduled for the spring, many student-athletes chose to try a new fall sport, such as cross country. Now that volleyball has moved back to fall, students have a choice to make, and Olson said staff would be fully supportive if students wanted to attempt two sports at once, rather than choose one over the

Overall, Grizzlies volleyball this year will be characterzed by one word – flexibility.

"We have a very unusual year this year, because all of our players coming back, first of all, are pretty young," Olson said. "But also, they have to fill different shoes this year, because on any given day, we might have multiple people out due to illness or other circumstances. What I'm telling the kids this year is that they have to be ready and **NWFA hosts** flexible. Granted, not everyone wants to play every position, but we need to be flexible so that they are capable of playing more than one."

#### HOSPITAL AWARD



The Cook Lions recently presented the Minnesota Lions Diabetes Association Dream Catcher Award to the Cook Hospital for their work in health education and screening for diabetes, high blood pressure and sight, along with other health concerns. Shown accepting the award from Cook Lions President Steve Kajala, left, and Minnesota Lions Diabetes Trustee Mark Eyre, right, is Cook Hospital CEO Teresa Debevec. submitted photo

#### COMMUNITY EVENTS

### member exhibit

COOK- Northwoods Friends of the Arts has kicked off a month-long exhibit and sale featuring the crafts and works of art of its own members.

The annual "Susan Martin Memorial Member Show" scheduled to run from Oct. 1 to Oct. 30 is named after a founding member and the first president of NWFA. Sue and her husband, Ron, owned and operated Moosebirds General Store on Lake Vermilion, and she was an inspiration for many before her sudden death in 2018.

The gallery in Cook is open Thursdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Social distancing and face covers are required in the gallery. The exhibit will also be available to view on Facebook.

#### **Benefit for fire** victims is Oct. 10

COOK- The Cook VFW will serve as hosts for a pulled pork benefit dinner and raffle on Oct. 10 for Tadd Eisner and Jana Hovez, whose home was totally destroyed by fire on Sept. 17 while they were away at work. In addition to the loss of their house and possessions, four pets also died in the fire.

The event will run from noon to 6 p.m., featuring a meal of a pulled pork sandwich, cole slaw, chips, and a cookie. The charge is \$8 for adults, \$5 for children ages 5-12, and children under five eat for free. Take-out orders are available by calling 218-666-0500.

All family, friends and community members are encouraged to come show their support for the couple. Those who can't attend but wish to make a monetary donation can do so through North Star Credit Union, 24 S River St. in Cook.

#### **Book club will** meet on Oct. 13

COOK- Readers and Rappers will have their next meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 13 at 1 p.m. in the Wolfe Den at the Northwoods Friends of the Arts Gallery in Cook.

The book to be discussed will be "Harvest Home" by Thomas Tryon. Liz Storm will be the moderator.

### **Last Chance marks 25th** anniversary with events

COOK- It's the 25th anniversary of the opening of the Last Chance Liquor Store in Cook, and a month-long celebration is being planned by staff.

administrator City Theresa Martinson shared some of the details with city council members at their regular meeting last Thursday.

A kickoff celebration was scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 1, from 3-6 p.m., and a variety of special events will be held throughout the month, Martinson said.

Mixology Mondays will feature mixed drink samples from 5-7 p.m., and people can sample

various wines on Wine Wednesdays from 5-7 p.m. Food trucks will be available on Fridays and Saturdays. There will be weekly specials and raffle prizes, and the store has new promotional clothing items and koozies for

### North Woods welcomes new social worker

by JOHN VUKMANICH North Woods Principal

FIELD TWP- This week I would like to introduce another one of our new staff members, Ms. Tia Jansen. Ms. Jansen is our new school social worker. The position is new to our school and will share some similar-

ities with existing social

worker roles, but also

have a unique responsi-

bility to support students

and families in our school



Tia Jansen

Where are you originally from and where did you go to high school and college?

I'm originally from southwest Minnesota. I attended high school in Willmar, and went on to earn my Bachelor of Social Work degree from UMD.

Were there teachers who were an influence on you? What characteristics did these teachers

have that were important to you? There was one professor in my program at UMD who always made her students feel as

though they were seen,

even in large classes. I really admire her ability to touch the hearts of her students and inspire them to participate in her class-

What is your job and role at North Woods? My role as a social

ker within a school is very different than that of a social worker within a county or tribal position. Essentially, I will be the link that connects our students' school, community and home-lives. I will work with students and families to make sure that they have what they need in all areas of their lives. These needs could include access to resources such as transportation, housing, mental health help, academic help, and

Why did you choose social work as a profession?

I chose this career path because I enjoy problem solving almost as much as I enjoy helping/working with others, and social work lets me do both.

What is something you are hoping to accomplish in your first year at North Woods?

I want to make sure all of the students know how I can help them and feel as though they can come to me for support!

What are your hob-

I enjoy anything outdoors! In the summer, I love breaking out my kayak and spending all day on the lake, hiking with my 3-year-old Australian Shepherd, fishing/ tubing with my friends and family, or watching a good movie on rainy days.

What is something you like about North

I really like how tight knit everyone is! Everyone has been so welcoming of me and the new position in the school that

What is a professional goal for you?

I want to earn my Master of Social Work degree, which would eventually allow me to mentor social work students. Many people who aren't familiar with social work see it as a very harrowing career, and sometimes it is, but it can also be a really rewarding experience! My goal is to show incoming social work professionals just how enlightening it can be, despite the hard times.

What is something you love about northern

I have never experienced the Superior National Forest at their peak fall colors, and I am in love! This is by far the most beautiful region of Minnesota I have ever

What is a piece of advice you'd give your students?

No one knows what you need better than you

Sturgeon Canister Site

Hours

Sun: 10am-4pm

**County 77 Canister Site** 

Winter Hours

Thurs, Sun: noon-5pm

St. Louis County

**Area Solid Waste Facility** 

site hours

do; don't be afraid to speak up for yourself!

As you get to know the kids at North Woods, what do you hope our students remember you for?

I hope the students at North Woods remember me as someone they can count on to be there for them and support them!

If families would like

to get in touch with you, what is the best way?

I am able to respond more quickly to emails, tjansen@isd2142.k12. mn.us, but you can also reach me by phone, 218-666-5221 Ext. 5312.

Thank you Tia, for choosing to join our team at North Woods School!



### the TIMBERIAY

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Hours

Mon: 10am-6pm

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5345 Regional Landfill Rd., Virginia

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Cook Transfer Station 2134 S. Beatty Rd

Winter Hours Tue, Sat: 1pm-4:30pm Regional Landfill

Kabetogama Lake Canister Site

Winter Hours

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Mon-Fri: 8am-4:30pm

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### Letters from Readers

# Thirteen reasons to support our leader in the White House

The presidential election is upon us. It is by far the most momentous election of my lifetime. Ironically, it's the 13th presidential election in which I've had the privilege to vote. That said, here are 13 reasons to vote for the incumbent.

First, he is a skilled leader in time of crisis. Consider some COVID-19 statistics. We are among the worst in reports of COVID deaths per country. That's bogus. A nation with a large population is going to have a large number of deaths. What about deaths per capita? Among the 45 nations with at least 50,000 cases, we are only the eighth highest. How comforting.

Second, he's a uniter. What doesn't kill us makes us stronger. That must be the president's motive for constantly employing his "us versus them" doctrine. He's making us stronger.

Third, he knows economics. Who could better marshal us through that future financial crisis than a person who inherited a fortune, stiffed his creditors and filed for bankruptcy six times?

Fourth, he compelled us to

stand alone in the world. We don't need to cooperate with other nations. We're perfectly capable of solving problems on our own. All we have to do is wall ourselves off, so we remain unaffected by the rest of the world.

Fifth, he stands up to our most formidable enemies. Putin, for example, knows that confronting our president is bothersome. It's a lot easier just to manipulate him by showing him how grand it is to be a dictator and by stroking his ego.

Sixth, he's trustworthy. By some counts, the president has told only 20,000 lies while in office, about two dozen per day. We're not really capable of handling the truth. We need a leader who tells (some of) us what we want to hear.

Seventh, he is a strong supporter of our military personnel. No suckers or losers there. Nothing but respect for troops captured in service to our nation, such as John McCain. And, bounties on the lives of our military personnel in Afghanistan are simply the price of doing business.

Eighth, he needs to consult with no one when making tough decisions. Why bother? Hunches and snap decisions are easier. Or, easier still, don't make a decision at all, and everything will work itself out in the end. Expert advisors are just a bunch of stupid losers anyway.

Ninth, he takes responsibility. His motto: the buck stops here, although there are a lot of situations where things aren't his fault. Our lack of response to the pandemic, for example, is the fault of the Chinese. They started it and they should have protected us. Also, Obama must have had something to do with it.

Tenth, he puts our well-being ahead of his own. I'm sure we taxpayers aren't paying him for official government functions held at his expensive facilities—are we?

Eleventh, he is law-abiding. At times, though, the law is simply wrong. If we think a law is wrong, we shouldn't follow it. And, if he wants to hold a rally where such gatherings are not allowed, who's going to arrest him, anyway? After all, he could shoot someone in the middle of 5th Avenue and not lose any supporters.

Twelfth, he never contradicts himself. We always have a clear picture of where he stands and what we can expect from him. He's a Democrat; no, he's a Republican. He's pro-choice; no, he's pro-life. He's going to drain the swamp; no, he's going to put scoundrels in positions of power. Ted Cruz is a wacko and a liar; no, he's beautiful...and on and on.

Thirteenth, he's a man with high moral standards to be respected. He would never grab women where they would least expect it. He would never show contempt for anyone who honestly disagrees with him. He is kind, considerate, and compassionate. He is a model for all our children and grandchildren. Wouldn't it be tremendous if we all would follow his outstanding example?

With such a stellar record and attributes, I cannot see why anyone would vote for Joe Biden rather than the current guy in office.

Rich Floyd Ely

## Like an abusive family, this is the U.S.

This nation has now lost over 200,000 lives to COVID.

We, as a nation, grieve. We mourn the loss of so many lives. We listen to their stories. We say their names. We celebrate their lives. And we hurt.

At the same time, we, as a nation, enshrouded in grief and pain, hear a loud voice proclaim that few lives have been affected by COVID. Shaking our heads, we reread the statistics. We read obituaries and listen to testimonies from those who have lost loved ones. We listen again to that loud voice, a voice that dismisses the pain and anguish of those who have lost loved ones to COVID.

At this difficult and painful time, we yearn for a leader who has the ability to process grief and pain. We yearn for a leader who has the ability to express words of comfort, empathy, and compassion instead of words of denial and dismissal, as if none of these deaths have occurred or matter.

The dynamic of denying reality is common in abusive families. A family member has been abused. When the abuse is confronted directly, many family

members look away, refusing to acknowledge the abuse, pretending it did not happen, suggesting the abused member is making it up.

Is that what we are experiencing at this time in this nation? We listen to those who have lost loved ones to COVID. We feel their pain. Bells chime, 200 times, one chime for 1,000 deaths. A display of over 200,000 faces is posted on a photo wall.

As we mourn the deaths of so many, other voices surface, a loud chorus of deniers. Deniers who dismiss COVID. Deniers who refuse to wear masks. Deniers mimicking a leader who mocks those who follow recommended guidelines from medical experts and who boasts that not many have been affected by COVID.

These are the dynamics of an abusive family system. Reality ignored, pain dismissed, replaced with a false narrative.

And at this time, in this nation, this is us.

Ellie Larmouth Tower

# We must vote to unify the country again

When I first heard the slogan, "Make America Great Again" I thought it was silly, analogous to "Make sugar sweet again." Four years on, I've come to understand that the slogan actually has a very dark and insidious meaning. In this context "Great" doesn't mean: 'a nation governed by officials who were elected in free and fair elections, in which the rights of all people are protected by the rule of law, which champions peace, democracy, useful scientific research, universal human rights, and environmental preservation.'The past four years have demonstrated quite the opposite.

Like every nation, the U.S. has confronted great challenges, the Civil War having been the greatest of them all. However, it is indisputable that the greatness of the United States derives from the fact that in spite of deep schisms, we have for the past 150 years remained united... until now.

What is so terrifying about the current situation is that our country is not splitting along regional lines as it did in the mid-1800s. Every constituency in the nation is fracturing between citizens who are intoxicated by the "conservative" vision, and those who understand how dangerous it is. A vessel broken in two can be mended, but one that is shattered will never regain its integrity. While conservatives may believe they are making America greater than it was in 2016, they are actually doing the exact opposite. One hundred and fifty years may not be enough for a society to mature beyond its racist roots. Returning to those roots is not what America needs. America cannot afford to

engage in the kind of battles that its leadership is inciting. The only sane alternative is to vote sensibly in November and start mending the cracks in our unity before the nation fragments completely and America's greatness is lost forever.

#### David B. Stanton Cook

### Setting the record straight on TEDA

Thank you for the opportunity to clarify the facts surrounding the work of the Tower Economic Development Authority following inaccurate information in other local media.

First, it has been a remarkably productive year for TEDA. For the first time in years, the city council has allowed TEDA to function as envisioned by its founding resolution and bylaws, including managing its own budget and hiring an executive director to actually carry out the directives of the TEDA board.

While the year is not yet

While the year is not yet complete, TEDA has already accomplished the following:

1) Completed the full buildout of the 9,000 square-foot industrial building now leased to Lamppa Manufacturing. TEDA did so with more than \$60,000 left over from the original IRRR loan, which now won't have to be repaid. This project has saved five existing jobs and already created seven new jobs, with more expected to come.

2) Addressed long-neglected water damage at the Vermilion Country School building through the processing of an insurance claim, and invested funds in roof repairs to prevent future damage.

3) Assumed maintenance responsibility for both the Lamppa facility and the charter school building from the city of Tower, reducing demands on city staff.

4) Acquired a blighted, tax

forfeit residence in Tower and completed a demolition project there, making way for residential redevelopment at the site in 2021.

5) Acquired 5.02 acres of prime development property along Marina Drive from St. Louis County for a future project.

6) Brought in \$65,000 in various grants to Tower in just the first nine months of the year, including for business assistance, residential demolition, trail construction, and a housing study to explore the potential demand for active senior apartments.

7) Executed a new lease with Your Boat Club to allow the new business to locate tasteful signage along Hwy. 169, while generating an eight-percent annual return on TEDA's investment in the property along Marina Drive.

8) Provided technical assistance to a Main Street business that allowed them to refinance debt and develop a more effective business plan.

9) Conducted a well-attend-

ed joint planning session on the future of development at the city's harbor. TEDA is current-

ly working closely with Tower Harbor Shores to advance that long-delayed project. 10) Began planning for a

7

senior apartment complex to be located on Main Street. Applied for and received a \$3,600 grant to pay the cost of a housing study to determine the market viability of the project.

This is a just partial list of

This is a just partial list of TEDA's many accomplishments this year. TEDA members also volunteered more than 100 hours of their personal time to assist with the construction of the boardwalk for the new Ancient Cedars Trail.

TEDA's current budget includes \$439,280 in revenues and \$408,972 in projected expenditures for 2020. Only \$5,000 of that comes from the city taxpayers through TEDA's annual levy. The rest comes from outside grants, lease payments, and non-recourse loans from the IRRR. The suggestion that city taxpayers are paying for the mission of TEDA beyond the annual levy is wrong. Instead, city taxpayers and residents are benefitting significantly from the economic development work that TEDA is now undertaking on behalf of the city.

What's more, TEDA is operating in the most transparent manner of any time in its history. Meetings are now properly posted, detailed minutes are publicly available, and a detailed activity report is now provided monthly to the city council and the public. TEDA, for the first time, has adopted a data practices policy that ensures that all public data is made available promptly when requested. We would encourage anyone with an interest or concern over TEDA's activities to request information from TEDA Executive Director Marshall Helmberger.

Now is a good time for residents to get involved. TEDA will soon be moving forward to set priorities for 2021 and we welcome public input into that process.

Thank you for the opportunity to clarify TEDA's work.

Stephen Peterson
President
Marshall Helmberger
Executive Director
Tower Economic
Development Authority

### Thanks for a meaningful column

I felt compelled to write a letter to thank Scarlet for her very impactful and emotionally honest letter. Her journey is one to be admired and respected. I loved her message and I am empowered by her strength. Her journey serves as a reminder we each can choose how we live our life, in a way that is meaningful to us.

Marcia Chambers Ely

#### $\mathbf{TOGO}$ ...Continued from page 3

Tomassoni appears to be calling for a session where the bill would be the only matter on the agenda.

Togo staff and supporters, bolstered by the AFSCME Council 5-Duluth union, have partnered with area legislators to push for a solution to the Togo dilemma since Schnell first announced the proposed closures in early August. The campaign has included ongoing phone calls and letters to public officials, an online petition, and two well-attended rallies in Nashwauk.

"The Challenge Incarceration Program remains one of our state's most effective programs to reduce recidivism and prison re-entry," said

Council 5 Executive Director Julie Bleyhl. "The Legislature has historically failed to provide funding that would protect correctional officers, staff, and the public. These closures alone could potentially lay off over 100 correctional officers and staff if they cannot find employment within other areas in the DOC. These workers are on our front lines and deserve our thanks and admiration for their work, not lay-off notices.' At the first rally in August, Schnell told the

At the first rally in August, Schnell told the *Timberjay* that the department would stop sending inmates to Togo in anticipation of the closure, and the numbers bear that

out. At the time of his

announcement, the facility had approximately 60 inmates. As of Tuesday, that number had dropped to 36. A final CIP graduation is scheduled for mid-November, after which only a skeleton crew will be retained for a short period, to close down.

Also after the rally,

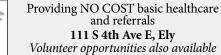
Schnell expressed optimism a supplemental funding bill could be passed.

"We need to get this through, and I believe that I'm hearing it's possible," Schnell said. "We certainly had a lot of conversations about it. But there was a lot of talk about the importance of it. And there is nothing that I would like more than the opportunity to walk this back."

The Legislature took

no action in the subsequent special session in September. Should

Open Every Thursday 5:30-7 p.m.



supplemental funding be approved in October, Togo and Willow River would get the funds to stay open through June 2021. However, both facil-

ities could face the chopping block again in the spring when legislators contend with a projected \$4.7 billion deficit for the next biennium.



### ISD 2142 urges families to take broadband speed test

REGIONAL- St. Louis County Schools Superintendent Reggie Engebritson learned firsthand this past spring about the challenges many district families face with distance education due to a lack of broadband internet access.

As a first step in addressing the problem, Engebritson is working with the Range

Association of Municipalities and Schools to develop a district-specific map that will show exactly who has broadband access and who doesn't.

"Our district began working with RAMS and St. Louis County as they undertook a crowdsourcing speed test project that would help collect much needed data on the actual connections people in rural St. Louis County have," Engebritson said. "We encouraged our students to take the speed test from home and provided the link to a simple 60-second test. Now, our school district has the unique opportunity to have their own speed test so that we can truly determine the limits to the connections our students and families are

experiencing every day."

Engebritson is encouraging any family that hasn't done the speed test to do so by Oct. 9 by going to https://expressoptimizer.net/student/. No personal information is collected, and the test takes just a minute to complete. No other programs should be running when the test is done.

The test result is immediate-

ly plotted by computer software, which will develop a map specific to the district. The information will be used for planning and development purposes, and will assist in pursuing funding opportunities for future services.

### District making adjustments to in-school, distance learning plans

At meeting held at Cherry School, board honors vice-chair Lynette Zupetz, who recently passed away

by DAVID COLBURN

Cook-Orr Editor

**REGIONAL-Before getting** down to business at their Sept. 22 meeting, ISD 2142 School Board members observed a moment of silence to honor the memory of vice chair Lynette Zupetz, of Forbes, who died on Sept. 2 after battling cancer and heart issues. Zupetz was 74.

"Lynette will be missed," board member Christine Taylor said. "She and I didn't always vote the same or see eye to eye, but I never had a single doubt how much she loved her community and her school, and the respect she had for everybody there. Every vote that she cast was in the hopes of betterment of her community and her school."

While Taylor was logged into the meeting via Zoom, the other members were assembled at the Cherry School, whose attendance area Zupetz represented on the board.

"I'm glad we came to Cherry School today," member Chris Koivisto said. "For Lynette, it was an appropriate time and place to meet here."

'She was a Cherry Tiger," Chairman Dan Manick said. "If there was something where she felt slighted, as a board member she wasn't getting in the way of the district succeeding. But if there was ever an issue, that gal was Cherry Tiger. It'll be tough to replace her passion."

While selecting a replacement for vice chair would have seemed a mere formality, board member Chet Larson expressed his objection when Manick called for nominations.

"Since there's only a couple months left and you're going to reorganize in January, why bother?" Larsen said.

"I will be leaning on my vice chair between now and the first of the year," Manick replied. "I would hate to see it empty."

Koivisto was the sole nominee for the position and was elected on a split vote, with Larson voting nay.

### Superintendent's

Engebritson reported that the district had been working on changes to the learning plan based on feedback received from the teachers's union in a recent special board committee meeting. Teachers expressed concerns that the dual responsibilities of teaching in-person classes while simultaneously instructing distance learners was compromising the quality of instruction and creating "double duty" for staff because of the extra time necessary to accommodate distance learning.

"We've been looking at making some adjustments to that plan," Engebritson said. "And so we'll be rolling out some changes. We just had our meeting today, so I'll be getting an email out to teachers tonight and rolling out details to parents. It will be improving our educational strategies and instruction to both our in-person students and to our distance learners, especially at the elementary level."

A few days after the meeting, the district announced that beginning on Oct. 7, students in grades

7-12 will not have in-person classes on Wednesday.

"This will allow us to continue to meet the needs of our in-person learners and distance learners," Engibritson wrote to

The district will also be making changes to some elementary classes, to free up some elementary teachers to exclusively teach distance learning students, combining students districtwide into stand-alone distance-learning grade-level classes. The district will be notifying parents by Oct. 1 if their child's classroom teacher will be changing. This change may involve combining some grades in some buildings.

Engebritson said that district schools will remain in the in-person learning model for now as administrators continue to monitor increases in the 14-day case average used as a benchmark for looking at changing to a hybrid model. Across two weeks the case rate rose from 4.87 cases per 10,000 in greater St. Louis County to 13.74, above the level of 10 that would indicate changing to a hybrid model. However, state guidelines dictate that districts consider that as a starting point for discussions, and the increase has been fueled largely by cases in long-term care facilities, Engebritson said, which doesn't pose a threat to school-age populations.

Board members questioned Engebritson about the status of possible COVID-19 cases in the district and how that information would be communicated within the district and to parents and the community. Engebritson replied that while numerous students have been sent home with symptoms of illness, the district currently has no reports of positive COVID-19 cases. Maintaining confidentiality of health information to protect the identity of any individual diagnosed in the future will be a primary factor in determining how notifications will be handled, Engebritson said. In other business, the board:

➤ Gave preliminary certification for the maximum 2021 proposed pay tax levy, with the understanding that additional work with the Department of

Education is needed before

establishing a final levy amount. ➤ Approved revisions to the labor agreement covering bus drivers, including a 3.5-percent pay increase across the board and adjustments to contributions to health insurance plans.

➤ Approved revisions to the labor agreement covering clerical staff, including a 0.5-percent increase in base salary in year two of the agreement and a onetime \$2,000 stipend, as well as adjustments to the contributions to health insurance plans.

➤ Approved a memorandum of understanding to establish working procedures between the district and the Bois Forte Early Childhood Programs for preschoolers eligible for special education support.

➤ Recalled Mary Larson as a part-time Title I teacher at Tower-Soudan.

➤ Hired Kristin Sopoci as a part-time Title I teacher at North

➤ Hired Lori Edstrom, Lynn

Brown, Rachel Fultz, and Kelly Hams as part-time paraprofessionals at North Woods.

➤ Hired Rebecca Smith as a part-time preschool teacher assistant at North Woods.

➤ Hired Diane Lindland as an assistant cook at Tower-

➤ Accepted resignations from paraprofessional Jessica Hannine, preschool teaching assistant Rebecca Bundy, ECFE aide and paraprofessional Sara Niska, and ECSE paraprofessional Drayke Snidarich, all from North Woods, and paraprofessionals Cheri Seopa and Lisa Kultala and assistant cook Diane Lindland, all from Tower-Soudan.

➤ Restored the prior hourly work assignments for paraprofessional and teacher aide Lori Nurmi and library assistant Chris Gabrielson, both at North Woods. Their hours had been cut as part of a districtwide action to reduce the hours of all similarly classified employees to a maximum of 26 hours per week, but the board voted Tuesday to rescind that reduction for any employees hired prior to July

➤ Received an update on the Cherry School expansion project from ICS project manager Nathan Norton. Fifth and sixthgrades are meeting in temporary classrooms due to ongoing construction. The project is expected to be completed by mid-October.

#### RANGE JEWELRY & GIF 13 In-store jewelry & watch repair Cash for Gold & Silver 218-827-2515 33 Central Blvd. Suite 200 Babbitt Shopping Center

### Operation Round Up® gives more than \$28,000 to community programs

contributions of Lake Country Power's participating members, the Operation Round Up® Trust Board recently approved \$28,900 in assistance to local community programs during its quarterly meeting.

The cooperative's Trust Board reviewed and considered 19 grant applications and distributed funds to 17 projects and programs this past quarter, a significant drop in the number of applications. Since the program's inception in October 2004, more than \$2.5 million has

REGIONAL- Through the ty-based projects and programs.

All funds generated through Operation Round Up® are set aside in a trust fund. A voluntary Trust Board of nine co-op members administers the trust. Of the funds collected through the program, 100 percent is distributed to charitable organizations through an application and selection process. The trust board uses special guidelines and policies when choosing recipients.

Most recent recipients include Embarrass Township, Tower-Soudan Civic Club/Operation Santa, Story Portage book club,

Project Care Free Clinic, Fishing with Vets, Ely Winter Festival and Ely Artwalk.

Operation Round Up® is a charitable program unique to electric co-ops, which is designed to provide financial assistance to worthwhile activities and community projects by "rounding up" members' electric bills to the nearest dollar. The average donation of each participating Lake Country Power member is less than \$6 annually.

Among Lake Country Power's 43,000 members, nearly

Tower-Soudan Historical Society, 64 percent of all active electric accounts participate in the program through voluntary contributions. Interested members can opt into the Operation Round Up® program by calling the cooperative at 800-421-9959 or using an online

form at lakecountrypower.coop. Applications for grants are available online at www.lakecountrypower.coop (My Cooperative> Community > Operation Round Up®). The next application deadline is Sunday, Nov. 15.



for Tadd Eisner & Jana Hoyez Cook VFW • Noon to 6

Pulled Pork Sandwich, Slaw, Chips, Cookie Adults \$8, Children (5-12) \$5 Covid restrictions apply-Masks are encouraged.

Due to COVID...there will be limited seating indoors. All meals will be served in take-out containers. Take-out orders available.

Curbside service available by calling 666-0500. **RAFFLES INCLUDE:** 

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Monetary donations may be made at: North Star Credit Union 24 S River St., Cook, MN or on the GoFund Me page for Tadd and Jana





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#### **SCHOOL...**Continued from page 1

to help fund the project featured a lower-than-projected interest rate that looks to save district taxpayers more than \$2.2 million in debt service tax levies, according to a senior member of the district's financial advising firm.

Enhanced floor plan details of the new construction to link the campus buildings and a conceptual drawing of the exterior of the new building were also presented by the district's architect.

A timeline for awarding construction bids over the winter could lead to a groundbreaking celebration next May, according to Superintendent Erik Erie. The project could be completed in time for the beginning of school in the fall of 2022.

Jodie Zesbaugh, senior municipal advisor for Ehlers, the school district's public finance advisor, highlighted the impact of the bond sale.

"We received an interest rate significantly lower than projected," she said. "We were thrilled to see those results."

With the low interest rate district taxpayers will realize a "substantial reduction" in property tax levies over the 20-year duration of the loan. In addition, according to Zesbaugh, the successful bond sale allowed an increase to the project construction fund. She pointed to the district's "excellent credit rating" in allowing for the successful bond sale.

Six bids were received for the bond sale, and the low bidder was Piper Sandler & Co., of Minneapolis.

"The True Interest Cost of 1.39 percent is substantially lower than the estimate of 3.25 percent used in our pre-election estimates," Zesbaugh said. She noted that the original estimates were established in the spring just as the coronavirus pandemic was growing, creating much volatility in the markets." As a result, the total debt service tax levies on the bonds will be approximately \$2,280,000 less than our pre-election estimates."

"The actual principal amount of the bond sale was reduced from \$10 million to \$9,945,000 as a result of a premium paid by the bidder," she said.

The closing date on the bonds is scheduled for Oct. 15, and the district will receive the construction funds at that time.

Bond sale documents indicated a pre-election estimate of \$9,861,442 available for construction costs. As a result of the premium bid received, net amount available for construction costs will be \$10,140,174.

An updated analysis of the tax impact to district property owners shows an estimated tax increase of \$53 per year for a homestead residential property with an estimated market value of \$100,000. A commercial/industrial property with an estimated market value of \$250,000 will see an annual property tax increase of \$314.

"These results are very

close to the estimates we provided in August, but they are lower," Zesbaugh said. "We decided to pay as much principal as we could as quickly as possible to save on interest costs over the life of the bond issue."

She also highlighted the ISD 696 rating report from Moody's Investor Service. "In their rationale, they talk about your tax base, reserves, long-term debt, pension burden, and they mention your strong governance, particularly the district's history of good budget management. They don't say that very often. That was good for us and it was nice to see," Zesbaugh said.

#### School levy

Due largely to the voter-approved bonding referendum, ISD 696 will collect more property taxes next year. At a special meeting last week, school board members approved a preliminary 2021 maximum property tax levy of \$2,366,724, a 31.7-percent increase over last year.

The jump, from \$1,797,063, is a result of the referendum approved by almost two-thirds of district voters in August.

Without the added referendum, the levy would have increased by 6.7 percent, according to district documents. The levy could decrease, but may not increase before final certification in December.

The 2019 levy of \$1,811,459 accounted for about 21 percent of the district's revenue of \$8,694,165.

#### **Facility design**

Erie met last week with officials from Architectural Resources, Inc., and Kraus Anderson to review facility designs.

"We looked to get the two teams (architect and construction manager) to nail down timelines such as going for bids and getting designs completed," he said. "We are dealing with a short timeline."

ARI is pushing to deliver construction documents and have the design completed by the end of January, he said. After a call for bids and a three-week submission window, bid packages could be in hand by the third week of February. Construction bids would

then be awarded.

Preliminary architectural drawings and a more detailed floor plan of the new building to be constructed between the Washington and Memorial buildings were released this week.

The facilities committee and principals were set to meet Friday to review the floor plans and give ARI additional feedback.

"They need to be getting into design development," Erie said.

He said the facing surface of the new linking building (see illustration) is "true brick" in appearance but poured concrete in reality, with brick tile on the exterior.

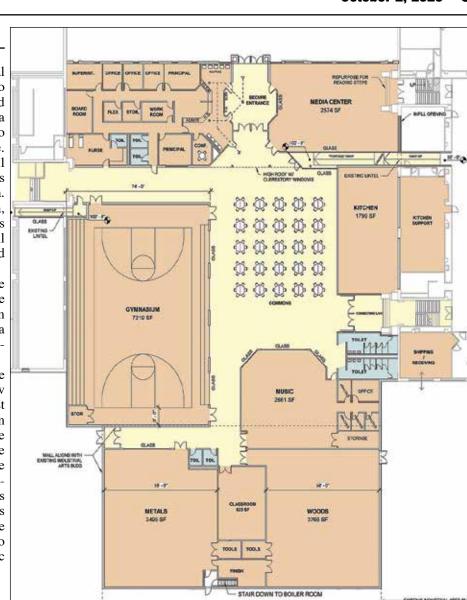
"They are trying to honor the (traditional) building design," he said.

More details were added to the new office spaces. District,

Washington and Memorial offices will all be located to the right of the new secured entrance, and the media center will be located to the left of the entrance. The music department will feature glass on three sides facing the commons area. The industrial arts area, featuring separate woods and metals workshops, will be located on the south end of the new structure.

Erie noted that the renovations planned for the Memorial and Washington buildings will be part of a second phase of the renovation project.

"The designers are concentrating on the new construction phase, almost 39,000 square feet, to begin with," he said. "They are keeping in mind the entire scope and total cost of the entire project. We promised our voters renovations in our other two buildings and to take care of the infrastructure, but we also promised them the basic concepts of this design."





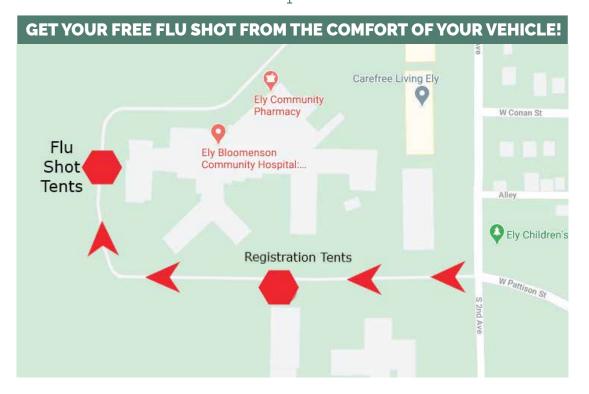


## **Drive-Thru Flu Shot Event**

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#### **TOWER...** Continued from page 1 -

the city has faced considerable financial difficulty in recent years. But Ranua told the council that some of the city's financial problems stemmed from a chaotic structure to the city's budgeting and finance, which she is currently working to fix.

"The way the city has structured its budget is not aligned with the state auditor's guidelines for how a city should be set up," Ranua told the council during her presentation. Ranua said it has taken considerable time to unwind the tangled budget and rebuild it on a firmer foundation.

Among the changes, she said, is to convert several city accounts to enterprise funds. She noted that Hoodoo Point and the airport are two portions of the city's budget that should be converted to enterprise funds and managed like for-profit businesses.

"Because we haven't been operating these as an enterprise fund, we haven't had the mindset to generate profit," she said. "If you were operating as an enterprise fund, then you wouldn't have to levy property taxes to fund those operations," she said.

The city's water and sewer account has been run as an enterprise fund for years, but taxpayers have continued to subsidize the operation because fees charged to customers don't cover all of the expenses associated with the service. The council has taken steps to at least partially address that shortfall in recent months by increasing the user fees for water and

Ranua also noted that expenses for major capital projects should be handled through capital funds, rather than city operations. "Capital projects were simply buried in operating budgets," Ranua noted. "So, they weren't clearly delineated."

Mayor Orlyn Kringstad noted that Ranua has complained about the city's budget structure since assuming the clerk-treasurer job 11 months ago. "What would it take to get from the tangled spaghetti we've been in, to the system recommended by the state auditor?" he asked.

Ranua said some progress has been made, but it will take more time to get the budget where it needs to be. "In the meantime, we have to set the levy," she said. At the same time, she said she feels confident she can manage the city's financial affairs within the existing levy while she continues to rebuild the structure of the city's budget.

Ranua said she's now working on a kind of translation template that will allow the council and the public to understand how money that used to be tracked in a mishmash of accounts is now being accounted for in newly-designated accounts.

"So, you're talking about a cross reference table, like a list of the old codes along with the new codes?" asked council member Kevin Norby. "It will make the budgeting easier," said Ranua.

"Sounds like it will be more transparent as well," said Norby. "That's been my goal all along," said Kringstad.

Ranua said she will also be budgeting revenue on a monthly basis to better understand the city's cash flow needs. In the past, she said most revenue was simply entered in a lump sum which made it difficult to recognize when the city might face cash flow shortages. The city experienced just such a shortage in late 2019, just before Ranua was hired, which forced the city to take out an emergency loan from the League of Minnesota Cities. The city is currently in the midst of a five-year payback on that loan.

Ranua noted that the city will face budget pressures in 2021, including

the impact of a union contract that provides pay and benefit increases for city workers. She is also budgeting more for legal services. She said the city has suffered by consistently seeking legal advice on a number of issues, which has left the city to clean up issues that might have otherwise been resolved, sometimes at considerable expense. At the same time, Ranua said she has found ways to save the city money. For example, she said she is now tracking the Gunderson Trust in the city's financial software, which should save the city the cost of a separate audit.

"I'm confident if we keep it [the levy] the same, we can work through some of those things," said Ranua.

Council member Mary Shedd made the motion to set the preliminary levy at the same level as last year, and the rest of the council. minus the absent Sheldon Majerle, supported the motion.

#### **Hoodoo Point** Campground

In the only other business of the night, the council approved an amendment to the Hoodoo Point Campground management contract that will allow managers

Randy and Julie Pratt to leave the campground earlier than Oct. 15 and to arrive later than April 15. The current contract specifies those dates for departure and arrival, but the managers have traditionally arrived about a week after April 15 and left prior to Oct. 15. Randy Pratt noted that there is typically still snow on the ground on April 15 and water and sewer lines are still frozen, making it difficult for them to reside at the campground until closer to the opening.

The campground actually operates from May 1-Oct. 1.

Biden's policies and say

little or nothing about

President Trump or his

policies. Several highlight

Biden's campaign theme,

"Build Us Back Better,"

and tout his proposals to:

health care by providing

a tax credit for working

negotiate with drug compa-

nies to lower prices.

families.

➤ Lower the cost of

➤ Allow Medicare to

➤ Raise the minimum

➤ Expand coronavirus

➤ Create a nationwide

> Expand funding to

➤ Increase funding to

➤ Boost the country's

Another DFL flyer

mandate requiring masks in

state and local governments

to prevent layoffs of emer-

schools to provide needed

technology to teach suc-

ability to produce masks

and other protective equip-

provides North Country

residents with information

on how to cast their ballot,

whether by mail, early in

person, or on Election Day.

ing is another difference

between the two cam-

paigns. All of Biden's

literature includes the union

"bug" that signifies the

material was printed by a

union-run facility. None of

President Trump's mailings

DFL reports spending con-

siderably more on direct

mail marketing than the

state's GOP. According to

the Center for Responsive

Politics, which tracks

political fundraising and

spending on its website

OpenSecrets.com, the DFL

reports spending \$287,301

so far this cycle on mailings.

The party reports spending

\$163,554 on fundraising

efforts. The GOP, mean-

while, reports spending far

more on fundraising— a

total of \$841,936— while

reporting just \$28,572

on direct mail market-

ing. Given the volume of

material that the party has

already distributed in recent

weeks, it would appear that

the reported spending is

lagging behind the actual

To date, the Minnesota

feature the union label.

The use of union print-

public spaces.

gency responders.

cessfully online.

ment at home.

### **ELECTION**...Continued from page 1 have flooded the zone in

recent weeks with glossy, oversized mailers that provide a stark contrast in both substance and style, highlighting the differing approaches of the campaigns of the major party candidates.

While the campaign for a second term is typically a referendum on the sitting president, the mailers from both parties have surprisingly little to say about President Trump. Mailers produced by the Biden campaign and the DFL focus, instead, on presenting Biden's campaign agenda, highlighting issues ranging from health care to income inequality to election integrity. The GOP mailers, in contrast, say little about the president, his record, or his plans for a second term. Some don't even mention the president, focusing instead on linking candidate Biden with a litany of policies backed by progressives like Bernie Sanders and Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, many of which Biden has publicly

Headlines like, "Joe Biden and the Radical Left Are Attacking Our Values," or "Don't Let Joe Biden Shut Down Our Economy," are typical of the flyers that have appeared in mailboxes in recent days. The flyers accuse Biden of supporting cuts to police funding, amnesty and health care for undocumented immigrants, and "the biggest tax increase in history.

The GOP mailers also appear to distort Biden's recent polling by Gallup.

While the GOP flyers attack Biden almost exclusively, the flyers from the Minnesota DFL highlight

Biden has stated publicly that he opposes cuts to police funding, and that's why Politifact determined the GOP claim to be "false." In either case, "nearly all spending on both police and corrections is funded by state and local governments," according to the nonpartisan Urban Institute. The federal government does provide some grants to police, mostly for the purchase of equipment, but operational funding for police departments comes almost exclusively from the state and local levels. Biden, during his career in the Senate, consistently voted in favor of more police funding, not less.

policies on immigration. Undocumented immigrants already have the right to emergency room care in the U.S., thanks to a law enacted by President Ronald Reagan in 1986. Biden says he would allow the undocumented to purchase unsubsidized insurance through a public option as part of an expansion of the Affordable Care Act. Biden has also indicated he supports a pathway to citizenship for some of the 11 million undocumented believed to be in the country. That's a position that more than 80 percent of Americans say they support, based on On taxes, several anal-

yses have confirmed that Biden's call to repeal most of the Trump tax cuts would amount to a substantial tax increase for some Americans, though Biden has indicated that would only apply to households making over \$400,000 and to corporations. An estimated 80 percent of the tax savings attributable to the Trump tax cuts, enacted in 2017, went to corporations and high-income earners.

With just over one month to go until Election Day, and with voting already well underway, residents can expect to see more such flyers in their mailboxes in the days to come.

expenditures.



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**ESTATE AUCTION** 

Gorecki Estate (PR Harlan Gorecki)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17 • 10 AM

8309 1st Ave., Babbitt, MN 55706

VEHICLES- 1999 Chev 2500 Z71, 4X4 Pickup, Ext. Cab,

Short Box, Auto., w/Boss Smart Shield 8-Ft. 2-In. Power V

Snow Plow, High mi, Good Rubber; 2006 Chev Sierra, 4x4,

Reg Cab, Long Box, Auto., 80k mi; 2001 Chev LS 1/2-Ton

Pickup, 4x4, Ext. Cab, Long Box; 1998 Lincoln 4-Dr.

FIREARMS, BOATS AND SPORTING- Win., Mauser,

3,4xx mi, Clean; 2003 Honda Shadow 750 Motorcycle;

Sylvan, Crestliner Boats; Boat Trailers; Outboards and

German/Russian Rifles; Ruger, Win., Stevens, Sprg. and

H&R Shotguns; 2004 Honda Foreman Rubicon 500 Wheeler.

1998 Lund 1700 Pro Sport Adventurer Alum. Boat, 17-Ft.,

on Shoreland'r HD Trailer, w/Johnson V4, 115 hp OB; Lund,

Trolling Motors; Canoe; Oars and Paddles; Fish Houses on

Skids; Generator; Meat Saw; Down Riggers; Much Tackle

and Fishing Equip.; 2013 PJ 10,000# Tandem Axle Trailer,

20 x 8.5-Ft. w/Ramps; 2001 Floe Alum. 4-Place Snow-

mobile Trailer; 2004 Arctic Cat 660 Bearcat Snowmobile,

4-Stroke; 1996 Polaris XCR600 and '74 Arctic Cat Chee-

tah Snowmobiles; Snowmobile Pull Sled; Trailer; Traps;

Decoys; Bear Rug; Hunting Clothes; Wheelers for parts;

YARD, TRACTOR AND SHOP- JD Z-445 EZ Trak Zero-

Turn Mower, 54-In., 124 hrs; Farmall 460 Gas Tractor, NF,

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2019 CHEVY EQUINOX LT AWD.. Cajun Red!.....\$23,990

Pre-Owned! \$25,990 2017 BUICK ENCORE PREFERRED AWD...New arrival!.....\$17,990 2017 CHEVY CRUZE LT......Well equipped......\$15,990 2017 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LAREDO...Legendary...... Quality!.....\$28,990 2017 NISSAN ROGUE SV SPORT AWD.. Tackle Winter...... \$18,990 2017 NISSAN ROGUE SL SPORT AWD.. Safety Features...

2016 MITSUBISHI OUTLANDER SPORT AWD..Heated Seats. \$16,990 2015 CHEVY IMPALA LTD.....Only 11K Miles!......\$15,990 2014 CHEVY MALIBU LS....Low Miles......\$11,990

2013 CHEVY IMPALA LTZ....Fresh Trade-In!.....\$ 8,990 2012 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN SE....Stow-n-Go.....



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#### News in brief

#### **Lake Country Power** seeks award apps

REGIONAL- In the true spirit of a grassroots movement, Lake Country Power will recognize a non-profit organization that has made outstanding contributions to the local community through a special effort of volunteers and unique efforts.

Lake Country Power is seeking applications for the Touchstone Energy Community Award. Any non-profit organization that has helped make northern Minnesota a better place to live and work through its community service is eligible for the \$500 cash award.

Community members may nominate an organization by completing an application form, available at Lake Country Power or online at www. lakecountrypower. coop. Questions may be directed to Tami Zaun at 1-800-421-9959. The application will require a description of the community service project, program or event and the positive impact it brought to the community.

Applications are

due by 4:30 p.m., on Monday, Nov 2. Mail to Lake Country Power, Attn: Tami Zaun, 26039 Bear Ridge Drive, Cohasset, MN 55721, or e-mail tzaun@lcp.coop.

The award recipient will contend for the statewide Touchstone Energy Community Award, which has a cash prize of \$1,000. The statewide award winner will be recognized in early 2021.

#### Wildlife feeder kits available

REGIONAL- The Arrowhead Library System will be providing public libraries across the region with Color Your Yard Tire Wildlife Feeder Take-and-Make Kits to distribute during the month of October. These kits, designed by April and Reggie Fountain of Fountain Art in Chisholm, include everything you will need to make a colorful piece of art that can be used yearround to feed birds and other wildlife. Kits will be distributed at Babbitt Public Library and Cook Public Library.

Please note each loca-

tion has a limited number of kits. Feel free to contact your local library for more information.

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 or like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ alslibinfo.

#### **Virtual college fairs** underway

REGIONAL-College Fairs will be held exclusively as virtual events for 2020.

Due to significant changes and restrictions resulting from COVID-19, all Minnesota Education Fairs for the fall will be held exclusively as dynamic virtual events. Students, parents, and counselors are invited to register free for Virtual College Exploration sessions from now until Wednesday, Oct. 14 at www.MN-ACAC.org.

Students should reg-

ister for each session they want to attend. Once they register, they'll receive a confirmation email with their unique link to join the Zoom webinar.

(Students will also receive a barcode, but the barcode is not necessary for this virtual event.) When students register, they will be sharing their registration information only with colleges presenting on that particular panel. StriveScan, the host, does not sell or share personally identifiable student information with any other third parties. Students should participate live so they can ask questions and interact with the college admission counselors. If students are unable to attend live, they are encouraged to register for the sessions they are interested in. Recordings will be available at www.MN-ACA. org later. Parents should register their students using their students'sinformation. Virtual College Fairs are presented by the Minnesota Association for College Admission Counseling and StriveScan.

#### **PUBLIC HEALTH**

### Free COVID-19 testing available in Ely on Oct. 6

ELY - Free COVID-19 tests will be available here on Tuesday, Oct. 6. The Minnesota Department of Health and St. Louis County Public Health are partnering to offer the service, a one-day, drive-thru testing event, at the St. Louis County/Ely Public Works Facility, 2210 East Sheridan Street, from

Anyone who wants to be tested is encouraged to come, even if they don't have symptoms of COVID-19. No insurance or identification is needed. Residents from all surrounding communities, including in Lake County, are welcome and encouraged to be tested.

For convenience, people are asked to pre-register. This will give them a specific time slot and minimize time waiting in line. People can register online at primarybio.com/r/saintlouis. There also is a link to register at stlouiscountymn.gov/COVID19.

People will be allowed to drive up without an appointment, but those who have not preregistered may have to wait or be directed to come back later. Anyone who is unable to sign up online, or who needs a translator, can call 1-855-612-0677 for assistance. Free transportation is available for area residents in need by calling 218-741-7380.

Tests will be conducted in a drive-thru manner, so people being tested never have to leave their vehicle. A health care worker will gently insert what looks like a Q-tip into a person's nostril, twirl the swab to get a good sample, then remove it and place it in a vial, which is then sent to a lab for testing. This test is considered less invasive than similar tests conducted elsewhere.

Results are expected back in just a few days and will be communicated directly to the person who was tested.

To learn more, or to register, visit the MDH COVID Community Testing webpage: health.state. mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/testsites/index.html.

#### **IRON...**Continued from page 1 -

students was immediately curious and began asking questions about the array of 14 cast iron pans of varying shapes and sizes that Kajala had spread out on a table.

After talking and answering questions for nearly 40 minutes about the nuances of selecting, seasoning, and using cast iron cookware, Kajala got students involved in cooking an extensive list of items he had chosen. While cooking is serious business for Kajala, he balances that with a sense of humor.

"It's possible we may set the smoke alarm off," he said.

The former home economics classroom hasn't been used as such in several years, and Kajala had to climb behind two of the four electric ranges to long before the inviting aroma of sizzling onions for French onion gratinee soup filled the air.

Cast-iron-cooked Hawaiian chicken rumaki, petite grilled cheese sandwiches, roasted garlic, cheesy corn casserole, steakhouse hash browns, homemade apple pie, and fudge brownies all complemented the main entrée, New York strip steaks.

"It's hard to explain, but a steak done in a cast iron pan is beyond what you can do on a grill," Kajala said. "You get that perfect sear on there that locks in the flavors." Ribeyes are another cut Kajala said is ideal for cast iron.

Cooking has been largely a self-taught skill for Kajala, although growing up he sometimes cooked with one of two grandmothers he described plug them in, but it wasn't as "great cooks." But living independently when

going to college and after returning home, Kajala decided he needed to master cooking.

"You can cook food, and you may as well try to cook good food," he said. "I kind of took it from there and got into collecting cast iron and trying different recipes, just trying to become a better cook. I would like to have a meal that's as good or better than you can get at a restaurant for less cost."

As an avid outdoorsman, Kajala said he's also gotten plenty of cooking practice on hunting and fishing excursions with his buddies.

"There are a bunch of guys and half of them can't cook toast," he laughed. "You just end up being the cook, which gets you out of things like doing dishes."

Kajala said he doesn't buy new expensive cast iron cookware, preferring

used pieces he picks up on the cheap or is given and that he can rehabilitate. Cast iron has numerous advantages over newer nonstick-coated pans, one of which is longevity.

"You actually spend less than you would on a high-dollar pan and get something that's going to last for a lifetime," he said. "I know a few of these pans belonged to people older than my grandparents."

Tuesday's class was Kajala's first foray into teaching cooking, and he's already looking at an encore. He's been asked to consider teaching a class next semester about another favorite, pizza.

North Woods School

offers a range of online and in-person community education classes, with online registration available. The full ISD 2142 Community Education catalog with course listings and contact information is available online at the school district's website.

#### Substitute teachers - Come learn about the new procedures regarding **COVID** at the Ely Public Schools

Interested in substitute teaching at the Ely Public Schools? If you love children and have a bachelor's degree you may be eligible to substitute teach in MN schools.

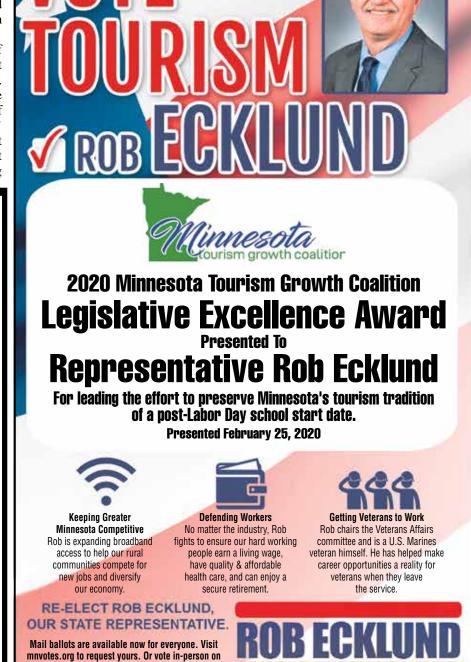
#### Monday, October 1 from 4 - 6 pm in the **Memorial Media Center**

You can apply for a Two-Year, Short-Call Substitute License: Available to applicants who have a bachelor's degree, but not in education. The forms can be obtained from the Minnesota Department of Education by emailing mde.educator-licensing@ state.mn.us or checking out this link: https://mn.gov/pelsb/ assets/Application%20for%20a%20Short-call%20Substitute%20 POST\_tcm1113-443195.pdf

#### The Ely Public Schools would love to welcome you into our classrooms!

If you would like to learn more about becoming a substitute teacher at the Ely Public Schools or if you are a CURRENT substitute teacher and would like to learn more about classroom routines and procedures, technology, curriculum, etc., join us at the Memorial Media Center on Monday, October 12 from 4 - 6 pm.

If you would like to attend virtually, please contact the district office and we will get you set up to attend virtually.



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#### **COVID-19...**Continued from page 1

Masloski said the center is working with its medical director, providers, the Minnesota Department of Health and St. Louis County Public Health to address the situation. Masloski noted the recent increase in positive COVID-19 cases in the county as he described BWCC's response.

"Our team is committed to doing everything we can to stop the spread of this virus in our care community, especially given the rise in cases in the county," Masloski said. "We continue to follow all infection prevention protocols, including using appropriate personal protective equipment, actively screening and monitoring residents, staff and visitors for COVID-19 symptoms, assuring safe congregate dining and group activities, and taking enhanced environmental safety precautions. We are in contact with residents, families, and staff regarding any new or suspected COVID-19 cases through phone, voice message services, emails and letters."

BWCC and Guardian Angels Health and Rehabilitation Center in Hibbing are the latest regional facilities to be added to a growing list of long-term care facilities with active COVID-19 cases. Ely Carefree Living, The Waterview Woods in Eveleth, The Waterview Pines in Virginia, and Heritage Manor in Chisholm also are among the 283 facilities statewide reporting positive cases in the past four weeks.

"Older adults and those with chronic conditions, as well as the staff who care for them, are the most vulnerable to the virus," Masloski said. "Many health care facilities are experiencing a rise in cases due to increased test availability and frequency. Regular, ongoing testing enables the identification of asymptomatic, positive cases. Our team is committed to providing every resource available to individuals who test positive."

Masloski said he was gratified by how everyone associated with BWCC has responded to the COVID threat.

"We are forever grateful to our compassionate staff and the steadfast support and understanding of our residents and families," he said. "We have all come together to fight this virus.

Masloski said health and employment confidentiality policies prevent BWCC from releasing additional information about individual cases.

The BWCC cases are likely to add to the cumulative total of positive COVID-19 cases in Ely, which stood at 34 as of last Thursday. A free one-day, drive-through testing event has been scheduled for the

community next Tuesday. County public health director Amy Westbrook said on Monday that the county's overall increase in COVID-19 has been driven by college-age people, many associated with UM-Duluth. But she noted that younger people are frequently employed by long-term care facilities, echoing recent remarks by state Health Commissioner Jan Malcolm that they could be contributing to the increase in cases in such facilities. The number of cases in the county associated with community spread, both identified and uniden-

tified, has climbed to nearly

50 percent, Westbrook said. "Because we're

seeing so much community spread, there's just more opportunity now for those populations to sort of intersect and have both community transmission and long-term care setting outbreaks," Westbrook said. "As we see increases in especially the 20 to 24-year-olds, that population works in long term care facilities, they do work at restaurants, they do work in locations where vulnerable populations live or visit. If we have a lot of community transmission, unfortunately, you eventually see your hospitalizations and deaths begin to creep up. We have seen 12 deaths in St. Louis County over the last week and a half."

The *Timberjay* has previously confirmed through online obituaries that five recent deaths at Ely Carefree Living were associated with COVID-19. The newspaper did not identify any deaths in the past week that were linked to the virus.

#### **School decisions**

Hibbing schools joined Ely public schools this past week in switching from a full in-person learning model to a hybrid learning mode with limited attendance and increased distance learning for junior high and high school students

However, St. Louis County district schools, including North Woods and Northeast Range, are still using the in-person model, even though the bi-weekly COVID case rates for greater St. Louis County have hovered above the hybrid benchmark for three consecutive weeks.

Aubrie Hoover, a county health department specialist who works with schools in the northern part of the county on COVID-19, explained that the benchmark isn't an absolute trigger for shifting education models, but instead serves to heighten scrutiny at individual schools as to what model is appropriate in light of other community data.

"For the past several weeks, we have been at our first threshold, about 10, where the first change we would explore is putting secondary students into a hybrid setting while leaving our elementary all in person," Hoover said. "So we have worked with each of the individual school districts to kind of go through those numbers a little bit further and provide localized data about what's going on within their community and within surrounding communities where they might draw students in from."

Unlike Duluth, cases in long-term care facilities have been contributing to elevated case rates in the rest of the county, which has different implications for different schools, Hoover said.

"Hibbing has a lot of their high school students working in long term care facilities as CNAs or in their food service department," she said. "If there's increased case numbers taking place in those facilities, there's a higher risk that these students then may bring it back into the schools. A decision that Ely makes may look different than some of the county schools in that area. They may find that a lot of their families aren't directly impacted by a long-term care facility."

A critical part of the assessment process is looking at trends in the community, rather than single data points, Hoover said.

"The idea behind that is because they don't want the schools watching those numbers and one week hopping into hybrid, and then they come back down so they go back to in person, and then they jump back up and they go back into hybrid,"Hooversaid. "That is really to offer stability for students, for staff and for parents, especially for a lot of parents who may have to find childcare and have to be working with their employers."

One challenge districts have encountered is when a student or someone in their household has COVID-19 test results that are pending, Hoover said. While one family member may have been tested and is awaiting results, others in the family could be asymptomatic and

unknowingly transmit the virus if they come to school.

"We're asking families that everyone in that household remains home until the results come back in," Hoover said.

Hoover said that she has been working to reinforce all of the health-related components of safe learning plans adopted by each district, and that a regional response team that includes specialists from the state departments of health and education is activated to assist schools when a positive COVID-19 case is identified.



### **COVID-19 Testing Available**

Curbside COVID-19 testing available Mon-Fri at our Cook and Tower Clinics. If you have symptoms of COVID-19 or have been exposed to COVID-19 through someone with a known positive test result, please call to schedule a testing appointment.

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If you are not able to sign up online, or need a translator, call 1-855-612-0677 for assistance.





**October 2, 2020** TIMBERJAY Newspapers



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**SPORTS** 

### Ely athletes prepare for seasons

Football gets underway Oct. 9, volleyball to debut season Oct. 8

by KEITH VANDERVORT

Ely Editor

ELY - Practices started this week for the Ely Memorial High School football and volleyball teams and games begin next week. The Timberwolves football team opens their season next Friday, Oct. 9, at South Ridge, and will host Cook County on Oct. 14 or Oct. 15.

Iron Range football teams will play six regular season contests and volleyball teams are allowed a 14-game regular season. ISD 696 Athletic Director Tom Coombe said both sports are allowed a twoweek postseason limited to section play.

Up to 250 fans will be allowed at outdoor high school sports events to start the season.

The Ely girls volleyball team opens their season on Thursday, Oct. 8 at International Falls. They will host Silver Bay at 2:15 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 10. Because of public health concerns over the ongoing coronavirus pandemic and state and district restrictions, spectators will not be allowed.

"There's still a lot of excitement and anticipation Ely football players go through the paces as practice got underway

abbreviated season. photos by K. Vandervort

Monday for the

for the start of the football and volleyball seasons," Coombe said. "Hopefully, as the season continues,

See SPORTS ...pg. 2B





REMEMBERING A LIBERAL ICON

# A DAY FOR RGB

Nearly 100 area residents gather in Ely to pay their respects for the late Supreme Court Justice







Clockwise from the top: Emily Brown, of Ely, expresses her perspective during a memorial for the late Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg held Sunday at Ely's Whiteside Park; a cake with Ginsburg's likeness and a quote; a diverse group of area residents gathered for the event; Kathleen McQuillan, of Linden Grove, and Leah Rogne, of Greaney, traveled considerable distance to remember the late Justice and express their hope for national healing.

All photos by K. Vandervort

#### THE BUSINESS OF MINING

### **Cleveland-Cliffs set to acquire ArcelorMittal**

by Marshall Helmberger Managing Editor

REGIONAL — Cleveland-Cliffs is slated to become a major player in the North American steel industry following its planned acquisition of ArcelorMittal USA and its subsidiaries in a \$1.4 billion stock-based merger announced this week. Cliffs, which had previously focused on iron ore production, will now not only be North America's largest producer of taconite pellets, but will become its largest producer of flat-rolled steel as well.

The move, should it be finalized, would reconfigure the mining industry on the Iron Range, as Cliffs would become the new owner of the

Minorca Mine, in Virginia, and

will assume ownership and

operational control of Hibbing

Taconite. The total assets acquired in the deal include six steelmaking facilities, eight finishing facilities, two iron ore mining and pelletizing operations, and three coal and cokemaking operations. Cliffs CEO Lourenco Goncalves will lead the expanded operation of the merged companies.

Arcelor Mittal averaged annual revenues of approxi-

mately \$10.4 billion and annual

adjusted earnings before taxes, depreciation and amortization of \$700 million in 2018 and 2019. during the same period.

That's approximately five times the revenues generated by Cliffs According to a Cliffs press statement, the company is acquiring Arcelor Mittal through a combination of stock and

assumption of pension obliga-

tions and other debts.

#### **SWIMMING**

### NER sinks Chisholm

by KEITH VANDERVORT Ely Editor

BABBITT - The Northeast Range High School girls varsity swim team tallied two consecutive wins late last week. On Thursday, Sept. 24, the Nighthawks traveled to Chisholm and came away with a 48-39 victory for their first win of the season. They followed that with a home win Saturday afternoon against Cloquet.

"These were very exciting meets for the team,' Coach Cheri Debeltz said. "We were tied going into the last varsity event (against Chisholm), so whoever won that event won the meet."

That event, the 400 freestyle relay, put NER/ Ely swimmers Lily Tedrick, Morgan McClelland. Cedar Ohlhauser and Kelly Thompson on the podium with a time of 4:10.76. The Nighthawks' second team in that event, with swimmers Anna Larson Alice Wolter, Esther Anderson and Lauren Olson, took the silver with a

See SWIM...pg. 2B

#### **CROSS COUNTRY**

### Wolves first and second at Arrowhead

by KEITH VANDERVORT Ely Editor

EVELETH - The Ely boys cross country team, with three of the top four finishers, ran away with a win in the first annual Arrowhead Conference meet last Friday at Fayal Pond. Zoe Devine finished in the top five to give the Ely girls team a second-place finish.

Seniors Emmett Faltesek (17:31) and Jasper Johnston (17:33) led the five-school field with a one-two finish. The Timberwolves scored 26 points, out-distancing Mesabi East with 49, Eveleth-Gilbert with 72, and Mountain Iron-Buhl with 75. International Falls also competed.

Other Ely boys team finishers, including place and time, were Gabriel Pointer, 4th, 18:27, Jake Cochran, 7th, 18:47, Joey Bianco, 14th,

See RUNNERS...pg. 2B

### **Council sets preliminary levy increase for 2021**

Would increase seven percent, but council could still reduce tax hike before end of the year

by KEITH VANDERVORT
Ely Editor

ELY-City council members here approved a resolution Tuesday adopting a proposed tax levy for 2021 at \$1,892,300, a seven-percent increase from 2020.

During the brief special meeting, Mayor Chuck Novak said the proposed levy is the maximum amount that the city will approve for next year. "We start high, and can go low in December," he said, referring to final action the council will take before the end of the year. "We have some work to do here yet. We don't want to be too risky here because of what (state legislators in) St. Paul may or may not accomplish this year." The total property tax levy in 2020 was \$1,768,500.

A summary of the proposed 2021 budget indicates a slight increase in the general fund of .63 percent, from \$477,000 to \$480,000. The proposed 2021

library fund budget shows a 15.49-percent increase, from \$295,000 to \$340,700. The cemetery fund is proposed to increase from \$30,100 to \$34,500. A one-percent decrease in the debt service fund, from \$315,100 to \$311,500 is also on the summary. Capital projects are proposed to increase 14.46 percent, from \$488,300 in 2020 to \$558,900 in 2021. The equipment replacement fund is proposed to rise from \$163,000 to \$166,700 or 2.27 percent.

The budget committee anticipates a 3.14-percent increase (\$84,500) in Local Government Aid for next year, from \$2,364,000 to \$2,448,500.

The final 2021 levy will be adopted in December.

In other business, the council accepted a bid of \$22,900 from G-Men Environmental Services for the demolition of the former Looney's Northwoods Emporium, 16 West Sheridan Street. One other bid, \$24,749, was received from Low Impact

Excavators. City officials have applied for grant funding from the state Department of Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation for the project.

The council also agreed to a conditional offer to hire Maxwell Brewer for the vacant police officer position, pending results of a background check and physical. Chief Chad Houde estimates a start date of the new officer in mid- to late-October.

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

we can allow spectators. Schedules could be changed as the season progresses."

In addition to the state Department of Health and Minnesota State High School League COVID-19 protocols, the Ely school district is requiring daily health screenings for players and weekly COVID-19 testing for teachers who are also coaching volleyball or football, according to Coombe.

Ely school district

winter sports, including hockey,boys and girls basketball and Nordic skiing are all scheduled to begin practice in November, with games and contests starting later that month or early December.

A calendar for winter

sports could be determined as soon as the MSHSL board meets again.

2020 Ely Football Schedule

Oct. 9 - at South Ridge Oct. 14/15-Cook County Oct. 23- at Silver Bay Nov. 6 - Cherry Nov. 13 - at LOW **2020 Ely Volleyball Schedule** 

Oct. 30 - NE Range

Oct. 8 at I-Falls Oct. 10 Silver Bay

Oct. 13 at NE Range Oct. 20 Littlefork-Big

C

Oct. 29 Mesabi East Nov. 2 I-Falls Nov. 5 at North Woods Nov. 16 NE Range Nov. 19 at Bigfork

Oct. 27 at Silver Bay

Oct. 22 Cherry

Nov. 23 MI-Buhl

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

"We are so r

"We are so proud and pleased with the team and how well they are swimming," Debeltz said.

Other first-place finishes for the Nighthawks

against Chisholm included: 200 freestyle, Morgan McClelland, 2:20.29, 100 butterfly, Lily Tedrick, 1:09.86, 500 freeestyle, Morgan McClelland, 6:25.00, and 160 free-

style relay, Lily Tedrick, Morgan McClelland, Anna Larson and Kelly Thompson, 1:28.75.

The Nighthawks edged Cloquet 49-46 on Saturday for their second individual medley, Lily Tedrick, 2:38.47, 50 freestyle, Kelly Thompson, 28.90, 100 butterfly, Lily

win of the season. NER/

Ely swimmers won five

events, including: 200

freestyle Kelly Thompson, 1:04.78, and the 400 relay, Lily Tedrick, Morgan McClelland, Cedar Ohlhauser and Kelly Thompson, 4:16.15.

Tedrick, 1:12.97, 100

NER/Ely was scheduled to host Two Harbors on Tuesday Sept. 29, and Eveleth-Gilbert on Thursday, Oct. 1.

#### RUNNERS...Continued from page 1B

19:50, Leo Stalmer, 22nd, 21:10, Jon Hakala, 23rd, 21:13, Ben Cavalier, 26th, 21:49, and Riley Bishop, 36th, 32:47.

Varsity races were pushed back 90 minutes because of inclement

weather. "Emmett and Jasper had a great race against each other," said Ely Head Coach Jayne Dusich. "Along with Leo and Jon, Jake, Gabriel and Joey had decent races. Ben and Riley had their best

times ever as they keep dropping time in each race."

International Falls won the varsity girls race with 42 points, followed by the Timberwolves with 56. Mesabi East finished third

with 63, and Mountain Iron-Buhl had 70.

Devine finished in fifth place with a time of 20:40.

"Zoe had competition from Ryan Ford of International Falls (4th

place, 20:37)," Dusich said. Mesabi East runner Lydia Skelton won the girls varsity race with a time of 19:50, followed by Mountain Iron-Buhl runners Liz Nelson, 20:03 and Kate Nelson, 20:11.

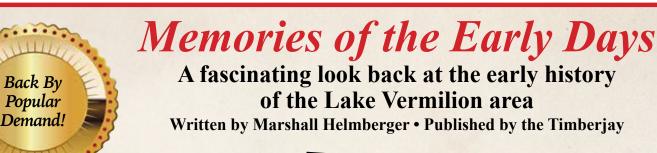
Other Ely girls racers, with place and times, included Phoebe Helms, 9th, 21:57, Laura Holmstrom, 13th, 23:34, Brynn Vollem, 14th, 23:35, Julia Schwinghamer, 15th, 23:57, Gracie Pointer, 16th, 24:05, Sydney Durkin, 20th, 24:50, Elsie Vollem, 29th, 27:07, Abigail Thompson, 30th, 27:17, and Amelia Pluth, 31st, 27:40.

"Phoebe, Sydney and Elsie ran hard," Dusich said. "We saw great races against each other and times continue to drop for Laura, Brynn, Julia and Gracie. We also had the best times yet from Abigail and Amelia"









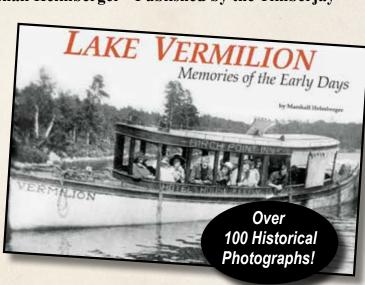
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## and Amelia." Virginia meet The Ely boy cross country tea

The Ely boys and girls cross country teams posted a pair of second-place finishes on Sept. 17 at the Virginia Double Dual at Olcott Park in Virginia.

The girls team was paced by Devine who finished first overall with a time of 20:37. The Timberwolves finished with 42 points, behind Virginia with 32 and ahead of Greenway-Nashwauk-Keewatin with 52.

Helms also placed in the top ten, finishing fourth with a time of 21:20.

The Ely boys team scored 47.5 points to finish behind GNK with 28.5 points. Virginia had 48 and LCA had 112.

The Timberwolves were paced by Emmett Faltesek who finished tied for third place with GNK runner Daniel Olson with a time of 17:04. Other top ten placers for Ely were

Johnston, 6th, 17:12, and Gabriel Pointer, 9th, 18:25.

The Timberwolves were scheduled to host a home meet at Ely Golf Course on Friday, Oct. 2. The shortened season is set to wrap up on Saturday, Oct. 10 with the IRC Quadruple Tri at Hoyt Lakes.

### **Breitung adds new full-time maintenance assistant position**

by STEPHANIE UKKOLA

Staff Writer

SOUDAN- The Breitung Town Board, at their Sept. 22 meeting, finalized the job description and is now ready to hire a new full-time maintenance assistant.

The new position replaces now-retired Tom Poderzay's part-time duties, with the addition of new responsibilities. The position will now require a commercial class B driver's license with an air-brake endorsement (or be able to obtain one within 4-6 months from date of hire). The position includes duties like building maintenance, road repair and care, water and sewer, plowing and ability to respond to emergencies.

The position will pay \$18.50 per hour and include health benefits; the package totals about \$7,000 more in wages and \$20,000 more in health insurance than what the township had been paying. Chairman Tim Tomsich expressed unease about the added expense but said, "The need is there."

"We're going to have to go bare bones," said Supervisor Chuck Tekautz.

Applications for the assistant position are now being accepted and are due by Wednesday, Oct. 7 at 4 p.m.

The town board is also considering the purchase of a new maintenance vehicle which will be partially paid for with \$10,000 left over from the CARES Act funds. At the top of the wishlist is a Bobcat Toolcat. The Toolcat is an extremely versatile skid-steer type machine that has more than 40 attachments and would likely be used for mowing and snowplowing among other things. Maintenance Supervisor Tom Gorsma will also see about trading in some of the existing township vehicles or other alternative vehicles that might fit the townships needs.

In other news, the town

- ➤ Heard that there's been a lot of garbage plugging up the wastewater system, mostly baby wipes. Please do not flush wipes down your toilet, even if they say they are flushable.
- ➤ Received a thank you from Prospectors ATV Club for the township's help in a trail

maintenance project between McKinley Park and Tower.

- ➤ Heard that the existing hockey boards will be restored over the next four to five years a little at a time. This year they will put down a waterproof mat and gravel. They will shorten the rink by adding temporary plastic boards about twenty feet in on the shack-side.
- ➤ Heard that after union negotiations, Gorsma will receive a dollar raise and 80 cent raises in the next two consecutive years and a \$50 monthly credit for using his personal phone
- ➤ Received \$15,000 in Taconite Municipal Aid.
- ➤ Approved a purchase of \$7,000 for a backup sewage grinder pump at McKinley Park.
  - ➤ Heard that the fire depart-

ment received \$3,000 for training reimbursement from the Minnesota Board of Firefighter Training and Education.

➤ Heard that the smoke testing did not reveal any leaks.

➤ Heard that the board will seek legal counsel on spending forfeiture money, which has restricted uses, on the town hall improvement project. ➤ Will get costs for an

automatic door opener for the community center's double doors, which would be paid for with CARES funding. > Set special meetings

including Thursday, Sept. 30 at 4 p.m. to look at CARES funds purchasing, and Thursday, Oct. 8 at noon to review applicants. The next regular meeting is Tuesday, Oct. 27 at noon.

#### **Obituaries and Death Notices**



#### Denise M. Long

Denise Marie Long, 51, of Orr, passed away peacefully on Saturday, Sept. 26, 2020, at her home with loved ones by her side, due to complications caused by esophageal cancer. A celebration of life was held on Thursday, Oct. 1 at the First Baptist Church in Cook. Arrangements were with Mlaker Funeral Home in Cook. "The Lord is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation."

Psalm 118:14. Denise was born on March 23, 1969, in Libertyville, Ill., to Donna and Doug Hess. She married her husband, Tom, on April 25, 1997; their son, Cody Lee, was born on March 22, 1996. Denise's love of her life was her son, Cody Lee. They had a deep connection and bond that couldn't be broken. Her family describes her as independent, strong, loving, special, amazing, stubborn, content, resilient, and a fighter. Denise was strong throughout her chemotherapy and immunotherapy treatments, most often smiling and making jokes with those around her. For over 15 years, Denise worked for the U.S. Postal Service in St. Louis County. She started her career as a substitute rural mail carrier and ended her career performing various duties at the Virginia branch. Denise loved her job and most of all her customers. Until the day she passed, Denise had customers writing her letters and sending her gifts in hopes of lifting her spirits during this trying time.

Denise is survived by her husband, Tom Long; son, Cody Lee Long; daughter, Erica Ludwig and grandson, Connor; mom, Donna Bak (Paul); sister, Shasonta Delmage (Dale); brother-in-law, Randy Long (Wendy) and nephews Eagen, Cooper and Brock; brother-inlaw, Jon Long and niece Bridgette and nephew Kevin; father-in-law and mother-in-law, Tom and Judy Long; and extended family.



#### **Evelyn Engelun Finstad Ekelund Finstad**

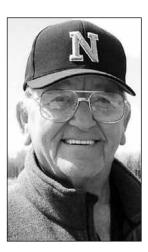
Evelyn "Evie" Engelun Finstad Ekelund Finstad, 93, went to the Lord on Tuesday, Sept. 22,2020, of natural causes at Waterview Woods in Eveleth. A graveside service will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 3 at Forest Home Cemetery in Buyck. The family respectfully encourages attendees to wear masks and practice safe social distancing. Arrangements are with Mlaker Funeral

Home in Cook. Evie was born on Aug. 1,1927, to Ole and Kristine Engelun. She grew up in Silverdale and graduated from Orr High School. After high school, she moved to Duluth, worked at a bakery for a short time, and then got a job at the phone company during WWII. She later married John "Jack" Finstad and took ownership of the Gold Mine Resort. During this time, they adopted a son, Allen, and then had a daughter, Brenda. They lost their beloved son when he was eight years old. The family continued to run the resort for over 30 years. After retiring from the resort, they lived in Buyck. Evie and Jack were married for 49 and a-half years before he passed away on June 16, 1998.

Evie later married her lifelong family friend, Ferdinand Ekelund, in October 1999. They moved to Esko for a short time and then moved to Superior, Wis., where they remained for 15 years. After Ferd's passing, she moved to Waterview Woods where she lived the remainder of her years to be close to her daughter. Evie was an active member of the Crane Lake Chapel for over 50 years and a member of the Sons of Norway.

Evie is survived by her daughter, Brenda Jylha (fiancé Jonathan Tomatz); granddaughter, Randi Strahan (great-grandson Chaz) of Coal City, Ill.; grandson, Jason (Erika) Strahan, (great-grandsons Thatcher and McCoy) of Virginia; grandson, John Jylha (Alison Zaverl) of Duluth; step-grandchildren, Bradley Sundeen, Dezi Jylha (step-great-grandchildren Samantha, Ante, Jerry Jr. Gracie and Asher); step-grandson,Tim(Laura) Eckart (step-great-grandchildren Easton, Alaina and Owen); step-granddaughter, Cassandra Jylha (Owen Erjavec); step-granddaughter, Elizabeth (Tony) Altabelli (twin step-great-grandsons Charles and Vincent); and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her son, Allen; husband, Jack Finstad; second husband, Ferdinand Ekelund; brothers, Ole (Tina) Engelun and Ted (Murial) Engelun; sisters, Agnes (Oscar) Lundquist, Maggie (Earl) Bloomquist and Ruth (Robert) Swenson; niece, Barbara; step-granddaughter, Tonya Jylha; and stepgreat-grandson, Tristan Jylha, in infancy.



#### Roger Makela

On Thursday, Sept. 17,2020, Roger Makela, of Cook, regrettably missed his morning tee time and instead joined one of the Lord's foursomes. Roger was a man of all sports seasons and even on his last day he played 27 holes of golf. His radiant smile and contagious laughter will never be forgotten. Roger will be interred at the Minnesota Veterans Cemetery near Duluth. There will be a celebration of Roger's life from 1-3 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 10 at the Wolfridge Golf Course, 8501 Savage Road in Angora. Arrangements are with Mlaker Funeral

Home of Cook. Roger grew up in large farm family and attended school in Menagha. Following high school, he planned on becoming a cowboy in South Dakota but later became known as a skillful heavy machine operator. He served in the U.S. Army during the Cuban Crisis. During his young adult life, he honed his baseball skills to the point of being offered a contract from the New York Yankees. In 1973, he purchased a hardware store in Cook, where he had a "Mr. Fixit" mentality and tried to help everyone. After 24 years in the hardware world, he spent the rest of his career surrounded by golf, working at Wolfridge Golf Course and the Wilderness

Roger was the ulti-

mate Minnesota sports fan and rarely missed a game. He also believed in paying it forward. He touched many lives by volunteer coaching in youth hockey, baseball

at Fortune Bay.

and golf. He coached numerous golfers at the state level. Most recently, he assistant-coached the North Woods Girls Golf team at the yearly state tournament. His biggest treasures were his grandkids, with whom he traveled extensively. He was well-known for "Mystery" trips. The first one started at the statue of St. Urho and the last one ended at Mount Rushmore. He coached or supported them in everything they did. He was their first phone call

Roger is survived by his wife, Sylvia; daughter, Kandi (Todd); grandchildren, Tate, Nicole and Victoria; sister and brothers, Marian, Randy and Dave; and numerous other relatives and friends. He also treasured his many golf buddies.

after any event.

#### Florence M. Bowen

Florence M. Lindberg Bowen, 91, of Virginia, originally of Cook, passed away on Monday, Sept. 28, 2020, at Waterview Pines in Virginia. A private family graveside service will be held at Greenwood Cemetery in Virginia with Pastor Amy Jenssen officiating. The family wishes to thank the staff at Edgewood Vista and Waterview Pines who always demonstrated professional and compassionate care for her. A celebration of life will be planned for the spring. Arrangements are with Landmark Funeral Home in Virginia.

She is survived by her children, Sandra (Bruce) Birk of Idaho Falls, Idaho, William (Michele) Bowen of Las Vegas, Nev., Linda (Mickey) Scipioni of Lake Vermilion and Richard (Sue) Bowen of Corona, Calif.; grandchildren, Lisa and Erica Birk, Jessica Bowen, Michael Scipioni and Jill (Jake) Slater; great-grandchildren, Connor, Mason and Chase McClelland and Sutter Slater; and her only living brother, George Lindberg.

#### Carol J. Maddern

Carol Jean Larson Maddern, 96, a lifelong resident of the Tower-Soudan, Babbitt, Eagles Nest and Ely areas, passed on peacefully with family at her side on Thursday, Sept. 24, 2020, at Carefree Living in Ely. A private

be held with burial at Lakeview Cemetery in Tower. Family arrangements have been entrusted to Kerntz Funeral Home She is survived by

family gathering will

five children: son, Richard A. Maddern (Suzie) of Eveleth, and daughters, Priscilla White (Jim) and Kathleen Anderson (Byron), both of Eagles Nest, Alberta Peterson (Steve) and Carol Brown (Brian), both of Babbitt; brother, Andy Larson (Francine) of Soudan; twelve grandchildren; fourteen great-grandchildren; seven great-great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

#### **Edith Boase**

Edith "Toots" Pattenn Boase, 90, of Lake Vermilion-Tower, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, Sept. 22, 2020. As these are extraordinary times, there will not be a funeral or memorial at this time. The family will look to next summer to hold a celebration of life when things are deemed safe and proper to do so. Family arrangements have been entrusted to Kerntz Funeral Home of Ely.

She is survived by her children, John Boase of Pike-Sandy and Suzanne (Paul) Jones of Florida; grandchildren, John and Dani Boase of Pike-Sandy, and Jeni Sherwood of Eveleth; great-grandchildren, Axel and Zane Sherwood; and a host of friends.



Wear a mask in public spaces.



Get tested if you have any symptoms.



Answer if your health department calls.

**M1** MINNESOTA

STAY SAFE

4B October 2, 2020 TIMBERJAY Newspapers

# Jutdoors Our lives in the Northwoods



### A remarkable color season is fading fast

Here in the North Country, the fall color season is always a special time. But this year seemed more extraordinary than ever as cold nights early in the month, combined with plentiful sunshine, produced one of the most spectacular displays in recent memory.



While t h e maples, aspen, and birch change colors every fall, the vibrancy of those colors are determined by a number of factors, and they mostly all aligned this year to maximize the brilliance of the display.

Adding to the mix was the fact that both

See FALL COLOR...pg. 5B



A collection of colorful fallen leaves on the forest floor. V. Ranua

Aspen trunks stand out against a backdrop of maple leaves.

A view from Jasper Peak looking north toward Lake Vermilion.

D. Colburn









**LEARNING** 

#### **Guided hikes set** on Ancient Cedars **Trail in Tower**



TOWER-If you'd like to explore the new Ancient Cedars Trail in Tower, but aren't sure how to find it, you'll want to take advantage of two guided hikes of the new trail being offered this weekend. Guided hikes are set for 10 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 3, and at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 4 and will go forward rain or shine.

Saturday's hike will be co-led by Marshall Helmberger, Jodi Summit, and Victoria Ranua, while the Sunday hike will be co-led by Mary Shedd and Ranua.

Hikers should meet in the parking lot by Tower's historic train depot both days. Those taking part are encouraged to dress for the weather and wear sturdy hiking shoes.

The new trail system explores a rare pocket of primary (never logged) forest located within Tower's city limits. Forest ecologists with the DNR have concluded that the current forest stand originated in a forest fire around 1880, before the founding of Tower and Soudan.

Top: Views from

M. Helmberger

anglers ply

the waters against a

colorful shoreline.

stream.

D. Colburn

Above:

the top

A forest dominated by northern white cedar grew back in the wake of the fire and this forest has stood, undisturbed, ever since.

The trail was built by volunteers from the Tower Economic Development Authority, the Wagoner Trails Club and Friends of Vermilion Country School with materials funding from the Northern St. Louis County Trails Task Force and Lake Country Power's Operation Round-up®.

#### **Learn about** wolves through **IWC** webinars

REGIONAL—Want to learn more about wolves in Minnesota? The International Wolf Center will present three free online webinars. Those wishing to take part are asked to register in advance at wolf.org. Click on Webinars and Lectures from the home page for a listing of the upcoming opportunities, including:

➤ What is Minnesota's wolf population, and how is it estimated? John Erb, a DNR research scientist, will explain how the Minnesota wolf population is estimated at 5 p.m. Wednesday,

➤ What does it look like to live with wolves in Minnesota? John Hart, district supervisor for the U.S. Department of Agriculture Wildlife Services program, will discuss that at 5 p.m. Monday, Oct. 19. He'll also cover wolf depredation in Minnesota and topics such as the frequency of wolf depredation and the number of livestock producers who are affected every year in the state. ➤ How do wolf, moose and

deer interact? Glenn DelGiudice, a DNR research scientist, will discuss how wolves, moose and deer coexist in Minnesota at 5 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 21.

October 2, 2020 **5B** TIMBERJAY Newspapers

#### **Outdoors** briefly

#### **Learn to hunt** videos now available

REGIONAL - Do you want to learn how to hunt deer? You can register and participate in a series of online classes that will continue to mid-October.

If you can't participate live, you can watch video of each class on the DNR learn to deer hunt page. You'll find new ones posted after each class takes place.

The next class in the series is noon-1 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 29, on deer ecology and habitat use, online scouting, and identifying public lands.

#### **Explore a DNR hunter walking** trail near you

REGIONAL The Minnesota DNR maintains hunter walking trails as easy ways to travel by foot through wildlife management areas, state and federal forests, and other public hunting lands. Some trails may be unmowed this year; however, they still remain open for use and wind through prime habitat for ruffed grouse, American woodcock, wild turkey and white-tailed deer.

"These trails are easy to navigate and offer excellent opportunities for the novice hunter, including kids just learning to hunt, to see birds and enjoy the outdoors," said Blane Klemek, DNR northwest region assistant wildlife manager. "Hunters can expect routes that may follow old logging roads, or pass through forest openings that attract a variety of wildlife."

There are more than 600 miles of hunter walking trails meandering throughout the northern half of the state. Many of the trails are gated, allowing foot traffic only, and offer easy access to parking lots.

The DNR offers a hunter walking trail tool on its website that provides information on trail locations by name and county. Hunters can also call area



- PUMPS
- WELLS
- HYDRO-FRACKING

1-800-662-5700 Spring Park Rd. Mt. Iron, MN 55768





wildlife offices for information about the trails or hunting and wildlife viewing opportunities

#### **Snare break**away devices now required

and tips.

REGIONAL -Trappers who use snares need to know about a regulation change that is about to go into effect. Beginning Thursday, Oct. 1, snares capable of taking a wild animal must include a breakaway device that causes the snare loop to disassemble at 350 pounds of pull as measured by a static load test. This applies to all snares, except those set under the ice. Devices that cause the snare loop to disassemble at less than 350 pounds also meet this requirement.

The Minnesota DNR made this regulation change to prevent the accidental capture of large mammals while continuing to allow the use of snares statewide. Breakaway devices allow large, non-target mammals such as moose, elk, wolves, bears and adult deer to escape when the snare disassembles under high tension. Smaller target animals, such as coyotes, bobcats, and foxes, are not able to break the snare by pulling.

The DNR began discussing this regulation change with state trapping groups and others in 2018. Public input taken by the DNR online in April of 2019 showed strong support for the restrictions.

More information about breakaway devices is available on the DNR website at www.dnr.state. mn.us.

### **LAKE COUNTRY FORECAST**

**Friday** 

09/21

09/23

09/27

70 51

76 42 79 40

09/24 79 41 0.00 09/25 63 51 0.00

63 49 0.09

0.00

0.00











**Sunday** 



**Tuesday** 

from NOAA weather



Tower Hi Lo 09/21 70 52 0.00 09/22

Hi Lo Prec. Sn. Emb. Hi Lo Prec. Sn. 09/21 70 54 0.00 09/22 77 44 09/23 78 39 0.00 09/25 62 51 0.00 0.12 15.39 62

Prec. Sn. Cook Hi Lo 09/21 69 50 0.00

09/23 75 46 0.00 09/25 61 48 0.00 60 09/26 09/27 65 YTD Total 0.08

Orr Hi Lo Prec. Sn. 09/21 75 55 0.00 09/22 39 0.00 09/23 09/23 73 48 0.00 09/24 63 46 0.00 59 52 66 09/26 54 0.00 YTD Total

78 38 0.00 09/24 77 40 09/25 63 51 0.00 09/27 63 48 0.18

#### FALL COLOR...Continued from page 4B

Right: Leaves from the area's two different species of aspen create a yin and yang symbol atop a dead bracken fern. The salmon-colored leaf of a big-toothed aspen lies atop a golden leaf from a quaking aspen. D. Colburn

the aspen and birch turned about ten days ahead of their average. Those who pay attention to the fall colors know that we typically have two color periods in a North Country autumn. The red maples and black ash are first, providing that first splash of yellow, orange, and scarlet in mid-to-late September. As those colors fade, it's time for the aspen and birch, which usually peak in the first ten days of October. This year, most likely because we had such hard freezes in early September, the aspen and birch peaked along with the maples, leaving the entire landscape ablaze at once.

I made a number of trips in the past week up Jasper Peak to climb the fire tower. The views were

incredible.

The one downside of such a spectacular fall, is that the colors are fading too soon. The aspen and birch are normally just now coming into peak color, but this year the

leaves are already falling fast. The tamarack will be our last chance at fall color before we settle into the October gray. Can the snowflakes be far behind?

#### Fishing report

#### Ely area

Walleye fishing has been challenging for many this last week. Successful anglers found walleyes shallow, in 10 feet of water or less. Large main lake points close to deep water were the key areas to focus on. Lindy rigs tipped with large minnows remained the best way to catch walleyes. There were a few reports of anglers catching walleyes in 18-23 feet of water, with jig and

minnow, but anglers fishing out there struggled to find any kind of numbers of walleyes.

Pike anglers enjoyed a good week of pike fishing, as pike were active. Size of pike remains small overall, but numbers of pike caught per day remains high. Anglers continue to find pike cruising the weedlines and river mouths. Large suckers have been getting the most action, but spinners and spoons have also been effective on them.

Stream trout anglers have noted a steady increase in trout activity on many area lakes this last week. Streamers are now within reach of shoreline anglers and they have been reporting the best success right now. Floating a crawler off the bottom, casting small spoons and jig and twister has been very effective on trout. Large rocky flats and downed trees have been the areas to key in on.



STOP INVASIVE SPECIES! LEARN MORE AT CLEANDRAINDRY.ORG







#### **PUBLIC NOTICES**

## Township of Eagles Nest Attn: Registered Voters of the Township of Eagles Nest

**RE: Change to Mail Balloting for Elections** 

On April 21, 2020, the Township of Eagles Nest Board of Supervisors adopted a resolution authorizing mail-in ballots for all elections for the Township of Eagles Nest. **Going forward, all voting by registered voters in the Township will be done by mail-in ballots processed** by the St. Louis County Auditor's Office.

As long as you are a registered voter, you will automatically receive a ballot in the mail approximately 30 days before the election with a postage paid return envelope to return your ballot. If you get your mail at a post office box or if you are a snowbird and you have your mail forwarded, you would have to register to receive an Absentee Ballot, because mail-in ballots are not forwarded or delivered to a Post Office Box.

If you prefer to vote in person, you would be able to vote at any time during the absentee period (46-days prior to the election) or up to 8:00 p.m. on election night. You could vote at the County Auditor's Office at the following locations:

St. Louis County Auditor's Office, Virginia Government Services Building 201 South 3rd Ave West Virginia, MN 55792

St. Louis County Auditor's Office, St. Louis County Courthouse 100 North 5th Avenue West, Room 214 Duluth, MN 55802

ballot directly into a ballot tabulation machine. If you vote prior to that during the absentee period, you would place your ballot in an envelope and it would be processed by the absentee If you have any further questions please contact me at 612-708-6823. There will be no one a

If you vote in person seven days prior to election night, you have the option of placing your

the town hall on Election Day. Any questions, call 612-708-6823 or email eaglesnesttwp@

Sincerely.

Deb Siverhus, Clerk of Eagles Nest Township

Published in the Timberjay, Sept. 25, Oct. 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30, 2020

#### NOTICE OF STATE LAND SALE

By Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Notice is hereby given that the Commissioner of Minnesota's Department of Natural Resources hereby offers state land for sale, located in St. Louis County and described below. As required by Minn. Stat. Ch. 92 and 94, the lands will be sold by a sealed bid auction open to the public.

The Department of Natural Resources Central Office, 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155-4045, must receive sealed bids by 4:00 pm CST on Thursday, November 5, 2020. In-person deliveries will not be accepted. A virtual bid opening will be held on Friday, November 6, 2020 at 11:00 am CST. Participation in the virtual bid openings is optional, but you must register to attend.

Prior to participating in the sealed bid auction, bidders are advised to obtain property data sheets and be familiar with the properties, prices, and terms and conditions of sale. The public can visit mndnr. gov/landsale to obtain a bid form, property data sheets, or instructions for participating in the sealed bid auction. Call (651) 259-5432, (888) 646-6367 or email min.landsale@state.mn.us with questions about a specific property.

Land in St. Louis County to be sold at this event is as follows:

Property 69155: The Southeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter and the Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter in Section 35, Township 62 North, Range 15 West, St. Louis County, Minnesota. Subject to and together with easements.

General Statement of Terms of Sale: The following is a summary of terms: Please obtain the document Instructions for Sealed Bid Auction, Terms and Conditions of Sale on the DNR Land Sale web page, or by email or phone as outlined above. The property data sheet details the comprehensive terms and conditions of sale. Bids for each parcel will start at the minimum bid, which is the appraised value plus sale costs. Any bid for less than the minimum stated on the property data sheet will be rejected. The successful bidder must pay 10% of the bid amount at the time of the auction. The balance of the purchase price must be paid within 90 days from the date of the auction.

Published in the Timberjay, Oct. 2, 2020

#### **EMPLOYMENT**

#### BARTENDERS, COOKS, SERVERS

The Landing, in Cook, is now hiring bartenders, cooks, and servers. Come join a great team with a stellar reputation and a fantastic base of loyal customers. Apply to info@onlakevermilion.com

or call 763-221-1151. tfn

#### FT MAINTENANCE ASST.

Breitung Township is accepting applications for a Full-Time **Maintenance Assistant.** 

Please visit our website at www.breitungtownship.org for job description and application.

Interested applicants can also call the Clerk's Office at 218-753-6020 for job description and application as well.

Applications must be in to the Clerk's Office by Wednesday, Oct. 7, 2020, at 4 pm. 10/2

**POSITION OPENING** 

### **Ely Public Schools** Cafeteria Aide

Ely Public Schools is looking for a Cafeteria Aide for the 2020-2021 school year; background check required.

Qualifications include:

- Preferred experience working with school
- Evidence of ability to work cooperatively and communicate effectively in a collaborative setting.

Application available at: www.ely.k12.mn.us

- complete application must include the following:
- Resume<sup>3</sup>

Starting Rate of Pay: \$15.24/hour

Hours: 2 3/4 hours/day; 5 days/week; student contact days

Published in the Timberjay, Oct. 2 & 9, 2020

#### Ely Public Schools **Temporary Part-Time Custodian** Qualifications include: ➤ High school diploma, with post-secondary training in facility maintenance preferred

- ➤ Ability to read basic operating instructions and write reports Demonstrate aptitude for successful com-
- pletion of the tasks assigned Such alternatives to the above qualifications as the supervisor, administration, and
- board finds appropriate and acceptable Prior work experience demonstrating positive and effective interpersonal skills in the work place
- ➤ Demonstrated ability to perform assigned tasks without direct supervision

#### **ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONAL CAPACITIES:**

- ➤ Ability to lift a minimum of 50 pounds Ability to climb ladders (at least 10 feet)
- ➤ Ability to withstand heights up to 30 feet)
- Ability to climb 3 flights of stairs in 1 minute Pass physical exam per doctor's statement
- Visual and auditory acuity, corrected or non-corrected, at standard levels as established by appropriate medical standards > Any other qualifications as deemed appro-
- priate by the school board

Application available at: www.ely.k12.mn.us A complete application must include the

- following: District Application
- Resume
- ➤ 2 letters of recommendation

Return materials to: Ely Public Schools, Attn: Superintendent, 600 E. Harvey St., Ely, MN 55731 or email mwognum@ely.k12.mn.us

Starting Rate of Pay: \$19.63/hour

Application review to begin: October 9, 2020; open until filled.

Published in the Timberjay, Oct. 2, 2020

# **POSITION OPENING**

- ➤ Must be able to lift 30 lbs. on a regular
- ➤ Must be able to work in a fast pace setting
- age children
- ➤ District Application
- 2 letters of recommendation

Return materials to: Ely Public Schools, Attn: Superintendent, 600 E. Harvey St., Ely, MN 55731 or email mwognum@ely.k12.mn.us

Deadline to apply: October 13, 2020; open

#### **POSITION OPENING Ely Public Schools Temporary Paraprofessional**

Ely Public Schools is looking for a Paraprofessional for the 2020-2021 school year; background check required.

Qualifications include:

- AA Degree or two years of college required Preferred experience working with school
- Evidence of ability to work cooperatively and communicate effectively in a collabora-

Application available at: www.ely.k12.mn.us

- complete application must include the following
- ➤ District Application
- ➤ Resume<sup>®</sup>
- College Transcripts
- 2 letters of recommendation

Return materials to: Ely Public Schools, Attn: Superintendent, 600 E. Harvey St., Ely, MN 55731 or email mwognum@ely.k12.mn.us

Starting Rate of Pay: \$16.57/hour

Hours: 6.5 hours/day

Deadline to apply: October 6, 2020; open until filled.

Published in the Timberjay, Sept. 25 & Oct. 2, 2020

**SCRAMBLERS** 

solution 1. Staple 2. Bastion; 3. Lapse; 4. Drape

> Today's Word **PAROLE**

#### HOSPITAL & CARE CENTER Our Specialty is You **OPEN POSITIONS** <u>Care Center</u>

FT & PT Nursing Assistant (wage starting at \$15.88/hr - Sign-On Bonus)
FT MDS-PPS Coordinator/RN Educator

Hospital/ER PT Registered Nurse

Activities
PT Activities Assistant

<u>Dietary</u> FT Certified Dietary Manager PT & Casual Dietary Aide/Cook

Equal Opportunity Employer/ Affirmative Action Employe



**Environmental Services** 

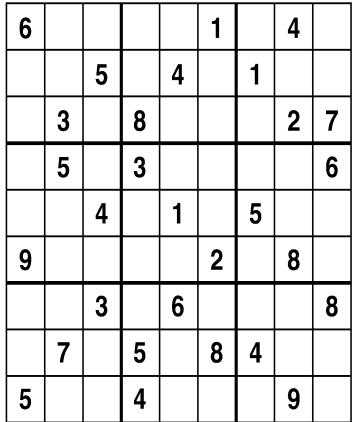
Radiology FT Radiology Tech

> **Excellent Wages!** Ask about our sign on bonus!

218-666-6220 humanresources@cookhospital.org The Cook Hospital & Care Center offers competitive pay and benefit

## Weekly SUDOKU

### by Linda Thistle



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

#### **DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK:** ◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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## TIMBERJAY CLASSIFIEDS

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

#### HAIR CARE

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

VERMILION SHEAR IMAGE-Open Tues.-Fri., 9-5. Main St., Tower, 218-753-2928, tfn

#### **HOSPICE**

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

#### **LICENSE BUREAU**

COOK LICENSE BUREAU-TEMPORARY HOURS COVID-19 DUE Open: M-W-F 9am - 3pm.
Mail in or drop off only
at this time. Call with any
questions, 218-666-6199 questions, 218-666-6199 Email: cookdep159@gmail.com

#### **SUPPORT GROUPS**

Ely AA OPEN GROUP MEETINGS- in person meetings, Wednesdays & Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. at First Lutheran Church, 915 E Camp St., Ely

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

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

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

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

AL-ANONmeets Thursdays at 7 p.m. in the upstairs of Woodland Presbyterian Church.

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

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

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

MEETING in Ely! "New Ideas" WOMEN IN RECOVERY: 12 and hope to recover from any addiction: drugs, alcohol, food, gambling etc. Every Thursday gambling etc. noon at St. Anthony's Catholic Church. Come join us! Q: 218-235-3581

WOMEN'S OPEN AA MEETING- Every Monday at noon at St. Church, 231 Anthony's Catholic Enter through side door

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

passionate local support call the Rural AIDS Action Network, tollfree 1-888-647-RAAN(7226)

Call

HIV/AIDS? For confidential com-

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MERCURY

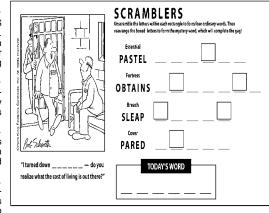
OUTBOARDS

Frank's Marine

Sales & Service. Orr, MN 55771 Mercury Outboards, MerCruiser, Crestliner Lund, Spartan Trailers

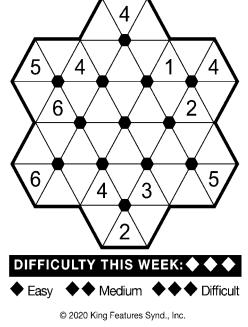
Call 218-757-3150



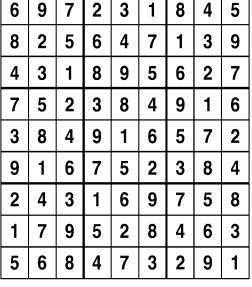


## by Japheth Light

There are 13 black hexagons in the puzzle. Place the numbers 1 - 6 around each of them. No number can be repeated in any partial hexagon shape along the border of the puzzle.



#### Answer



#### Classifieds run in all 3 editions of the Timberjay.

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

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51 List details

**54** Turn into ice

53 Merit

56 Directs

60 Cut off

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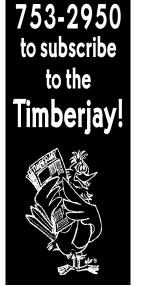
Hammer" 87 Additional stipulations

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### 4655 Moccasin Point Rd

Storage, Boat Rentals, Service/Repairs/Sales

moccasinpointmarine.com

answer

126 Cooking

style

again

128 Narrator in

129 Air Force

Abbr.

**DOWN** 

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1 2000-15

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2 Lunkhead

**3** G.P.s' gp.

**5** Quattro

**6** Home for

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127 Employ



**ANALGESIC** 

APPEAL

91 Innocent sort

92 Mug, e.g.

95 Fancy vase

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with "up"

**105** "Catch-22"

novelist

Joseph

108 Tennis' Evert

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116 Play a part

117 "7 Women"

118 Selfie, say

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120 Cabinet dept.

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121 Revolutionist

Guevara

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96 Converts into

52 Surgery aide 94 Gutter locale

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59 In days past 102 Making level,

63 Farm mother 104 Garage gunk

manually, as 106 Be a snitch

69 Pan's cousin 113 Belgian river

73 Street scene 115 Greek deity

61 Hitter Gehrig 103 Big wasp

### **Super** Crossword

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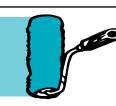
128

131





# HOME IMPROVEM



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#### **PUBLIC NOTICES**

STATE OF MINNESOTA ST. LOUIS COUNTY

**DISTRICT COURT** PROBATE DIVISION SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT 69HI-PR-20-74

NOTICE AND ORDER FOR HEARING ON PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL AND APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of Douglas William Lenzen, Aka Douglas W. Lenzn, Aka Doug Lenzen Decedent

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on October 13, 2020, at 1:00 p.m., a hearing will be held in the Hibbing Courthouse at 1810 12th Ave E, Hibbing, MN 55746 (and/or by video conference at the Court's discretion), for the formal probate of an instrument purporting to be the will of the Decedent, dated August 19, 2009, and for the appointment of Patrick Daniel-James Lenzen, whose address is c/o Rachel Caplan at 1172 Highway 5, Cook, MN 55723 as personal representative of the Estate of the Decedent in an UNSUPERVISED administration. Any objections to the petition must be filed with the Court prior to or raised at the hearing. If proper and if no objections are filed or raised,

the personal representative will

administer the Estate including the power to collect all assets, to pay all legal debts, claims, taxes, and expenses, to sell real and personal property, and to do all necessary acts for the Estate.

Notice is also given that (subject to Minn. Stat. 524.3-801) all creditors having claims against the Estate are required to present the claims to the personal representative or to the Court Administrator within four months after the date of this Notice or the claims will be barred.

If you have an objection to this case, please contact Court Administration at 218-726-2460 option #6 for further instructions as these hearings are currently held remotely due to the pandemic.

Mark M. Starr District Court Judge, Probate Division

Amy Turnquist, Court Administrator Debra Thorstensen, Deputy Court

Administrator

September 8, 2020

Attorney for the Petitioner Sipila Law Office LLC 412 1st St S. Virginia, MN 55792 218-741-5000 ange@sipilaw.com

Published in the Timberjay, Sept. 25 & Oct. 2, 2020

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