



Bakk, Ecklund reelected... See /7
COVID rates rising... See /10
Fall sports updates... See /1B
Deer season to open... See /4B

the TIMBERJAY

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ELECTION 2020

Minnesota voters choose Biden

Trump campaign's efforts to flip state fall flat

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

MORE ELECTION COVERAGE

Precinct results and local legislative races **Page 7**

REGIONAL — Former Vice President Joe Biden easily won Minnesota on Tuesday, despite an aggressive effort by President Donald Trump's campaign to flip the state he narrowly lost in 2016.

Indeed, few states in the U.S. experienced the kind of singular focus of the Trump campaign as Minnesota. The cam-



paigned poured millions of dollars into advertising, hiring staff, and brought both Trump and Vice President Mike Pence

Supporters for the Joe Biden campaign for president rallied in Ely Saturday afternoon. photo by K. Vandervort

to the state for multiple rallies in recent weeks, most of them in northern Minnesota.

See...**VOTE** pg. 10



HALLOWEEN 2020



SPOOKTACULAR NORTH COUNTRY



Halloween 2020 was celebrated around the region. Clockwise from upper left, Harley and Ari Banks, of Tower, selected treats Friday at Tower-Soudan Insurance Agency on Main Street; Coral Lantry, of Cook, dressed up as a unicorn; Kyler Matteson-Stevens, of Ely, portrayed Elliot from E.T. at the Trunk or Treat event Friday at Whiteside Park; and Dot Swanson, of Soudan, did her best impression of Chucky while trick-or-treating. Timberjay staff photos



CITY OF TOWER

Voters opt to stay the course

Setterberg, Norby, Morin easily win council seats; Majerle takes final seat by one vote over Zika

by JODI SUMMIT
Tower-Soudan Editor

TOWER- City residents turned out in high numbers for Tuesday's election, choosing four new city council members while rejecting former Tower Ambulance director Steve Altenburg's third attempt for a council seat. For the two open four-year city council positions, David Setterberg and Kevin Norby were the top vote getters, with 152 and 150 votes, respectively. Three-time candidate Steve Altenburg came in a distant third with 79 votes. There were six write-in votes cast in the race.

The race for the two open two-year seats was closer. Newcomer Joe Morin easily topped the field with 171. Incumbent Sheldon Majerle edged out

See...**TOWER** pg. 11

CITY OF ELY

Urbas unseats Novak for Ely mayor

Challenger had pulled out of race for health reasons

by KEITH VANDERVORT
Ely Editor

ELY — Mayoral candidate Eric Urbas, who pulled out of the race last August against incumbent Chuck Novak, won the city of Ely's top job Tuesday night. Urbas received 923 votes to Novak's 799.

Citing continuing

health concerns, Urbas withdrew from the contest in August, but he was too late to have his name omitted from the ballot.

Urbas has the option of accepting the results of the election and taking over as mayor in January, or he can deny the will of the voters, Ely Clerk-Treasurer Harold Langowski said.

Ely election official Katie Richards sanitized voting areas Tuesday at the Ely Senior Center. A total of 1,165 residents voted in person. photo by K. Vandervort

A special election would be held in February to fill the position, Langowski said.

Urbas did not return a telephone call from the Timberjay seeking comment.

Novak declined to comment Tuesday night.

An Ely native and 2007 graduate of Ely Memorial High School,

See...**ELY** pg. 9



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Community notices

Correction

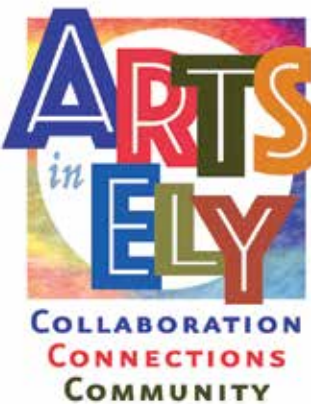
REGIONAL- The photo caption of Gail Favet with the Ely mask makers story was incorrect. Gail packed the masks into bags for distribution to local schools. She did not make and donate the masks as indicated in the *Timberjay*. We apologize for the error.

Ruby’s Pantry food distribution

COOK- The next Ruby’s Pantry will be a drive through food distribution at the old Cook School parking lot on Thursday, Nov. 12 from 4:30 - 6 p.m. Please give a \$20 cash donation at the door. For safety, no one over 60 years of age will be asked to volunteer. Ruby’s Pantry is sponsored by St. Paul’s Lutheran Church of Alango.

Ely-area artists to meet virtually

ELY- ARTS in Ely will host a virtual community meetup next week, the first of a three-part conversation series to help connect and inspire artists during the pandemic, brainstorm possibilities for community collaboration, and dream about long-term ideas and efforts in the arts community.



The community event will be held via Zoom on Thursday, Nov. 12 from 12 noon to 1:30 p.m. The other Thursday dates in the series are Dec. 10 and Jan. 14.

Arts in Ely was awarded a grant last year by the Arrowhead Regional Arts Council to aid in building bridges and improving communications among artists, art organizations, and art supporters. The hope is that better communication and connections will help to better serve artists individually, and together, in the Ely-area arts community.

Registration for the meetings can be found on a link through Facebook on the ARTS in Ely group or the Gardner Humanities Trust website. Any questions can be emailed to Keiko Williams at the Trust office at info@gardnertrust.org.

This series will be facilitated by Springboard for the Arts’ Rural Program Director, Michele Anderson. Each session will consist of a combination of small breakout groups, short presentations, and creative prompts to keep the creative juices flowing this winter.

All events will take place on Zoom. A computer with a camera is recommended for the best experience, but joining by phone is also an option. For those who don’t have good internet at home, ARTS in Ely will provide a location in town with good internet access and room for people to maintain social distance during the event. People should make note of this option when registering for the event so an appropriate size venue can be acquired. Most people will be joining the event from their home computers.

This activity is made possible in part by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Arrowhead Regional Arts Council, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.

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JOIN US!!!
ARTS Virtual Community Meetup
Facilitated by Springboard for the Arts

SPRINGBOARD
for the arts

A three-part conversation series (via Zoom) to help connect and inspire artists, arts organizations and arts supporters during the pandemic, brainstorm possibilities for community collaboration, and dream about long-term ideas and efforts in the arts community.

Thursday, Nov. 12 from 12 noon-1:30pm
Thursday, Dec. 10 from 12 noon-1:30pm
Thursday, Jan. 14 from 12 noon-1:30pm

REGISTER on Facebook or at www.gardnertrust.org

This activity is made possible in part by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Arrowhead Regional Arts Council, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.

Saturday
November 7th
BIG MOOSE
art and crafts show
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MEMORIALS

Purchase ice candles for loved ones at Embarrass Cemetery



EMBARRASS- Ice candles are now for sale for \$4 each. If you plan to buy a candle in remembrance of a loved one, please stop by the Embarrass clerk’s office, mail a check or call 218-984-2084. Ice candles will be lit on Saturday, Dec. 19. There will not be coffee an’ at the town hall. file photo

HIGHER ED

Garni Scholarship established with a gift of \$30,000 to the VCC Foundation

ELY- Ely native Remo J. “Ray” Garni, the son of Italian immigrants, almost failed Kindergarten because he didn’t know English. Remo had academic potential; he just needed an opportunity for it to develop. Working to his greatest potential, he graduated as the 1950 Valedictorian of Ely High School, Ely Junior College (now Vermilion Community College), St. Cloud Teachers College and received his master’s degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Ray was a U.S. Army veteran and served for 18 months in Korea. He taught school in Morton and Robbinsdale, MN, Madison, WI, and at the Eveleth Junior College. With the closing of the college in Eveleth, he taught mathematics and computer science at Mesabi Community College in Virginia, retiring in 1993. Ray was a



Remo and Barbara Garni submitted photo

dedicated teacher and coach, well-respected by his colleagues and students alike.

Ray met his future wife, Barbara (Snell) Garni, while both were attending the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Barbara was a graduate of Southeastern High School in Detroit and Michigan State University. She received a master’s degree in math education from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She taught math in the Royal Oak, MI, public schools,

Robbinsdale Junior High School and Hibbing Community College. After taking off several years to devote time to her family, she resumed teaching as a substitute in the Virginia schools and finished her teaching career as a math instructor at Mesabi Community College, retiring in 1992. Barb was a gifted teacher who made math understandable for many. She was honored twice with the Outstanding Teacher Award at Mesabi Community College, in 1989 by the faculty and in

1992 by the students.

The Remo and Barbara Garni Memorial Scholarship was established with a gift of \$30,000 from their daughter, Elizabeth Hoefferle. Elizabeth said, “Education was very important to my parents. Both of them became teachers and greatly desired to help each student reach their potential. They believed that education helped a person grow in knowledge and put one’s knowledge to use for the good of others. They both worked hard and provided an excellent example of what it means to do one’s best. My dad was born and raised in Ely and he is an alumnus of Vermilion Community College. Through this scholarship, my parents’ legacy will continue, as students are helped to attain an education and reach their potential.”

St. James Movie Night on Sunday, Nov. 15

TOWER- St. James Presbyterian Church in Tower is hosting a free movie night on Sunday, Nov. 15 at 6 p.m. “Only

God Can” explores the bond of five friends struggling through life’s challenges. The film brings to light the relationships the

women have with each other and the relationships they lack with God. The movie depicts real-life situations and issues that many of us can identify with; substance abuse, infidelity, and single parenting. A sudden tragic turn of events thrusts the women into re-evaluating

their lives and questioning their faith in God. Multi-award winning “Only God Can” is a powerful thought-provoking film highlighting the realization that all things are possible with God, and with faith we can overcome anything. The film is rated PG.

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WINTER FUN

Registration full for 2021 WolfTrack Classic

COVID-19 guidelines limit crowds of spectators

by KEITH VANDERVORT
Ely Editor

ELY – The 2021 WolfTrack Classic slate of racers is full and the race is on. The racer limit this year was 40 teams, due to the continuing coronavirus pandemic. Early registration for teams that participated last year was open until Oct. 31. Regular registration opened on Nov. 1 and closed the next day due to an overwhelming response.

“We are on for Feb. 21, 2021, and we hope to have the best race ever,” said Ellen Cashman, race director. “We have had a strong early registration period as so many other sled dog race events in the region are already canceled.”

In the ever-changing world of COVID-19, even sled dog racing is required to implement modifications.

“While much of our race takes place across the rolling landscape of the Superior National Forest, we do have to take additional safety precautions and limit interactions for our 2021 race,” Cashman said.

“This year we will be unable to have spectators at our

Musher lineup for the 2021 WolfTrack Classic:

- Eight-Dog Teams**
Michael Bestgen, Frank Moe, Ryan Miller, Ashley Thaemert, Robin S. Fisher, John Ward, Dusty Klaven, Janet Bahe, Ero Wallin, Jodi Reineccius, Mary Manning, Jen Freking, Manitou Crossing, Amy Flakne, Adam Treeful, Erin Altemus, Matt Schmidt, Sofia Koepke, Joanna Oberg, Bucky Tippet, Frank Caldwell.
- Six-Dog Teams**
Taylor DeBoer, Sherri Moe, Nick Turman, Susan Serafini, Linus Meyer, Neal Seeger, Arlene Duff, Scott Edgett, Mark Stillwell, Bob Johnson, Elena Morgan, Clayton Schneider, Andri Duval, Marcia Elynck, Chris Kivi, Darcy Stanley-Nord, Joy Borchardt, Warren Turman, Marina Fuhrman.



Timberjay file photo

veterinarian checks and at the start-finish line,” she said. “We are all saddened by this requirement. We hope our faithful followers will still monitor the race virtually.”

In a normal year, mushers and race supporters come together and enjoy a delicious pasta dinner with all the fixings on the night before the race.

“Unfortunately, this is not a normal year and we are sorry to

announce the Musher Dinner is canceled for the 2021 season,” Cashman said. “We hope 2022 will allow us to partner with the VCC Wilderness Club who holds the dinner as a fundraiser. We invite both mushers and race enthusiasts to dine in or carry out from one of our local restaurants.”

The WolfTrack Classic consists of two mid-distance races: a six-dog and eight-dog

competition. Races start at 9 a.m. when the first eight-dog race team leaves the Ely softball complex and heads down the trail on its way through 50 miles of the Taconite Trail that winds back to finish in Ely.

The six-dog teams also leave from the Ely start for a 30-mile race and also travel on the Taconite Trail winding around near Purvis Lake and back to Ely. The 40 teams with

over 300 dogs go the distance in these two races.

“It’s always an exciting finish as the teams break through the last of the forest tree line and give their last great spurt of energy as they race towards the finish line,” Cashman said.

More information and updates are available at www.wolftrackclassic.com.

Competency evaluation ordered for Ely teen

Boy faces attempted murder charge in sibling stabbing

ELY – A local teen accused of attempted murder in a stabbing incident involving his younger brother near Miner’s Lake has been ordered to undergo a series of evaluations, according to Sixth Judicial District Court records filed last week in Virginia.

The suspect, Michael William Happala, 16, was ordered by Judge Michelle M. Anderson to undergo psychiatric, psychological and competency studies, along with a chemical dependency study and a family assessment by St. Louis County Public Health and Human Services.

Prosecutors are seeking to charge the teen as an adult.

According to charging documents, a 13-year-old boy was rescued by a hiker on Oct. 8 near the Trezona Trail after he was stabbed multiple times. Law enforcement officials reported the juvenile allegedly said his older brother “tried to kill him.”

Medical records indicated the boy was stabbed at least 13 times: twice in the neck, five times in the leg, two times on the arms, two times in the chest and two times on the hands.

The suspect was arraigned last week and remains in custody at the Arrowhead Juvenile Center. The victim was reported to be in stable condition.

The Mesabi Tribune contributed to this report.

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OPINION

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The First Amendment of the United States Constitution

e-mail: editor@timberjay.com

Editorial

A tale of two trusts

The Gardner and Gunderson trusts have similar origins. They diverged sharply after that.

Consider this tale of two trusts. In 1989, officials in Ely founded the Donald G. Gardner Trust, with \$510,000 in proceeds from the sale of a famous painting which Mr. Gardner gifted to the city, and which was subsequently sold to a New York collector.

In 1992, the city of Tower founded the Martin G. Gundersen Memorial Trust using \$399,000 in funds generated by the sale of timber land that Mr. Gunderson had gifted to the city.

The Gardner Trust, which operates as a 501c3 nonprofit corporation, has since made major contributions to the arts in Ely, annually providing operational funding for community arts organizations, like the Northern Lake Arts Association and Ely Greenstone, along with individual grants to artists. While the amount of funding available from the Gardner Trust has varied depending on the trust’s annual investment returns, its annual giving ranges from \$35,000-\$50,000 per year. At the same time, the trust maintains a part-time paid director to administer the trust’s grant programs and ensure proper record-keeping.

While Tower’s Gunderson Trust was managed for a time, and generated decent returns when interest rates were higher, it has provided next to nothing in terms of returns to the community for the past decade. Even worse, as one recently-appointed trust board member noted recently, record-keeping became a literal black hole. The city never even retained bank statements, although it is beginning to do so now.

Board members aren’t even sure if the trust is a 501c3 or some other kind of entity. They can find no articles of incorporation or bylaws but operate based on a series of shifting court orders, the meanings of which are far from clear. In contrast to the professionally-run Gardner Trust, no one was minding the store at the Gundersen Trust for years.

Since its founding, the Gardner Trust has disbursed well over \$650,000 to the Ely Library and to the arts and humanities in Ely, a remarkable success story.

While the Gundersen Trust had its moments and has returned nearly \$400,000 to city purposes since its founding, those contributions were generated in the early years. Since 2011, there’s really no record of any trust disbursements, although the city did borrow \$258,000 from the trust to

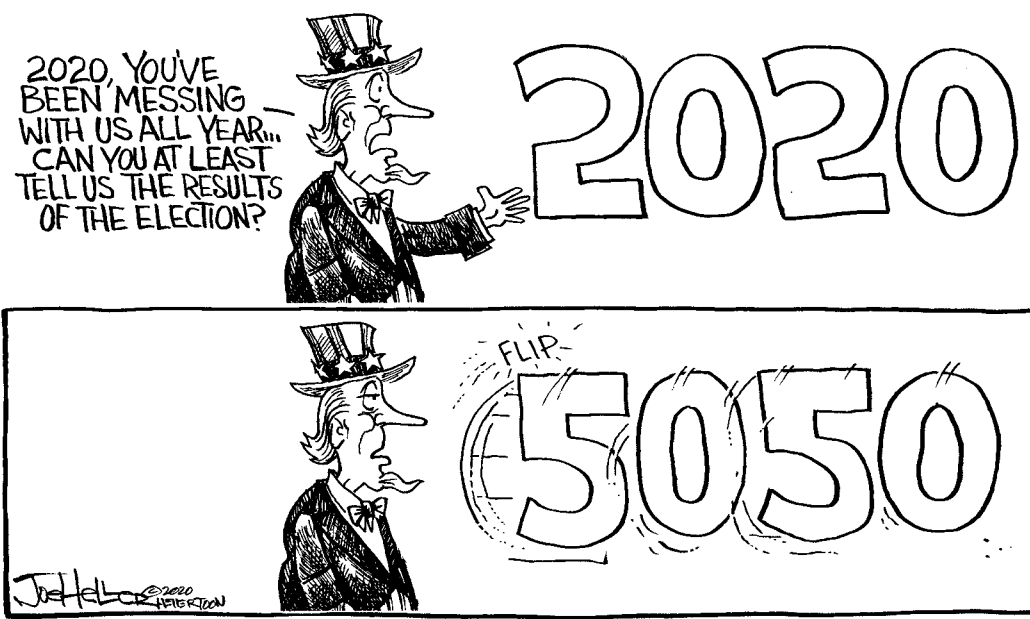
cover harbor-related expenses in 2015.

It’s unclear how the trust found itself in such a state, although lack of oversight is probably the biggest contributor. The trust’s board is supposed to have quarterly meetings but met only three times in the four and a half years between late 2014 and early 2019, when the new administration began working to get the trust back on track. That effort has been stymied, however, by questionable financial records and a host of questions about the restrictions currently in effect on the trust’s investments. The trust’s investment portfolio is a disaster, with much of its money in certificates of deposit paying less than one percent interest. The trust did obtain court approval in 2018 for a modification of its investment portfolio, but it’s unclear what the change actually means.

City officials seem to be taking the steps to restore the trust to working order, which is critically important. The board, late last month, established a sub-committee to work with legal counsel to determine how the trust can be better managed. While professional management is probably advisable, such a move will need to be carefully researched. As the current trust board chair noted recently, the trust ended up losing money in the past when an investment advisor soaked the trust with high fees that exceeded its returns. The trust board needs to avoid a repeat of that experience.

The Gundersen Trust would also do well to hire a very part-time director, who can ensure that the trust is administered properly, provide oversight of any financial manager, and solicit and manage grant requests once the trust begins to generate returns again. While three-quarters of the trust’s annual proceeds are supposed to go the city of Tower, the city could utilize the funds to support any number of valuable community purposes, such as recreation or operational support for a venue like the Lake Vermilion Cultural Center, or funding for a public library.

The Gardner Trust is a good example of the impact a small trust can have when it’s managed properly. The Gundersen Trust is a cautionary tale about what can happen when a city loses track of its valuable assets.



Letters from Readers

Take steps now to avoid COVID-19

In recent weeks we have been seeing a surge of COVID-19 in our area. It is up all to of us to help stop the spread of this virus. Colder weather means more time inside and more opportunities for germs to spread in close quarters.

Remember to wash your hands frequently and avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth. Maintain social distance and wear a mask whenever you leave your home. Holiday gatherings are approaching quickly. The CDC recommends having a small dinner with only people who live in your household and avoiding large gatherings with people from outside your household.

With flu season approaching, getting a flu shot is a simple thing that can be done to help mitigate the spread of influenza. By reducing the incidence of influenza, more medical resources will be available to help aid the fight against COVID-19.

Remember, if you have symptoms of COVID-19 you should be tested. If you have been in direct contact with someone who has COVID-19 you should follow the guidance from the MDH and quarantine for 14 days from the start of the positive person’s symptoms or their positive test result, whichever happened first. We are all in this together!

Michelle Miskowitz
Infection Preventionist
Cook Hospital & Care Center

Masking together, we can save lives

If each of us wears a mask, we can together save 100,000 lives.

Or... we can continue to engage in a huge fight over such a simple precaution. For some reason, the mask mandate continues to be viewed by some

as a huge infringement on one’s personal rights and freedoms. It clearly is not. Public health mandates are meant to protect people. No one’s freedoms are violated.

At this time, hospitals overflow and ICU beds are filled. The death count mounts at an alarming rate. And now this includes us. St. Louis County, Northern Minnesota.

We have a mask mandate in Minnesota, thankfully. But even with that, there are still a few who rebel and refuse.

So once again, a gentle reminder: Save lives. Wear a mask. I wear a mask to protect you from me. You wear a mask to protect me from you. And together we all do better.

Ellie Larmouth
Tower

We have worked hard to protect our patients and staff

We just want to reassure our clients, our animals and their owners, that at the Ely Veterinary Clinic, we have taken extreme measures to safeguard the health of our clients and our staff. We have worked hard to implement our systems and worked ourselves silly to try to keep our clients, the pets we treat, and our hard-working staff safe. I agree with the frustrations of columnist Kathleen McQuillan in the Oct. 16 *Timberjay* about watching supposedly scientifically based folks disregarding the risks of COVID-19 infection and not working adequately to protect the community.

We hope that our clients will continue to be patient with the restrictions on allowing other humans inside our vet clinic while we are treating their pets safely indoors.

Dr. Chip. Hanson
and the staff at
Ely Veterinary Clinic

Why hasn’t Hwy. 77 been replanted?

I am very concerned about the areas on Hwy. 77 that have been logged to the edges of the highway during the last several years. There is no sign that any of them have been replanted by the logging companies or the property owners who allowed the logging companies to do this and were paid for the trees that were sold. It is my understanding that maintaining our forests would be a primary way of saving our atmosphere.

When I was young, I remember that groups were paid to replant seedlings in these logged areas. I thought the seedlings were provided by the logging companies and the groups were paid by the companies to do the planting. Is there no longer a law that this replacement of the trees logged is required in Minnesota?

Pauly Peil Housenga
Lake Vermilion, Tower

We welcome your letters

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

We ask that letters be limited to 300 words.

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

Letters are a great way to offer your input to the *Timberjay’s* editorial page. We want to know what you think!

“Do Not Go Gentle Into That Good Night”

Oh Lord, another Halloween has come and gone and I did not outwardly damage any portion of my body this year. It’s fear and trepidation inside instead. Now just get me through COVID and more so, this election, without slapping anyone or having a stroke from the high blood pressure and I will be amazed. I



SCARLET STONE

stayed home alone on Halloween and was calm and sober. I turned off all the lights except my glowing pumpkin decorations and a couple of small parlor lamps. I conversed with my three cats... Colby, Lil’ Bit and Rainy and we ate pizza and watched spooky shows...it was soothing and plain old terrific. I

figured most Soudan residents were holding off on tossing out candy this year because of COVID. I knew that the local kids were going to be getting treats from the businesses in Tower, so I didn’t feel as much like a kill-joy not participating. I was not in the mood to try to engineer some pulley-driven, tubed-candy-set-up that stretched from my door down to the sidewalk, but hats off to those who made it work. Let’s face it, age, aggravation, plagues and politics have been getting to me.

The last couple of years I

did participate in Halloween and enjoyed putting on a costume and handing out candy...unlike my mother, who for decades, used to hide in a corner of her basement rosemaling wooden plates because she just did not want to deal with the commotion of passing out candy. Having been a first-grade teacher, she was burned-out on the sugared-up kids she had to deal with the next day in school, plus her one-eyed Welsh Terrier would bark and try to flee out into the wild of the night to run with the pack. Halloween was, simply put, an

annoying situation for mother.

Now, this particular Halloween is exceptionally eerie with the potential onslaught of post-election nightmares that could haunt us for months or even years. We just don’t know what lurks in the shadows.

Years ago, back in the 90’s, so many people would go out to the bars on Halloween and it was really fun to see all of the costumes. The penalties for getting caught drinking and driving were at the grade school

Letters from Readers

Happy to see efforts to expand broadband in Greenwood

I was very happy to read an article in the Oct. 16 *Timberjay* entitled “First look at broadband cost: 6.3 million: Greenwood seeking help from grant writer”. It looks like Greenwood Township is moving forward and finally entering the 21st century with respect to technology. In these times, technology and the ability to communicate to those outside our communities is one of the necessities of our lives and a key to sustaining our future. We can see it clearly as we live through the COVID pandemic: many people are sheltering in their homes and working from home. This is a trend that will not stop after the pandemic is over. The ways of the world are changing and good technology is an integral part of that.

Examples are evident every day: telemedicine; schoolchildren getting their instruction on the internet; businesses doing most of their work off site; conducting a Zoom meeting instead of meeting in person; shopping for everything from groceries to clothing to cars and tools; all in an attempt to be away from environments where COVID could be caught.

What folks are finding out is that this can be a very efficient and cost-effective way to lead our lives in the future and, perhaps with the exception of in-person education and physical medical exams, the world is embracing this trend. It looks like Greenwood Township is starting to embrace it as well by looking at the costs and efficacy of bringing broadband into the community. Kudos to those township board members!

In a recent AARP Bulletin (September 2020) a paragraph jumped out to me because it seemed relevant to Greenwood Township. “Anne Boothe describes her hometown of Malta, Montana, as ‘100 miles from the nearest Walmart and 200 miles from the nearest airport’. But the telecommuter and grandmother is satisfied that her broadband access, which is provided over fiber optic lines. ...Our coop took out federal loans to expand the network, says Boothe, 62, who enjoys chatting with her grandchildren ...via Zoom...We are very sparsely populated...but with our broadband, farm spouses can work remotely, retirees can stay

connected and we’ve avoided the brain drain of younger people leaving for good.”

As a summer resident, I am well aware of the concern the Greenwood board expressed about less than optimum telephone and internet service provided by Frontier. I asked Frontier to repair a line on my property last May and they were still rescheduling when I left in late September—the problem, which has been ongoing for at least three years—still has not been fixed.

I look forward to anticipating better communications options in Greenwood Township, where our family has had a presence of almost 55 years. I look forward to the Greenwood board moving forward to provide broadband to the year-round residents who will be living and working here and those of us who will be summering and visiting here in the 21st century.

It’s time to move forward and get the job done!

**Louise Gately
Lake Vermilion summer resident**

Experiences of others never match our own

Prejudice and injustice has spawned populations doomed to live with a severe form of anxiety. One in 11 people will be diagnosed with PTSD in their lifetime. Now it is known that post-traumatic stress is very common and not just caused by war, violence or catastrophic events.

Tragically, matters are made worse by our inability to be respectful and validate others’ experiences. We blame folks for their beliefs, requests for help or actions of protest. All because the experiences of others do not match our own experiences.

I am not a psychologist or even an educated person but the following fictional stories are based on experiences of people I know in Minnesota.

Kathy...
The woman next door is your friend and you like her more as time goes on. You help each other during busy times, go shopping and play cards together. At times, however, you cannot understand her fears. Kathy becomes anxious and fearful of going out at night or into a movie theater.

Thomas...
You get along famously with a newly found cousin you did not

grow up with. You and Thomas enjoy the same type of music, classic cars and motorcycles. At times, however, he is impossible to get along with. When larger family gatherings are planned, Thomas becomes nervous and angry, or doesn’t show up.

Rita...
Your childhood friend returns to the region where she grew up. She has a past history of major depression but seems well now. Not long after she settles into a home, she begins behaving fearfully. She has flashbacks and night terrors that she does not understand. Rita realizes it happens when she walks into this certain professional building. The flashbacks continue and grow worse and she must be hospitalized.

Research has shown that these fictional characters could very well be suffering from a severe form of anxiety called post-traumatic stress disorder, PTSD. According to Mayo Clinic researchers, people with PTSD have intense, disturbing thoughts and feelings related to past experiences that last long after the traumatic event has ended. They may relive an event through flashbacks or nightmares. They may feel sadness, fear or anger.

Known by many names in the past, PTSD was “shell shock” during the years of World War I and “combat fatigue” after World War II. According to the American Psychiatric Association, PTSD does not just happen to combat veterans or witnesses and victims of assault or accident.

This stress disorder can happen to anyone, especially those who experience intense events or a life-threatening event.

All people at any age, of any ethnicity, nationality or culture are susceptible. Women and folks who are gay, lesbian or transgender are more likely to experience PTSD. Three ethnic groups – U.S. Latinos, African Americans, and American Indians – are disproportionately affected and have higher rates of PTSD than non-Latino whites.

In this country we are to be treated equally but we were not born equal. The people in my stories have different talents, strengths and weaknesses than I.

Kathy was attacked in the dark when she was very young by a sexual predator. Medically, it is a pre-existing condition.

Thomas is a gay man who was perceived to be “feminine” when he was a boy and was bullied relentlessly in school by

students and some teachers. Out of earshot of his parents, Thomas was bullied verbally by adult friends and relatives. He coped for years but his anger and hostility increased as he grew older.

Rita is a Native American woman, who, years earlier, was drugged and sexually assaulted when she sought professional psychological care. The professionals who abused her are long dead. There is no way for her to seek payment for her extensive medical treatment.

Most folks are never treated for PTSD, our health care being as expensive as it is. The memory can be stuffed away for a time but will eventually be triggered. Symptoms can appear as soon as the episode ends or years later.

In years to come I hope our society can look at ourselves and realize each of us is different, not wrong.

**Judith Tuuri Ulseth
Cook**

Trump’s illusions no match for reality

CASTLES OF FANTASY ARE OPEN FOR VISITS, NOT RESIDENCY. Decades ago, Trump admitted, “I play to people’s fantasies, I call it truthful hyperbole. It’s an innocent form of exaggeration, a very effective form of promotion.” Trump uses his celebrity status to sell fantasy to those who identify with and aspire to the lives of the rich and famous. Living a life, vicariously, through an admired celebrity cannot be authentic.

W I T H O U T CULTIVATION, GARDENS WILT IN A FIELD OF DREAMS. Searching for a savior as substitute for doing the hard work in politics is a fool’s errand. Desiring privilege to ease the pain of under-privilege is a delusional daydream. History informs us that organizing for real change starts at the ground level, not from on high in Trump’s descent on an escalator.

FACTS ARE FORBIDDEN IN A LAND OF MAKE-BELIEVE. An anti-science attitude of ignoring fact is killing Americans. Accusations of fake news, attacking journalists as enemy of the people, conjuring conspiracy theories and spewing outrageous lies, sets Trump as the source of “truth” to a gullible following. Projecting his shortcoming on critics exposes a deeply flawed and corrupt victim of his own fantasy.

MAGICAL THINKING IS POWERLESS OUTSIDE THE MAGIC KINGDOM. Trump’s

followers were swept away from their troubles to follow the Yellow Brick Road toward Emerald City to meet the Wizard of Oz and “Make America Great Again.” Only arrogance or ignorance allows that a pandemic would vanish by a Wizard waving his magic wand.

THE SUPERNATURAL IS HOME TO BELIEVING THE UNBELIEVABLE. Trumpery, a real word, refers to nonsense, rubbish or trash that is drowning out decency, democracy and dignity. Supernatural miracles are not of earthly reality, but an imagined existence, rarely called into question.

KING COVID: divine ruler, promoter of fantasy, promises a fool’s paradise!

**Harold Honkola
Roseville**

Trump has governed by falsehood and bad choices

The *Timberjay* is correct on Trump’s failings. When he entered office he had promised so many things which he hasn’t done. One of them of course was his better health care plan. It wasn’t until this fall that he stepped up his great plan after he sued to have Obamacare repealed as unconstitutional. He signed an executive order protecting pre-existing conditions and I wonder if that’s worth the paper it’s printed on. More smoke and mirrors for the followers of this Orange Icon. He is a legend in his own mind, of course. Under his administration the Pandemic Playbook was put on a shelf so to speak, leaving Americans wide open to what is now happening. Remember, we’re rounding the corner.....

His tariffs are hurting not only farmers, but they are hurting consumers. The steel tariffs he implemented also hurt consumers as the president of the United Steelworkers stated in a letter, which is on the USW website. Trump calls himself a good negotiator alright. He negotiated all of us into this mess. There may be some supporters who will realize this president’s shortcomings and cons, but I think it will be too late. It’s already too late for thousands of people who have died under his reckless handling of this virus!

**Brian LaFrenier
Embarrass Twp.**

HALLOWEEN...Continued from page 4

level compared to what they are now. I don’t ever recall an upcoming election cooling my jets on such good times, but things didn’t always go smoothly and there were prices to pay. I was living in Chisholm back in those days and I remember one year, I nearly ruined my eyes on Halloween. Well of course there was plenty of drinking involved and I think I was wearing a great big nurse costume complete with the stethoscope, stiff white nurse hat, one continuous eyebrow, and some other implements like a procto glove and possibly a rectal thermometer. Props are everything.

When I got home, giddy after having taken first place at a costume contest, I fell right into bed, stethoscope, glove and all, but forgot to take out my contact lenses. When I woke up the next morning, all dehydrated with my dry blurry eyes, I panicked! My vision was comparable to a bumblebee trying to see through the plastic cover of a coffee can. I did more than buzz; I started to get hysterical, convinced that I had ruined my eyes. I had gone too far.....again. It was a weekend of course, but I managed to get the phone number of my eye doctor and I called him at home, explaining my tale of woe. I felt so stupid; I mean for crying-out-loud-who ruins their eyes for

Halloween? He told me that I had deprived my eyes of oxygen, and instructed me to plop in some eyedrops and the situation would resolve after a few hours. I was grateful, my vision was spared.

I’m glad I’m not worried about the loss of my eyesight this year, we’ve all got enough on our plates with a pandemic and the presidency. Halloween used to be a lighthearted holiday but this year the festive spirit of our entire country is strained. There was a time when all it took to change my mood was a great hat, some jewelry, and a fruity cocktail. In so many ways.... those were the days!

Speaking of great hats...one year, a girlfriend and I dressed up in Viking women outfits that were an absolute hit.....(but it was probably not an election year, and my interests had not yet changed from partying to politics). Instead of ruining my eyes...it was my knee. We both purchased plastic, horned Viking caps from a local costume shop and found some old fake-fur coats we cut up and draped over our shoulders. Then we added black tunics, leather belts, black leggings and a couple of pairs of mukluks I had on hand....(having been one of the first seamstresses for Steger Mukluks). The jaw-dropping, ingenious part of the costumes was my design for

the breast armor. We each bought a set of plastic funnels in a local store’s auto department. My fellow Viking’s set were small and blue, while my funnels were large and red. We spray painted them silver and stitched them to the front of our tops. That night, we whooped it up from one end of Hibbing through Chisholm and ended up at Side Lake where the band was playing louder than Valhalla. I did ask a few ghouls if they “needed an oil change” as I passed through ... hanging on to my funnels as I passed through the bar crowds. I loved playing that part! Later that night when sense had fled faster than a die-hard Democrat at a Minnesota Trump rally, I was jumping up and down, dancing and carrying on in my flat mukluks.... funnels flying, and forgot to bend my knees when I landed and went quickly down on the floor! I knew I had damaged something. There was no blood, only the red plastic gleaming in the tavern lights where paint had been scraped from a funnel. Immediate pain and swelling followed but the endless string of cocktails helped dull my pain. It turned out I had mashed my anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) in my left knee and was in a wheelchair using crutches for a good amount of time afterwards. Oddly enough, I have not had any issues with

the knee thirty years later! Truly a Viking woman.

So ruining my body over Halloween is NOT in my cards any longer. I need to keep my knees in order now so I can limp across the street to the Town Hall and vote. I need to be able to pack up, sell my house, and dash off to live in a foreign country if the dark fog of political unrest becomes too dreadful to bear.

As I finish this column...it is Wednesday morning...press day! Halloween has past, COVID has not, and neither has the Trump presidency. In fact he looks to try to remain in the White House partying like a grinning orange pumpkin-headed Halloween character, no matter what the legal outcome of this election is. I need to calm myself at this point and just go forward, Viking woman, take your tenacity, funnels and frocks and GO FORWARD. Irish poet Dylan Thomas said it best.

Do not go gentle into that good night,
Old age should burn and rave at close of day;
Rage, rage against the dying of the light.

Though wise men at their end know dark is right,
Because their words had forked no lightning they

Do not go gentle into that good night.

Good men, the last wave by,
crying how bright
Their frail deeds might have danced in a green bay,
Rage, rage against the dying of the light.

Wild men who caught and sang the sun in flight,
And learn, too late, they
grieved it on its way,
Do not go gentle into that good night.

Grave men, near death, who see with blinding sight
Blind eyes could blaze like meteors and be gay,
Rage, rage against the dying of the light.

And you, my father, there on that sad height,
Curse, bless, me now with your fierce tears, I pray.
Do not go gentle into that good night.
Rage, rage against the dying of the light.

Dylan Thomas, 1947

Scarlet Stone appreciates your comments and can be reached by email at scarletstone60@gmail.com.

Week of Nov. 9

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.

Tower City Council- 5:30 p.m. on Nov. 9

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 Nov. 16.

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

Grerenwood Town Board- 6:30 p.m. on Nov. 10 via tele-meeting

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.

St. Martin's Christmas Bazaar on Saturday

TOWER- St. Martin's Catholic Church is happy to announce that they will host a Christmas Bazaar on Saturday, Nov. 7 in the church social hall.

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 a Christmas-themed, hand-embroidered quilt, made and donated by Liz Villnow.

St. James offers adult class on Sundays

TOWER- St. James will be hosting a new adult series called "In Pursuit Of Jesus" through the lens of global cultures that will begin Sunday, Nov. 8. Jesus is one of the most talked about figures in history. Some love him, some hate him, many are simply indifferent. No matter where you stand on that spectrum, he's notable enough that it's worth finding out more about him and his impact on this world.

Pick up your passport. It's time to pursue Jesus.

"Even when someone doesn't agree about who Jesus is . . . even if we believe differently . . . the reality is because they're made in his image there's something that everybody in the world can teach me about Jesus." — Rasool Berry

The series visits six countries on a journey to discover how people around the globe uniquely reflect and live out the message of Jesus in their communities.

HOLIDAY GIVING

It's not too early to start thinking about Operation Santa

Donations needed by Dec. 11: toys, gift cards, clothing, and cash welcome

TOWER- We know it is early, but the pandemic is bringing new challenges to this year's Operation Santa toy drive. We are expecting to at least match last year's tally of 170 children, but are anticipating our total may higher due to the disruptions to family's income and employment this past year. We are also hoping to be able to do our shopping online if possible, so early donations are especially appreciated.

Operation Santa is a local fundraiser which purchases Christmas gifts (toys, gift cards, and warm winter items) for children whose families use the Tower Food Shelf. Last year we served over 170 area children.

Take advantage of the great deals, many of which are being offered right now, to bring some joy into a child's life.

We have started to receive some donations, but much more is needed to make sure every child in our community receives gifts and warm clothing this Christmas season.

The effort is organized by the Timberjay and the Tower Soudan Civic Club, with help from many area groups, churches, organizations, and individuals. If your

group or church is planning to donate this year, please contact Jodi at 218-753-2950. (This helps with planning!)

Lake Country Power's Operation RoundUp® program has once again made a very generous donation to the Tower Soudan Civic Club to help cover the cost of purchasing warm items for the children.

We are looking at donations of toys, games, art supplies, and sporting equipment for children, and gift cards to either Target or Walmart for our teenagers (\$10 or \$15). Stocking stuffer type gifts and holiday candy is also appreciated. We are always in need of gifts for infants and babies (must be labeled as safe for children under three). Gift ideas for children include games, action figures, building toys, dolls with accessories, craft sets, art supplies (including crayons and markers), sporting goods (basketballs, footballs, playground balls, sleds), puzzles, cars and trucks, and science kits. Please don't worry about picking out the right gift; I promise there will be a child on our list who will love whatever you pick out!

If you purchase a toy that



uses batteries, please also send a spare set! Donations of batteries (especially AA and AAA) are appreciated.

We also accept gently-used holiday decorations and gifts for the adults who use the food shelf.

Donations can be dropped off at the Timberjay in Tower, and will be distributed at the food shelf on Dec. 15. Families who use the Tower Food Shelf and have not yet signed up, can sign up at the food shelf on Nov. 17 or can call Jodi at the Timberjay at 218-753-2950, or can email editor@timberjay.com.

BREITUNG POLICE DEPARTMENT

Calls: 278
Citations/formal charges: 8

Monthly mileage: 1,561 (Tahoe: 690, Explorer: 871)

Squads: End of the month mileage for the gold 2012 Chevy Tahoe (Tower) is 101,536. End of the month mileage for the 2017 Ford Explorer is 31,515. Tahoe had new coils and sparkplugs.

The BPD did not



September Police Report

Breitung Police Chief Dan Nylund

work any additional shifts. The BPD did not do any training.

Please continue to check with the CDC for

COVID-19 updates.

Charges/Arrests:
1 Possess drugs over 1.4 grams – referred
1 Possession of drug

paraphernalia – referred

1 Drugs – possess or sell small amount marijuana – referred

1 Burglary 2nd degree government building – referred

1 Damage to property – referred

1 Trespassing – referred

2 Speed - citation

Breitung Police seek donations for Shop with a Cop

BREITUNG- Each year Breitung Police Chief Dan Nylund selects two lucky families and takes the kids to Target or Walmart to pick out toys for the Shop with a Cop event. This year, the program is in jeopardy and needs donations.

Shop with a Cop is normally made possible by the Stuff the Ambulance fundraiser at the Virginia McDonald's, where police,

fire, and ambulance personnel from throughout the area collect toys and monetary donations to donate throughout the Range. However, the fundraiser is being reduced to a drop-off event this year due to the pandemic, and it is unclear whether the Breitung Police Department will receive any funding this year.

"This is an opportunity for our community to step up for our kids,"

said Nylund. He said the event has brought great joy to families, parents and children alike, "If I could take every kid, I would," he said.

If you'd like to donate, please send a check to the Breitung Police Department, PO Box 6, Soudan, MN 55782 and include a note specifying the funds are for Shop with a Cop. All funds will stay local.

AEOA Senior Dining menu

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.



Area Solid Waste Facility 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

Cook Transfer Station
2134 S. Beatty Rd., Cook
Hours
Mon: 10am–6pm
Tues thru Sat: 9am–3:30pm

Soudan Canister Site
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
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



the TIMBERJAY

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NOTE: Changes of address must be sent or called in to the Tower office. Out-of-state delivery may take 2-3 weeks. For prompt out-of-state delivery try the First Class Subscription: \$100 year or \$10 per month.

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

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

St. Martin's Christmas Bazaar

Saturday, November 7
10 AM - 1:30 PM
St. Martin's Catholic Church • Tower

St. Martin's cookbooks, Norwex, cookie patch, vintage American Girl dolls and accessories, handicrafts, gift wrapping, mugs, apparel, wreaths, solar luminarias, boiled wool, Nordic gifts, Christmas "Elephant Sale", quilts, potica.

Just For Kids...Make & take Christmas decorations, Candy cane tree, gift shop for Christmas shopping

Café...Various homemade soups, Caramel rolls, Assorted bars, Beverages

Basket Raffles, Door Prizes, Silent Auction, Quilt Raffle
Drawings at 1:10 PM
(need not be present to win)

Masks Required, Available at the Door

Libraries

Ely library

Hours: Monday — Friday,
10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Saturdays — 8 a.m. to noon
Closed on Sundays
Phone: 365-5140

Babbitt library

Monday Noon-6 pm
Tuesday Noon-6 pm
Wednesday Noon-6 pm
Thursday Noon-6 pm
Friday Noon-5 pm
Phone: 827-3345

Support groups

AA - Alcoholics Anonymous
OPEN AA - 7:30
p.m. Wednesdays and
Saturdays, in-person,
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., Ely.
BABBITT AA - 7 p.m.
Tuesdays, Woodland
Presbyterian Church
AL-ANON - Sundays
8-9 p.m. at St. Anthony’s
Catholic Church in Ely.
For persons who
encounter alcoholism
in a relative or friend.
BABBITT AL-ANON
Thursdays, 7 p.m., at
Woodland Presbyterian.
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. Call
218-365-3359,
218-827-3232, or
1-800-662-5711.



These Ely kids dressed up for Halloween and attended the Trunk or Treat event in Whiteside Park Saturday afternoon. From left, Ivy Ohlhauser, Sadie Nelson, Siiri Nelson, Annika Eastham, Amelia Strom and Lindi Zemke. photo courtesy of Tiffany Zemke

Breathing Out

by Cecilia Rolando © 2020



rising pumpkin moon
reveals the highway to home

darkness definer

AROUND TOWN

Ely Police Report - Oct. 1-15, 2020

Arrests/Citations

➤Domestic Assault- Individual arrested for Domestic Assault, Interference with 911 call, and Disorderly Conduct.
➤ Traffic Stop- Individual arrested for 5th degree possession of a controlled substance.
➤Stabbing- Officers arrested an individual for 2nd degree attempted murder.

needed to be helped to their feet.

➤ Check Welfare- Officers checked on an individual at a local business that was confused. Officers brought the individual home where family was able to care for them.
➤ Information- Officers were contacted about an abandoned residence with cats inside. Officers referred this to the building inspector.
➤ Trouble Kid- Officers were contacted about a juvenile that was upset and not listening.

Officers mediated the situation.

➤ Public Assist- Officers unlocked a residence for an individual.
➤ Disturbance- Officers were contacted about two individuals having a verbal argument. Individuals agreed to go their separate ways.
➤ Public Assist- Officers unlocked a residence for an individual.
➤ Extra Patrol- Officers were requested to patrol an area that has vehicles driving at a high rate of speed.

➤ Fire- Officers located a campfire that was too large for the location. Officers educated the individual about fire safety.
➤ Drug Incident- Officers were contacted about drug activity in town. This case is under investigation.
➤Parking Problem- Officers were contacted about a vehicle that was parked where it was not authorized to park. Tow warning placed on vehicle.

Complaints

➤Lift Assist- Officers assisted an individual that

Free meals available for all ISD 696 students

ELY – The federal school food service program is extended through the rest of the school year for ISD 696 students, providing free breakfast and lunch to all enrolled students. The program extension started Nov. 2.

A notification from the school cafeteria said, the USDA Food and Nutrition Service provided

the waiver extending the Summer Food Service Program until the end of this school year. This means that free breakfast and lunches will be provided to all enrolled students regardless of their payment type.

To participate, complete the “Free/Reduced Lunch Application” found on the ISD 696 website under the Parent Quick

Links: <https://www.ely.k12.mn.us/>.

Distance learning families that would like a breakfast/lunch must call the cafeteria at 218-365-1735 by 9 a.m. each school day. Pick up meals on the southwest side of the Memorial Building at the delivery door from 11:30-11:45 a.m. A parent/student that requested the meal must be present for

pick up. Families are responsible for any extra charges incurred and low balance notices will be sent every week. Please correct any accounts with negative balances. Questions can be answered by the cafeteria at 218-365-1735 or kpuzel@ely.k12.mn.us.

Tuesday Group Schedule

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

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

Nov. 10 - Kesley Ebbs - Ely Area Invasive Team

Nov. 24 - Jessica Hellmann - U of M Institute on the Environment



Area Solid Waste Facility 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

Aurora Transfer Station
5910 Hwy 135 N., Aurora
Hours
Mon, Thurs, Fri: 8am–4pm
Tue, Wed: 10am–4pm
Sat: 8am–noon

Embarrass Canister Site
7530 Koski Rd., Embarrass
Hours
Sat: 12:30–4:30pm
Thu: 10am–5pm

Soudan Canister Site
5160 Hwy 169, Soudan
Hours
Mon, Wed, Sat, Sun:
8am–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



In Brief

Stay off the Ely Golf Course grass

ELY - The Ely Golf course is closed to all skiing, sliding, walking, etc. until further notice.

According to a Facebook post from Linda Enquist-Vandenbranden, the golf course staff is still hoping to apply chemicals to the fairways this week, and the packed down areas don’t thaw as fast.

Additionally, some people have been walking onto roped off areas and on the fairways, rather than sticking to the edge. This is a very crucial time for the health of the course. Once they are able to open safely to winter sports, they will post more information.

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
Ely, MN



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the TIMBERJAY

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HALLOWEEN CANDY DRIVE THRU



Due to COVID-19 health concerns, the Cook Lions Club changed its annual indoor Halloween party to an outdoor drive-thru in the Cook Community Center parking lot last Saturday.

Left: Some of the Lions Club members who traded in their yellow club vests for fanciful costumes that both entertained kids and families and helped to keep the Lions warm on a cold, blustery afternoon.

Lower left: Superheroes were popular costume choices among the 130 or so youngsters who passed through to collect bags of candy. Spiderman holds onto his newly acquired treasure as he poses for the camera.

Lower right: A bright red bow tie and mask took the scary edge off Jody Refsdal's boney friend to the delight of children passing through.

photos by D. Colburn



READERS AND RAPPERS

Book club looking at virtual meetings

by DAVID COLBURN
Cook-Orr Editor

COOK- The Readers and Rappers book club is taking a pause from its monthly meetings as the group explores options for holding its gatherings virtually.

Co-chair Sue Gustafson said that the club has decided not to meet in person in November because of the rising rate of positive COVID-19 cases in the area. The club has about 20 members, and usually about three-fourths of them gather each month to discuss the club's latest selection. "We did have a meeting last month in the art gallery in Cook, but some people aren't as comfortable meeting in groups right now," Gustafson said.

Gustafson said they are looking into meeting virtually via Zoom or another online platform, but the switch could prove challenging.

"A lot of us are really in the woods," Gustafson said. "I can do the Zoom meetings, but when we

get snow or rain, I lose my internet. We have some older people who don't know how to work with Zoom."

While the club explores its options, it won't abandon its literary explorations entirely.

Twice a year the group chooses a book written by a Minnesota author, and November's selection is one of them. "We Stay In Our Own Tree: Shattering the Taboo of Abusive Incest," by Duluth author Michelle Barry, is "One survivor's chilling memoir of her stolen memories and her childhood secrets," according to Amazon.com's listing. "For those who've been abused, Michelle's memoir shows others that they can reclaim their own voices and personal histories."

Readers and Rappers won't meet in person to discuss the book, but Gustafson is reading it and will write a book report on it to send to the club's current members.

Library is offering lobby pick ups

COOK- Continuing to cope with COVID-19 restrictions and safeguards, the Cook City Library this week is opening its lobby doors for picking up materials.

Librarian Crystal Phillips said in a written announcement that patrons should contact library staff to let them know what day they intend to pick up items. The service is available Mondays through Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Only one person is allowed in the lobby at a time, and Phillips re-

minded people that they should remember to wear a mask and maintain social distancing.

Only the lobby will be open for now, and library staff will not be available for face-to-face conversation or in-person assistance during lobby pickup hours, to protect patrons and staff.

Curbside pickup is still available for those who prefer it by calling 218-666-2210.


Library staff are available by phone or email to assist patrons and offer suggestions of what to order.



Orr Lions Club members Wendy Laakkonen and Sandra Bushnell stock the food pantry at the Orr Center. The Orr Lions Community Foundation is providing funds to keep the shelves full as an increase in demand is anticipated.

submitted photo

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NWFA to host open studio on Saturday

COOK- Create with others by joining Northwoods Friends of the Arts artists group, "Open Studio Art." The group will meet on Saturday, Nov. 7 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the gallery at Gallery at 210 S River St. in Cook.

Participants are welcome to bring their projects to the gallery each first Saturday of the month to work with other artists. No registration or membership is required. There is enough room to mask and social distance.



SAINT LOUIS COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
BETTER WASTE SOLUTIONS

Area Solid Waste Facility site hours

Ash River Trail Canister Site 11391 Ash River Trail Winter Hours Sat: 12:30pm–4:30pm	Kabetogama Lake Canister Site 10150 Gamma Rd Winter Hours Wed: noon–4pm Sat: 8am–noon	Sturgeon Canister Site 8380 Hwy 73 Hours Sun: 10am–4pm
Orr Canister Site 4038 Hwy 53 Winter Hours Tue, Thu: 9am–noon Sat: 8am–noon	Portage Canister Site 6992 Crane Lake Rd. Winter Hours Tue, Sat: 1pm–4:30pm	County 77 Canister Site 2038 County Rd. 77 Winter Hours Thurs, Sun: noon–5pm
Cook Transfer Station 2134 S. Beatty Rd. Hours Mon: 10am–6pm Tues thru Sat: 9am–3:30pm	Regional Landfill 5341 Regional Landfill Rd, Virginia Hours Mon–Fri: 8am–4:30pm Sat: 8am–3:30pm	St. Louis County Environmental Services Department 1-800-450-9278 Office hours 8-4:30 Monday through Friday www.stlouiscountymn.gov/recycle
Household Hazardous Waste Facilities 5345 Regional Landfill Rd., Virginia Tue, Sat: 8am–1pm	3994 Landfill Rd, Hibbing Sat: 8am–1pm	

Winter hours effective October 1st through April 14th

2020 General Election Returns, federal and state by city and township

District 3A Precinct	US President				US Senate		8th Dist Rep		House 3A		Senate 3		Total votes
	Biden	Trump	Jorgenson	Hawkins	Smith	Lewis	Stauber	Nystrom	Ecklund	Manninen	Bakk	Hogan	
Babbitt	344	569	3	2	318	508	595	281	407	483	426	465	924
Beatty	143	194	1	0	136	185	205	126	146	183	180	154	339
Breitung	166	210	4	1	164	185	219	137	202	166	226	142	384
Cook	150	156	2	0	137	131	163	127	167	124	195	107	311
Crane Lake	28	62	0	0	25	57	63	26	43	44	44	45	90
Eagles Nest	102	80	0	1	105	77	87	96	104	75	102	79	185
Ely	961	1,005	24	7	890	915	1,074	810	1,051	872	1,099	826	2,012
Fall Lake	292	214	10	2	277	212	241	262	303	204	315	190	522
Field	95	145	1	2	94	127	157	79	119	116	142	96	245
Greenwood	351	348	3	1	324	332	376	290	379	322	386	303	708
Kabetogama	37	71	0	0	37	65	67	35	39	68	41	62	108
Leiding	68	165	1	1	67	140	163	63	88	139	107	125	236
Linden Grove	20	46	1	1	21	40	47	20	27	43	34	33	69
Morse	517	427	5	0	484	424	483	444	546	377	549	368	965
Orr	56	88	0	0	47	74	94	41	66	73	101	58	145
Owens	40	104	2	0	43	91	108	36	56	88	76	70	147
Portage	30	76	0	0	32	71	77	27	41	67	52	56	107
SE Kooch	22	16	0	1	na	15	16	20	23	16	21	17	39
Stony River	50	69	1	0	54	61	68	50	51	63	54	63	121
Tower	108	149	0	2	99	128	148	95	129	122	143	110	264
Willow Valley	21	38	1	0	18	35	37	21	26	35	27	33	60
Winton	37	68	2	0	28	64	73	27	46	60	48	57	107

District 6B Precinct	US President				US Senate		8th Dist Rep		House 3A		Senate 3		Total votes
	Biden	Trump	Jorgenson	Hawkins	Smith	Lewis	Stauber	Nystrom	Lislegard	Buria	Tomassoni	Moren	
Embarrass	135	259	4	3	133	237	274	111	185	210	192	203	418
Kugler	58	52	0	0	59	46	59	46	66	44	62	48	110
Pike	133	139	5	0	130	132	162	101	161	110	162	109	279
Verm. Lake	94	92	0	0	97	87	106	80	100	84	99	83	186
Waasa	64	81	2	0	68	72	81	60	80	69	84	64	150

District 6A Precinct	US President				US Senate		8th Dist Rep		House 3A		Senate 3		Total votes
	Biden	Trump	Jorgenson	Hawkins	Smith	Lewis	Stauber	Nystrom	Sandstede	Farnswth	Tomassoni	Moren	
Alango	69	80	3	0	66	79	94	52	73	78	80	70	153
Angora	65	79	2	2	63	73	83	54	73	70	74	70	149
Bearville	73	66	2	0	66	63	69	67	70	70	80	60	141
Morcom	26	30	0	0	25	30	33	22	27	30	32	23	56
Sturgeon	40	64	2	0	41	52	62	35	43	58	52	51	106

Unofficial results from the Minnesota Secretary of State *based on actual votes cast, total voters may vary slightly

LEGISLATIVE RACES

Ecklund, Bakk hold off strong GOP challenges

by DAVID COLBURN
Cook-Orr Editor

REGIONAL- North Country voters are sending two veteran DFL legislators back to St. Paul in January after District 3A Rep. Rob Ecklund and District 3 Sen. Tom Bakk fended off strong challenges from Republican opponents in Tuesday’s election.

Ecklund’s bid for a fourth term in the state House of Representatives on Tuesday was the closest race, as Republican challenger Thomas Manninen garnered 11,367 votes to Ecklund’s 12,540, a 52.4 to 45.1-



Rob Ecklund



Tom Bakk

percent edge for the incumbent.

Ecklund’s clearest advantage was in Cook County, where he outpolled Manninen 2,544-1,152 while winning all 13 precincts. The nearly 1,400-vote cushion readily offset Manninen’s edge in

Koochiching County, where the challenger topped Ecklund by 839 votes while winning 16 of 22 precincts. The Koochiching County results were the biggest shock of the night. Ecklund, a former Koochiching County Commissioner from International Falls, has found strong support in his home territory in prior elections. “I clearly have some work to do close to home,” said Ecklund. “Maybe I’ve been concentrating too much on other parts of the district.”

Ecklund faced a young and well-spoken opponent in

Manninen, who hails from Littlefork, also in Koochiching County. He has had little difficulty winning re-election since he was elected in a 2015 special election to fill the seat formerly held by the late David Dill.

Ecklund also won, by narrow margins, in both St. Louis and Lake counties.

Bakk had a relatively easier fight on his way to a sixth term as District 3 Senator, piling up roughly 5,000 more votes than Republican challenger Christopher Hogan in claiming a 26,641-21,242 win (55.2 percent to 44.6 percent).

Koochiching County was

the only area in which Hogan outperformed Bakk at the polls, with the former Senate majority and minority leader holding decisive edges in Lake, Cook, and St. Louis counties.

Cook native Bakk has been a fixture in the state Legislature since 1995, when he was elected District 6A representative. He was first elected to the Senate in 2002 and has served twice as the DFL minority leader and once as majority leader. He was replaced as minority leader by Sen. Susan Kent, of Woodbury, last February.

ELECTION RELATED?

Hunters, gun owners facing severe ammo shortage

by DAVID COLBURN
Cook-Orr Editor

REGIONAL- The start of deer season on Saturday ushers in the busiest two months of the year for all types of hunting in Minnesota, but the biggest challenge for area hunters might not be tracking down game to shoot. Instead, it may be finding the ammo they need to bag their prey.

Ammo for pistols, shotguns, and rifles is in short supply nationwide, and those shortages are painfully evident here in the North Country.

“This is the worst shortage I’ve ever seen,” said Doug Ellis, owner of Virginia Surplus in Virginia.

Ellis has a long baseline for making that assessment – he’s in his 30th year of operating Virginia Surplus, and has been in sporting goods retail for four decades.

The shortages come amidst a record-setting year for U.S. firearms purchases. Small Arms

Analytics, a company that tracks estimated firearms sales, reported sales of 16.9 million guns in the first nine months of 2020, eclipsing the previous high of 16.8 million sold in all of 2016, the year Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton was pushing a strong arms-control agenda. Handguns have been the primary driver, but sales of guns are up across the board.

“This panic eclipses everything because you’ve got what I call ‘the three amigos,’” Ellis said. “You have COVID, you have protesting, and you have the election. When you combine all of that it’s the perfect storm, and it’s created the worst shortages that I have ever seen.”

Gun sales spiked in the early months of the coronavirus pandemic and spiked again during the weeks of civil unrest sparked by the death of George Floyd during an attempted arrest by Minneapolis police officers in May.

And with many gun and

ammo factories shut down for weeks by COVID-19 restrictions and then reopened with limited production capacity, shortages in the face of increased demand were inevitable, Ellis said.

“I’ve had calls from Duluth, I’ve had calls from the cities, I had calls from everywhere trying to buy ammo and guns, that’s how bad it is,” Ellis said. “I saw one manufacturer that had \$80 million in back orders just in handgun ammo. That’s backorders. That company will never catch up.”

Ellis said that he’s been rationing purchases of ammo for months in order to serve as many of his regular customers as possible, but he’s also had an influx of first-time buyers who’ve been looking high and low with little success.

Long-standing relationships with his distributors have helped Ellis keep some ammo in stock, but despite his best efforts, he’s finding it difficult to obtain the most common and popular

types of ammo.

“In the 29 years I’ve been in business, I have never been out of 30-30 shells,” Ellis said. “This year I’ve sold out three times and the last 30-30 shells I had took me two-and-a-half months to get. I had 20 boxes, and of course you know how long that lasted. I have not seen it since.”

It doesn’t take an economics degree to know that when supply is scarce and demand is high, prices go up. Ellis said his costs to buy ammo have gone up, but while he cited numerous examples of online price gouging by companies and individuals, he said he’s tried to keep price increases to customers moderate.

The economic downturn resulting from coronavirus restrictions has had an impact on Virginia Surplus, as Ellis said he’s down to just one employee to help run the store. That makes for long days of frenzied activity as he looks for ways to restock his shelves.

“I work the phones five days a week,” he said. “I’m constantly

asking, and I take anything, it doesn’t matter. Small, big, whatever you’ve got I’ll take it, and this is what’s helped keep me in business.”

Ellis also worries about the recent increases in positive COVID-19 cases in the area. If he were to contract the virus it would shut his store down for two weeks at one of the busiest times of the year.

And amidst the shortages of ammo, guns, scopes, and virtually anything associated with firearms, there’s another curious anomaly that Ellis said he’s at a loss to explain.

“For some reason, and don’t ask me why, this year there was a major uptick in people wanting left-handed guns,” Ellis said. “I never have had this many people asking for left-handed guns and wouldn’t you know, this is the year everybody’s short of left-handed guns. It shocks me to this day. I mean, I’m left-handed, I understand. If anybody had left-handed guns, it would be me.”

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ELY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

City of Ely distributes CARES Act funds to businesses

by KEITH VANDERVORT
Ely Editor

ELY – Eighteen local businesses will share approximately \$50,000 in federal CARES Act funds following grant distribution approval at a special city council meeting last week. The grant program and a separate forgivable loan initiative come from the federal government and the state, through the city, in response to the coronavirus pandemic. The one-time grant payment application process proceeded quickly last month once the program was announced. An ad hoc committee of the city’s Clerk-Treasurer Harold Langowski, Economic Advisor John Fedo and council members Paul

Kess and Heidi Omerza recommended the payments to all 18 eligible businesses that applied. Following council approval, the checks were cut and sent late last week. Grant payments were divided into three tiers. ▶ Tier 1, restaurants, bars, hair salons, gyms, dentist/eye clinics, received \$3,500 each, including Studio North, Jasper Company (Northern Grounds and Stay Inn Ely), Northern Expressions, Heavy Metal Sports, Rockwood, Amici’s, Zaverl’s Bar and Sir G’s. ▶ Tier 2, lodging, outfitters, bait and tackle shops, received \$2,500 each, including Arrowhead RV, Women’s Wilderness Discovery, and Motel Ely. ▶ Tier 3, general retail, received \$1,500

each, including Kondos Outdoors, Potluck, Art and Soul Gallery, Wintergreen Northern Wear, Ely Bike and Kicksled, Kekekabic Studios, and Hand Done T-Shirts. Langowski said the committee sent direct-mail inquiries to about 111 businesses that met the category consideration approved by the council earlier last month. “Of those 111 we received 20 responses,” he said. “One of the businesses was a non-profit organization (not a qualification) that made a valued argument as to why they should get assistance, and another applicant was the recipient of county or state assistance and were withdrawn from consideration, so we ended up with 18 applicants.”

Mayor Chuck Novak commented on the low number of city businesses who applied for the grants. “That goes back to the old adage, ‘You can lead a horse to water, but you can’t make them drink it,’” he said. Langowski said the two council members “made most of the decision-making” and city staff provided assistance as needed. The total grant amount distributed was \$46,000. Kess said more businesses were more adversely affected (by the economic challenges of the coronavirus pandemic) than others. “Some were closed for up to 90 days,” he said. “We tried the best we could, although this is not a perfect system, to direct

the aid to the businesses that were more impacted.” Omerza said the committee expected more participation. “We had an original dollar amount in mind but we didn’t have as many applicants as we thought,” she said. “And we want to add the non-profits to the list as they are a big part of our community.” Langowski added that an additional funding round of \$1,000 each was recommended for non-profit organizations that maintain a storefront business in the city. Those applications will be considered by the council at their Nov. 10 meeting. A forgivable loan program offers another aid package for city businesses to create more jobs. The city of Ely’s

COVID Assistance Program allows businesses to apply for \$11,000 for one new employee or \$22,000 for two new employees. The new staff must be paid at least \$15 per hour and remain in the position for at least two years. Those businesses that meet the program requirements would have the loan forgiven. Those businesses that don’t would be required to repay the loan over five years at one-percent interest. The Department of Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation contributed \$120,000 for the program, according to Fedo, and the city of Ely Economic Development Authority kicked in another \$30,000. A subcommittee will review the applications.

Ely Joint Powers Board Legislative meeting almost called off

by KEITH VANDERVORT
Ely Editor

ELY – An annual gathering of legislators hosted by the Ely Community Economic Development Joint Powers Board was in peril of cancellation this year when one member recently voted against hosting the event because of the coronavirus pandemic. Officials from the cities of Ely and Winton, townships of Morse and Fall Lake, along with a representative from the ISD 696 school board make up the local joint powers board to promote economic development efforts in the region. The group holds a legislative session every December to discuss issues with federal, state and county elected officials or their representatives. The luncheon meeting has been held in early December for many years and provided a forum for the discussion of

issues important to the Ely area. The public was also invited to discuss a variety of issues with lawmakers. With public health concerns over the continuing coronavirus pandemic, the board took the summer off from gathering. They tried to meet last month to plan their annual event, but with just three of five representatives present at that meeting, no formal action could be taken. The group’s by-laws require unanimous approval for any decisions. The Joint Powers Board met again last month in Ely City Hall to work through the details of the upcoming event. Officials from Winton, Mayor Kathy Brandau, and Fall Lake, Supervisor Mary Tome, participated via conference telephone call. The Joint Powers Board recording secretary, Tom Coombe, reported that initial contacts indicated that State Sen. Tom Bakk and State Rep. Rob

Ecklund could attend the gathering at the Grand Ely Lodge on Monday, Dec. 7. Representatives of Minnesota’s two senators, Amy Klobuchar and Tina Smith, Rep. Pete Stauber, State Sen. Tom Bakk, State Rep. Rob Ecklund and St. Louis County Commissioner Paul McDonald typically attend the event. If the Nov. 3 election changes the regional political roster, any new lawmakers will also be invited. Public health concerns due to the coronavirus could change the format of the meeting. The Grand Ely Lodge can accommodate a limited gathering and will provide a meal under the prevailing public health guidelines, according to Coombe. Ely Mayor Chuck Novak suggested, in keeping with the COVID-19 social distancing guidelines, that Joint Powers Board members could meet first with lawmakers,

then invite members of the public to voice their concerns with the politicians. “We can go through the lunch meeting limited to those of us who will fit in the room that is available, then they can entertain anyone else to come and speak to (the lawmakers) while they are here,” he said. “The public would be welcome after we have our business meeting.” Fall Lake Supervisor Mary Tome voiced her opposition to holding the meeting over her concerns with COVID-19. Mayor Brandau, who recently attended regional political rallies supporting President Trump, dubbed “super spreader” coronavirus events, also voiced concerns with the Joint Powers Board hosting the event. “I don’t know, I wonder if we will really get any politicians to attend,” she said. Tome asked for clarification on what issues need

to be discussed. “We have broadband, funding for all the (recreational) trails going in around here, continued funding for schools, continued funding for transportation projects such as roads, and wastewater treatment plants around here are getting inundated with MPCA rules that are costing us millions of dollars,” Novak said. “These are all serious issues and we can talk directly with our legislators.” Ely school board member and Joint Powers Board chair Tom Omerza noted, “The Grand Ely Lodge will know what public health protocols we need with the number of people, social distancing, serving food, and using face masks.” Brandau suggested having a virtual meeting. The Grand Ely Lodge does have wireless capabilities

for Zoom and other virtual meeting platforms. Omerza suggested conducting the meeting in person as well with a virtual presence for those who may be uncomfortable due to COVID-19, and Novak made a motion to have the meeting in both formats, in-person and virtual. Tome voted against the motion. At that point, the legislative gathering was on the cusp of cancellation because of the lack of unanimous consent. “I just don’t think it’s necessary,” she said. When reminded that she could participate via Zoom or telephone conference, Tome changed her vote to affirmative and with that, the Ely Community Economic Development Joint Powers legislative meeting remains on the calendar for Monday, Dec. 7, beginning at noon.

ELY...Continued from page 1

Urbas continued his education at the University of Minnesota-Duluth where he earned a degree in businesses administration with an emphasis in finance. He is employed with R&R Transfer. When he entered the race, Urbas said that he “wanted Ely to survive. I think a lot of people want to keep living in Ely and I think there are some opportunities to gain some incentives and pull some industries into town. There are more opportunities out there. I don’t want Ely to fizzle away.” In announcing his withdrawal in August, Urbas said, “I am withdrawing from the Ely mayoral race due to health reasons,” citing a 15-year medical battle. “I am not going to dive into specifics. I just hope everyone can understand my reason. Thank you to everyone for all the support throughout this race. It is appreciated and humbling.” When he pulled out, Urbas told the *Timberjay* that at the beginning of the summer he felt he could handle putting more on his plate. “But, in the last month and a half I started going backward and I can’t take on a role that I don’t feel positive that I can do completely,” he said in August. Novak was seeking a fourth term in his second

time as mayor. He also won the mayoral seat in 2006 but lost a re-election bid two years later. In the Ely School Board race, Tom Omerza won re-election with 2,220 votes. He will be joined on the board by newcomers Hollie Coombe, with 1,612 votes, and Darren Visser, with 1,605 votes. The fourth candidate, Rachel Brophy, received 1,024 votes. Two incumbents, Heidi Mann and

James Pointer, did not seek re-election. The vote tally for the uncontested incumbents for Ely City Council included Jerome Debeltz, 1,202, Ryan Callen, 1,171, and Paul Kess, 1,035. In Winton, Scufsa, (70 votes) and Kathy Edman, (66 votes) beat out Lee Tessier (46 votes). Mayor Kathy Brandau ran unopposed. Ely voters formed a long line outside of the Senior Center on Tuesday

morning as they waited for polls to open at 7 a.m. A total of 1,165 in-person votes were tabulated on Tuesday. Officials counted 855 absentee ballots. There were 174 new voter registrations on election day.



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THE CORONVIRUS

COVID-19 spreading unabated in regional communities

School guide rate rises to high levels

by DAVID COLBURN
Cook/Orr Editor

REGIONAL- As Minnesota set a single day record for new COVID-19 cases on Tuesday, county health officials are concerned about a record bi-weekly case rate for greater St. Louis County schools and the unchecked spread of the coronavirus through community transmission.

The 3,483 new cases statewide reported on Tuesday by the Minnesota Department of Health brought the cumulative total of cases during the pandemic to 157,096. About 134,000 of those patients are considered “patients no longer needing isolation,” while 2,499 deaths have been attributed to COVID-19.

Cases continue to increase across the North Country as well. Zip code case data reported last Thursday revealed 12 new cases in Cook and seven new cases in Orr. Tower and Ely each had eight new cases, while Embarrass had the biggest jump with 14.

Positivity rates for testing continue to outpace the increase in tests administered, and according to St. Louis County Public Health Division Director Amy Westbrook, the rate of known and unknown community spread in the county is making it difficult to mount any effort to counter the virus.

“About 60 percent of our cases in greater St. Louis County are due to community transmission,” Westbrook said. “That includes cases where we know they are getting infected within a community setting from a lab confirmed case, and where individuals are getting infected without knowing where they’re getting it. That’s concerning when you have that rate increasing, because then it’s kind of unchecked spread.”

Cases resulting from community spread pose a problem when looking for ways to reverse the spread, Westbrook said, limiting health workers to focus primarily on more localized outbreaks associated with businesses and long-term care facilities. To deal with community transmission, the only route available is to continue reinforcing messaging about wearing masks, maintaining social distancing, and the poten-



tial hazard of gathering in small groups.

“I think a lot of people are doing really well at doing social distancing and wearing masks when they’re in the workplace,” Westbrook said. “I think that is pretty well a norm now. But the community norm isn’t there for wearing masks and social distancing in small social gatherings, and that’s where we’re seeing most of our transmission happen.”

In a Duluth-area teleconference last week, Westbrook said it was important for people to consider how their behaviors may impact others in their social circles.

“We want people to think of their neighbors and friends who are vulnerable, who have chronic conditions,” she said. “You may or may not be showing symptoms. We talk about wanting to return to normal life, but there’s a trade-off here. If we want to keep communities thriving we

need to practice those good behaviors.”

School rates rise

The bi-weekly case rate schools use to guide their decisions about safe learning models took a dramatic jump last week, with the rate for greater St. Louis County going from 25.5 to 37.6, a rate that eclipses that for Duluth-area schools for just the second time since the measure was implemented.

Schools are urged to consider transitioning their upper grades completely to distance learning and use a hybrid model of in-person and distance instruction for elementary grades at that rate, but decisions are made locally in consultation with health officials who can provide more specific data, Westbrook said.

Area districts are staying the course for now. Ely schools are already using a hybrid model for their upper grades, while elementary grades are using in-person instruction. ISD 2142 St.

Louis County schools have continued with an in-person learning model for all grades, but that changed this week for the district’s Cherry location, which switched to full distance learning.

“We are doing a two-week reset for Cherry,” said Superintendent Reggie Engebritson. “We have too many staff out who are close contacts to be able to run the school efficiently. We have had six positive cases from last Tuesday to yesterday, which we would have been able to handle, but there are too many staff out because they are close contacts to either someone at school or in the community. We will return to in-person learning on Nov. 18.”

The Cherry situation forced the school to cancel Friday’s scheduled football game against Ely, forcing the Timberwolves to schedule a different opponent. Meanwhile, the North Woods Grizzlies football team will be idle Friday after their opponent, East Central, had to cancel due to COVID-19. The situation at East Central was similar to Cherry, with the school shifting to distance learning due to staffing shortages related to the virus.

Engebritson also confirmed that a second

positive COVID-19 case has been identified at North Woods School. Engebritson said the individual has been out of the facility since Oct. 23 and that contact tracing determined there were no close contacts that required further intervention.

Engebritson also serves as superintendent for Mt. Iron-Buhl, which had to go to distance learning after a COVID-19 outbreak in its elementary school. She said that she’s constantly monitoring conditions across both districts and consulting with health officials. “While I realize the numbers in the county might be going up, it doesn’t make sense to me to go to distance learning and put more kids out in the community during the school day just because of that one data point,” Engebritson said. “Kids belong in school and if we can keep them there, I think it’s in their best interest.”

That’s consistent with guidance from both health and education officials who have encouraged districts to use multiple sources of data before making a change to learning models, with the intent of minimizing major disruptions for children, staff, and families.

VOTE...Continued from page 1

Yet the incumbent president actually lost ground in the North Star state this time around. In 2016, candidate Hillary Clinton edged Trump by 1.5 percent. As of Wednesday, however, unofficial results from

the Secretary of State put Biden up with 52.43 percent to Trump’s 45.26 percent, a margin of more than seven percent. More than 3.1 million Minnesotans cast ballots in 2020, up 15 percent from the 2.7 million ballots cast four years ago.

While Trump carried the day in many precincts in far northern St. Louis County, he generally won by lesser margins than four years ago (see complete precinct results pg. 7). In St. Louis County as a whole, Biden won 57-41 percent, an improvement on Hillary Clinton’s 51-40 percent margin in 2016.

Across the Eighth Congressional District, Biden slightly improved on Clinton’s margins from four years ago. In 2016, Trump carried the Eighth 54-38. He won again this time, but by a somewhat slimmer 56-42 margin. Both candidates improved on their percentage of the vote in 2020 as fewer voters cast ballots for third party candidates.

The national picture, as of the *Timberjay’s* Wednesday deadline, was less certain, although it appeared that Biden was almost certain to win the

popular vote and was on track to reach the needed 270 electoral votes to win the presidency. President Trump, however, had already declared victory and was threatening lawsuits to halt counting of mail-in ballots in some battleground states.

Smith wins U.S. Senate bid

The Tuesday night presidential trend in Minnesota largely held true in the U.S. Senate contest between incumbent Sen. Tina Smith and her GOP challenger, former right-wing talk show host Jason Lewis. Smith won with 49 percent of the vote, to 43 percent for Lewis, as Kevin O’Connor of the Legal Marijuana Now party netted just under six percent of the vote. The two legal marijuana parties on the ballot drew considerable votes in many locations and were clearly a factor in a number of races. Nearly ten percent of voters in Tower backed the Legal Marijuana Now party in the U.S. Senate race.

Smith won 54-38 in St. Louis County, while she lost 52-40 across the Eighth District overall.

But a strong showing in the Twin Cities metropolitan region pushed Smith over the top statewide.

Stauber re-elected

The Republican tilt of the Eighth District proved a deal-breaker for DFL challenger Quinn Nystrom, who lost to first-term U.S. Rep. Pete Stauber, of Duluth. Stauber cruised to re-election by a 57-38 percent margin, to become the first Republican in modern political history to win re-election in Minnesota’s Eighth District. Stauber tallied 215,115 votes to Nystrom’s 142,708.

Nystrom did narrowly win St. Louis County, however, by a 49-45 percent margin.

Nystrom conceded to Stauber on Tuesday, although she told supporters that her fight for lower healthcare costs would continue. “I have a fundamental belief that people in the wealthiest country on earth should be able to afford the medicines and care they need to keep themselves alive. And I’m not going to stop fighting until that becomes a reality.”

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THE CORONAVIRUS

St. Louis County offers COVID-19 funds for individual needs

REGIONAL- St. Louis County is allocating a portion of its CARES Act assistance funds to help individuals and families negatively impacted by the coronavirus pandemic.

One option is the COVID-19 Housing Assistance Program, which targets households that are not part of any subsidized housing program such as Section 8, Bridges, or public housing.

Individuals and families who have a rent



payment, mortgage payment, homeowner association dues, contract for deed payment, home-

owner insurance payment, utility payment, manufactured home lot rent, manufactured home payment, or other housing-related payment with a due date of March 1, 2020, that is past due may qualify for assistance. The past due amount must be due to unemployment, illness, or another issue directly related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

To see if you qualify, complete a preapplication online at [https://housing-](https://housing-helpmn.org/)

[helpmn.org/](https://housing-helpmn.org/).

CARES Individual Assistance funds are available to households that are at or below 300 percent of poverty level at the time of application. Those who live in subsidized housing are eligible to apply, as are others who are in an emergency situation due to the impact of COVID-19. An emergency situation is defined as being without, or at risk of losing, housing, utilities, or transportation that would

affect getting or keeping a job. Other unexpected expenses, such as internet access for schooling or repair of appliances may also qualify for assistance.

Individuals who apply for the CARES Individual Assistance program will not receive payments directly; rather, the county will make payments directly to utilities, mortgage companies, landlords, and other vendors once an individual's application has been verified and

approved.

Program guidelines, online and paper applications, and contact information for those with additional questions is available on the county's CARES Funding webpage at <https://www.stlouiscountymn.gov/departments-a-z/public-health-human-services/public-health/covid-19/cares-funding> under the "Individual Assistance" tab.

TOWER...Continued from page 1

newcomer Josh Zika by a single vote, 111-110.

The city of Tower saw higher than usual voter turnout (at least 83 percent) in Tuesday's election, with 61 absentee ballots accepted and 201 in-person voters. The city had 282 registered voters as of 7 a.m. on election day. There were an additional two votes cast at St. Louis County courthouses. Election officials erroneously allowed two voters from outside the city limits to cast ballots, which could only have had an impact on the two-year position.

The city saw 35 new voters register on election day, including several teenage first-time voters. The city had four open seats on the ballot, with every seat, except the mayor, up for election following a rash of resignations in the past year and a half.

Four-year seats

Setterberg has taken the lead on several of the major issues facing the city since he was appointed to a seat earlier this year. He told the *Timberjay* his top priority for the next four years is continuing to fix the city budget. "We need to make sure we're getting the most value for our dollars," he said. Everything is on the table, he said, as the council looks for ways to keep spending in line with actual needs.

Setterberg said he's been pleased with the city's progress on finances during his nine months on the council.

"We have been working down our list of audit points and hope to have many of them off the list for next year," he said. The city's auditors had noted 18 separate management concerns during the 2018 audit. That was reduced to 12 in last year's audit, and the council is working to eliminate most, if not all, of those points in the 2020 audit.

Setterberg has also taken the lead in examining how to rework the city's emergency services to operate more efficiently.

Norby told the *Timberjay* his top priority for a first term is simple: "Learn fast, contribute, and watch spending." He also advocates positioning Tower to take advantage of the greater interest in moving out of major cities.

"I think the city should focus on sustainable projects that increase livability," Norby said. "There is a land boom across the state now because of COVID where people are moving to smaller towns, lake homes, and out of the suburbs and cities."

Altenburg ran with the slogan to "Take Back Tower," voicing criticism of the current council, mayor, and city clerk while writing as an "independent journalist" for the *Tower News*. But most of the problems he cited, specifically regarding city finances, dated back to the previous city administration and city clerk, not to the current administration, which has been working to set the city onto more stable financial footing.

Two-year seats

Joe Morin is a new-

comer to city government, although he has been serving this year on the city's planning and zoning commission and working on a subcommittee that is updating the city's zoning ordinances. Morin will take the seat currently occupied by Mary Shedd, who opted not to seek election.

With only one vote separating Majerle and Zika, Zika would have the option of requesting a recount. Zika told the *Timberjay* on Wednesday morning he wasn't planning to ask for a recount.

"I threw my name in the hat to give people another option," he said. He said the one-vote margin made the loss easier.

"If I was going to lose," he said, "that's the way to do it."

Two years ago, Rachel Beldo beat Mary Shedd by a single vote, and Shedd did not request a recount. Shedd was later appointed to an open seat on the council. Beldo resigned from the council earlier this year due to work commitments.

Majerle was appointed to the council in 2019 to fill a seat left vacant after

the resignation of Brooke Anderson. Majerle has been a longtime face on the council, first elected in the early 1990s. He had served four terms and retired, but he decided to go back on the council last year to fill the open seat.

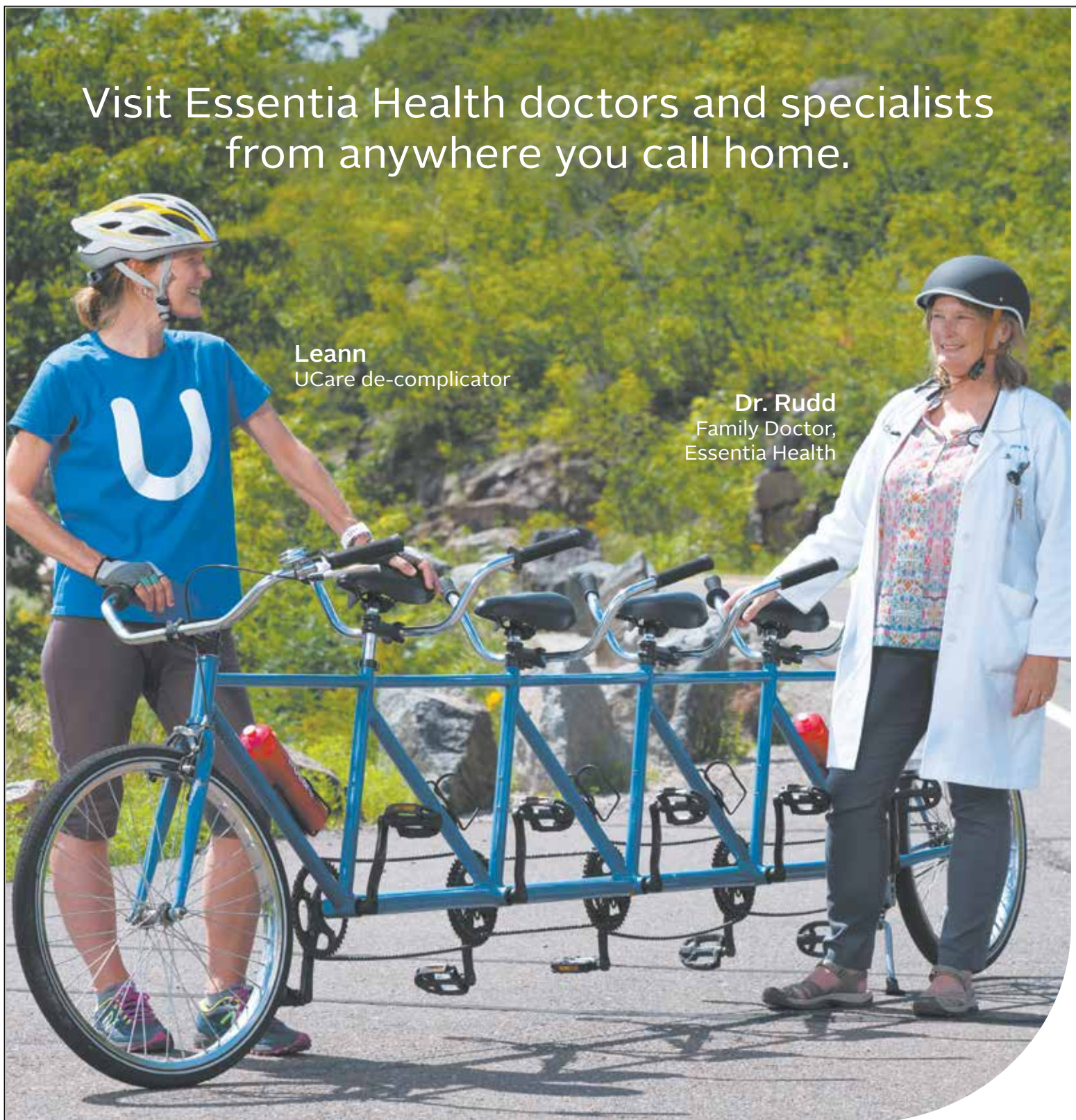
Currently he serves as the chair of the Tower-Breitung Wastewater Board, the city's charter commission, and the Gundersen Trust board. He is also a member of the Tower Economic Development Authority and the Tower Airport Commission.

There is still a pos-

sibility that late-arriving absentee ballots could alter the results. The fate of late-arriving ballots, if any, are still uncertain due to ongoing litigation.

The newly-elected council members will be sworn in once the city formally canvasses the votes next week.

Winners normally are seated at the first meeting in January, but since all are filling non-elected councilor seats, they will be seated immediately.



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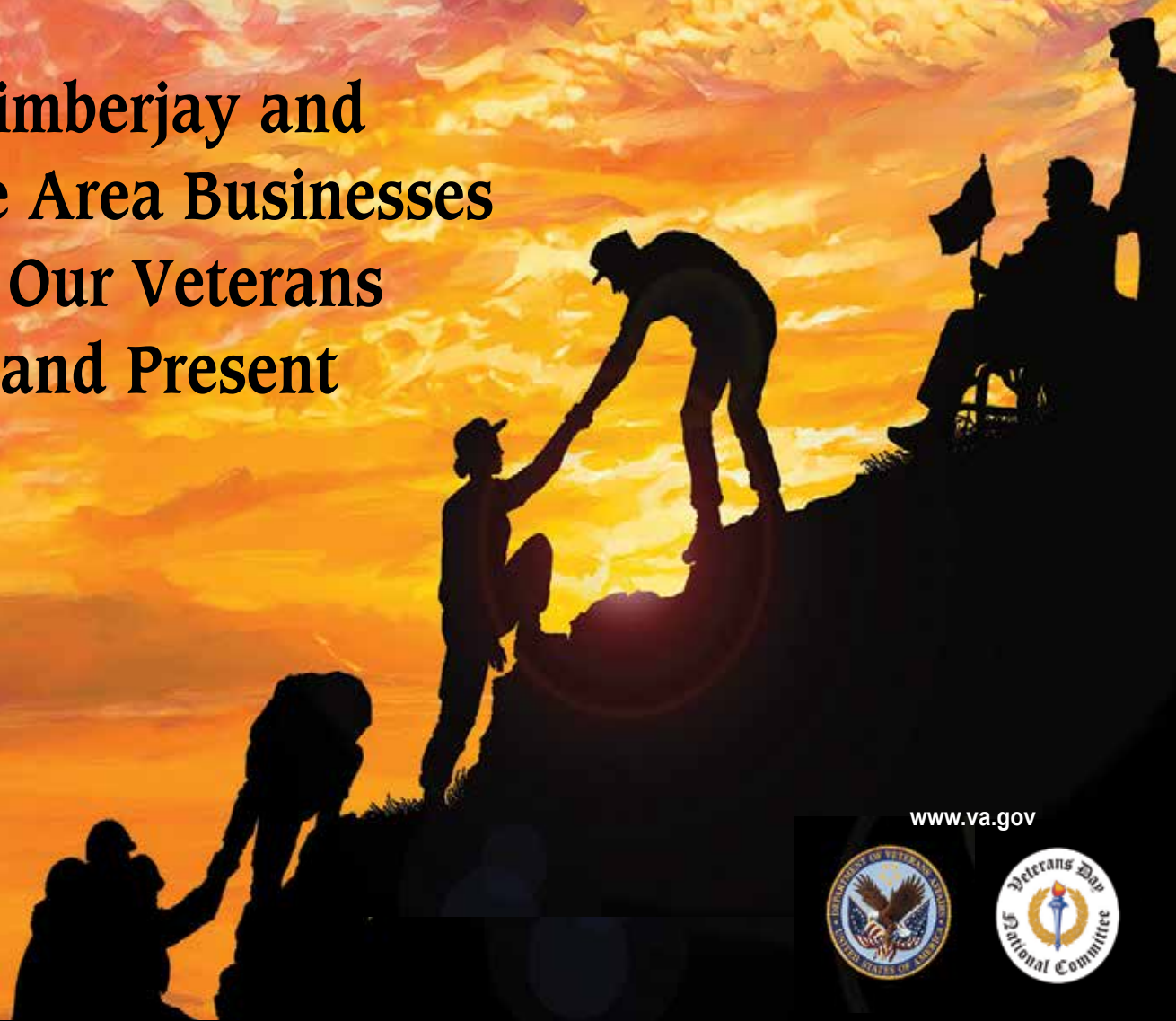
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VOLLEYBALL

Ely’s juggernaut rolls on

by **MARSHALL HELMBERGER**
Managing Editor

ELY — The Ely volleyball juggernaut continues to plow through its rivals. On Monday, they made victims of International Falls, as they dominated the Broncos in straight

Left: Ely’s Rachel Coughlin goes up high for a kill on Tuesday as the Wolves downed the Broncos in straight sets. photo by J. Greeney

sets, 25-15, 25-11, and 25-13, to improve to 7-0.

Ely Head Coach Andrea Thomas said the team needed to adjust to some early Broncos’ success, but cruised much of the rest of the way. “International Falls had a good block on us early on and our hitters were able to adjust and work around it,” Thomas said. “Rachel Coughlin had a nice string of serves in set two and we used that momentum to pull ahead

and not look back.”

Rachel’s sister McKenna also had a good night, notching eight kills, six digs, and five ace serves. Junior Kellen Thomas posted nine kills, while Rachel Coughlin added six kills and two ace serves. Sophomore Madeline Kallberg added four aces, while junior setter Katrina Seliskar posted 26 assists and two aces.

See **VOLLEYBALL**...pg. 2B



Left:
Ely juniors Harry Simons and Eddie Prijatel combine to tackle the Nighthawks’ Bralyn Lislegard during last Friday’s contest played in Aurora. Ely held on to win in a hard-fought Econtest, 20-14.

Above:
Ely junior Mason Davis grabs a fourth-quarter interception that set up a 70-yard runback to break a 14-14 tie, clinching the win for the Timberwolves.

photos by D. Colburn

FOOTBALL

T-wolves edge ‘Hawks

Ely turns to “Heavy Jumbo” set to grind out 20-14 win over Northeast Range

by **KEITH VANDERVORT**
Ely Editor

AURORA — The Timberwolves improved to 2-1 here last Friday, but not without a fight from the so-far winless Nighthawks, who kept pace with Ely until the final minutes. School officials moved the game, which had been scheduled to be played in Ely, to Aurora due to

a snow-covered field.

In the end, it was Ely’s defense that made the difference. The two teams were knotted at 14 with just over five minutes remaining, when Ely cornerback Mason Davis intercepted an Oskar Koivisto pass and returned it 70 yards for what ended up being the game-winning score.

The game began with a plethora of miscues as both

teams were penalized five times apiece in the first quarter. The Wolves committed four of them in a row on their first possession. “In our first series, they stuffed us and they went to more of a spread offense, but we piled up consecutive penalties and before we knew it we were at a first and 25,” said Ely Head Coach Cory Lassi.

The Nighthawks put points

on the board about eight minutes into the second quarter. Facing a fourth down and nine on the Ely 13-yard line, Koivisto tossed a short lateral to Bralyn Lislegard who scampered 10 yards for a first down at the four-yard line. “Lislegard is a great athlete,” Lassi said. “He has the patience to look for a hole to run through.”

Two plays later, Ryan Milton crossed the goal line from one

yard out for the score. The two-point conversion failed.

Ely turned to their successful “Heavy Jumbo” set to get on the scoreboard. Senior Lane Anderson, a 250-pound tackle, has been used sparingly as a ground-pounder, but took the ball seven times in their next series, including an eight-yard

See **FOOTBALL**...pg. 2B

Grizzlies maul Chisholm, 38-6

Chiabotti rushes for 228 yards and three touchdowns

by **DAVID COLBURN**
Cook-Orr Editor

CHISHOLM- This season, standout North Woods junior running back T.J. Chiabotti has entered every game as a marked man, and never more so than when he and his teammates took the field last Friday at Chisholm.

With big-play teammates Jared Chiabotti and Olin Nelson unavailable for the game, anyone who knows the Grizzlies knew

that Chiabotti would be called on to have a big night. Chisholm’s key to victory was obvious – stop Chiabotti.

It was a plan the home team was wholly incapable of executing as Chiabotti ran at will through, around, and over the Bluestreaks’ defense, racking up 228 yards and three touchdowns in a convincing 38-6 North Woods win.

“He makes my job as a head coach a lot easier,” North Woods

Right:
North Woods junior runningback T. J. Chiabotti plows through Chisholm defenders. photo by D. Colburn

Coach Joel Anderson said. “T.J. is a phenomenal athlete and a great back. You don’t always have a kid like him around, but when you do you want to take advantage of it.” With Chiabotti doing the lion’s share of the work, the

See **GRIZZLIES**...pg. 2B



Questions remain about status of Gundersen Trust

Yet, board members were unsure how effective a management firm might be, given some of the limitations of the Gunderson Trust's investment requirements. Even those requirements are unclear, however, so the board appointed Kringstad and Wilson to a subcommittee to obtain more information on investment possibilities and to consult with legal counsel on the current limitations on the types of investments the trust can make. They'll report back on their findings at the trust's next board meeting, set for Dec. 17.

The Wolves were set to take on Cherry on Friday, Nov. 6, but the Tigers were forced to cancel due to COVID-19. Instead, Ely will host McGregor at 6 p.m. on Friday in their Homecoming game.

North Woods will be at home on Thursday, Nov. 12 against Hinckley-Finlayson for their regular season finale. Kickoff is set for 4 p.m.

The Wolves were set to travel to Duluth Marshall next Tuesday. Varsity game time is set for 5:30 p.m.



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BREITUNG TOWNSHIP

Breitung hires Mattila for maintenance assistant

by STEPHANIE UKKOLA
Staff Writer

BREITUNG- Keith Mattila is Breitung’s new full-time maintenance assistant. He started on the job this week. Mattila was one of two finalists and was unanimously recommended by the hiring committee. Mattila will start at 90-percent pay for a two-month probation period and will increase to 100-percent when he receives an air-brake endorsement on his commercial driver’s license. Mattila is well-known in Tower-Soudan, having worked at Vermilion Golden Rule Lumber for 30 years. He said he decided to apply for the maintenance assistant job for the variety of work, and also the benefits that come with the union job. Mattila lives in Soudan, now back in his childhood home. It could be said Mattila is carrying on a family tradition, as his father, Chuckie Mattila, was a Breitung supervisor, head maintenance worker and fire chief. “He would spend the



day building the (Breitung) roads and then go work the midnight shift at Minntac,” Mattila said. In other news, the town board: ➤ Did not take action on an opportunity for grant money to install a waterless aquatic invasive species (AIS) cleaning system. ➤ Heard that CW Dirt Works is grading the skating rink and laying fabric and plastic down to improve efficiency of flooding and rink quality. ➤ Will advertise for temporary part-time rink attendants. ➤ Received \$18,902 for police state aid from the Minnesota Department of Revenue to subsidize pension costs. ➤ Received \$13,252 for fire state aid from MDR to subsidize pension costs. ➤ Received a \$4,000 grant from the Minnesota Power Foundation for air tank replacements for the fire department. ➤ Received a donation of two scrapbooks from John and Bernice Puncher and donated them to the Tower-Soudan Historical Society.

➤ Will submit a permit application for concrete dock platforms to replace the three platforms at McKinley Park that are in poor condition. ➤ Interviewed and approved a new fire department member, pending a physical and background check. ➤ Heard that the township’s cleaning person will be taking a leave of absence and planned to have another person shadow her, fill out an application, and assume her duties on a temporary basis. ➤ Heard that an automatic light sensor is angled in the wrong direction. The township is working with the original contractor to resolve the issue. ➤ Received an estimate from Range Cornice for gutters above the post office backdoor, with an alternate estimate for the entire back of the building. The board will get an additional estimate from ABC Construction.



Zia Jonas, of Breitung Township, voted in his first presidential election on Tuesday. Zia registered to vote in August for the primary, so this was his second chance to vote. submitted photo

Obituaries and Death Notices

Albert D. Berg

Albert D. Berg, 63, of Eveleth, formerly of Soudan, passed away with family by his side on Tuesday, Oct. 27, 2020, at Essentia Health St. Mary’s Medical Center in Duluth. A Funeral Mass for Albert will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, Nov. 6 at St. Martin’s Catholic Church in Tower with Father Nick Nelson as celebrant. Those in attendance will be required to wear a face mask and follow social distancing. Arrangements are with Landmark Funeral Home of Virginia. He is survived by his wife, Melinda Tekautz Berg of Eveleth; son, Ashley (Jess) Berg of Eveleth; daughters, Misty (Jesse) Jensen of Eveleth and Amber (Mike Hoche) Berg of Virginia; grandchildren, Cole, Hailey and Ty Jensen, Jordan, Jaden and Jakob Berg; sisters, Liz (Allan) Thydean of International Falls, Carolann (Mike) Johnson and Shirley (Jerry) Dilly, both of Littlefork; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Sandra M. Heikkila

Sandra Mae Heikkila, 77, of Embarrass, passed away on Tuesday, Oct. 27, 2020, at Essentia Health St. Mary’s Medical Center in Duluth. A private family service was held on Tuesday, Nov. 3. A celebration of Sandy’s life will be held next spring or summer. Arrangements are with Range Funeral Home in Virginia.

Ray A. Harris Jr.

Ray Alfred Harris Jr., 93, of Rochester, formerly of Cook, passed away on Sunday, Oct. 25, 2020. There will be a private family committal at a later date. Memorials directed to the family will be forwarded to the Vermilion Lake Association (formerly Lake Vermilion Sportsmen’s Club). Arrangements are with Mlaker Funeral Home of Cook. He is survived by his children, Nancy (Jim) Fisher of Zim, Deborah (Jim) Palmer of Rochester, Robert (Susan) Harris of Mason City and Barbara (Marc) Seide of Rochester; grandchildren, Brenda Fisher, Keith (Kristi) Fisher, Dana (Christoph)

Palmer, David (Caro) Palmer, Anthony (Elissa) Harris, Patrick Harris, Michael (Hayley) Seide and Jessica Seide; and nine great-grandchildren.

Ann Korpela

Ann Hanela Korpela, 94, of Virginia, formerly of Lake Vermilion, passed away on Saturday, Oct. 24, 2020. The family would like to thank the staff at Virginia Carefree Living for their loving care of Shirley. A memorial service was held on Thursday, Nov. 5 at Woodlands Bible Church in Eveleth with Justin Monacelli officiating. In accordance with CDC guidelines, masks were encouraged. Private family burial was at the Sand Lake Chapel Cemetery. Arrangements were with Landmark Funeral Home in Virginia. She is survived by her daughter, Jill (Jerry) Korpela-Bontems of Tower; son, Steven of Virginia; grandsons, Justin (Margret) Monacelli and Ryan (Amy) Monacelli, both of Eveleth; great-grandchildren, Lindsay (David) Hernandez, Noah Monacelli, Evan Monacelli and Drake Monacelli;

great-great-grandsons, Ezra and Roman; and special “double” cousin, Norma Bodovinic.

Bernard H. Portinen

Bernard Henry Portinen, 85, of Ely, passed away peacefully in his home on Sunday, Oct. 25, 2020. A celebration of life will be held in the summer of 2021. Arrangements are with Landmark Funeral Home in Virginia. He is survived by sons, Dennis (Anne Vertin) of Ely and Allen (Teri Zupec) of Maple Grove; and daughter, Ruth (Keith) Aijala of Babbitt.

Michael W. Schmidt

Michael William “Mike” Schmidt, 75, of Buhl, died on Tuesday, Oct. 20, 2020, in Fairview Range Medical Center. A gathering of family and friends was held at Billy’s Bar in Buhl on Sunday, Nov. 1. Services will be held at a later date. Family services provided by Anderson-Daniels, a Bauman Family Funeral Home in Hibbing. He is survived by his wife, Gail Padgett Schmidt; daughter, Tina

(John) Olson of Hibbing; son, David Schmidt of Duluth; siblings, Sharon Schmidt of Eveleth, Janet (Paul) Dunnom of Ely, Debborrah (Tom) Mesich of Fairmont and Linda (Gary) Kottke of Lino Lakes; five grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; extended family and friends; and his furry friends, Gus and Misty.

Clifford E. Wichern

Clifford Emil Wichern, 79, of Babbitt, passed away on Monday, Oct. 26, 2020, after an eight and a half-year battle with cancer. No services will be held per Cliff’s request. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Jean Aho Wichern; sister, Marlys Jacobson of Coon Rapids; daughter, Terrie (John) Goedderz of Babbitt; son, Travis (Kerri) Wichern of Hastings; daughter, Tanaya (Cory) Wills of Babbitt; grandchildren, Mathew, Jordan and Colten Goedderz, Joselyn (Tyler) Rhein, Kailyn and Jacob Wichern, Bradley and Brielle Wills; great-grand-

children, Juniper and Iris; and many nieces and nephews.

Renee A. Lassi

Renee Ann Zupancich Lassi, 69, of Ely, died peacefully with family by her side on Tuesday, Oct. 27, 2020. The family extends appreciation to Dr. Montana, and the staff of Carefree Living and the Hospice Care team for their loving, compassionate care. There will be a private family gathering followed by a baseball celebration in the summer of 2021. She will be missed by so many, especially her husband of 40 years, Bob; children, Bobbi Lassi and Cory (Missy) Lassi; sisters, Patti (Dickie Brooks) Zupancich, Cheryl (Roger) Hanson and Michelle (Albert Stewart) Zupancich; sister-in-law, Mary Zupancich; brothers-in-law, Jim (Kathy Meier) Lassi and Dave (Doreen) Lassi; grandchildren, Colton, Morgan, Clark and Baby Girl Lassi arriving December 2020; nephews and nieces and their families.

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Ely-Winton Historical Society

❧ WINTER SCHEDULE ❧

Beginning November 3, the office and museum will be open on Tuesday and Wednesday from that date until the end of April 2021.

Office staff will be in on those days.

E-mail the office at: cwhsmuseum@gmail.com or call the manager at 218-827-2386.

Messages may be left on the office answering machine at 218-365-3226.

The bookkeeper may be reached at 218-742-7488.

All phone calls and messages will be answered.

Wear a mask in public spaces.

Get tested if you have any symptoms.

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Outdoors

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Northwoods

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Fish and Wildlife announces de-listing of gray wolf

DNR officials won't commit to a wolf season until completion of updated management plan

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

REGIONAL — Management of the gray wolf is now back under the control of the state of Minnesota, but it remains to be seen if that will lead to wolf hunting and trapping anytime soon.

The U.S. Fish and

Wildlife Service issued its long-anticipated decision on Oct. 29, which was the culmination of a nearly year-and-a-half long effort by the federal agency. Interior Secretary David Bernhardt traveled to Minnesota to make the formal announcement, timed just ahead of the Nov. 3 election.

The agency had previ-

ously de-listed the wolf in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan in 2013, but a federal judge had rescinded that decision two years later, ruling that the agency had not made the case for its ruling. This most recent decision, which de-lists the gray wolf even in states where it no longer exists, is likely to face its own legal

challenges.

The Fish and Wildlife Service is hailing the latest effort to de-list the wolf as yet another success story for the federal Endangered Species Act, which provided protection for the gray wolf since the 1970s. At that time, only about 700

See **DE-LISTED...**pg. 5B



TRADITIONS



Send us your hunting stories

REGIONAL — Deer season is a time of tradition, family and fun. It's also a time for great outdoors stories and we'd like to hear yours — so we can share the best with our readers.

We're looking for stories and photos from this year's hunt. Whether it's an interesting encounter in the woods, a monster buck, a funny story about life at deer camp, or a young person's first deer, we want to hear about it. Don't worry if you're not a writer. Just tell us the story over the phone — we'll write it for you. Or email us with a few details and we'll take it from there. And don't forget — nothing highlights the story better than some photos, so send them along as well.

Contact Marshall Helmlinger at 218-753-2950 with your stories or email them to marshall@timberjay.com. You can also mail them the old fashioned way to The Timberjay, PO Box 636, Tower, MN 55790 or drop them off at our office in Tower. You can send photos to the same address. Be sure to have a return address if you want your photos back.

So go out and have a great time. And let us know how you did!

Outdoors in brief

Make hunting safety your top priority

REGIONAL — Hunters should follow the basic rules of firearms handling when out in the field or at the shack this deer season:

➤ Treat every firearm as if it is loaded by keeping your finger off the trigger; always control the muzzle of the firearm; and be sure of the target and what is beyond it.

➤ Tree stand accidents are the leading cause of injury to hunters, so it's always important to wear a safety harness and follow other safety guidelines when using a stand.



2020 FIREARMS DEER SEASON

Herd remains in recovery

Back-to-back severe winters will present a challenge to hunters this season

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

REGIONAL — Hunters across much of the North Country will find a depleted deer herd in many areas this year when they head to their stands Saturday for the opening of Minnesota's regular firearms deer season. A series of tough winters have increased winter mortality across the region and reduced the remaining herd's reproductive potential for at least the past two years, according to DNR wildlife managers.

That's why hunters in those areas will be limited to bucks only for the most part. Most other permit areas in the North Country allow for some antlerless harvest through the lottery system.

"Generally, hunters will not see many young deer, especially on heavily forested public land," said Tom Rusch, Tower area wildlife manager for the Department of Natural Resources. "Spikes and forkhorn bucks, last year's fawns, will be much less common in the woods and on the game pole. These

are 18-month old bucks that were part of the poor 2019 fawn crop."

While the overall picture is discouraging, Rusch notes that hunters

“Generally, hunters will not see many young deer, especially on heavily forested public land.

Tom Rusch
DNR Tower Area
Wildlife Manager

can improve their odds significantly through advanced scouting. "Deer populations are highly variable across the area," he said. "Scouting in advance to find deer activity will pay dividends. Experience has shown that mobile stand hunters will find the most success."

Hunters should find the most deer in Permit Areas 176, 177, and 178,

located on the western and southern portions of the DNR's Tower work area. "Fawn production is always greater in 176, 177 and 178 because of the availability of agricultural fields and earlier spring green-up following tough winters," said Rusch.

Lucky hunters in those areas, who received one of the limited number of antlerless permits through the lottery, will have better odds than most since they won't be limited to taking an adult buck. But most hunters in the region will be limited to bucks-only, including hunters in PAs 118, 119, 130 and 132, where the deer population has suffered the most from recent tough winters. These areas contain miles of unbroken forest in most cases, providing mostly marginal habitat for white-tail deer. And some areas, such as PA 119, have seen critical winter cover reduced due to intensive logging over the past 20 years.

Only PA 117, located in the heart of the Boundary Waters, will allow hunters

See **HUNT...**pg. 5B



Whitetails, by the numbers

➤ Adult female white-tailed deer weigh about 145 pounds, and males weigh about 170 pounds.

➤ A whitetail's home range is about 1 square mile.

➤ The biggest white-tailed deer recorded in Minnesota was a 500-pound buck.

➤ Last year, 32 percent of Minnesota firearms hunters successfully harvested a deer.

➤ Seventy percent of Minnesota's firearms deer harvest typically occurs during the first three or four days of the season.

➤ The average hunter spends five days afield during Minnesota's firearms deer season.



CONTINUING EDUCATION

Be a winter weather spotter

REGIONAL – The National Weather Service is offering a special winter weather spotter course online next week.

This class will last about an hour and cover winter weather science, the winter 2020-2021 outlook, how to measure and report winter weather to NWS, and many resources available to stay up-to-date on the forecast.

This class will be offered via GoToWebinar, and a recorded version will also be posted on their website.

This webinar will focus on northeast Minnesota and northwest Wisconsin, but those outside the region are also welcome to attend.

There will be four identical sessions offered:

- Monday, Nov. 9 at 1 p.m.
- Tuesday Nov. 10 at 11 a.m.
- Thursday Nov, 12 at 7 p.m.
- Friday Nov. 13 at 10 a.m.

A version of the talk with closed captioning will also be recorded.

To register for the winter spotter class, visit <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/rt/4141688089080995341>.

Participants will be able to access the audio via computer, smartphone, tablet or by telephone.

To make sure your computer, phone, or tablet is ready for the webinar, visit <https://support.goto.com/webinar/system-check-attendee>.

HUNT...Continued from page 4B

to shoot either sex this year with a standard license. But that’s only because the area is managed almost exclusively for moose, and few deer hunters opt to hunt there due to the extremely limited population of whitetails.

It isn’t all bad news for hunters. Saturday’s opener should coincide with the peak of the chase phase of the whitetail rut, which means bucks should be active and moving throughout legal shooting hours as they seek out receptive does. Hunters can legally shoot from a half hour before sunrise to a half hour after sunset each day during the 16-day season. The sun will rise at 7:05 a.m. and will set at 4:42 p.m. on Saturday.

The rut is expected to peak around the second weekend of the season, when the rut transitions into the reproductive phase and deer movements generally decline. That means

opening weekend should provide the best chance for success for hunters. The key, as usual, is putting time in on the stand if you want to improve your odds of success. Hunters rarely bag a buck while sitting back in camp.

Time of day is also important, particularly with the waning moon at last quarter. That’s plenty of moon to keep deer active in the overnight hours, which means they often take a breather in the early morning hours, before becoming active again around midday. So rather than heading into camp at noon, consider packing your lunch and remaining in your stand.

Spending time in the stand should be easier than usual on opener. Highs both Saturday and Sunday are forecast to reach the 50s, much warmer than most recent openers. Sunday is forecast to bring showers. Much colder weather is forecast to arrive Monday.

LAKE COUNTRY FORECAST

from NOAA weather

Friday					Saturday					Sunday					Monday					Tuesday				
58 47					57 47					54 27					34 19					30 21				
Ely	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Emb.	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Cook	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Orr	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Tower	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.
10/26	28	13	0.00		10/26	28	15	0.00		10/26	27	19	0.01	0.2"	10/26	28	18	0.00		10/26	29	14	0.00	
10/27	27	12	0.00		10/27	28	12	0.00		10/27	26	12	0.00		10/27	28	12	0.00		10/27	27	11	0.00	
10/28	31	14	0.00		10/28	31	14	0.02		10/28	32	12	0.01	0.2"	10/28	36	27	0.00		10/28	32	14	0.00	
10/29	35	23	0.18	2.4"	10/29	35	22	0.14		10/29	34	24	0.21	3.0"	10/29	28	18	0.16	0.2"	10/29	34	22	0.18	0.2"
10/30	31	11	0.00		10/30	30	11	0.00		10/30	28	18	0.00		10/30	39	12	0.00		10/30	29	11	0.00	
10/31	39	13	0.00		10/31	39	11	0.00		10/31	38	15	0.00		10/31	41	23	0.00		10/31	38	11	0.00	
11/01	41	22	0.02	0.5"	11/01	41	21	0.00		11/01	40	22	0.02	0.5"	11/01	30	21	0.00		11/01	40	21	0.01	
Total			17.86	12.2"	YTD Total			18.79	9.5"	YTD Total			25.76	10.9"	YTD Total			NA	4.7"	YTD Total			21.21	8.2"

DE-LISTED...Continued from page 4B

wolves were believed to exist in the lower 48 states, all of them in Minnesota. Today, gray wolves have returned to several other states in the Rocky Mountains and Great Lakes regions, although Minnesota retains, by far, the largest population outside Alaska, currently estimated at 2,700 animals.

The return of the wolf to state management could well lead to hunting and trapping of the species, as occurred after the 2013 de-listing. Still, DNR officials stressed that any such decision won’t be made until the agency completes an updated wolf management plan sometime next year. That update has been under development since late 2019. “Our process includes a diverse group of technical experts, tribal coordination, a wolf plan advisory committee and extensive public engagement,” noted DNR officials in a statement issued shortly after the USFWS announcement.

At the same time, the DNR announced that it is extending public input on the wolf management planning effort until Nov. 20, to allow the public to react to the de-listing decision. The DNR expects to issue a draft management plan in early 2021, which will include its own public comment period.

“We recognize that the

USFWS’s delisting decision will give immediate rise to questions about whether Minnesota will establish a hunting or trapping season for wolves. However, we want people to understand that wolf management is about far more than whether hunting and trapping wolves is or is not permitted in Minnesota,” notes the DNR statement. “Our commitment to a healthy and sustainable wolf population in Minnesota is unwavering. We will continue to use the best available science, coordination with our federal and tribal partners, robust public engagement, and careful consideration of all perspectives to inform all of our management decisions.”

The DNR plan will also include monitoring, which was an important component of the management plan the agency initially adopted back in 2001. “Our management includes an extensive and sophisticated monitoring program, conducted in cooperation with federal and tribal partners, that gives Minnesota some of the very best data available to inform our wolf management,” noted the agency statement.

The DNR provided comments to the FWS back in July of 2019 in support of de-listing the gray wolf. Yet the agency, in its statement, acknowledged that their comments

only reflected the species’ status in Minnesota. “We simultaneously recognized, however, that the situation in Minnesota is not representative of the wolf’s status elsewhere and noted that ‘blanket de-listing across the United States may not be warranted.’ This continues to be our position...”

While the DNR response remained measured, others lauded the decision.

“Today’s announcement is long overdue, as scientists agree the gray wolf has been recovered for years,” said Congressman Pete Stauber. “Since arriving in Congress, I have heard from concerned constituents on this issue, including farmers who have lost thousands of dollars’ worth of cattle, sheep, and even pets to gray wolves along with our deer hunting community who have seen whitetail deer herds decline.”

Craig Engwal, director of the Minnesota Deer Hunters Association, agreed.

“The wolf has met all recovery goals in Minnesota for decades and the Minnesota DNR has shown that it can responsibly manage a wolf season. It is now time for DNR to begin the planning process for implementing a wolf season in 2021.”

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Alex’s 100th Birthday

“Raising the Roof for Alex”

November 10, 2020

A Hundred Years of Good Living...

In Serbo-Croatian...“Stotinu Godena Dobrog Zhevotah”

Whenever Alex Batinich would propose a toast, he would raise his glass and say, “Stotinu Godena Dobrog Zhevotah,” words that truly represented how he lived his good life. Even though Alex didn’t quite make the century mark, we are celebrating his 100th birthday by raising \$100,000 to finish the roof of the Lake Vermilion Cultural Center on the Main Street of Tower, MN. Alex, an Iron Ranger through and through, was born in Eveleth, MN on November 10, 1920. He was the son of Serbian Orthodox immigrants from Lika, Croatia, the region where most Iron Range Serbs and Croatians originated. He was a skilled carpenter, cabinet maker, a WWII Veteran, and a philanthropist who believed in supporting cultural and immigration history projects.

Alex, along with his wife Mary and other friends, founded the Lake Vermilion Cultural Center (LVCC), a 501c3 non-profit organization. They obtained the historic Saint Mary’s Episcopal Church in Tower and Alex lived just long enough to see it moved it to its current site on Tower’s Main Street. He was a generous patron of this project and in his name and honor we are raising \$100,000 to finish the roof and “dry in” the building. Please help us.

Thanks! Your Support Makes It Happen!

St. Mary’s Episcopal Church being moved from its original site to its new Main Street location as the Lake Vermilion Cultural Center.

vermilionculturalcenter.org

We have already raised over \$60,000 and are requesting gifts of \$1,000 from those of you who feel you can be patrons for this project. Because that is a hefty amount, any donation will be welcomed. Many of Alex’s friends are combining efforts to raise \$1,000 through projects including: making a quilt to raffle, designing a major league sports wall display, providing two property appraisals, boat rides, having a huge garage sale, doing a fall ice cream social/bake sale. Use your imagination.

Patrons Special Event....Those donating \$1,000 or more will be honored at a reception at the Lake Vermilion home of Clayton Halunen, hosted by Clayton and his sister, Dawn Lynn Johnson. This event will take place in the spring or summer of 2021 or when Covid-19 allows.

We thank the Iron Range Resource and Rehabilitation Board as well as the many generous donors who have made the current progress possible. We also want to honor all of the LVCC board members and donors who have worked tirelessly to reach this point. The Lake Vermilion Cultural Center should currently have \$63,000 more in funds than we have in our account. However, due to Covid-19 we had to postpone the Midsummer celebration and fundraising trips to Scandinavia and Australia as well as many local fundraising events.

• Postponing of all those efforts makes this 100th Birthday Fundraiser essential •

Send your memories and pictures of Alex to: LVCC, Box 659, Tower, MN 55790 or to: malexbat@gmail.com to post. Give us fun ideas for your fundraising efforts. Watch the progress at the Lake Vermilion Cultural Center. THANK YOU!

“Raising the Roof for Alex” • A Lake Vermilion Cultural Center Fundraiser

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

☐ I would like to make a credit card donation, please call me for my card information

☐ I will contribute \$ _____ online at: lakevermilionculturalcenter.org


☐ I am including my donation check in the amount of \$ _____

☐ I will contribute to \$ _____ online at: GoFundMe

☐ Please call me about naming a space for a loved one in the LVCC

PUBLIC NOTICES

ISD 707 • Nett Lake Public School • District Revenues and Expenditures for FY 2020 and FY 2021

	Division of School Finance 1500 Highway 36 West Roseville, MN 55113-4266	District Revenues and Expenditures Budget for Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 and FY 2021					ED-00110-43	
General Information: Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.10, requires that every school board shall publish the subject data of this report.								
District Name: NETT LAKE						District Number:	707	
Fund	FY 2020 Beginning Fund Balances	FY 2020 Actual Revenues and Transfers In	FY 2020 Actual Expenditures and Transfers Out	June 30, 2020 Actual Fund Balances	FY 2021 Budget Revenues and Transfers In	FY 2021 Budget Expenditures and Transfers Out	June 30, 2021 Projected Fund Balances	
General Fund/Restricted	\$ 334,694	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 334,694	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 334,694	
General Fund/Other	\$ 1,088,169	\$ 2,318,845	\$ 2,319,343	\$ 1,087,671	\$ 1,982,692	\$ 2,381,669	\$ 688,694	
Food Service Fund	\$ 3,694	\$ 114,738	\$ 112,222	\$ 6,210	\$ 63,100	\$ 121,331	\$ (52,021)	
Community Service Fund	\$ 85,440	\$ 36,564	\$ 5,968	\$ 116,036	\$ 36,531	\$ 36,531	\$ 116,036	
Building Construction Fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Debt Service Fund	\$ 143,026	\$ 111,210	\$ 36,593	\$ 217,643	\$ 111,209	\$ 35,865	\$ 292,987	
Trust Fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Internal Service Fund	\$ -			\$ -			\$ -	
* OPEB Revocable Trust Fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
OPEB Irrevocable Trust Fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
OPEB Debt Service Fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Total - All Funds	\$ 1,655,023	\$ 2,581,357	\$ 2,474,126	\$ 1,762,254	\$ 2,193,532	\$ 2,575,396	\$ 1,380,390	
Long-Term Debt			Current Statutory Operating Debt per Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.81					
Outstanding July 1, 2019	\$ 43,723,930		Amount of General Fund Deficit, if any, in excess of 2.5% of expenditures 06/30/2020			\$	-	
Plus: New Issues	\$ 1,882,723							
Less: Redeemed Issues	\$ 17,000		Cost per student - Average Daily Membership (ADM) 06/30/2020					
Outstanding June 30, 2020	\$ 45,589,653							
Short-Term Debt			Total Operating Expenditures			\$	2,414,084.47	
Certificates of Indebtedness	\$ -		FY 2020 Total ADM Served + Tuitioned Out ADM + Adjusted Extended ADM			82.50		
Other Short-Term Indebtedness	\$ -		FY 2020 Operating Cost per ADM			\$	29,261.63	
The complete budget may be inspected upon request to the superintendent.								
Comments: Report is unaudited.								
Published in the Timberjay, Nov. 6, 2020								

NOTICE OF INTENT TO OPERATE AERATION SYSTEM

An aeration system will be activated on or after December 15, 2020, in and around the docking area of Sunset Lodge on the east side of White Iron Lake. The purpose of the aerator is to prevent damage to the permanent docking structures. Thin ice and open water will result from the aeration process. For your safety, keep away from the area marked with thin ice signs.

If you have questions, please email: gspalding@helpines.com

Published in the Timberjay, Nov. 6 & 13, 2020

KUGLER TOWNSHIP
NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING AND BOARD OF CANVASS

The Kugler Town Board will hold their regular meeting and the Board of Canvass on Thursday, Nov. 12, 2020, at 6 p.m. Social distancing and mask-wearing will be observed.

Julie Suikhonen, Town Clerk

Published in the Timberjay, Nov. 6, 2020

POSITION OPENING
Ely Public Schools
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 age children
- Evidence of ability to work cooperatively and communicate effectively in a collaborative setting.

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

A complete application must include the following:

- District Application
- Resume
- 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: November 9, 2020; open until filled.

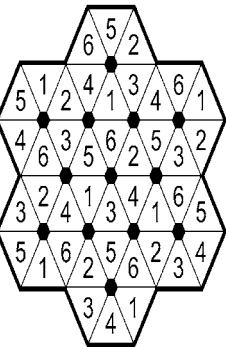
Published in the Timberjay, Oct. 30 & Nov. 6, 2020

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SNOWFLAKES
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Heartland Christian Broadcasters, Inc.
W265BT, Tower, MN (Facility ID No. 140198)
License Renewal Application Post-Filing Notification

On October 28, 2020, Heartland Christian Broadcasters, Inc. filed an application with the FCC to renew the license of W265BT, which serves Tower, MN on 100.9 FM at 0.038 kilowatts from a site located at 47-48-16.0N, 92-15-12.0W. W265BT the signal of the radio station KADU, Hibbing, MN, 90.1 FM. Individuals who wish to advise the FCC of facts relating to our renewal application and to whether this station has operated in the public interest should file comments and petitions with the FCC.

Published in the Timberjay, Nov. 6, 2020

Heartland Christian Broadcasters, Inc.
K237CE, Ely, MN (Facility ID No. 26634)
License Renewal Application Post-Filing Notification

On October 28, 2020, Heartland Christian Broadcasters, Inc. filed an application with the FCC to renew the license of K237CE, which serves Ely, MN on 95.3 FM at 0.009 kilowatts from a site located at 47-54-10.0N, 91-49-31.0W. K237CE the signal of the radio station KBHW, International Falls, MN, 99.5 FM. Individuals who wish to advise the FCC of facts relating to our renewal application and to whether this station has operated in the public interest should file comments and petitions with the FCC.

Published in the Timberjay, Nov. 6, 2020


Heartland Christian Broadcasters, Inc.
K237BE, Babbitt, MN (Facility ID No. 26637)
License Renewal Application Post-Filing Notification

On October 28, 2020, Heartland Christian Broadcasters, Inc. filed an application with the FCC to renew the license of K237BE, which serves Babbitt, MN on 95.3 FM at 0.053 kilowatts from a site located at 47-41-

19.0N, 91-45-23.0W. K237BE the signal of the radio station KBHW, International Falls, MN, 99.5 FM. Individuals who wish to advise the FCC of facts relating to our renewal application and to whether this station has operated in the public interest should file comments and petitions with the FCC.

Published in the Timberjay, Nov. 6, 2020

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Activities
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PT RINK ATTENDANTS

Breitung Township is now accepting applications for Temporary Part-Time Rink Attendants. Please visit our website at <https://www.breitungtownship.org/employment/> for application. Persons will be responsible for rink flooding, snow removal, repairs as needed, update schedule, clean sidewalks, parking lots, and shovel roofs. Work would be afternoons, evenings, and weekends. Rink hours are 4pm-8pm Mon-Fri, 10am-8pm Sat. and Sun.. Interested applicants can also call the Clerk's Office at 218-753-6020 for applications as well. 11/13

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Answers

E	Q	U	I	P	S		C	A	N		C	P	A		A	C	T	I	V	E	
M	U	M	B	A	I		A	B	A	S	H	E	D		B	A	I	L	E	D	
T	A	P	I	N	G		P	U	P	P	E	T	O	N	A	S	T	I	N	G	
			Z	A	N	E				K	E	W		S	U	B	T	L	E	T	Y
S	T	E	A	M	I	N	G	V	I	D	E	O		L	A	S	E				
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G	L	A	D		I	N	N	S		O	L	A		C	A	S	I	N	O		
A	L	C	A	P	O	N	E			M	U	S	C	L	E	S	T	A	I	N	
N	E	T	T	I	N	G		S	L	I	T		T	I	E	S		L	O	G	
			S	U	I		N	E	O	N		E	O	N			L	E	N	S	
			J	U	S	T	G	E	T	T	I	N	G	S	T	A	T	E	D		
W	E	A	N		A	A	H			P	A	G	E		P	A	N				
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F	L	O	O	D	W	A	N	I	N	G		P	A	S	S	E	S	A	S		
T	A	P	P	E	D		I	D	O		S	A	I	L		N	U	N	S		
S	T	Y	E			S	K	E	W		P	I	A	Z	Z	A		Z	E	E	
			N	O	T	E		A	L	F	A	L	F	A	S	P	O	U	T	S	
U	S	B	C	A	B	L	E		E	A	T			C	A	L	M				
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D	E	A	L	I	N		B	U	G	A	B	O	O		S	M	I	L	E	S	
A	T	T	L	E	E		S	S	E		S	O	S		A	B	S	E	N	T	

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

		7			1		6	
4			3					1
	6			8		5		
	8		5	6			3	
		3			4			2
9			1			8		
		2			5	7		
7			4				5	
	1			2				9

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. 218-666-5594. tfn

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

LICENSE BUREAU

COOK LICENSE BUREAU-TEMPORARY HOURS DUE TO COVID-19 Open: M-W-F 9am - 3pm. Mail in or drop off only at this time. Call with any 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.

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

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

BABBITT AL-ANON- meets 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 anyone affected by someone else's drinking. Hope Lutheran Church in Embarrass hosts an Al-Anon group on Monday evenings at 6 p.m. 218-984-2037.

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

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

MEETING in Ely! "New Ideas" WOMEN IN RECOVERY: 12 Steps. For women seeking help and hope to recover from any addiction: drugs, alcohol, food, gambling etc. Every Thursday noon at St. Anthony's Catholic Church. Come join us! Q: 218-235-3581.

ELY WOMEN'S OPEN AA MEETING- Every Monday at noon at St. Anthony's Catholic Church, 231 E Camp St., Ely. 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.)

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

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SELIGA CANOES WANTED: We'll buy old Seligas in Good Shape. Turn your classic canoe into cash. Call Steve at 365-6745. tfn

AUTOMOTIVE

CAR FOR SALE in Ely; 2004 Chevy TrailBlazer; Approximately 80,000 miles on it; Excellent body, clean interior; some rust on frame; spent much of its life under cover; 4 WD; automatic transmission; Maroon in color; if interested, call Harry, phone 303-619-0311. Sold as-is, no guarantees. 11/13

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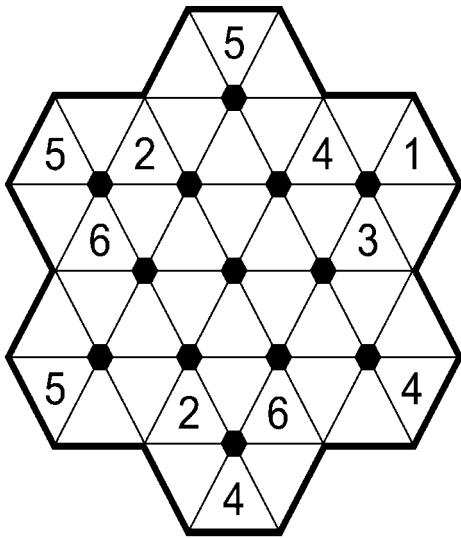
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SNOWFLAKES

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.



DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦ Medium

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5	9	7	2	4	1	3	6	8
4	2	8	3	5	6	9	7	1
3	6	1	9	8	7	5	2	4
2	8	4	5	6	9	1	3	7
1	5	3	8	7	4	6	9	2
9	7	6	1	3	2	8	4	5
8	4	2	6	9	5	7	1	3
7	3	9	4	1	8	2	5	6
6	1	5	7	2	3	4	8	9

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YAMAHA

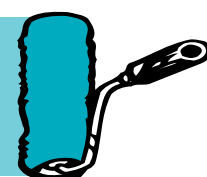
ACROSS
1 Rigs out
7 Beer holder
10 IRS worker
13 Not passive
19 India's largest city
20 Made embarrassed
22 Jumped ship
23 Affixing, as gift wrap
24 Marionette doing some undercover police work?
26 Billy of "The Phantom"
28 London botanic gardens site
29 Fine distinction
30 YouTube upload on how to cook clams and rice?
36 Use a beam on in surgery
37 "La Cage — Folles"
38 Of Peruvian peaks
39 Pickle option
41 Buddha statue, e.g.
45 Elated
47 Lodgings for wayfarers
48 Schnozz or Motor ender
49 MGM Grand, e.g.
51 "Scarface" inspirer
54 Discoloration on the biceps or triceps?
56 Meshwork
57 Razor cut
59 Closet rackful
60 Journal
61 Fashion designer Anna
62 Ionizable gas
63 Vast period
64 It may zoom
65 Simply being declared?
70 Gradually stop nursing
72 Back rub response
73 Paper unit
74 TV camera movement
75 CIO partner
76 "Make — what you will"
78 Hobbyists' buys
79 When to call it a night
83 Deluge's waters
86 Successfully mimics
87 Struck lightly
88 Chapel vow
89 Go by boat
91 Convent residents
92 Eyelid affliction
93 Make slanted
94 Italian public square
97 Scrabble 10-pointer
98 Staff symbol
101 One of the Little Rascals goes on a rant?
104 Many a charger for an e-device
108 Feed on
109 Peaceful
110 Beef cut that brings misfortune?
114 Marked with bands
118 Hand out cards to
119 Object of fear
120 Is beaming
121 Former British prime minister
122 Detroit-to-Miami dir.
123 "Send help!"
124 Like the letter R in this puzzle's entire solution

DOWN
1 Triage pro
2 In the function of
3 Ball caller
4 Spanish island known for its nightlife
5 Country west of Colombia
6 Record one's arrival
7 Fez, for one
8 — Dhabi
9 Spill catchers
10 Berated
11 Kitty cat, e.g.
12 Hoo-has
13 Addis —, Ethiopia
14 Puts in a role
15 Golf ball brand
16 Tennis great Nastase
17 A/C opening
18 Uptight
21 Hotfooted it
25 Of no value
27 Last section
30 "Cosmos" host Carl
31 Veil fabric
32 Dead-on
33 Trait carrier
34 U-Haul unit
35 Adds lube to in milk
42 Gave a ring
43 Leek relative
44 Years (for)
46 Nissan, once
49 Middle grade
50 Biblical beast
52 12-time papal name
53 Tending to the situation
54 Relatively small oinker, for short
55 Dryer debris
57 "Steve Jobs" star Rogen
58 Whole bunch
62 Really tidy type
63 Roe, e.g.
64 Pre-Easter
65 Shoddy car
66 Earth personified as a goddess
67 Rebel Turner
68 Mimics
69 Wee bits
70 Floats in the air
71 D sharp sound-alike
76 Lyric verse abbr. on a music player
78 Result of education
79 Novelist Honoré de —
80 Tokyo-based truck maker
81 French artist Edouard
82 Letters with curves
84 Audition not closed to anyone
85 Brain product
86 Cabaret singer Édith
89 Jacuzzi and whirlpools
90 Feel poorly
93 —
95 Gabor who lived to be 99
96 Confidence
99 "Little Men" actor Jack
100 Loin cut
102 FDR's Scottie
103 Some hotels and old cars
104 Fed. food safety org.
105 Dele undoer
106 Really tired
107 Flows back
111 Its cap. is Vienna
112 Dove noise
113 Boxing stats
115 Malted quaff
116 Diver's goal
117 NYC hrs.

1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9		10	11	12		13	14	15	16	17	18
19							20			21					22					
23							24							25						
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30	31	32					33	34			35		36							
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104	105	106					107		108					109						
110								111				112	113		114			115	116	117
118								119							120					
121								122							124					



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