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TIMBERJAY



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ELECTION 2018

Election season begins with party caucuses

Walz top vote-getter statewide; Otto wins in North Country

by TIMBERJAY STAFF

REGIONAL — Hundreds of NorthCountry residents turned out to precinct caucuses on Tuesday to have their say in the selection of their party’s candidates and the creation of their party’s platform. First District Congressman Tim Walz proved the top vote-

getter statewide in the DFL’s non-binding gubernatorial straw poll, but State Auditor Rebecca Otto won handily in northern St. Louis, Lake, and Cook counties, where the future of copper-nickel mining in the region has become a sharp point of division within the party. Otto, who has expressed her opposition to copper-nickel mining,

City of Ely DFL Party members vote on mining-related resolutions Tuesday night at Vermilion Community College. photo by K. Vandervort

won easily in the Eighth Congressional District, and finished second statewide.

See...CAUCUSES pg. 10



ARTS ON THE IRON RANGE



Study: Arts impact Range economy

Nearly \$27 million combined in 2017

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER

Managing Editor

REGIONAL — The arts and culture don’t just enliven communities on the Iron Range, they provide a substantial economic impact as well. That is the finding of a new study commissioned by Minnesota Citizens for the Arts, which concludes that arts and cultural organizations and their activities on

Above: Artists from around the world come to Ely to participate in the Snow Sculpture Symposium during the Winter Festival. photo by K. Vandervort

Right: Emily Warren works with clay during a Cook Timber Days arts event sponsored by Northwoods Friends of the Arts. file photo

the Range generate a total of \$12.3 million in annual economic impact, confirming the connection between art, quality of life, and economic development. That figure does not include the impact of the arts in the Duluth area.

See...ARTS pg. 10



PUBLIC SAFETY

No easy answers

Forum highlights impacts of opioid addiction in area

by JODI SUMMIT

Tower-Soudan Editor

VERMILION RESERVATION-It will take the efforts of many, including community members, health care providers, treatment professionals, law enforcement, and governments to stem the rising costs of opioid addiction in our communities.

There are no easy answers to this growing problem, but there are many steps that need to be taken to insure a safe and healthy environment for our children and families.

“This affects all of us,” said Tribal Chair Cathy Chavers, as she opened the Community Forum on Heroin and Opiates, held at Fortune Bay on Jan. 30. “It is here, and here to stay. We need to battle this big issue which is tearing apart our people.”

The forum attracted a large crowd, including residents from Vermilion and Nett Lake, health care professionals, many who had family members struggling with drug addiction, as well as those from the wider community.

The impact of opioid addiction has been felt the hardest by American Indian communities in this state, according to...

See...FORUM pg. 11

SEASONAL CELEBRATION

Ely Winter Festival offers something for everyone

by KEITH VANDERVORT

Ely Editor

ELY – The first weekend of the 25th annual Ely Winter Festival offered a mixed bag of weather and a variety of activities for residents and visitors.

Last Thursday dawned with temperatures well below zero, but many hearty snow sculpture symposium attendees were hard at work at first light scraping and digging at the blocks of snow standing majestically in Whiteside Park.

During the Friday school day,

Aaron Magnuson, of Ely, took home the Friday Night Throwdown Beard Belt last weekend at the Great Nordic Beardfest held at the Boathouse Brew Pub. photo by K. Vandervort

a sixth-grade science class from Ely Memorial Middle School trekked over to the park for a field trip. Their assignment involved measuring and calculating the volume of the cold cubes. Class members were never far from the warmth of the bonfire as they enjoyed the field trip.

The Twins of Franklin played at the Ely Folk School. A spaghetti feed was held at St. Anthony’s

Church to support Ely Community Resource. Down at the Boathouse Brew Pub, the winner-take-all Friday Throwdown championship belt was awarded to Aaron Magnuson on the first night of the Great Nordic Beardfest.

As the sun set on Friday, with temperatures still maintaining a tight hold on sub-zero, young winter

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EARLY LEARNING

Why quality childcare matters

Young children are at the peak of their brain development

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

REGIONAL — The results are in on the benefits of early learning for young children. Several recent studies, including long-term research, from across the U.S. have shown that children, particularly those from low-income backgrounds, who are provided high quality, licensed daycare or structured preschool learning do better in school and as adults.

In addition, economic studies have demonstrated that investments made in early learning and quality childcare bring big returns, as much as \$7-\$12 of economic benefit for every tax dollar that goes towards providing quality care and learning for children. Children who attend quality daycare facilities with a strong educational mission earn higher wages, on average, than those children who aren't provided such experiences. They are likely to do better academically in school and are less likely to be incarcerated later in life.

While adults might see a child's play as inconsequential, it turns out there's a lot more going on than many of us realize, said Amy Richter, director of the

Little Eagles Childcare Center in Tower. Little Eagles recently opened at the Tower-Soudan Elementary School with major funding support from the United Way of Northeastern Minnesota and the Northland Foundation.

"Play is very serious work for preschoolers and all children," said Richter. "We use a curriculum that helps to support our staff to lead the children through play-based learning. We strive to help them to use their words to resolve conflict with friends and to also use their words when they have big feelings such as frustration, sadness and anger. This play-based learning helps children to build the social-emotional skills needed to be successful once they move into Kindergarten."

Quality, licensed childcare facilities are designed to meet the full range of developmental needs for young children, from academic, to emotional, to physical. Here in Minnesota, the licensing process is rigorous and licensed facilities must include a long list of educational objectives, toys and equipment that ensure that children are getting the support they need to thrive. Such centers are designed to facilitate exploration by young

minds while also developing things like fine motor skills, physical senses, and muscle tone. Many quality centers, such as Little Eagles, utilize well-established curricula designed to help young children learn basic skills. "We follow a daily schedule and routine that incorporates the children in making decisions and helping us to plan their day of 'work,'" said Richter. "We spend time during the day recalling the events of earlier in the day to help children recognize how their planning builds their day and to establish the sense of routine."

They also provide the opportunity for a child to develop socially, through guided interactions with other children that provide a basis for both emotional and intellectual growth. And if your child is lagging behind in some areas, trained childcare staff can recognize the signs, and offer help and support to address any developmental issues or concerns.

"Children learn in different ways. We attempt to meet children where they are at developmentally and build on their individual needs and strengths," said Richter.

Many families, particularly in rural areas and small towns,



A stimulating environment, such as that found in a licensed childcare center, can contribute significantly to a child's development. photo by A. Richter

often rely on a network of friends and family to provide care for their young children. That often results in care that is of inconsistent quality and that rarely provides the kind of stimulating environment that can truly engage young children in playful learning.

Quality childcare facilities also provide a consistent and safe environment for young children. Teachers and assistants, such as those at Little Eagles,

are well-trained for their jobs. A childcare license is different than a business license. When a childcare program receives a state license, it means the staff is trained in more than just early learning. They are required to be trained in health and safety procedures like safe infant sleep practices, teacher to child ratios, hand-washing, emergency preparedness plans, and cleaning

See **LEARNING...**pg. 5

Briefly

IRRRB approves loan for new solar panel manufacturer

MT. IRON — An Ontario company is planning to remake the former Silicon Energy solar panel manufacturing facility here,

with help from the IRRRB and the Department of Employment and Economic Development. The IRRRB approved a \$1.75 million loan to Heliene, Inc., of Sault Ste. Marie, at a board meeting in late January. The funding matches a similar loan from DEED, along with a \$5

million private investment from Heliene.

The funds will allow the company to renovate and expand the existing production capacity at the facility in Mt. Iron. The company has operated with about ten employees at the site since assuming the facility's lease from

Silicon Energy in 2016, but has hopes for significant expansion as it takes advantage of the Made In Minnesota incentive program.

Company officials told the IRRRB that about 60 percent of the company's current sales are in the U.S. market and they expect that to grow with their

expansion. The company predicts it will employ 66 new workers, with salaries ranging from \$31,000-\$63,000 annually, plus benefits, once the expansion is fully completed.

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ELY SCHOOLS

School board set to approve strategic plan

Plan covers topics from facilities planning and maintenance to course content and access

by KEITH VANDERVORT
Ely Editor

ELY – Ely school officials are set to give their approval Monday night to a proposed strategic plan and could see for a roll-out of the program this spring.

For the past several months, Ely School Board members, administration and community volunteers, lead by consultant Ralph Brauer, conducted a brainstorming and discussion process to identify, clarify and modify a handful of goals, adding specifics for action and progress benchmarks.

They have formulated a plan that calls for a June 2020 deadline for achieving the identified objectives and goals.

“We ended up with four goals as we went through the various topics,” said Superintendent Kevin Abrahamson. The revised and final plan includes four goal areas: facilities planning, facilities

maintenance, course content and course access.

“We struggled with curriculum, both administratively and with Ralph,” he said. With “the definition of curriculum, it appeared what we were really looking at, according to Ralph, was courses, and identifying and aligning the aspects of curriculum that go into courses.”

Abrahamson gave his definition of curriculum as “everything we wish students to learn.” Others may include book and materials as part of the definition. “To make it clearer we just used the ‘courses’ word.”

The four goals and objectives, as listed, include:

►Facilities Planning – Involve stakeholders in long-term planning for facilities, including extra-curriculars. The objective: By June 2020, ISD 696 will implement a process to involve stakeholders in long-term planning for facilities, including an annual update of the long-term facilities plan.

►Facilities Maintenance – Maintain high standards for facilities, including maintenance. The objective: By June 2020, ISD 696 will achieve high ratings using an annual audit method based on state standards, along with public perception to review maintenance standards for all facilities.

►Course Content – Ensure courses provide all students with 21st Century skills and knowledge for lifelong learning. The objective: By June 2020, ISD 696 will have articulated an alignment of the state standards and benchmarks into all core courses in a matter that meets the requirements of the Minnesota Department of Education.

►Course Access – Ensure all students have access to necessary classes and skills for post-graduation opportunities. The objective: Beginning in June 2020, ISD 696 will ensure that students have access to those courses and skills necessary for post-education opportunities

through needs assessments and ascertaining post-secondary satisfaction.

If the plan is adopted by the school board, ISD 696 will also begin to integrate international standards of technology into its courses.

Strategic planning committee members agreed that conducting surveys of recent Ely High School graduates, as well as parental feedback, would be a positive way to ascertain post-secondary satisfaction of their education. Abrahamson said the work involved in a satisfaction survey would result in “a lot of work probably falling on the (school) counselor.”

Ely teacher Molly Olson said she frequently has conversations with students about what classes they wish they could take. “They are definitely thinking about this,” she said. Olson suggested having a forum of recent graduates to “talk about their impressions of their education.”

K-5 Principal Anne Oelke suggested some career planning in middle school. “Some kids might know their future plans, some might not,” she said. “We can find out what (courses) they hope to take in the four years of high school.”

Abrahamson said he hopes to present a long-range plan rollout to the community this school year. School board member Heidi Mann wondered how the rollout can be done to make it “exciting” to the community. “We should already be maintaining our facilities and improving our curriculum,” she said.

“There is a lot more accountability in this,” Abrahamson said, “particularly when you look at our facilities maintenance. We want to adopt standards and audit methods. That goal will increase our accountability.”

School Board members will consider adopting the plan on Monday, Feb. 12.

CITY OF COOK

Council hears Vermilion Trail update

City’s commercial rehab fund request rejected by CDBG

by MELISSA ROACH
Staff Writer

COOK — Councilor Liz Storm updated fellow members of the city council here on progress on the Lake Vermilion Trail, now in the planning stage. Storm said the joint powers group that will oversee the trail is coming together, with a couple hold-outs. “We don’t know if the county is going to join us...probably not,” said Storm.

Trail officials were stunned late last month when the county board abruptly tabled discussion of the joint powers board after they had waited through a lengthy board meeting in hopes of presenting their trail proposal. In addition, Breitung Township, on Lake Vermilion’s east end, has declined to join the joint powers board.

“The committee will be moving along without Breitung and the county and going forward with the remaining entities,” said Storm. “They can jump on board later if they decide to.” The council voted to move ahead with the project and remove Breitung and St. Louis County from the agreement and proceed without them.

In other business, City Administrator Theresa Martinson told the council that the city did not receive the Community Development Block Grant for commercial revitalization as hoped. Martinson said the city would be applying in the next cycle for the grants and in the meantime, would look at arranging a small group to get the program off the ground. She also told the council she will be involved with the Park and Recreation Commission to look at a Culture and Tourism grant from

the IRRRB to improve the rink at the community center.

Cook Ambulance Service noted they are doing a supply drive for the Ronald McDonald House in the Twin Cities. They are looking for donations of plastic utensils, white pillow cases, hand towels and bath towels, and serving gloves. Drop off locations are the Cook Ambulance Hall or Little Beginnings. Call 218-666-2866 for more information.


In other action, the council:

►Approved a Short Elliott Hendrickson invoice for \$2,790 for the airport access road and vehicle parking lot pavement rehab project.

►Approved the 2018 safety training schedule.


►Approved two new hires for recreation department: Karlyn Pierce and Claire Beaudry.

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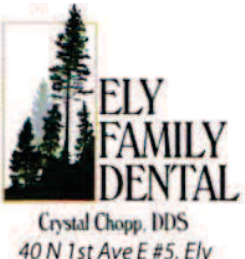
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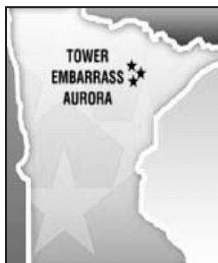
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Editorial

Addressing opioids

Local efforts being taken to stem the epidemic of abuse

Slowly, but surely, health care and community activists in our area are making strides in the fight against addiction to opioid pain relievers. We don't need to recount the devastation that these medications have wreaked on American society — that's been well-documented over the past few years, as entire communities, and even whole states in some cases, have fallen under the spell of these highly addictive drugs.

Behind it all has been an unholy alliance of physicians, misled by the pharmaceutical companies, prescribing dangerous drugs; black market suppliers who keep the drugs flowing when prescriptions aren't available; insurance companies who made these prescription drugs cheaper to obtain than non-addictive alternatives; and a domestic pharmaceutical industry that was more than happy to profit off the misery. Add to that a Congress that has been willing to look the other way as long as the drug companies kept the campaign cash flowing.

As with so many things, it's been the people in the communities hard hit by opiate addiction who have finally begun the hard work of fixing the problem. At a forum on the Vermilion Reservation last week (see story page 1), Bois Forte health officials talked about some of the steps now being taken to try to help those who already suffer from opioid addiction and how to slow the rate of new addiction.

It starts most often in the doctor's office, where Bois Forte Health Services has now sharply-curtailed the use of opiate-based pain relievers for its patients. That's a significant step when you consider that fully 60 percent of addicts get hooked as a result of doctor-prescribed pain relief. In too many hospitals and clinics, opiates are still routinely prescribed, with little explanation or follow-up. It's understandable that doctors wish to relieve pain in their patients, but when the risk of addiction is as

high as it is, health care providers need to take much greater care. Leaving a patient addicted is a failure of the practice of medicine. By giving health providers the tools to offer alternative treatments for chronic pain, including non-medicine-based treatments, more patients will have the opportunity to resume their normal every-day activities.

The growing availability of Narcan (naloxone) by emergency responders, other health care providers, and even family members is also helping. While Narcan doesn't reverse addiction, it does offer an effective antidote in overdoses, which are far too common, especially with the growing problem of fentanyl-laced drugs.

Education and awareness are also helping to alert the public to the risks associated with opioid use. Education is always the key. Few people want to become addicted and lose control over their life. When people understand the dangers, they're much more likely to avoid behaviors that can lead to problems. The success of education programs to curb smoking are a key example.

The current overall approach to the opioid crisis is the right one, with the focus on education, treatment, and use reduction. Indeed, that's the most effective approach to all drug abuse challenges. Imagine how much worse the opiate problem would be had public officials responded with a criminalization approach, as America has done with other drugs? Education and treatment dollars would have been lost to law enforcement and corrections, and criminal gangs would be profiting as addicts turned exclusively to them for their supply. As history has shown, a "war on drugs" is bound to fail. The efforts to respond to the opioid epidemic will hopefully provide a roadmap to a saner overall policy for combating drug abuse in America.



Letters from Readers

Will you feed hate and division, or human dignity?

An Indigenous People's story has a grandfather telling his grandson of an inner struggle between two wolves. One does good and lives in harmony with all, the other is angry, hateful and hurtful. "Which one will win," asks the grandson? "The one I feed," replies the grandfather. This wisdom recognizes two internal forces pulling in opposing directions.

Outside social factors impinge on us as do inner impulses. Both sources move us to enhance human personality toward dignity, or to degrade personality through demeaning words and deeds. Which force wins? Will it be division, anger, fear, greed and hate or will it be unity, love, compassion, respect and peace? Which do you feed?

Political developments of the past two years have unmasked the true character of a surly segment of American life. Classism, racism, sexism, homophobia and other isms; pernicious, pervasive and persistent, infect our society. White supremacy, objectification of women and plutocratic rule, even elements of fascism, poison our social fabric. Truth and trust are trampled and traded for monetizing everything possible as product to be turned into profit.

Human differences seen as deficient, then demonized, are at the core of a process that debases human worth. Treating some more equal than others and value measured only by what money will buy diminishes everyone. Fulfilling human need brings us together, being manipulated to pursue endless wants separates us. Self-worth determined by possessions owned is an illusion, genuine when measured by what

you are.

An artificial self emerges from celebrity images that falsely promise that "nobodies can become somebodies." Our humanity is not to be found in what we purchase and possess. Authenticity unfolds from within, not by satisfying insatiable wants, but by fulfilling needs to realize human potential. We will become what we feed on!

**Harold Honkola
Tower**

Seems like teams can adjust to avoid lopsided scores

It's not often I get a chance to disagree with Mr. Helmberger so when I do I have to make the best of it. This letter is in response to his Feb. 2 sports commentary in the *Timberjay* in which he suggests that lopsided high school basketball scores are unavoidable, like the recent North Woods/Cherry score.

Why? Because of high school league rules and because players are trained to go all out at all times. Maybe and maybe not.

We can't change league rules but it seems to me players are trained to do what the coach tells them to do irrespective of what they are capable of doing. If so, lopsided scoring by a dominant team is at least as much a coaching decision as a player one.

It seems to me scoring could be limited by slowing down the pace of the game, defensively and offensively, even if it's not the normal style of play, not as much fun or is considered unfair to players searching for immortality in the record books. In terms of gamesmanship it might be worth considering doing so if there's no substantial downside to player development. But then how

competitive and sportsmanlike is it to run up and down the court scoring virtually unchallenged? How does that aid in player development?

I'm not specifically referencing the Northwoods/Cherry score or any other game score and I'm not necessarily suggesting that a dominant team play a lower scoring game in the interest of gamesmanship - not at all. But team sports are different than individual one-on-one sporting events. Limiting scoring by changing the style and pace of a game is not the same as taking a dive. Not even close. So what I am suggesting is, it seems possible that lopsided scoring could be limited and is not necessarily 'unavoidable'. And it seems it might be substantially the coaches' decision, not the players. Why use a cannon when a BB gun would do the job, making it more sporting in the process?

**Jerry Brown
Buyck**

We want 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!

The perennial debate over cats and dogs

The argument about dogs versus cats is not a new one: which are smarter, which make better pets. Many people describe themselves as a "dog person" or a "cat person" even if they have both as pets. In late 2017, the results of a study of animal neurons brought at end to at least part of the argument, declaring dogs more intelligent than cats.

Neurons are a special type of nerve cell found in the brain that transmit messages and process information, and a greater number



**BETTY
FIRTH**

of neurons is associated with greater intelligence. An international team of researchers at Vanderbilt University counted neurons in the cerebral cortex in eight main carnivorous species: dog, cat, ferret, mongoose, raccoon, hyena, lion, and brown bear. They found a golden retriever had much more cognitive capacity than a hyena, lion, or brown bear, and a brown bear has about the same number of neurons as a cat. The raccoon's brain was a surprise, more closely resembling a primate's brain. The

dog had 500 million neurons, double the 250 million found in the cat's brain, so you could hear the dog people cheering around the world, "We knew dogs were smarter!" By comparison, humans have as many as 16 billion neurons per person, orangutans and gorillas have about eight to nine billion neurons, chimpanzees have about six to seven billion, and elephants have 5.6 billion.

However, the debate about cats versus dogs goes beyond mere neurons. There is real vitriol flung about, which has always puzzled me, and it would seem the cat haters have the edge on flinging. There's even a word for people who hate or fear cats: an ailurophobe. I tried without

success to find a word for people who hate dogs.

Cat bashing contributes quite a bit to the feline literature out there as does the bashing of cat owners. For some indecipherable reason, a former friend gifted me with "The Official I Hate Cats Book," which offers page after page of cartoon fantasies about teasing, torturing or eliminating cats...e.g., propelling them by slingshot into a shark-infested pool. It only goes to show there are some very angry people out there. Or fearful. Or both.

Historically, cats have been

See **PETS...**pg. 5

Briefly

County Extension to host gardening workshop Feb. 15

REGIONAL- The ground will be frozen for months and more snowstorms are a sure thing. But that doesn’t stop gardeners from dreaming of working in the dirt and the eventual harvest. That includes the gardeners at St. Louis County Extension who are making plans for their first gardening program of the year.

“Growing North” will be held on Thursday, Feb. 15, from 12:30 - 4:30 p.m. at the Mt. Iron Community Center. Registra-

tion begins at noon.

The program will feature presentations on growing great tomatoes in northern Minnesota; successfully growing onions; honeyberries - a new fruit for Minnesota; and how to combat a new fruit pest, the Spotted Winged Drosophila.

The cost of the program is \$23, which includes handout materials, refreshments, and the 2018 vegetable variety list developed by the Extension Office. For more information about the program or to register, call the Extension Office at 218-749-7120 or visit stlouiscountymn.gov/ext.

Delegation to speak in Duluth on Mt. Polley mine disaster

REGIONAL— A delegation from Amnesty International will offer a presentation in Duluth on their experience in British Columbia in the wake of the Mt. Polley copper mining disaster. A 2014 tailings dam breach at the mining operation there affected downstream communities following the release of 4.5 million cubic meters of toxic slurry.

The presentation is set for 6-9 p.m. on Feb. 13 at the Duluth

Folk School in Lincoln Park.

The delegation will include Tara Scurr, Business and Human Rights Campaigner with Amnesty International Canada, Doug Watt, member of the Town of Likely Chamber of Commerce and directly-affected community member, and Jennie Green, Co-Chair, Business and Human Rights Group, for Amnesty International USA.

“Amnesty International believes that the benefits of resource development must be considered carefully against potential human rights harms when things go wrong,” noted Scurr. “The Mount Polley mine disaster sent shockwaves across

Canada and around the world. Unfortunately, we learned too late how ill-prepared our regulators were to protect citizens from these harms.”

According to Watt, mining companies have shown a willingness to cut corners for profit. “These companies will absolutely do the minimum they can get away with. In our experience over the last 20 years, permits are violated and changed all the time.”

For additional information, please contact JT Haines, Duluth for Clean Water at 612-743-7781, or duluthforcleanwater@gmail.com.

PETS...Continued from page 4

worshipped as demigods by the ancient Egyptians or hated in medieval Europe when they were thought to be aligned with the devil and mistakenly blamed for carrying the plague across the continent. Ironically, killing so many cats who killed the rats carrying the plague may have helped spread the plague. Currently, they are maligned as killers of huge numbers of small mammals and birds every year, but John Bradshaw, internationally recognized cat and dog researcher, contends that in all likelihood, your house cat is probably a clumsy and inefficient hunter unless it was born feral or on a farm. Cats born in the wild are taught to hunt by their mothers in their first two months of life, and house cats usually miss this instruction. Any successful hunting is probably due more to luck than skill.

In his 1922 cultural history of the domestic cat, “The Tiger in the House,” Carl Van Vechten notes, “One is permitted to assume an attitude of placid indifference in the matter of elephants, cockatoos and...roast beef, but in the matter of cats it seems necessary to take a firm stand. Those who hate the cat hate him with a malignity which, I think, only snakes in the animal kingdom provoke to an equal degree.”

A more recent attack by Joseph Stromberg claims that cats are selfish and unfeeling, not really showing affection when they rub up against owners or other cats, but merely marking territory. Bradshaw disputes this, saying it is definitely social behavior when cats cuddle up and purr with each other or with humans; that to say it’s not more social than a wild cat rubbing its face

on tree bark is like saying that when humans shake hands, they’re mostly checking for secret weapons. (Although, the origin of handshaking is said to date back to the 5th century B.C. in Greece when it was considered a sign of peace, showing the hand had no weapons.)

I think a large part of the distrust of cats is because they can be unpredictable. A study at the University of London showed that while a dog will look to humans for clues in an unfamiliar situation, cats are more likely to explore the space on their own. One researcher said that their independence doesn’t mean they’re not affectionate but that “cats prefer to deal with things in their own heads.”

Some cats are snippy or even mean, but then, so are some dogs, and either would cause distrust. Years ago I was visiting a friend

who had a calico cat named Root Beer that was friendly and welcomed attention until it decided without warning that it had had enough. I always thought I could overcome his cantankerous behavior, but I had the bloody scratches to prove otherwise. One morning I was up early and wanted to make coffee. Root Beer was winding around my feet yowling, wanting breakfast. I found the cans of cat food, but I couldn’t find a can opener anywhere. Root Beer got louder and more frantic, making me fear for my ankles. I was opening cupboards and drawers when she went over to a lower cupboard and pushed on it with her paw; it sprung open to reveal an electric can opener. She certainly put her 250 million neurons to good use. As someone wise said, “Dogs have owners. Cats have staff.”

Women of a certain

age come in for lampooning about their penchant for collecting cats. One favorite cartoon on the subject shows a banner over the door reading, “Happy Fortieth Birthday!” Three cats are sitting on the step, saying, “We’re your cats.” I happily fit the stereotype, although cats and dogs have always shared my home.

Another favorite cartoon shows a panel with an owner talking to his dog; the next panel is labeled “What Dogs Hear.” The balloon from the dog’s ear has “Rusty...blah blah blah, Rusty.” Whereas the cat, of course, hears nothing. But then, I once had an Irish Setter who was pretty much the same way. Best dog cartoon of all time by Gary Larson is labeled “When Irish Setters go to work” and shows one standing on his hind legs, saying to his Irish Setter wife, “Well, I’m off

to run around in circles and basically act like there’s nothing in my head.”

So, cat lovers may consider dogs the less desirable species, seeing them as codependent droolers, always underfoot, without an original thought in their heads; and dog lovers may regard cats as sneaky, cold and untrainable, but we all love our furry companions and wouldn’t trade them for anything. I unabashedly serve as staff for my four cats, letting them in and out on demand, turning on the water for Tobie, who loves to drink from the faucet; putting a pillow on the desk for Freddie, who always keeps me company in my office when I’m working; and giving them each the ear or tummy rub that they particularly like. They don’t count my neurons and I don’t count theirs.

LEARNING...Continued from page 2

and disinfecting materials and surfaces. Staff in licensed programs will also have to pass a background check.

Financial assistance

For many families, the cost of quality childcare is often seen as a major impediment— but it shouldn’t be. Many families in Minnesota qualify for the childcare assistance program, a program run by counties,

including St. Louis County. Childcare providers can usually help families work through the paperwork they’ll need to apply for this assistance. Early Learning scholarships are also available and providers can help families sign up for this program as well. Tax credits also provide a way for families to help recoup some of the cost of childcare.

It’s worth the effort, said Richter,

because the early years are so critical to a child’s development. “We all recognize that children benefit from attending school beginning in Kindergarten and beyond. But their toddler and preschool years are just as important, if not more so, which is why providing the kind of enrichment a quality childcare can offer is so critical,” she said.

COUNCIL...Continued from page 3

► Heard that a total of 12 deer were harvested during the recent city hunt.

► Received a written update on progress on the Blandin broadband grant from the Cook Public Library and Grizzlies Community. The first and second round project summary lists off a number of accomplishments both committees have implemented

since October. Cook Library Director Crystal Phillips and Bois Forte IT Director Randy Long created curriculum, and local media specialists taught classes that were offered at the Cook Library, North Woods School, Orr Center, and Nett Lake for a variety of computer and internet use basics.

Hot spots were purchased for

Cook Library patron check out and so far few problems have been reported. The library also received Microsoft laptops for kids’ coding classes and overflow in-library patron use. The Orr Center received switches for internet connectivity and five laptops. Both the library and the Orr Center received a SMART TV.



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READ the Timberjay!

St. Martin’s Catholic Church schedule of Lenten activities

TOWER- Ash Wednesday (Feb. 14) Mass will be at 9 a.m. For those who are unable to attend Mass, Father will be available for distribution of ashes from 7 to 8 a.m. and then after Mass until noon. Ash Wednesday Mass will also be celebrated at Holy Cross (Orr) at 5:30 p.m. and at St. Mary’s (Cook) at 7 p.m.

Stations of the Cross will be prayed Friday evenings (beginning Feb. 16) during Lent at 5:30 p.m. A fish dinner will be served after the stations.

All ladies are invited for Bible study and fellowship on Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. in the Upper Room. If you are interested in attending, please contact the rectory at 218-753-4310. Our first session will be Tuesday, Feb. 20.

Chimpy Skating Parties on Feb. 10

SOUDAN- Everyone is invited to Chimpy’s Skating Parties on Saturday, Feb. 10 from 12 noon to 3 p.m. There will be food and fun. Loaner skates are available. Boot skaters welcome. This week’s party is sponsored by A & W. On Sunday, stop by the rink for Hockey Day!

Mardi Gras at St. Martin’s Church Feb. 9

TOWER- Can’t make it to Mardi Gras in New Orleans this year? Let’s try Plan B– come to the Mardi Gras celebration on Friday, Feb. 9 at St. Martin’s.

Fun for the whole family begins at 5:30 p.m. and goes until 8:30. It’s an open house-style event– come when you want and stay as long as you want.

There will be lots of food (and yes we will be serving some traditional Mardi Gras foods), cash bar for adult beverages, games for the kids, piñata breaking at 7 p.m., and a Mardi Gras photo booth.

The cost is a freewill offering. Hope you’ll join us– let’s feast together before the start of Lent.

Shrove Tuesday pancake meal at St. James on Feb. 13

TOWER- St. James Presbyterian Church in Tower is hosting their annual Shrove Tuesday pancake meal on Tuesday, Feb. 13 from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. There will be pancakes, sausages, fruit and drink. Cost is by donations. All proceeds will be used to fund the free Vacation Bible School, set for July 9-13. Any questions, call 218-753-6005.

Movie Night set for Sunday, Feb.18 at 6 p.m. at St. James

TOWER- St. James Presbyterian Church in Tower is hosting a free movie night on Sunday, Feb. 18 at 6 p.m. The movie this month is “Jimmy.” Ian Colletti delivers the performance of a lifetime in this heartfelt drama based on the best-selling novel by Robert Whitlow. Colletti stars as Jimmy Mitchell, a young man whose world is a place where a boy can be a man, even if he’s “special.” Where angels hover, mostly unseen. Where danger can happen, and hearts can falter – but love is never wasted. Filled with Southern characters at once familiar and unexpected, “Jimmy” is an extraordinary tale about growing up in the midst of real struggle.

TS Civic Club to meet on Feb. 21; RSVP for dinner by Feb. 16

TOWER- The February meeting of the Tower-Soudan Civic Club will be on Wednesday, Feb. 21 at Sulu’s Coffee Shop (please note change from usual meeting location). This will be a dinner meeting with a social hour beginning at 5:30 p.m. followed by dinner at 6 p.m. The menu will include Asian chicken, an Asian salad, mango tart for dessert, and tea or coffee. Cost for the evening is \$20.

The speaker for this meeting will be Jeff Lovgren of the Vermilion Lake Association. He will speak of the invasive species concerns on the lake along with other environmental issues.

Hostesses for the evening will be Linda Haugen and Kathy Lovgren, with the attendance prize given by Linda Kronholm.

Please make reservations to Linda Haugen by Friday, Feb. 16. Guests are always welcome! No meeting is scheduled for the month of March.

TOWER-SOUDAN ELEMENTARY



Alexis Childs



Truce Lightfeather



Sam Kvistad



Zach Poderzay

Fifth-grader Ian Sunsdahl claims Tower-Soudan spelling bee title

by JODI SUMMIT
Tower-Soudan Editor

TOWER- With his head barely peeking out from behind the lectern, fifth-grader Ian Sunsdahl was thoughtful and serious as he tackled word after word in the Tower-Soudan Elementary Spelling Bee on Feb. 2. With the winning word, pliant, he earned a spot in the district-wide spelling bee set for Feb. 23 at the District Office in Virginia.

Six students competed in this year’s bee: fifth-graders Ian Sunsdahl, Alexis Childs, Zach Poderzay, and Greyson Reichensperger; along with sixth-graders Sam Kvistad and Truce Lightfeather, both repeat bee contenders.

Four of the six dropped out after the first round, having trouble with the words

fouled, presence, swagger, and hooligan.

The two remaining spellers, Ian and Truce, then went head to head for four additional rounds. Ian correctly spelled cheapskate, yeast, elude, and bombard. Truce advanced with historical, issue, spreadsheet, and sought.

In the fourth round, Ian correctly spelled rebuff, but Truce had trouble with apiary. Ian went on to spell endure and pliant to win the bee.

The spelling bee words came from a sixth-grade spelling bee list. The bee was organized by upper elementary teachers Michelle Anderson, who was the pronouncer, and Scott Chiabotti. Three school staff volunteered as judges.



Ian Sunsdahl



Greyson Reichensperger



Learn about our native trees and tree care during two weekend classes

SOUDAN- Planting and caring for native trees benefits our wild-life, pollinators, soil, and water. If you are planning to plant trees this spring this is the class for you. Beth Kleinke, a District Forester from the St. Louis County Soil, Water, and Conservation District will present information on the right tree for the right location, how to care for your trees, how to make them grow and how to watch out for pests and diseases will be presented. The class will also profile several unique northern Minnesota trees for your front lawn, swamps, and river banks.

Two classes are offered: Saturdays, Feb. 24 or March 17 from 9 -10:30 a.m. at the Soudan Fire Hall. You must pre-register. For registration and more information please call or text Leone Graf 218-343-3744 or email at camplake@earthlink.net.

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Minnesota State Representative Rob Ecklund became better acquainted with Tower and Soudan as he visited the Lake Vermilion Cultural Center and the Vermilion Park Inn. Shown with LVCC Board Secretary Elaine McGillivray, Representative Ecklund is impressed with progress on both local restorations. The LVCC Board is working on with a new architectural firm to create plans for the next step in the building’s restoration process. submitted photo

VERMILION COUNTRY SCHOOL



Snow carvers

Students from Vermilion Country School carved two snow sculptures at Ely’s Whiteside Park as part of this year’s Ely Winter Festival. The students tackled two of the smaller, 4’x4’ blocks. Nine students, along with teacher Karin Schmidt, spent the day on the project. “The teamwork I witnessed was phenomenal,” said Schmidt. The students took first and third place honors in the student category of the amateur competition sponsored by NLAA.s
ubmi tædshoæu



birth announcement

Edwin David Swanson

Stephanie Irene Ukkola and Mack Owen Swanson, of Tower, are proud to announce the birth of their son, Edwin David Swanson. Edwin was born on Jan. 16, 2018, at 8:32 a.m., in Duluth. He was eight pounds, 12.5 ounces, and 22.5 inches long. Grandparents are Jackie and Bill Sommerness, Keith and Mary Swanson, and Debbie and David Ukkola.

The Phenomenon of Ash Wednesday

I never knew how powerful and how significant Ash Wednesday was until I was a student at the University of St. Thomas. I was a minimalistic Catholic at the time. Going to Mass every Sunday, Confession every few months, but not doing much more than that. Then Ash Wednesday would come around, and boy—Christians and Catholics came out of the woodwork! Young men and women, who I never suspected were Catholic or religious at all would show up for Ash Wednesday Masses. Mind you, we do have Holy Days of Obligation, in which Catholics are obligated to attend, but Ash

Wednesday is not a Holy Day of Obligation. Yet, they knew when the Solemn and Holy season of Lent started. They knew when Ash Wednesday was, and they showed up in droves. I think a number of reasons prompt a non-practicing Christian to show up on Ash Wednesday even if they haven’t seen the inside of a church in months. The first is the truly human desire and need for forgiveness. We experience sorrow and we have guilt for our offences against God and we want it removed. And while wearing ashes on our forehead doesn’t forgive our sins, it still allows us to express our contrition in a real and visible way. Second, is our desire to belong and show that we belong. We have a natural desire not to be isolated, alone. Wearing ashes on our forehead shows that we belong

to something bigger and greater than ourselves, that we have something in common with others. Maybe this Lent, is the Lent God wants you to draw closer to Him through contrition and belonging to Him and others. I assume you are welcome at any of the churches in our Tower-Soudan community. Know especially, you are welcome at St. Martin’s. We have Ash Wednesday Mass with the distribution of ashes at 9 a.m. Feb. 14. We will also distribute ashes between 7-8 a.m. for those who cannot make Mass. God bless,
Fr. Nick Nelson,
Pastor of St. Martin’s.

Bookmobile Schedule

Wednesday, Feb. 21; March 14

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

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

Transfer station

Soudan Canister

<i>Expanded hours year-round</i>	
Monday	8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Wed.	8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday	8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday	8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

For info: 1-800-450-9278

Hwy. 77 Canister

<i>Winter hours now in effect</i>	
Thursday	12 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday	12 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Recycling canisters available daily at the Greenwood Town Hall. For info: 1-800-450-9278

AEOA Senior Dining Menu

TOWER- Vermilion Country School and AEOA sponsor a senior dining site at the charter school in Tower. All meals include salad bar, fruit, choice of beverage and dessert.

Reservations are appreciated the day before, or morning of, but walk-ins are always welcome. Take-outs available. Seniors age 60 and older who have registered for the program and their partners qualify for special pricing of \$4 per meal, but all ages are welcome at the regular rate of \$5.75. There are no income guidelines. Meals are served from 12:30 – 1 p.m. on days when the charter school is open. Call the school at 218-753-1246 ext. 1003 for reservations, or call AEOA at 1-800-662-5711 ext. 7323 for the one-time registration process.

Week of Feb. 12	
Monday-	Chicken Alfredo with a Twist, Bread Stick, Vegetable
Tuesday-	Spaghetti with Meat Sauce, Garlic Bread Stick
Wednesday-	Fish Tacos
Thursday-	Tater Tot Hotdish, Dinner Roll
Friday-	Biscuits and Gravy

Week of Feb. 12

- Monday**
TOPS - Immanuel Lutheran Church, Tower, at 9 a.m.
- Embarrass Al-Anon Family Group- Hope Lutheran Church, 5088 Hwy. 21, 6 p.m.
- Tower City Council- 5:30 p.m. on Feb. 12
- 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 Feb. 20.
- Greenwood Fire Dept.- Meetings on the first (drill) and third (business meeting) Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m.
- Greenwood Town Board- 6:30 p.m. on Feb. 13
- Wednesday**
Tower AA- Open Basics- 7 p.m. at St. James Presbyterian Church. Questions, call 753-2332.
- Thursday**
Vermilion Country School Board- Fourth Thursday (except near holidays). Meetings posted online at vermilioncountry.org. Next meeting is Thursday, Feb. 22 at 5 p.m. (third Thursday).
- AA Meeting- Lake Vermilion 12x12 (Open). 6:30 p.m. at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Tower, use the rear side door entrance.



Read the news from all three Timberjay editions each week

www.timberjay.com

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the TIMBERJAY

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Libraries

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

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

Support groups

AA - Alcoholics Anonymous
AA - 7 p.m. Mondays, First
Lutheran Church,
915 E. Camp St.
WOMEN'S AA - Noon
Mondays, Ledgerock
Community Church, Ely -
use 15th Street entrance
BABBITT AA - 7 p.m.
Tuesdays, Woodland
Presbyterian Church.
AL-ANON - Sundays 8-9 p.m.
at St. Anthony's Catholic Church
in Ely. For persons who
encounter alcoholism in a
relative or friend.
BABBITT AL-ANON -
Thursdays, 7 p.m., at Woodland
Presbyterian Church.
CO-DEPENDENTS' 12-step
support group, noon Fridays, St.
Anthony's Catholic Church, Ely.
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Ely: 4th Monday of Month:
10-11:30 a.m. at Ely-
Bloomenson Hospital
Conference Room B

TUESDAY GROUP

New residents throw themselves into the Ely life

by **KEITH VANDERVORT**
Ely Editor

ELY – New Ely resi-
dents introduced them-
selves to the Tuesday
Group gathering at the
Grand Ely Lodge last
week. “It is always inter-
esting to find out who
these people are who now
make Ely their home,”
said organizer Elton
Brown. “We appreciate so
much their willingness to
throw themselves into our
midst.”

Steve McGaughey
moved to Ely last
September from Boulder,
Colo. “I woke up today and
it was 61 degrees back
there and here is was three
degrees,” McGaughey
said.

He is recently retired
from a criminal justice
career in which he mostly
was involved in juvenile
supervision programs.
“That allowed kids who
had been arrested, to pos-
sibly go back and be super-
vised by my program if
they agree to certain con-
ditions. Otherwise they
could sit in jail for over a
year waiting to go to trial.”

“It was a very chal-
lenging job. Over the past
30 years I worked with at-
risk kids, and sometimes
I had a chance to work with
them in wilderness pro-
grams and that is how I got
connected to Ely,”
McGaughey said. “It was
pretty magical, and other
times, it was extremely
frustrating.”

He related one story
about a group of juveniles
who were having a tough
time on the portages in the
Boundary Waters Canoe



Area. “They all had their
packs on upside down,
and my cohort implored
me to let it go because they
were all moving forward
toward their goal. I have
many stories just like that,”
he said.

He is now done with
that and fully retired. “It
is nice being up here and
just chilling out,” he said.
Originally from Illinois,
while working on his gradu-
ate degree, he took a
spring break trip north to
the BWCA, for a winter
camping experience. “I
felt the (lake) ice drop, and
I heard the ice boom. I dis-
located my shoulder
halfway through the trip,
but I had a great time,”
McGaughey said.

“I’ve always had a
draw to be up here,” he
added. “I think canoeing
is very relaxing on the
mind.” McGaughey has
worked with Outward
Bound on and off for about
10 years. “I enjoy the peace
and quiet. I never knew
how dark it could be.”

He admitted he is
struggling with the cold.
“Cold is cold,” he said. “I
knew what I was getting
into. I told people in
Colorado that I am looking
to get back into real life,
from something that is not
so pampered all the time.
I felt strongest and most
confident when I was up
here in the wilderness.”

Tom and Luann
Kaeter are retired and have
family members who
moved to Ely before them.

“We come from south of
the Twin Cities and have
been married for 40 years”
Luann said. She went to
beauty college and worked
as a beautician for a
number of years before
going back to school to
learn about child devel-
opment. “That’s where I
met my husband. We raised
two children. Our daugh-
ter, her husband and our
grandchild live here,” she
said.

“We had a cabin some
70 miles away and it
seemed like we were up
here a lot. We now have a
cabin here, part of our
family here, and we can’t
say enough nice things
about Ely.”

Tom and Luann have
been fulltime Ely residents
since Dec. 3. “We can’t
wait to see what the
summer brings, but being
native Minnesotans, we
don’t mind winter. I really
like the snow. I like to get
out and shovel and if we
can go for a walk we’re
happy campers.”

Tom grew up on a
farm that didn’t have
running water until 1971.
He joined the Army
because it was more
modern. “When I met
Luann, we both knew what
we were looking for,” Tom
said. “After six weeks, I
asked her to marry me and
we’ve been together ever
since.”

Chris Mueller, and his
service dog, Snowball,
moved to Ely from
Tennessee last year. Chris



New Ely residents recently introduced themselves to the weekly Tuesday Group gathering, including clockwise from upper left, Steve McGaughey, Chris Mueller, Luann and Tom Kaeter, and Zach Huberty. photos by K. Vandervort

is missing both legs, but
gets around on a modern
pair of prosthetics. “I’ve
been a blacksmith for some
35 years, and I’m origi-
nally from Bayfield, Wis.
“His partner died in 2016,
and he decided to move
north from Tennessee. “I
really missed the cold
weather,” he said.

Chris’s connection to
Ely was also with Outward
Bound from the 1990s. “I
have a friend up here who
suggested coming back, so
instead of moving to
Seattle where my nieces
probably would have put
me in a nursing home, I
moved here,” he said.

He heard about the Ely
Folk School and decided
it would be a perfect place
to teach blacksmithing.
“A blacksmith makes a
commitment to pass on his
trade, and that’s what I
hope to do,” he said.

He bought a house
near the Ely Airport and
is working on rebuilding
the 1922 structure; he is
also planning to put up a
blacksmith shop. “I had
materials delivered for my
blacksmith shop, and the
Quonset hut structure takes
some 7,680 bolts.”

Zach Huberty moved
to Ely last September and
recently founded Hak Ely,
located above the NAPA
auto parts store on
Chapman Street.

He moved here after
spending three years in
Washington, D.C. Huberty

grew up in a small town
just west of the Twin Cities.

“So far, it has been a
harsh winter, but I think
I’ll make it. I really love
it here,” he said. His
mother and a brother live
in Ely and he said he loves
having family around.
“That is something I forgot
about, in my college career
and early working life. It
was a nice awakening to
remember how nice it is
to have family around.”

Hak Ely is Huberty’s
culmination of everything
he loves about life. “I enjoy
looking at things and learn-
ing about things. I ask
questions about every-
thing. Some might say I’m
a deep thinker,” he said.

While pursuing a
degree in Arabic language
and culture, Huberty also
did computer program-
ming as a hobby. “I made
computer games and had
fun learning about them,”
he said. Having no luck
finding a job, he hooked
up with a political party
and started doing web
development. “I can work
remotely, and it pays for
everything I need to live
here,” he said.

The unexpected turn
in his life and his landing
in Ely, made him realize
that “anyone can accom-
plish anything that they
set out to do. I hope that
Hak Ely can help other
people realize that too,”
he said.



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Breathing Out

by Cecilia Rolando © 2018

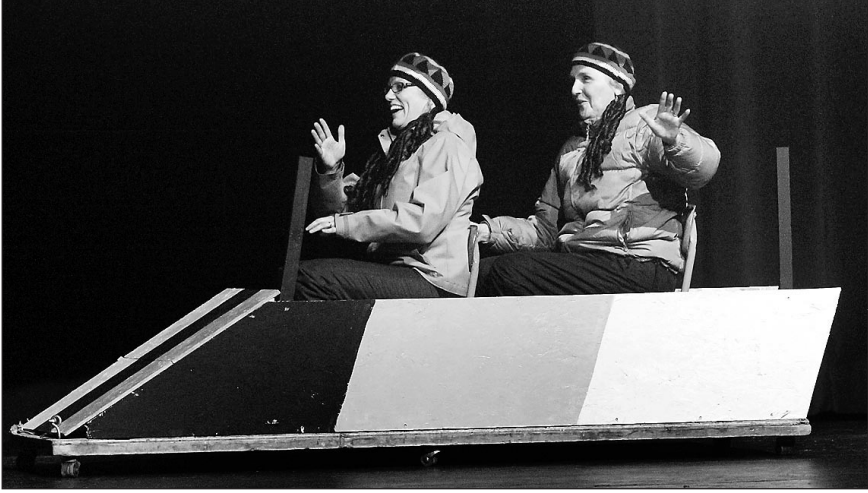


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READING OLYMPICS



Washington Elementary School’s K-5 Principal Anne Oleke and school secretary Michelle Lekatz appeared on stage as a Jamaican bobsled team during the kick-off ceremony last Thursday for the Olympic Reading Challenge for the student community in conjunction with the 2018 Winter Olympic Games in Korea. “This reading incentive program is built around the Olympic Spirit of achievement, team support, and sportsmanship,” Oelke said. “We hope it encourages our kids to read more than they already do, and that it fosters a long-lasting love of reading.” At the end of the month, bronze, silver and gold medals will be awarded to the winning classrooms. photo by K. Vandervort

BIG SNOW REMOVAL



City of Ely Streets Department personnel continued the endless winter assignment of removing snow banks from the sides of West Conan Street last Thursday morning. Light snow fell over the weekend and temperatures remained close to the zero mark this week. A slight warm up is forecast for this weekend, as the Ely Winter Festival continues. photo by K. Vandervort

OUR COMMUNITY

Youth archery league season underway



The Ely End of the Road archers team includes: from left, front row, Ella Perish, Makenzi Huntington, Cylvia DeBeltz, Silas Solum, Dylan Durkin, Max Cochran; second row, Kate Coughlin, Sabrah Hart, Abigail Johnson, Carena DeBeltz, Gabe Mann, Willow Ohlhauser, Milo McClelland, Isabelle Kelley; back row, James Pointer, Shane Spangler, Gabriel Pointer, Jeff Kelley. Not pictured, Harry Dammann, Maggie Dammann, Sam Favet, Sydney Durkin. submitted photos

ELY - The End of the Road Archers (a National Archery in the Schools Program) youth archery club in Ely has begun its fourth year of competition and instruction.

This year there are 20 dedicated youth in grades 4-11 who participate in the program. The youth meet twice a week at the archery range (located in the basement of the NAPA store) where they learn how to safely and accurately use a compound bow.

The youth are also learning valuable life skills, such as patience, teamwork, sportsmanship, leadership, and self-awareness. Throughout the season they compete against other area northeastern Minnesota youth. The archers can also compete at the regional and state archery tournament. Winners at the state tournament continue to the national tournament that is held in May. Ely has had three archers compete at the national level in previous years.

The youth have competed in two tournaments so far this year. Two members, Milo McClelland and Sydney Durkin, medaled at the Greenway tournament and three team members, Carena DeBeltz, Durkin and Willow Ohlhauser,



End of the Road archery medalists from tournaments so far this season include, from left, Milo McClelland, Sydney Durkin, Willow Ohlhauser (not pictured, Carena DeBeltz).

medaled at the Mesabi East tournament.

“The youth should be very proud of their performance. Many of the archers are shooting their personal bests,” said coach James Pointer. There are two more tournaments before the youth compete at the regional tournament. “It is rewarding to see the youth excel at each meet. The new archers have made

great strides in just the couple of months they have been practicing,” said Pointer.

This year the club applied for and received a matching DNR grant to purchase 3-D archery targets. The new targets will help kids who may want to pursue archery as a hunting sport. There are discussions of having 3-D archery tournaments, too, for the youth archers.

Tuesday Group

ELY - The upcoming Tuesday Group schedule (subject to change) is listed below. All talks are at 12 noon on Tuesday at Grand Ely Lodge, unless noted.

Feb. 13 – Dr. Joe Bianco – “The Opioid Crisis”

Feb. 20 – Dr. Robert Savereide – Ely’s General Surgeon

Feb. 27 – Shannon Barber-Meyer – Wolf and Deer Research Project

Yesterday’s news, this week

from the archives of THE ELY MINER

Courtesy of the Ely-Winton Historical Society

February 8, 1918

City Council elects new mayor

Olaf Knutson, for 10 years a member of the city council and one time mayor of the city, was elected mayor by the city council at the regular meeting on Tuesday by unanimous vote.

Mr. Knutson was made mayor to succeed Geo. L. Brozich who resigned two weeks ago and who refused to serve longer owing to a press of other business despite the importunities of his numerous friends and a petition containing a large number of signatures.

The many friends of Mayor Knutson are pleased over his appointment and join in wishing him unqualified success in the new position. He is in touch with the needs of the city and is qualified to give Ely an excellent administration. He assumed the duties of his office at once.



Tower News ad from 1910. Courtesy Iron Range Historical Society

AROUND TOWN

AAUW meets Tuesday

ELY - The monthly meeting of the American Association of University Women—Ely Branch, will be held in CL 124 at Vermilion Community College on Tuesday, Feb. 13. Social time begins at 6:45 p.m. with the program beginning at 7 p.m.

This month’s program is a Tai Chai demonstration. Tai chi is an ancient Chinese tradition that, today, is practiced as a graceful form of exercise. It involves a series of movements performed in a slow, focused manner and accompanied by deep breathing. Tai chi helps reduce stress and anxiety. It also helps increase flexibility and balance.

Persons interested in joining AAUW are encouraged to attend a meeting. Membership is open to any individual with at least an associate’s degree. The AAUW focuses its work on education and advocacy for women and girls.

Broomball Tourney set for Saturday

ELY - Gather a group of friends and sign up for fun and friendly competition in the annual Ely Jaycees Broomball Tournament, to be held on Saturday, Feb. 10 at the Ely Rec Center Outdoor Rink. The event runs 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Each team can consist of eight players, with a maximum of five players on the ice at once, with three alternatives. The cost is \$85 per team. Only 10 team slots are available. Players must be 16 years or older, under 18 requires parent signature.

Email aborchert03@gmail.com to register.

Music and Drama Club meets Feb. 19

ELY - The Ely Music and Drama Club will meet at the home of Jodi Martin on Monday, Feb. 19, at 7 p.m. for their monthly meeting and discussion.

Donald G. Gardner Humanities Trust

We are now accepting 2018 Arts Grant Applications

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

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

APPLICATION DEADLINE IS: 12:00 noon on Friday, March 23

Applicants are strongly encouraged to contact Keiko Williams, Executive Director, before March 16 for help and review of their applications. Call 365-2639 or email info@gardnertrust.org

Open Office Hours are 10am - 3pm on Monday & Tuesday from 10am - 2pm or call for an appointment. Youth grant applicants must call for a grants review by March 9.

Beginners Wood Carving Class meets twice a month in Cook

COOK- Have you ever wanted to try whittling something from wood? The Beginners Wood Carving Class at Northwoods Friends of the Arts Gallery, 210 S River St. in Cook will be held twice monthly and the next classes are Thursday, Feb. 15 and Thursday, March 1 from 6 - 8 p.m.. Experienced carvers will supply some tools and knives if students are unable to bring their own. Class size is limited to 12 participants so registrations will be taken in Cook, next to Dream Weaver Salon at NWFA Gallery on Thursday, Friday (10 a.m. to 4 p.m.) and Saturday (9 a.m. to 1 p.m.), or call Howard Hilshorst at 218 741-7941.

NWFA is a non-profit membership organization dedicated to supporting artists and art in all forms in the region of Cook. The website is at www.nwfamn.org.

Felted Wool Bowl-Making Class on Saturday, Feb. 24

COOK- Susan Arnold will be teaching a felted wool bowl-making class on Saturday, Feb. 24, 10-3 p.m., at the Northwoods Friends of the Arts Gallery in Cook. Your completed bowl will be about the size of a cantaloupe.

Participants need to bring along a towel and a tote lid to use as a work surface.

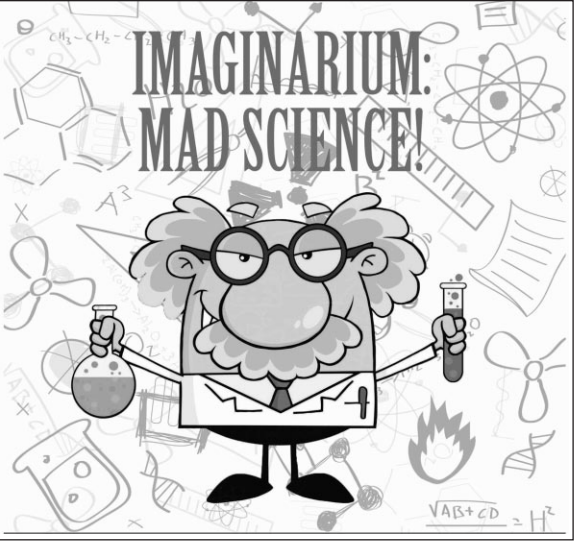
Please register before Feb. 19, which will give Susan time to dye wool fiber in your choice of color. For more information or to register, call Alberta at 218-666-2153. Space is limited at NWFA Gallery in Cook, 210 S River St. next to Dream Weaver Salon.

“Open Art” where artists work to gather on Saturday, Feb. 17

COOK- Artists will be meeting in Cook at Northwoods Friends of the Arts on the third Saturdays each month, the next gathering is on Saturday, Feb. 17. Conspiring artists will meet to work and discuss their own particular projects from 12 noon until 3 p.m. at 210 S River St. next to Dream Weaver Spa and Salon. Carvers, painters, sculptors, photographers, writers, weavers, and musicians ar welcome to attend “Open Art” at NWFA Gallery.

Father-Daughter Dance on Friday, Feb. 9 at North Woods

FIELD TWP- The second annual Father-Daughter Dance (grandfathers, uncles, and others also welcome) will be held on Friday, Feb. 9 from 6 – 8 p.m. at the North Woods School commons. Photography will be available. Cost is \$12 in advance or \$15 at the door, per adult. Join us for a night of fun and refreshments. The event is sponsored by the North Woods PTO.



Duluth Playhouse’s Imaginarium Mad Science in Cook on Friday, Feb. 9

COOK- The Arrowhead Library System is pleased to present Duluth Playhouse’s Imaginarium Mad Science, a free program being offered for ages five to adult at the Cook Public Library on Friday, February 9, at 4 p.m. and the Babbitt Public Library on Tuesday, Feb. 13 at 1 p.m.

A brother and sister and annoying cousin all want to be president of their super-secret science club. They must go head to head, testing their science knowledge through interactive science experiments until the audience is convinced of the true winner. Don’t miss this energetic and interactive play for the whole family.

This program, sponsored by Arrowhead Library System, was funded in part or in whole with money from Minnesota’s Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

To learn more about Arrowhead Legacy Events, please see our calendar at www.alslib.info, find us on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/ArrowheadLegacy](https://twitter.com/ArrowheadLegacy), or like us on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/alslibinfo>.

Bookmobile schedule

Visit your library on wheels, the Arrowhead Library System Bookmobile. **NOTE NEW STOPS AND TIMES!**

Thursday, March 1, 22.

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

Crane Lake – Ranger Station 11:15 a.m. - 12noon

Orr – Lake Country ReMax building 1:45 - 2:30 p.m.

Kabetogama – Town Hall 3:15 - 3:45 p.m.



For further information on the Bookmobile or Mail-A-Book services, write or call the Arrowhead Library System, 5528 Emerald Ave., Mt. Iron, MN

GRIZZLY SPORTS



Girls basketball fundraiser

The North Woods Girls Grizzlies have started a new fundraiser to help cover the cost of purchasing new basketballs. On Feb. 1, one of the ball sponsors was KBFT Bois Forte Tribal Community Radio. Shawn Drift presented captains Bria Chiabotti, Alanna Rutchasky and Kate Stone with the game ball. photo by C. Stone

COOK FARMERS MARKET

Cook Area Farmers Market planning meeting set for Tuesday, Feb. 13

COOK- The Cook Area Farmers Market is set to begin its spring meetings to prepare for another fun and exciting season this summer. The first planning meeting will be on Tuesday, Feb. 13 at 6:30 p.m. at the Cook Community Center. Producers of locally grown or gathered veggies, fruit and berries, honey, canned goods, baked goods, art, crafts and other fun stuff are welcome to help the market continue to be a success in 2018. This year, the market will be implementing the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (“SNAP”) in partnership with the Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency to bring more fresh and nutritious food to the community. The market will also be participating in the Power of Produce program to give children a chance to have greater access to fresh produce. There are many more exciting developments that will be discussed at the market planning meetings scheduled for Feb. 13, March 14, April 11 and May 8 at 6:30 p.m. at the Cook Community Center. We think just talking about summer may be therapeutic, but that’s just a bonus.

CRANE LAKE

Crane Lake News by the Singing Teapot Dame



Life in the North Country

Temperature: negative three. Wind: 15 miles per hour, gusting to 20. Wind chill: -40. That is 40 below. It is sunny and frigid. We have had just enough snow to help on the trails. The groomers are doing a great job to keep the trails at their best. It is difficult work with the frigid weather. However, it is always a beautiful day in the North Country!

The frigid, sunny weather is bringing out the wildlife in the area. I don’t mean the local watering holes; the snowmobile trade is doing a bang up job of business. The wildlife seen recently includes many wolves, pine martens, bobcats, weasels, and as always, the deer. The wolves are not shy; they saunter by and look at us without a care.

Fishermen report slow catching. Do you believe the two full moons in January affected the fish?

It is reported that Crane Lake’s star lake trout fisherman, Rob Scott, is using his talents to again capture a record fish. Good fishing, Rob.

The flu and severe colds have hit the area. Those who have suffered from the bugs report severe symptoms and take a week to recover. Take care and wash your hands often to avoid contact with the bug. It was reported that Jan Mattson and Greg Provoznik had the flu. Thankfully, they recovered enough to enjoy a birthday dinner for Jan at Voyagaire, joined by Lori Sanborn. Happy Birthday to Jan and Happy Flu Recovery to Jan and Greg.

Shirley Sanborn celebrated her Groundhog Day birthday with her last treatment of chemotherapy and dinner at Jeff and Lori’s. The next day, she and JoAnn attended a concert in Virginia. The next day, Sunday, the church friends treated Shirley to brunch at The Crane Lake Bar and Grill. Gini Stahnke baked the cake. Wow, a three-day celebration. Everyone knows Shirley deserves many happy days.

Jeff Sanborn reports the new building for shop, sales, rest rooms, et cetera, is progressing nicely. It will soon be ready to have heat, which will improve working conditions for the crew. The target day

for completion is opening weekend. It is greatly anticipated.

The political caucuses were held this past week. If you did not attend, your input will never be known. Republicans met at the Lakeview Baptist Church in Orr. Democrats met at North Woods School. These meetings are a great opportunity to express issues you would like to advocate in the party’s platform and endorse candidates.

If you live on the Blue Planet you know there was a football game last Sunday. This Dame is devastated! The Animals won. The rowdy Philadelphia fans burned vehicles, tore down lamp posts and did untold vandalism. This because they were happy with the win: what would they have done had they lost?

Life in the Land of Sun and Sand

Colds and flu are also affecting the South! Lots of kids are missing school because of it, and many of the snowbirds have fallen into the clutches of one or the other. So far, this Dame has escaped any maladies, and has her fingers crossed to remain that way.

Football dominated the weekend in the South. Lots of Super Bowl parties in private dwellings or large group gatherings in businesses. Much emphasis is placed on all sports here, but football would have to be the King. Local schools have all kinds of sports teams and the rundown of how each is doing is chronicled every night on local news stations. Several years ago, one of the local “news” items was the hiring of a football coach for a local

high school. After enumerating all his experience and playing abilities, it was stated that his salary was to be \$85,000/year, just for being a high school football coach, no teaching or any other duties included! I wonder how much his assistant coaches were paid, and if they had any other duties.

There is a restaurant here named the Louisiana Lagniappe. After seeing the signs and not knowing how to pronounce the name or what it meant, this Dame resorted to the worldwide information source, Google. A lagniappe (pronounced lan-yap) is a small gift given to a customer by a merchant at the time of purchase. A baker’s dozen would be an example. It comes from southern Creole, taken from the French and Spanish languages. How did we exist without Google? Does anyone besides this Dame remember Encyclopedia Britannica? Or how teachers, when asked a question by a student, would say “Go look it up in the encyclopedia?” And how students, after being told that, decided they really didn’t care that much about what the answer was?

Let us hear from you. If you are a snowbird, tell us what life is like in your area. Snowbirds like to hear the news of what is going on at Crane Lake and we like to know about you. Send news by e-mail to info@thelakecountry.com, by fax at 218-757-3533 or by phone to Sandy at 218-757-3233 and it will be added. So, fire away with your news.

Until next week, the Dames are singing off.

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OUTDOORS

Cook Area Christmas Bird Count results for 2017

COOK- The Cook Area Christmas Bird Count was held on Dec. 30, and it sure was a cold day, said organizer Julie Grahn. The low that morning was -34F and the high only made it to -16F. It did not help that the wind picked up to 9 mph. The skies were clear all day, but it was hard to feel much warmth from the sun. Nonetheless, 15 brave folks bundled up and ventured out into the field to look for birds. Most traveled by car but five individuals braved the frigid air to take short walks and one other braved skiing. Even those traveling by car made frequent stops getting out to look and listen more carefully. A total of 280.75 miles were traveled within the count circle. There were 23 individuals who watched for birds at their feeders. When the number of hours they spent

watching was all added up it came to 49.25 hours. One participant toughed it out for a half hour of nocturnal observations and it paid off with the sighting of a Barred Owl to end the count day for 2017. Despite the cold and business of the holiday season, area participants put out a great effort to contribute to the 118th Audubon Christmas Bird Count. This was the 16th year the Cook area has participated in this count.

Here is a list of the birds that were seen:

- 14 Ruffed Grouse
- 2 Bald Eagle
- 130 Rock Pigeon
- 1 Barred Owl
- 1 Great Gray Owl
- 18 Downy Woodpecker
- 29 Hairy Woodpecker
- 1 American Three-toed Woodpecker

- 1 Black-backed Woodpecker
- 1 Pileated Woodpecker
- 1 Northern Shrike
- 10 Gray Jay
- 95 Blue Jay
- 57 American Crow
- 91 Common Raven
- 322 Black-capped Chickadee
- 1 Boreal Chickadee
- 46 Red-breasted Nuthatch
- 21 White-breasted Nuthatch
- 51 European Starling
- 129 Pine Grosbeak
- 3 Purple Finch
- 131 Common Redpoll
- 5 Hoary Redpoll
- 12 Pine Siskin
- 1 Evening Grosbeak
- 20 House Sparrow

This adds up to a total of 1,194 birds for the count day and 27 different species. There was one additional species seen during the count week

and that was a Black-billed Magpie. The count week includes the three days prior to the count day and the three days following it. During these days we only get to note the different species that are seen versus counting them. If we could have counted these species it would have been interesting to report that there were five Great Gray Owls seen in the count circle and a flock of around 30 Evening Grosbeaks.

Summing it up for this year, the total number of birds seen on the count day was down from previous counts, as well as the number of species. This may have had to do with the extreme cold. Numerous participants noted that they had been seeing more birds at their feeders prior to that cold spell. There were also a few folks who were unable

to count at their feeders this year. Despite the fact that the total number of birds counted was low it was a year that marked a first for the count with the sighting of an American Three-toed Woodpecker.

Thank you to all of you who participated this year. Thank you also to Dee Kuder for providing the chili, and everyone else who brought something for the pot luck/tallying session on count day. There were 16 who attended this year. It is always a fun gathering and a chance to visit with others who enjoy watching birds.

Happy Birdwatching
Julie Grahn
Area Compiler
Cook

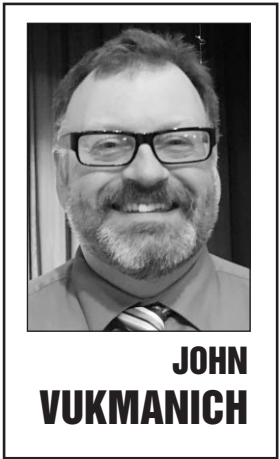
GRIZZLY UPDATES

Electronics and social media: suggestions for parents

In last week's message, I talked a little bit about bullying. In the column, I mentioned electronics and social media as an added factor in student bullying. This week, I would like to expand on social media and how it affects our youth.

This is not an opinion column, and therefore I will keep my opinions about social media to myself. However, over the years I have been reluctantly involved in more social media issues between students than I care to remember. No doubt, social media was the vehicle for the conflict and aggression between the students.

Former Facebook executive Chamath Palihapitiya, who at one point was Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg's right-hand man, has spoken out quite vocally about the effect that social media has had on our society. At one point, his primary mission at Facebook was to increase Facebook's user-base, essentially bringing Facebook, as a platform, to additional users. However, after leaving Facebook in 2011, he was quoted as saying that although he believes Facebook was meant to be a "force for good," that deep down he had serious concerns about the possible effects of social media and that "something bad could happen" as a result of it. Brain research often mentions the chemical dopamine, a chemical present in the brain that when released, stimulates the brain's pleasure centers. It is theorized that the stimulation of using social media results in



JOHN VUKMANICH

an increase of dopamine in the brain, triggering the pleasure centers for a feeling of satisfaction and happiness. Apparently, it can result in actual addiction to social media, similar to addiction to illicit drugs or alcohol.

In addition, the faceless nature of social media, or any electronic communication, makes it easier to say something that you may not have said face-to-face. Been there? I forget the TV episode, but I seem to recall more than one with the theme "he broke up with me in a text!"

According to Wikipedia, Facebook, created by Zuckerberg in 2003 while still a student at Harvard, started out as "FaceMash," a site on which students could compare two student pictures side-by-side and decide who was more attractive. Eventually it morphed into what we know today. Zuckerberg was almost expelled for breach of privacy!

I'm no doctor, for sure, but have been working with kids long enough to agree that there seems to be a connection between electronics and addiction. For those of you who have children with electronics and smartphones, have



you ever taken the device away? What is the child's reaction? At North Woods, our rule is very simple: No phones during class time, including the hallways during class time. The reason is straightforward. How many students would one think ask to use the bathroom, when in reality they are using a phone? Granted, this issue isn't life or death, but it certainly detracts from a student's focus on academics and contributes to a negative environment if the device is being used for the wrong reasons. When I encounter students in the hall using their device when they are not supposed to, I ask for it. Student responses range from "ok" to flat out non-compliance or a wishy-washy, "Really?" Although school discipline is 100-percent confidential, students have gladly accepted suspension rather than give up their phone. I've become pretty successful at talking kids into giving me their phones with my promise that they will receive the phone back at the end of the day, no ques-

tions asked. The goal, of course, is to simply ensure that inappropriate device usage is not detracting from the academic environment and that our kids are not on social media during class.

Technology is an undeniable part of our lives now. Even at school, our students use laptops and iPads for many of their texts and assignments. We do our best to monitor usage, but a large part of responsibility for appropriate usage falls on the student.

What can we adults do? First, have the conversation with your kids about appropriate device usage. Talk to them about your expectations. If you don't tell them, and assume that they already know, your kids' interpretation may be that you are not concerned or do not have expectations. Make sure that your rules are

age-appropriate, and that kids who are too young to handle the responsibility are not allowed to access what they shouldn't be using. Set guidelines for usage such as no phone use after bedtime and at dinner time. Monitor social media. Encourage your

kids to report inappropriate posts. Talk to your kids about never responding in a negative way. Never post personal information. As our kids grow up, we need to respect a certain level of privacy and trust, but still have a right to help them with appropriate decisions.

Set a good example. Plenty of adults also get sucked in to the social media banter and we need to respond in the same fashion we would expect our kids to. Network with other parents when possible. Talk to each other about issues your kids may be having and share strategies.

If all else fails, take a break.....just shut it off!

Have a great weekend!
Go Grizzlies!
Your principal,
John Vukmanich

Marissa LaPatka graduates from UW-Stout

REGIONAL- Marissa LaPatka, of Cook, graduated in December 2017 from the University of Wisconsin-Stout in Menomonie. She earned a B.S. in Retail Merchandising and Management. UW-Stout, Wisconsin's Polytechnic University, has 48 undergraduate majors and 23 graduate programs, including one doctoral

degree. UW-Stout, established in 1891, prides itself on the success of its students in the workplace, with an employment rate at or above 97 percent for recent graduates.

Loaves and Fishes Food Shelf

ORR- Loaves and Fishes Food Shelf located in the basement of Calvary Lutheran Church in Orr is open the third Friday of every

month, 8-10 a.m. and 5-7 p.m. If you are in need of food assistance outside of these hours, contact Michelle at 218-666-6021, Jules at 218-780-1740, Diana at 218-780-3617, or Linda at 218-757-0080. Donations can be sent c/o Calvary Lutheran Church, PO Box 176, Orr, MN 55771.

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COMMUNITY EVENTS AND NOTICES

Workshop for girls in engineering on Feb. 23-24

REGIONAL- Girls in grades 10 through 12 are invited to come and test-drive the diverse field of engineering at the third annual #WEAreTheFuture Night, to be held from 6 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 23 to noon on Saturday, Feb. 24, at Iron Range Engineering, 1001 W Chestnut St. in Virginia. Join us again for a fun-filled evening and participate in hands-on projects, meet women engineers and engineering students, take a tour of engineering labs and college projects, connect with the Iron Range STEM community, and gain a mentor. Hurry! Early registration is highly recommended, space is limited. Sign up by Feb. 14 via e-mail at womeninengineering@ire.minnstate.edu.

Writers' meetup in Cook

COOK- On Saturday, Feb. 10, always the second Saturday, from 1 - 3 p.m., Cook regional writers meet to discuss writing and write together at 210 S River St. at Northwoods Friends of the Arts Gallery. Ellie Larmouth is the moderator of NWFA's Writers Group where people of all ages share their writing and often write together with prompts assigned by Ellie, a former university professor.

Services at Mesabi Unitarian

VIRGINIA- On Sunday, Feb. 11, Reverend Eric Northand will present "A Look at Love." We are a rational people; the use of reason, after all, is one of our basic principles. So how do we handle it when love casts its fiery passion into our very hearts? How can we balance reason and passion? And how do we navigate these challenging times as norms and relationships evolve? We may not answer all of these questions during this service, but we will share and explore where our hearts and our traditions have brought us.

Mesabi Unitarian Universalist Church is located at 230 7 St. S in Virginia. Usual services are Sundays at 10:30 a.m. For more information, visit www.mesabiuu.org.

Men's Breakfast at Soudan Baptist on Saturday, Feb. 10

SOUDAN- The Men of St. Paul's Lutheran and Soudan Baptist churches will have a breakfast meeting at Soudan Baptist on Saturday, Feb. 10 at 8 a.m. All are welcome to attend this free breakfast. Bob Romig, of Interfaith Ministries, will be the guest speaker.

Spinning and weaving day at Minnesota Discovery Center

CHISHOLM- Curious about spinning and weaving? Want to try it, but think you need fancy equipment? Come and try simple hands-on activities with us to learn the basics. The event will be held on Saturday, Feb. 17 from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the Minnesota Discovery Center in Chisholm. Cut, weave, and glue strips of paper to make a greeting card or a woven design to hang on the wall. Set up warp threads on a cardboard loom and weave with ribbon and yarn. Use a microscope to examine the difference between woven, knit, and felt materials. See how wool is spun into yarn and meet some of the artists who demonstrate their fiber crafts at the MN Discovery Center.

VERMILION CLUB & POOR GARY'S PIZZA

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Saturday, February 17

8:30 PM -12:30 AM

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FUN ON ICE



Hockey Day in Soudan set for Saturday, Feb. 11; come try some boot hockey

SOUDAN- Everyone is invited to the fourth annual Hockey Day in Soudan set for Saturday, Feb. 11 starting at 11 a.m. at the Soudan Skating Rink.

Food and a bonfire will be available starting at 11 a.m. The hockey action will kick off with a boot hockey tournament at 12 noon. Everyone is welcome to play; just show up and you will be placed on a team.

During the afternoon, Heavy Metal Hockey is sponsoring a skills

competition for both children and adults. Come and see who is the fastest skater, and who has the most accurate shooting skills. There will also be a raffle for lots of great prizes.

The highlight of the afternoon will be the Tower versus Soudan ice hockey game, which will start at approximately 4 p.m. (after the final boot hockey games).

Good Ol' Days is sponsoring the food tent. There will be hot food, cold beer, and a fire pit. The skating shack will be warm and open all day.

The event is being sponsored with help from Heavy Metal Hockey and Breitung Township. The event is organized by Soudan resident Gavin Bialke.

Hockey Day logo sweatshirts will be on sale for \$50 each.

Hockey Day is open to all area residents; you do not need to be from Tower or Soudan to participate. For more information, call Gavin at 218-780-8305.

WINTER SPORTS

Pond hockey returns to Lake Vermilion Feb. 24

COOK- Hockey returns to Lake Vermilion this year for the Second Annual Lake Vermilion Pond Hockey Championship. Several teams converged on the Cook area to compete in a 4-on-4 tournament in front of White Eagle Resort last year, and the 2018 event is slated for Saturday, Feb. 24.

Over the past few years, ice hockey in Cook has been rapidly regaining momentum. In past decades there was a strong local hockey tradition in Cook, but the sport slowly dried up in the area as the town could no longer support youth hockey and the Cook-Chisholm partnership was phased out. However, throughout the last three years the sport has been growing in popularity again, and on any given evening in Cook the town rink is busy with pick-up hockey.

As a way of celebrating this momentum, Cook began hosting a hockey tournament at the end of skating season. In 2016 the competition featured just four local teams and was played entirely at the town rink, but last year the event grew to ten teams and was moved to Lake



Vermilion in front of White Eagle Resort. The pond hockey tournament featured several teams from around the Range and one group that travelled from the Twin Cities. This year the event expects even greater participation.

The tournament offers two divisions (Gold and Silver) with a \$100 entry fee per team. All squads are guaranteed at least three games, with cash prizes and trophies awarded for

top finishers.

There is no shortage of deep and abiding hockey traditions in the northland, but every now and then something new comes along, hoping to make its own mark in the land of 10,000 rinks. The Lake Vermilion Pond Hockey Championship aims to do just that. For more information and to register for the tournament, visit vermilionpondhockey.com.

Tower area snowmobile safety class

TOWER- There will be a Field Day for the Minnesota Snowmobile Safety Course offered by the Minnesota DNR and Penguins Snowmobile Club on Saturday, March 3 from 9 a.m. until approximately 1 p.m. A knowledge test and information session will be set up in the morning and a skills test on operating will be set up immediately after.

Students will need to com-

plete the online snowmobile safety course before the start of the class on March 3. Follow the links from the Minnesota DNR website, at the top of the page click on (Education/Safety), from the drop-down pick (Recreational Vehicle Safety Classes), next choose Snowmobile Safety, from here you can read the options available. There are two options for the course, and either class will work, once enrolled into

the course it will take approximately two weeks to complete depending on the amount of time spent. This will get you the certificate needed to enroll in a Snowmobile Field Day on March 3.

Students are asked to sign up by Friday, Feb. 16 by calling the Tower DNR office between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. at 218-300-7841 and signing up with Joan Broten of the Area Trails and Waterways division.

VERMILION CLUB & POOR GARY'S PIZZA

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COMMUNITY EVENTS AND NOTICES

MILITARY

Rep. Rick Nolan announces U.S. Service Academy nominations
Kari Brodri of Cook nominated for spot at Air Force Academy

REGIONAL- U.S. Rep. Rick Nolan today announced his U.S. Service Academy nominations. “The future of America’s military readiness depends on the bright young people who graduate from our service academies and rise to assume positions of great leadership and duty,” Nolan said. “One of my great honors and privileges as Congressman is to nominate the best of the best from Minnesota’s 8th District.”

Nolan’s U.S. Service Academy nominations for 2018 are; Kyle Renner, Cambridge: Air Force; Kayla Bodri, Cook: Air Force;

Everett Stenberg, Lindstrom: Navy; Keller Conrow, Two Harbors: West Point (Army); Aleksie Rengel, Duluth: West Point (Army); Matthew Guida, Crosby: West Point (Army); Laura Nissen, Mora: Merchant Marines; Tucker Leigland, Rush City: Merchant Marines

Congressman Nolan also extends his gratitude to the academy advisory committee, Dave Merhar from Ely and Phil Semaan and Dr. Missy Saftner from Duluth.

U.S. Service Academy graduates receive a first-rate undergraduate education, equivalent to that provided by the nation’s best univer-

sities, and spend a minimum of five years serving their country on active duty as a military officer. The full, four-year scholarship is valued at more than \$350,000, which includes tuition, room and board, medical and dental care, and a monthly salary. The nomination process begins on April 1 for high school juniors who will be seniors the following school year, or who have already graduated. The deadline for submitting a 2019 nomination packet to us is Nov. 1, 2018. If you are interested, visit <http://nolan.house.gov/services/service-academy-nominations>.

GYMNASTICS

Northern Twistars compete in Grand Rapids

GRAND RAPIDS- The Northern Twistars Gymnastics team had an incredible showing at the Grand Rapids Winter Meet on Saturday, Feb. 3. The girls train almost year-round and have been working so hard to master and perfect their routines. Girls range in age from 6 - 16. Some are veterans and some are just starting their careers. We saw beautiful gymnastics and sweet gymnastics. Saturday, our girls showed up to compete. Our teams and our individual athletes were rewarded for their strong performances. Highlights were many but top honors must go to these athletes noted below:

Bronze Xcel Team placed 3rd : Ages 6 - 7 , All Around Champion Sova Meyer

Silver Xcel Team took 1st Place in Competition: Ages 7 - 9, All Around Champion Zelia Brysch; Ages 12 and up, All Around Champion Adaylia DelCaro

Gold Xcel Team took 2nd Place: Ages 8 – 11, Lilly Jola and Sophie Roark tied as All Around Champions

Diamond All Around Champion: Kiarra Moehlenbrock.



Above: The Silver Xcel Team took first place.
Below: The All-Around Champs. submitted photos



VOTE FOR YOUR FAVORITES

Northern Community Radio is sponsoring first Annual Book Awards; Voting is open to the public

REGIONAL - Northern Community Radio has had a long-standing commitment to writers and reading with programming like Realgoodwords with Heidi Holtan, What We’re Reading with Tammy Bobrowsky, and Wordish with Robert Jevne. In addition, KAXE has a vibrant monthly reading group that meets the second Wednesday of the month at the KAXE studios. What We’re Reading is also a lively Facebook group hosted by KAXE/KBXE, open to the public.

The 1st Annual KAXE/KBXE Book Awards is asking for votes in the following categories:

Best Setting: Sometimes the setting of a book comes alive and

draws you in. Which book featured a setting that pulled you into the story?

Best Character: Whether it’s the hero or the villain, the protagonist or antagonist, or even a minor character, which book had a character that gave it that extra spark and kept you wanting more?

Best Character, Children’s Books: Which character from a picture or chapter book did your kids love?

Best Eye-Opener: What’s the best book that opened your eyes to a topic, a culture, a real-life person, or a historical event?

Reader’s Choice: What was the best book overall you read in 2017? In addition, readers vote on books they’ve

read this past year; a book doesn’t have to have been published in 2017 to be nominated. Vote online at www.kaxe.org. Reading together and connecting with readers in the month of February in Minnesota can help you get through a long winter!

Northern Community Radio is an independent, listener-supported, non-profit public media orga-

nization that is a National Public Radio affiliate. Listen at KAXE 91.7 FM in Grand Rapids, 89.9 FM in Brainerd, and 103.9 FM in Ely as well as KBXE at 90.5 FM in Bagley-Bemidji and stream online at www.kaxe.org. For more information, contact News Director Heidi Holtan at 800-662-5799 or e-mail heidi@kaxe.org.



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Sax-Zim birding trip on Tuesday

REGIONAL- The Ely Field Naturalists team up with the International Wolf Center to conduct a field day at Sax-Zim Bog on Tuesday, Feb. 13. A weekday may not be the best time for everyone, but this fits into a busy schedule of northland festivals on almost every weekend.

For decades, the Sax-Zim has been a destination of people seeking northern species of birds in winter. Its reputation increased with the 2004-05 winter of the Great Gray Owls, its designation as an Audubon Important Birding Area, its 10 years of Winter Birding Festivals, and the Friends of Sax-Zim Bog events and Welcome Center.

With limited space available for the upcoming Sax-Zim Bog Winter Birding Festival, Bill Tefft will warm up for festival guiding by leading folks from farther north for a day of exploring this old glacial lake bottom to see what makes it so attractive with winter owls, shrikes, grosbeaks, redpolls and other birds. This will be a truly backroads daytrip of homesteads, old communities, northeastern Minnesota riverways, and winter wetlands. Anyone who would like to get more details on the trip and reserve one of the limited numbers of seats available on the bus, should call Bill Tefft at 218-235-8078.

Sisu Heritage annual meeting Feb. 25; speaker on Finnish education

EMBARRASS- Sisu Heritage, Inc. will hold its annual meeting on Sunday, Feb. 25 at 2 p.m. at the Embarrass Town Hall. The guest speaker will be Rev. Dr. Philip Johnson, President of Finlandia University in Hancock, Mich., on the topic of the Finnish education system. This should be of interest to all involved in education - teachers, students, administrators, parents, and the general public. A short business meeting will precede Dr. Johnson’s talk, including committee reports, election of board members, and presentation of the 2018 budget. Coffee and will be served and door prizes awarded.

Sisu Heritage, Inc. is a non-profit organization affiliated with the St. Louis County Historical Society. Its mission is “to enhance the Embarrass region by preserving and sharing its unique culture, climate and history.” Memberships to Sisu are \$10/year and can be renewed or purchased at the meeting, or by mail to Sisu Heritage, PO Box 127, Embarrass, MN 55732.

The public is cordially invited to join Sisu members for the afternoon. Embarrass Town Hall is located at 7503 Levander Rd. Please call 218-984-3402 with any questions.


Behavioral Health Network community forum set for Monday, Feb. 12 in Ely

ELY- The Ely Behavioral Health Network is sponsoring a community forum on Monday, Feb. 12 from 6 – 7:30 p.m. at Amici’s Event Center. The forum topic is “Linking Difficult Childhood Experiences and Substance Abuse: Creating Community Solutions.” Laura Bennett, Regional Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug Prevention Coordinator will speak about what is being done in other communities in northern Minnesota. This interactive discussion and brainstorming session will cover what solutions to the substance abuse problem are working in other communities, what is already happening in our area, and what we can do to reduce substance abuse in our community. All community members interested in reducing substance abuse are encouraged to attend.

Learn all about aprons at Ely and Babbitt libraries on Tuesday, Feb. 20

REGIONAL- Join us on Tuesday, Feb. 20 at 10:30 a.m. at the Ely Public Library or at 1 p.m. at the Babbitt Public Library for a review and explanation of both vintage and new age aprons with historical details of styles, types, and embellishments. Patrons are invited to bring their own aprons to share stories and details about them. Vintage aprons bring out lots of fond memories and stories of women from the past, often relatives and grandmothers. Aprons tell women’s history through a homespun, common garment cover-up. If you have one of these aprons, bring it out of storage to Vintage Aprons and share your story.

Jim Nelson
80th Birthday Party
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Good Ol’ Days
5:30-8:30 PM



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DAWN'S STORY
On November 29th Dawn was diagnosed with Stage 3 Breast Cancer (Invasive ductal carcinoma). Very aggressive, lethal within months if left untreated.
Dawn is 39 years old and a working mother with three school-age children. She also runs a small specialty bakery business out of her home and is well known in her community as "the cheesecake lady." She is a talented pianist and has played at many area churches, weddings, and special events.
Treatment includes two rounds of chemotherapy and a double mastectomy, followed by radiation. Medical costs are overwhelming.
All proceeds will go to help the family with expenses.
Please join us to help raise money for Dawn's family.



Make a donation to Dawn Crandall at any American Bank location or online at:
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CAUCUSES...Continued from page 1

Leah Phifer, who is challenging Eighth District Congressman Rick Nolan for the party's endorsement, also did well, collecting the lion's share of delegates in most caucuses in northern St. Louis, Lake and Cook counties, which make up much of the Third Senate District.

With 72 percent of precincts reporting, more than 27,000 DFL votes had been recorded on Tuesday, suggesting final caucus turnout could top 30,000.

On the GOP side, Hennepin County Commissioner Jeff Johnson was the top voter-getter, although recent moves by former Gov. Tim Pawlenty, who appears poised to enter the race, are likely to reshape the endorsement battle on the Republican side.

About 11,000 Republicans turned out for their caucuses on Tuesday,

far below their 2010 turnout of nearly 20,000.

Local DFL results

Only scattered local results were available as of presstime. Caucus-goers in Ely picked Otto by a large margin in the gubernatorial poll. Out of 55 ballots, Otto received 28 votes, or 51 percent, followed by 13 uncommitted ballots and eight votes for St. Paul Mayor Chris Coleman. The few remaining votes were split among the other five candidates.

In Tower, Otto and Erin Murphy won six votes apiece, with one for Walz. Otto topped the field in Cook, with 18 votes, to 15 for Coleman and eight for Walz. Otto won a majority in Vermilion Lake Township, with four votes to two for Walz, while Coleman and Otto won two apiece in Embarrass, with one for Walz and two

uncommitted.

Otto did well across the Third Senate District. Preliminary results show she won just over 50 percent of the vote districtwide in the six-candidate field.

While the caucus attendees did not have to declare their preference in the Eighth District congressional race, it appears that Phifer won a clear majority of the delegates locally who will move on to their senate district and congressional conventions later this winter.

Tuesday's balloting did thin the field on the DFL side. Rep. Paul Thissen, of Minneapolis, announced that he was dropping out of the race after finishing last in the straw poll.

Ely debates mining

As usual, the debate over copper-nickel mining

drew center stage in Ely, where caucus-goers debated a number of mining resolutions. Former County Commissioner Mike Forsman spoke in favor of a resolution in support of mining, as long as environmental regulations were followed.

"If you look at the state of Minnesota versus anywhere else in the entire world, we have some of the toughest laws and toughest reviews and we are constantly under the microscope when we are looking at our reviews of mining," said Forsman.

Ray Marsnik also spoke in favor of the resolution, noting the high number of people employed in the taconite industry when all the plants are operating. "Minnesota has extremely high standards in place for environmental protection and rigorous, thorough regulation agen-

cies staffed by professionals who are tasked with enforcing those standards," he said.

But Betty Firth questioned that claim. "Those very rigorous regulations are not enforced, and there has been ongoing violation of them even in the taconite industry and copper-nickel mining would be much more egregious than that," she said. "There is no place on the planet where it has been done without extreme, toxic pollution."

In the end, the resolution was voted down 32-16. A resolution calling on the Department of the Interior to prohibit mining on federal land within the Rainy River watershed, fared better, passing 27-18. A second resolution, stating that "the DFL finds unacceptable copper-nickel sulfide mining in the state of Minnesota," also won easy approval at the caucus,

even as it generated some debate.

Anne Koskinen said she was opposed to standing against mining. "It is something that keeps us together," she said.

Carol Orban spoke in support of the resolution. "I think we would be making a really big mistake if we allowed this huge Chilean corporation to take our resources and leave behind toxic pollution."

The Ely caucus approved the resolution by a 34-16 vote.

Resolutions approved at the precinct level move on for consideration by larger senate and congressional district conventions before moving on to the state conventions. Both parties will hold their state conventions June 1-3. DFLers will meet in Rochester, while Republicans will convene in Duluth.

ARTS...Continued from page 1

"This study shows the very definite economic impact of spending and taxes paid by full and part-time artists," said Betty Firth, of Ely, who coordinates activities at the Ely Folk School, one of 57 arts and culture organizations in the region included in the study. "But there are also less easily-measured benefits," Firth added. "The presence of artists and art opportunities attracts not only tourists seeking classes and locally-made art, but other artists who want to live in a community that supports the arts, so there is a domino effect."

And as artists move to an area, they add to the economic impact through their personal spending. The study found that the 3,318 artists and creative workers living in northeastern Minnesota, spend a total of \$14.7 million annually. The top three creative occupations in the region are photographers, musicians, and writers, the study found.

Firth said the growth of the arts is evident in a community like Ely, where local art is increasingly on sale and display across the city from restaurants to new galleries, to the Ely Art Walk, which continues through Sunday.

The arts are an increasing presence in Cook, as well, notes Shawna Kishel, president of North Woods Friends of the Arts. The organization has grown increasingly active in recent years, sponsoring weekly "music in the park" events near the downtown gazebo, hosting a popular Spring Arts Expo, offering regular art courses, and maintaining a gallery for local artists. Over 50 artists are now active with the group, displaying and teaching their art in various ways.

Across the Arrowhead, the impact of the arts is growing rapidly. "The

figures for the seven counties served by the Arrowhead Regional Arts Council are startling," said Firth. "The number of participating organizations doubled and income from the arts was \$83.3 million in 2017, up from \$39.7 million in 2015," she said.

The burgeoning of the arts in the region has other less tangible effects on the area economy, by creating interest and excitement that makes communities more attractive even to those who just appreciate the arts. "For the non-artist, such as myself, it provides an opportunity to experience and enjoy the creativity of others as well as inspire me to use my own creativity," said Kishel.

Firth agreed. "I met

some friends for coffee and asked them what they thought about the impact of art in our community," she said. "They thought that art gives a window into the minds of artists, showing various perspectives and perhaps leading to a greater understanding of different viewpoints. They felt having art available around us changes the aesthetics of our daily lives and having the opportunity to create art gives an outlet for learning and creativity that is life-enhancing."

The arts also help to build a community's connections and create new friendships, which further enhance quality of life and even the health of residents.

"Musical perform-

ances have been instrumental in bringing the community together," said Kishel. The group's wide range of summer arts classes are continuously connecting people with an interests in expanding their creative skills.

Firth said she sees much the same at the Ely Folk School. "Classes and other activities certainly help build community as people meet instructors and other students with similar interests," she said. "Students often let me know they're eager to return for future classes and that they'll encourage others to come join in the fun, and word of mouth is the best marketing tool."

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FORUM...Continued from page 1

ing to information from the Minnesota Department of Health, but this is an issue which is affecting almost every community in rural Minnesota.

The forum was a cooperative effort, with professionals from tribal, county, state, university, and law enforcement. Area providers, including area treatment resources, had informational booths set up around the meeting room.

Shanna Vidor, a Bois Forte Health Services physician, explained their new policies for prescribing opioid drugs. They are now emphasizing non-opioid and behavioral treatments for pain, and only using opioids after screening for factors that might contribute to addictive behaviors. They are also stressing the importance of making sure such prescriptions stay in the hands of those who are supposed to be taking them.

"This is something we take very seriously," said Vidor.

Health providers are also focusing on keeping their patients moving, both in the home and at their jobs. They are using proven techniques such as cognitive behavior therapy and yoga to help patients deal with chronic pain.

A Bois Forte staffer whose husband committed suicide after struggling with opioid addiction spoke to the group. She talked about the impact of addiction on her



James Cross, founder of Natives Against Heroin, talks with an opioid forum participant last week at Fortune Bay. photo by J. Summit

family, and the need for more resources. She also talked about the dangers of fentanyl. "It is deadly," she said, "and they are putting it into everything."

She stressed that families who have members struggling with addiction need to seek help and not keep it a secret. "This is a disease," she said. "Addicts don't know how to get help," she said. "I ask you to get the word out, and to be available no matter what."

The event's keynote speaker was James Cross, founder of the Twin Cities-based group Natives Against Heroin, and a former drug dealer and heroin addict who spent time in prison as a youth and an adult for dealing drugs. Cross, along with others who have dealt with drug addiction, patrol their neighborhoods, providing support and information. As well as being trained to

administer nalaxone (called Narcan), a drug that reverses an opioid or fentanyl-induced drug overdose, they provide clean needles to prevent the spread of infectious diseases. The group also organizes public protests in front of known drug houses, pressuring landlords to deal with the issues that affect entire neighborhoods.

Natives Against Heroin recently received a \$30,000 state grant to help fund their work. The money funds the purchase of the single-dose Narcan injectors (which cost about \$30 each), as well as clean needles. Cross noted that while most of their work takes place in inner-city Minneapolis, they have started traveling outstate to reservations to help those communities.

"We are hard people," said Cross. "This black spirit among our people is very strong. It knows when

we are lonely, when we are afraid." Cross said making sure tribal members are connected to their sacred items is essential.

Cross was impressed with the turnout for the event.

"You all came out," he said. "We can make a change. It will take action. It will take leadership. It will take work."

Cross talked about the "boots on the ground" work his group does, confronting landlords who allow their rental properties to become havens for drug users and drug dealers. He offered to come back and work with community members on such projects.

"You need to call the cops, take down license plate numbers," he said. "It ain't snitching. It is making a better community for our young people."

He noted that community members do not need titles to be leaders. He talked about the historic response of the native communities to the introduction of alcohol. The tradition of circles, he said, could be applied, as well as bringing users back into more traditional ceremonies. If that doesn't work, he said, communities needed to consider the practice of shunning, where a drug user is sent away from the community, and only welcomed back once they are "clean."

But he also spoke of

compassion.

"I was an IV drug user for many years," he said. "I can understand... Think about when you were young, and you needed help and it wasn't there."

"We have to help our people, not shun them, but not enable them," he said. "I am willing to fight for our people today."

Cross has been sober since 2002, but says he still has struggles. His identical twin brother still struggles with addiction. "It is so hard to see the person you love, and you are losing them." Cross's children have struggled with addiction. One is now recovered and works with him as part of Natives Against Heroin, but another son is in prison for murder.

Addicts are their own worst enemies, he said.

Cross urged the group to figure out where the drugs are coming from, then try to shut it down.

"We need to keep our traditions and values going," he said. Cross noted that increasing mental health services was also essential, and that many drug addicts are suicidal.

"Connect with your culture," he said. "The drum wakes up the spirit of our people and the land."

"Death is scary," he said. "No one uses these drugs to die."

He said he would like to see civil commitment laws changed to allow

family members to get their loved ones into treatment. Right now, he said, the state will wait until someone has overdosed as many as five times before ordering treatment.

"It might not be our way," he said. "But our way is to help... sometimes we need to use their medicine."

"We need to stop this epidemic," he said, "this cycle of negativity in our community. We need to embrace our youth in the way we wanted to be embraced when we were young."

Cross and his wife are now raising some of their grandchildren. He talked about how he spends time playing with them, as well as helping them with their schoolwork. He said adults need to let children enjoy their childhood and not grow up too fast.

Pam Hughes, who works on chemical dependency issues for the tribe, thanked everyone who had worked to make the program possible.

"It will take our community to fight this epidemic," she said. "We can work together and save lives."

The program was followed by a session on how to administer Narcan, and free Narcan kits were handed out. Narcan can be purchased at cost without a prescription at any CVS Pharmacy.

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Ely sixth-grade science students warm themselves by the fire pit on Friday during a field trip to the Winter Festival Snow Sculpture Symposium to learn about measuring and calculating the volume of a cube.



A cube in the snow is one of dozens of snow sculptures in Whiteside Park. photos by K. Vandervort

ELY..Continued from page 1

athletes gathered for a torch-bearing opening ceremony and parade through the park. Youth hockey players hit the outdoor ice rink, most oblivious to the cold. One hockey mom was heard to say, “I’ll be in the car where it’s warm.”

Saturday morning dawned bitterly cold once again. A light, steady snowfall throughout the morning greeted Winter Festival goers with a quiet, soft atmosphere. Snow sculpture artists crawled over and through their creations like so many ants on a hill.

Ice fishing enthusiasts tried their luck on Shagawa Lake for the Vermilion Community College Law Enforcement Club’s annual competition.

With the light snowfall transforming the downtown area into a winter wonderland, art enthusiasts bundled up and toured the Ely Art Walk displays in business windows.

The fresh-baked aroma of a Sour Cream Strudel enticed visitors to the Ely Folk School where Mary Louise Icenhour was conducting one of her popular baking classes. Other classes, such as Beginning Rug Hooking, Sewing Beaver Hides, Wool Needle Felting, and Potica baking were held all weekend at the EFS.

Meanwhile, back at Whiteside Park, a winter camping display was enjoyed by many looking for a warm-up inside the tent. Fat Tire bike demonstrations and riding opportunities were available.

Candlelight skiing at Hidden Valley, a snowshoe hike to Sig Olson’s Listening Point on

Burntside Lake. Family-friendly wilderness activities were sponsored by the Dorothy Molter Museum. Even an all-you can-eat fish fry was held at Veterans On the Lake Resort.

Once the sun set, a star-watching presentation and viewing opportunity was held at the North American Bear Center. The Great Nordic Beardfest kicked into high gear over at the Boathouse.

Sunday morning was greeted with crystal blue skies, and of course, frigid temperatures. Dozens of art viewers shrugged off the wind chill to get a different perspective on the light and shadow of snow sculptures in the park. Classes continued at the Folk School.

Joey Kenig and Timothy Stouffer presented “The Sebastian Project: Poetry, Art and Music Collage,” at the VCC Theater. The project is named after Tim’s dog. “Listen to your ravens,” Stouffer said. “Don’t be afraid of the blank page, give your voice the gift of a friend; working together uncovers voices you didn’t know were hidden.”

If that wasn’t enough, the Ely Winter Festival continues this weekend with still more activities for the whole family. The Dorothy Molter Fundraising Dinner starts at 5 p.m. on Friday at the Grand Ely Lodge. Check out the Jaycees Broomball Tournament, beginning at 9 a.m. at the Ely Rec Center. The Kubb Tournament begins at 10 a.m. in Whiteside Park. The Hidden Valley Skinny/Fat Relay also starts at 10 a.m.

Other activities include: Northern Lights and Star Trail photography lessons are hosted at the Grand Ely Lodge; NLAA Downtown Arts Market opens at 10 a.m.; Snowshoe to Hegman Lake Pictographs at 1 p.m.; and the Mesabi Symphony Orchestra Concert starts at 2:30 p.m. at Washington Auditorium.

For a complete listing of events and activities, visit www.elywinterfestival.com.



Ely Folk School instructor Mary Louise Icenhour displays a freshly-baked sour cream strudel with Brynn Vollom, a freshman at Ely Memorial High School, who took the baking class as cultural credit for her German language class.



Kristen Anthony and Mason Wiekert, above, check out an Ely Art Walk display at the Folk School. Winter campers, right, kept the woodstove stocked during sub-zero temperatures last weekend.



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BOYS BASKETBALL



Ely sets records in Cherry rout

Nineteen Timberwolves’ three-pointers en route to 141-34 blowout

by JAY GREENEY
Sports writer

ELY – The Wolves hit the gates running on Monday and never looked back on a young Cherry team. Even with running time in the second half, Ely won in a school-record blowout, 141-34.

Left: Ely sophomore guard Eric Omerza races by a Cherry defender. photo by J. Greeney

Ely played an aggressive full court press giving them numerous layup opportunities against the inexperienced Tigers.

“We played well from the start and really shot the ball well,” said Ely Head Coach Tom McDonald. “We had the opportunity to play all of our roster about equal minutes and everyone who played scored at least three points.”

The Wolves had a great night shooting from beyond the arc as they set a

new school record with 19 three-pointers. Junior Patrick Vanderbeek hit seven himself, and one of them put him over 1,000 points for his career.

Ely has now won nine in a row. The team is healthy and playing good basketball as they head into the final stretch before playoffs.

Vanderbeek led scoring against Cherry, with 32 points. Carter Gaulke,

See **ELY BOYS...**pg. 2B

NORDIC SKIING

The Big Chill

Ely looks strong at Hidden Valley, despite cold temperatures

by JAY GREENEY
Sports writer

ELY – The Timberwolves ski teams showed they weren’t afraid of the cold as they dominated a home meet last Thursday, despite temperatures and a windchill that were both below zero.

It was a final tune-up opportunity for teams ahead of the section meet set for Feb. 8 at Giants Ridge, and Ely took advantage, with the boys team taking first, while the girls team missed the top spot by just two points.

Competing at Hidden Valley, the temperature was below the threshold set by the high school

See **NORDIC...**pg. 2B

Right: Ely’s Chase Eilrich competes at the Hidden Valley meet last week.

photo by D. Dallberg



BOYS BASKETBALL

Grizzlies top 14-1 Greenway

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

COLERAINE— The Grizzlies faced one of their toughest tests of the season so far, as they took on the 14-1 Raiders on their own court, last Friday. But the Grizzlies, who won 62-47 to improve to 17-0 on the season, again showed why they’re the top-ranked Class A boys basketball team in the state.

Grizzlies Head Coach Will Kleppe said the close contest was not unexpected. “They were 14-1 coming into the contest and we knew

See **GRIZZ...**pg 2B

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Grizzlies’ late season slide continues

Girls fall to Carlton, Deer River

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

FIELD TWP— A late season slump for the North Woods girls basketball squad showed no sign of breaking this week as the Grizzlies fell 79-48 to Carlton on Monday. The Grizzlies have now lost eight of their last ten games, to fall to 7-13 on the season.

Carlton had little trouble setting the tempo early as they built a 40-21 halftime lead and pulled further away in the second half.

Bria Chiabotti led scoring for the Grizzlies, with 15

Right: The Grizzlies’ Brynn Simpson fights for control of the ball during Monday’s game with Carlton.

photo by C. Stone

points, while Kate Stone added ten. Brynn Simpson connected for seven points, while Alanna Rutchasky scored four.

Carlton’s Millie Groth led all scorers with 24 points.

In action last Thursday, it was a huge night for Deer River’s Lucy Kaczor, who poured in 33 points, helping

See **GIRLS...**pg. 2B



Rangers’ press too much for Wolves

by JAY GREENEY
Sports writer

MT. IRON – A dominating full court press proved too much for the Ely girls on Monday as perennial powerhouse Mt. Iron-Buhl routed the Wolves 90-27.

The Rangers’ aggressive play forced a remarkable 44 Ely turnovers, and gave the Wolves few unobstructed looks at the bucket all night. It was Ely’s second-worst offensive performance of the season.

Mt. Iron-Buhl also dominated the boards as they limited Ely to just eight offensive rebounds.

For the game, Shayla Zaverl and Erika Mattson each scored nine points while Brielle Kallberg led the team with 11 rebounds.

Ely visited Eveleth-Gilbert on Thursday night and struggled early and were down ten at half-time. A strong second half wasn’t enough as the Golden Bears held on to win 47-41.

“Being down 10 points at half we did a good job in the

second half of giving ourselves a chance to win,” said Ely Head Coach Darren Visser. “We tied the score up a few different times.”

Free throws proved the key to victory for Eveleth-Gilbert, whose players connected on 21 of 24 attempts. Ely, meanwhile, hit just seven of their 21 opportunities from the stripe.

“In order to win these close games we need to do a much better job of shooting free throws,” said Visser.

Ely shot 52 percent from

two-point range, but hit just two of 13 attempts from beyond the arc.

Erika Mattson led scoring for Ely, with 15 points to go with seven rebounds. Brielle Kallberg led the team with eight rebounds while Winter Sanio came off the bench to score six.

The 9-9 Wolves host Mesabi East on Thursday. Silver Bay comes to town for Ely’s final home game on Monday. Both games get underway at 7:15 p.m.

Sports week

Boys bball

Friday, Feb. 9
NW at L-BF, 7:15 p.m.
Ely at Mesabi East., 7:15 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 13
NW v. I-Falls, 7:15 p.m.
Ely hosts Lakeview-Christian, 7:15 p.m.

Girls bball

Monday, Feb. 12
Ely hosts Silver Bay, 7:15 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 15
NW hosts Ely, 7:15 p.m.
NER hosts Nash-Kee, 7:15 p.m.

Hockey

Saturday, Feb. 10
Ely at Lake of the Woods, 3 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 13
Ely hosts Moose Lake, 6 p.m.

Nordic ski

Saturday, Feb. 10
Denfeld Champs, 11 am

Wednesday, Feb. 14
Charlie Banks Relay, 1 p.m.

HOCKEY

Mixed week for Ely

Fall to North Shore, hold on for win over Bagley

by JAY GREENEY
Sports writer

ELY – The Wolves were hoping for a second win in a row when North Shore came to town on Tuesday, but the Storm had other ideas, winning 10-3.

North Shore jumped out to a 3-0 first-period lead before Nick Mattila got Ely on the board with just 14 seconds left in the period. The Storm outshot Ely 18-5 in the stanza. Ely fared no better in the second period, as the Storm scored four goals to open the period before Ely’s Thomas Montana added one for the Wolves. The teams traded goals in the remaining minutes of the period, with Luke Olson scoring with 1:48 remaining to leave the score 8-3.

North Shore scored the only two goals of the final period as Ely put just four shots on goal.

Scoring for Ely was Mattila with a goal and two assists. Olson had a goal and assist while Montana added a goal.

The Wolves were outshot 43-21 in the game.

Ely hosted Bagley/Fosston on Friday night, looking to go 2-0 for the season series. Ely had a 4-0 lead to start the third period but two goals by the Flyers made it a game. Still, Ely held on for a 4-2 victory.

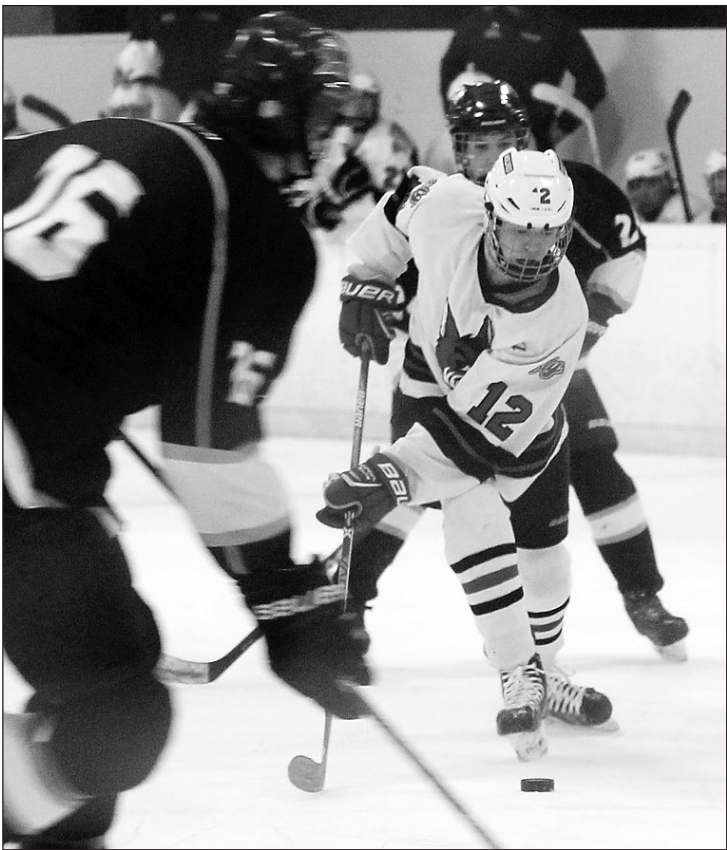
Ely’s defense made the difference, as the Wolves didn’t allow a shot on goal until the third period and only gave up a total of 17 for the game.

Montana scored late in the first period giving the Wolves a

1-0 lead to start the second period. Ely added three more in the second, with Luke Olson getting the first and Gage Merhar scoring the next two to leave the Wolves up 4-0 going into the final period. Nick Mattila and Austin Meskill each had a pair of assists.

The Wolves were assessed five penalties for ten minutes compared to just two penalties for a total of four minutes for the Flyers.

Ely, now 6-12, will hit the road on Saturday to face Lake of the Woods. Tip-off is set for 2 p.m. They’ll host Moose Lake Area on Tuesday in their final regular season game. The action starts at 6 p.m.



Sophomore forward Luke Olson advances the puck during Tuesday night action in Ely.
photo by J. Greeney

BOYS BASKETBALL

Another tough week for Nighthawks

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

BABBITT — The Nighthawks’ troubles continued this week as they lost three games, including a forfeit to top-ranked North Woods.

On Friday, the Nighthawks

played host to the Rangers, who broke an eight-game losing streak in downing Northeast Range 71-31. Senior guard Quintin Pecha led scoring for the Nighthawks, with 14. Dylan Gorsma added eight points, while Brett Rosendahl added five and Wyatt Gorsma scored

three.

Junior guard Joe Buffetta led scoring for Mt. Iron-Buhl, with 17. Justin Holmes added 16.

The Nighthawks found no more success on the road on Monday, losing 79-30 to Silver Bay. No stats were available as

of press time.

The Nighthawks forfeited their Tuesday game against the Grizzlies, to fall to 1-13.

Northeast Range will host winless Cherry next Friday. Game time is 6:30 p.m.

COLLEGE

Ironmen split weekend series

BRAINERD – The Ironmen edged Central Lakes earlier in the season in a hard-fought overtime game. On Saturday, the Raiders weren’t going to give them a second chance. They jumped to a 13-point halftime lead on their way to a 97-70 final margin.

The Ironmen simply couldn’t get their shots to drop. In the second half, they connected on just two of 16 three-point attempts and hit just 32 percent from inside the arc. Central Lakes won the rebound battle and limited the Ironmen to just ten second-chance points for the game. The Raiders cashed in at the charity stripe, making 24 free throws compared to just ten for the Ironmen.

Vermilion has six games remaining in the regular season with four of those on the road. They are currently 6-2 in conference play and have the opportunity to play for the conference title.

VCC was led by Deshawn Lawson who came off the bench to score 16 point in just 26 minutes. Denario Jackson tallied 14 points while Bradlee Lewis connected for 12. Noel Mshirhiri scored 11 points and had a team high nine rebounds.

The Ironmen traveled to Hibbing on Wednesday and took a four-point lead into halftime. They played a solid second half to win a close one 72-65.

Neither team shot the ball very well but seven more offensive rebounds for the Ironmen gave them enough second chance points to get the win.

GRIZZ...Continued from page 1B

that they were going to present a good matchup for us,” he said. “We were able to use some defensive pressure to force some turnovers that turned the game in our favor.”

Greenway managed to play even with the Grizzlies through much of the first half, and even held a four-point lead at about the midway mark. Both teams

proved tough on defense, which limited scoring, until the final minutes of the half when the Grizzlies connected on four straight three-pointers to take a 28-18 lead into the break.

Junior guard Cade Goggeye led the way, pouring in 23 points for the Grizzlies, including five treys, along with six steals and five assists. Brendan Parson also hit

double figures, with 15 points, including two three-pointers. Chase Kleppe added nine points and seven rebounds, while Trevor Morrison added six points and nine boards.

The Grizzlies were scheduled to take on 1-13 Northeast Range on Tuesday, but the Nighthawks forfeited the match. The Grizzlies head to Littlefork on Friday.

GIRLS...Continued from page 1B

the Warriors to a 72-38 win over the Grizzlies. Kaczor was on fire in the first half as she scored 20 points in the opening frame to help the Warriors grab a 42-21 lead by the break.

The Grizzlies were never able to

regroup, managing just 17 points in the second half. Bria Chiabotti scored 13 for North Woods, and was the only Grizzly in double digits. Hanna Sandberg added seven points and Brynn Simpson connected on six. Nicole Olson and Alanna Rutchasky

hit four points apiece.

The Grizzlies were set to take on Eveleth-Gilbert on Thursday after the *Timberjay’s* presstime. They’ll host Ely next Thursday as the season winds down. Game time is 7:15 p.m.

ELY BOYS...Continued from page 1B

with 27, wasn’t far behind, while reserves Jasiah Wigdahl and Will Davies added 14 apiece.

Ely stepped up a division and hosted 2AEveleth-Gilbert on Friday night. Another strong defensive performance gave them the 65-33 win.

“I thought we played well on the defensive end of the floor and limited their good scoring opportunities,” said

McDonald. “They have some good shooters who never really had a chance to get going.”

The Golden Bears came into the game with just five wins this season as Ely held them to their second-lowest point total for the year. The Wolves played a solid all around game and nearly doubled Eveleth-Gilbert’s point total by game’s end.

Gaulke poured in 18 points and notched

seven assists while Dylan Fenske added 14 points. Vanderbeek had 12 points and Michael Lah led in rebounds with nine.

This week’s wins improved Ely’s record to 15-3. They’ll be in Aurora on Friday to take on Mesabi East. They’ll host Lakeview Christian on Tuesday. Both games start at 7:15 p.m.

NORDIC...Continued from page 1B

league for cancelling a ski competition as of the scheduled start time of 11 a.m., so organizers delayed the race to 1 p.m. The current rule requires an air temperature of minus 4 or greater to compete.

“Yesterday was fun, although nerve wracking leading up to it due to the extreme temps,” said Ely Head Coach Paula Anderson. “But we were able to get two races in within the legal limits so we were happy with that.”

Most skiers took precautions wearing additional clothing and had their faces covered to prevent frostbite.

Skiers raced a pursuit format, including a 5.1 km freestyle course and a 4.7 km classic course, with their combined time determining their place. Team scores were determined by adding the scores of the top four finishers for each team.

The Ely girls were missing one of their top skiers and their perennial rival Grand Rapids didn’t attend the meet due to widespread illness on the team.

“The girls race at Sections will be very, very close between us, Grand Rapids, and Duluth East,” said Anderson. “Ely girls have lots of experience on their side and if everyone is healthy we will have a great day.”

The Ely girls had five racers finish in the top 15. Ryne Prigge had another strong outing, taking second overall, while Emma Terwilliger was just seven seconds behind her to finish in third.

“The boys are solid, very much coming into top form right now and Sections will be fun,” said Anderson. “They are finishing closer and closer to each other at every meet, which is key.”

Ely took the top three spots in the boys competition and put seven skiers in the top 11 spots. Ben Gustafson, Jasper Johnston, and James Schwinghamer finished one, two, and three with only 15 seconds separating their finishes.

“Everyone raced their heart out yesterday and really showed

how resilient and tough they are. It’s a very, very hard sport, but a very, very rewarding one as well,” added Anderson. “The community support here in Ely is unparalleled and we have the best chalet and the best fans in all of Section 7!”

Both teams should be healthy and appear ready for the Section 7 meet at Giants Ridge on Thursday, after the *Timberjay’s* weekly deadline. *The Timberjay* will post results following the race at timberjay.com.

Below is a list of Ely individual varsity girl and boy finish times and places along with the varsity team places.


ELY VARSITY GIRL PLACE and TIME

2. Ryne Prigge	0:33:15.6
3. E. Terwilliger	0:33:22.6
8. E. Bercher	0:35:10.1
14. K. Eilrich	0:36:36.0
15. B. Pasmick	0:36:44.8
23. J. Schwingamer	0:38:51.4
33. A. Bercher	0:40:18.4
38. L. Dalberg	0:40:56.6
40. L. Stouffer	0:41:11.1

ELY VARSITY BOY PLACE and TIME	
1. Ben Gustafson	0:28:51.0
2. J. Johnston	0:29:03.7
3. J. Schwingamer	0:29:06.7
6. Raif Olson	0:29:50.0
8. Ethan Hasz	0:30:08.9
9. Nate Nettifee	0:30:20.6
11. Eijah Olson	0:30:43.8
27. Chase Eilrich	0:33:29.9
29. Henry Dirks	0:34:06.1
30. E. Bremner	0:34:08.4
39. A. Bremner	0:35:27.0

Varsity Girl TEAM PLACES	
1. Duluth East	379
2. Ely	377
3. Proctor/Hermantown	347
4. ME/Virginia/Eveleth-Gilbert	326
5. Marshall School	301
6. Cloquet-Esko-Carlton	296
7. Duluth Denfield	281
8. Two Harbors/Cook County	233
9. Hibbing	227

Varsity Boy TEAM PLACES	
1. Ely	392
2. Duluth East	360
3. Cloquet-Esko-Carlton	355
4. Marshall School	331
5. ME/Virginia/Eveleth-Gilbert	324
6. Duluth Denfield	251
7. Proctor/Hermantown	249
8. Two Harbors/Cook County	121
9. Hibbing	81



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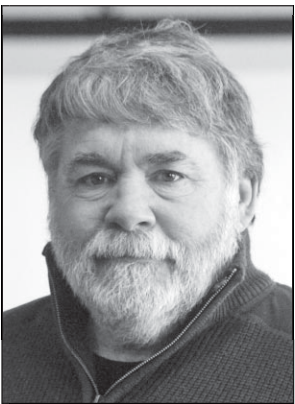
by KEITH VANDERVORT
Ely Editor

ELY – Local author Russ Vanderboom, who wrote “The Good Guy List,” talked about the craft of writing at the recent Tuesday Group gathering at the Grand Ely Lodge.

He focused on the underlying themes of his book; why those themes relate to the time (50s and 60s) in which the story is told; how he went about creating this story; and some of the aspects of being a self-published author.

““The Good Guy List” is a simple, loving gift bestowed upon twin brothers to help them embrace a world bent upon keeping them from those they love most,” Vanderboom said.

He described “The Good Guy List” as key to the brothers’ survival in the quest for justice, peace and redemption as they come of age during the challenging ‘60s. “David and Patrick Joyce want nothing more than to live together as family. With their mother deep in depression after the untimely death of their father, not even the kind and loving intercession by their village of aunts, uncles, neighbors, and friends from their church can keep both twins at



Russ Vanderboom

home on the farm,” he said.

“While David remains in North Freedom dairying and building a hugely successful business in Holstein genetics, Patrick becomes an exile from his Wisconsin home, living first with relatives along the shores of Lake Michigan in Indiana, and then following opportunities to play football for the University of Colorado Buffaloes and later studying in Europe,” he said.

“The brothers cross paths as they come of age and travel the world, each finding love, and both learning the bitter emptiness of loss. Justice and salvation eludes them, however, until they embrace a redeeming gift shared among their greater family, a simple prayer called The Good Guy List.”

A biography

Vanderboom was born and raised in Wisconsin. He had 14 years of Catholic education, and another 12 years of public university education at Boulder, Colo., Regensburg, Germany, and Madison, Wis. He served as a Marine in 1970, where he was trained as a journalist. He later built a career in agricultural journalism in Wisconsin. He worked as a reporter and managing editor for a weekly newspaper. As a journalist in rural Wisconsin, he learned to be a storyteller.

“I observed the lives and times of people who come from our farms,” he said. “I wrote about those people in scores of newspaper articles published during my early career. I’ve been a dairy and beef farmer, and I have raised produce that I sold at a farmers market in Madison. A key moment in the course of my career, I realized that if I was to flourish in journalism, I would do well to become a subject matter expert in an area of agriculture about which I was passionate.”

At the time, dairy cows captured his imagination. “I truly loved bovines,” he said. At the University of Wisconsin, he studied dairy science

– particularly genetics, reproductive endocrinology, and mammary physiology. “Molecular aspects of endocrinology swept me away; my passion for estrogen-regulated mammary gland developmental physiology in bovine mammals evolved into a keen, driving interest in the pathology of breast cancer in humans,” Vanderboom said.

Medical science became the focus of his second career. “After researching breast cancer during my post-doctoral fellowship at Mayo Clinic, I combined my interests in science and journalism as the medical science writer for research at the Cleveland Clinic, and then as the senior science writer at the American Association for Cancer Research in Philadelphia.”

He recently retired from a career in science writing and research at Mayo. “I am married to Catherine Prouty Vanderboom, Ph.D. who is in the final phase of her research career in community care nursing. We have two children, Michael and Anne. Photography and the training of dogs come easily to me, and I’m a pretty good cook.”

Writing his book

Vanderboom self-published “The Good Guy List” about three years ago. “It was one of the great joys in my life having completed this,” he said. “An added joy to this is that it was edited by my daughter.”

He traveled to book festivals, author events, conventions, and bookstores promoting his book. “I typically am asked four questions: How long did it take to write it? Is it an autobiography or about you? Why did you write it? And what are you currently reading?”

He said it took 35 years to write the book, including two to four years of planning, 26 years of actual writing, seven years of rewriting and editing, and then the process of self-publishing his work.

“Amazon is my publicist,” he said. “As a self-published author, the reader feedback and star-rating is the most important part of the book listing. Amazon is a wonderful beast. They do publishers a great service by having this (web) page. They use it themselves to encourage readers. Whether self-publishing or going through the book

industry, 85 percent of sales is through word of mouth or another reader.”

Vanderboom said his book, that is actually the first two books of a trilogy, was about 300,000 words when he finished it. “My daughter edited out about 100,000 words, and it ended up being 210,672 words on 486 pages in 56 chapters,” he said.

He said his inspiration for writing was instilled in him at an early age as a result of his Catholic education, and particularly by the not-so-subtle influence of Sister Joan Therese. “We called her Sister JT,” he said. “She pulled and twisted my earlobe, and sat me down in a chair and told me to write. So I did. I realized I enjoyed writing.”

Vanderboom and his wife moved to Ely last May. He started the final book in his trilogy in December. “The first line in the book reads, ‘I found her in Ely, living on a lake bordering the Boundary Waters, taking care of her family, her father, her sister, and raising our children.’”

He added, “If you see me around town, tell me to go home and write.”

Tax season is now underway

REGIONAL- The Internal Revenue Service announced the nation’s tax season is now underway and reminded taxpayers claiming certain tax credits that refunds won’t be available before late February.

The IRS began accepting tax returns on Jan. 29, with nearly 155 million individual tax returns expected to be filed in 2018. The nation’s tax deadline will be April 17 this year – so taxpayers will have two additional days to file beyond April 15.

The IRS strongly encourages people to file their tax returns electronically for faster refunds.

The IRS set the Jan. 29 opening date to ensure the security and readiness of key tax processing systems in advance of the opening and to assess the potential impact of tax legislation on 2017 tax returns.

The IRS reminds taxpayers that, by law, the IRS cannot issue refunds claiming the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and the Additional Child Tax Credit (ACTC) before mid-February. The IRS

also reminds taxpayers that they should keep copies of their prior-year tax returns for at least three years. Taxpayers can visit IRS.gov/GetReady for more tips on preparing to file their 2017 tax return.

The IRS also has been working with the tax industry and state revenue departments as part of the Security Summit initiative to continue strengthening processing systems to protect taxpayers from identity theft and refund fraud.

Refunds in 2018

Choosing e-file and direct deposit for refunds remains the fastest and safest way to file an accurate income tax return and receive a refund. The IRS expects more than four out of five tax returns will be prepared electronically using tax software.

The IRS still anticipates issuing more than nine out of 10 refunds in less than 21 days, but there are some important factors to keep in mind for

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working in other
communities?

What is already
happening
in our area?

What else can we do
in our community
to reduce
substance abuse?

We will be joined by:
Laura Bennett
Regional Alcohol, Tobacco, & Other Drug Prevention Coordinator.
She will share what is being done in other communities in Northern MN.

All community members interested in reducing substance abuse are encouraged to attend!
Your input and ideas are important!



This project is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) under the Rural Health Network Development Program, grant number D06RH31047. This information or content and conclusions are those of the author and should not be construed as the official position or policy of, nor should any endorsements be inferred by HRSA, HHS or the U.S. Government.



Outdoors

Our lives in the
Northwoods

WINTER SEVERITY

Looks like another mild winter for deer

Cold, but dry, should make for a fourth-straight year of limited mortality

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

REGIONAL — Barring a significant change in the weather, the North Country deer population looks poised for a fourth-straight milder-than-usual winter — and that should allow for continued growth in the region’s whitetail population. While the region has seen its typical share of cold weather this winter, the relatively dry conditions have kept the winter severity index, or WSI, for deer lower than might otherwise be expected.

“Extreme cold temperatures, without deep snow, do not negatively impact white-tailed deer survival,” said Tower DNR Area Wildlife Manager Tom Rusch. The Department of Natural Resources regularly tracks the WSI as a means of predicting winter mortality of deer. The index includes a point for every day with a below-zero temperature reading and a point for every day with a snow depth of 15 inches or greater. So far, most parts of the region have received only cold temperature points, since only the northwestern corner of St.

Louis County and the eastern tip of the Arrowhead have reached the required 15 inches of snow depth. As of Jan. 31, the WSI ranged from just 27 to 52 in the nine local deer permit areas in northeastern Minnesota. “These are all very low or mild indices for a

See **WSI...**pg. 5B



Outdoors briefly

January close to normal

REGIONAL — Roller coaster temperatures last month made for a pretty typical January weather-wise, according to the latest climate summaries issued by the National Weather Service. Most reporting stations finished slightly warmer than average, but not by much. International Falls finished the month 1.0 degree above normal, while Duluth finished 0.8 degrees warmer than average. Hibbing finished 0.3 degrees cooler than average. Cold temperatures through the first half and at the very end of the month were offset by record-setting mild weather in the third week of the month. The month was also drier than normal, with a single snowfall, on Jan. 10-11, representing the bulk of the precipitation for the month. Around the region, Embarrass recorded the coldest overnight low for the month, at minus 46, while International Falls hit 43 degrees above zero on Jan. 19.

Fishing reports

Ely area

A good number of lake trout and stream trout have been caught in the area lately. Many anglers are fishing for rainbows and splake on Tofte and High lakes from early a.m. through the afternoon. Tiny jigs tipped with a couple of wax worms have been working well, as do smaller salted minnows. Most fish are being taken within fifteen feet of the ice up to just below the hole. Many trout will cruise just under the ice, picking up insects that may have collected on the underside of the ice throughout the night. Lake trout have been lighting up anglers’ sonar units, but have been slow to respond to jigs for some. A smelt fished right on the bottom under a tip-up can be an effective presentation. Some crappies have begun to respond to live minnows fished near the bottom in depths between twelve and twenty-one feet on East Twin and Birch lakes. Some of the best action should be closest to ice out, but some decent catches will appear a month or so before that. Courtesy of Babe’s Bait, located at Ely’s west entrance.



WILDLIFE

Mech on moose and wolves

New research paper points to greater link between wolves and moose decline

Not long ago, researchers with the Department of Natural Resources issued what was clearly meant to be the final word on the decline in the northeastern Minnesota moose population. Their finding? Blame it on the deer. That’s the short version, anyway. But the DNR’s take is facing a bit more kickback from Dr. David Mech and fellow researchers John Fieberg and Shannon Barber-Meyer in their latest research paper, just published in the Wildlife Society Bulletin. The latest study, “An Historical Overview and Update of Wolf-Moose Interactions in Northeastern Minnesota,” reads similarly to some of Mech’s other recent work, which has portrayed a greater link between the ups and downs of both the moose and wolf populations than DNR researchers have been willing to acknowledge. But Mech also makes the intriguing suggestion (perhaps merely an implication) that there may be a lot less drama going on in the moose population than perhaps we’ve been led to believe. From the first sentence of the study’s abstract, Mech notes that the populations of both wolves and moose have fluctuated for decades, trends with which Mech is very well acquainted. Mech, of course, has been studying the relationships between wolves and their prey in a 2,060 sq. kilometer study area just east of Ely, since the 1960s. Mech and company write: “Published historical data indicate that



MARSHALL
HELMBERGER

estimated moose numbers in northeastern Minnesota have fluctuated between approximately 2,760 and 8,800 for the past few decades, and that from 1935 to 1955 estimates were below 1,000.” While we’ve been led to think of the latest moose population estimates as at or near a low ebb, it’s worth noting that the DNR’s moose population estimates in the region averaged about 4,000 from 1997-2003, and not much higher than that in the early 1990s. Over the past four years, the DNR’s moose population estimate averaged 3,882. Statistically, that’s indistinguishable from those earlier numbers. The DNR has changed its sampling methods (using helicopters rather than fixed-wing aircraft) but it’s not clear why that would invalidate the earlier numbers, since the DNR corrects for these types of differences in their analysis. And even if they aren’t directly comparable, the earlier data shows the same kind of population fluctuations in the past that we’ve seen more recently. We know that wildlife populations rise and fall all the time based on a wide range of factors. And it’s clear that both wolves and deer do affect moose. The impact of deer is more indirect, which is why you can’t very readily correlate changes in the moose population with fluctuations in the deer herd. Higher deer numbers do impact moose, however, by increasing the incidence of parasites and by helping to sustain a greater wolf density on the landscape. The impact of wolves is more direct, which is why Mech, et al., have been able to clearly correlate declining moose calf survival, and an overall population decline as a result, with rising wolf numbers, and vice-versa. Mech has made this connection before, as I’ve written in the past, and this latest study simply adds more data to the argument. The connection between wolf

Above: A pair of robust-looking moose calves photographed on the Superior National Forest last month. photo by Heidi Pinkerton, Root River Photography numbers and moose calf survival is especially plain, and there’s a strong argument to be made that this is the connection that is behind most of the moose population decline in northeastern Minnesota. Too many deer are undoubtedly increasing the incidence of parasites and related disease in moose, but wolves are limiting their reproductive potential more than anything. The DNR appears institutionally-resistant to this idea, preferring to discount their own data that shows wolves are the overwhelming source of mortality for moose calves, and keep the focus on deer as the primary factor behind the moose decline. From a political standpoint, that’s probably understandable. At this point, the agency has little ability to manage wolves, so identifying them as a primary factor behind the decline of an iconic species like the moose is just asking for an unhappy public. Still, politics isn’t supposed to factor into science. And while DNR officials have portrayed the moose decline as the harbinger of a greater systemic breakdown — probably fueled by climate change — Mech clearly doesn’t find the data convincing at this point. He notes that moose bounced back after previous, similar population declines (1990-1993 and 1997-2001). Those declines correlated with spikes in wolf numbers in Mech’s study area and in each instance, the moose recovered after wolf populations eventually declined. That’s exactly what one would expect from a functional pred-

See **MOOSE...**pg. 5B

MOOSE...Continued from page 4B

ator-prey system. It's worth noting, too, that the worst of the most recent moose decline coincided with, by far, the highest wolf densities Mech had ever seen in his study area. Those wolf numbers have since fallen dramatically in the past five years, and that corresponds with a stabilization of the moose population over the past few years.

Could other factors, like climate change, slowly begin to overwhelm this longstanding predator-prey relationship? It's probably inevitable over the next several decades if the world doesn't seriously address

its emissions of heat-trapping gases. But it's not yet clear whether the latest moose decline represents a system change or simply the natural fluctuation inherent in wildlife populations. In

other words, it may not be a crisis, but simply another downturn from which the moose will likely recover given time and adequate habitat.


WSI..Continued from page 4B

northeastern Minnesota winter and are almost identical to 2017," said Rusch. Without significant additional snowfall over the next few weeks, the WSI is likely to finish up on the mild side for the fourth year in a row.

"Fawn production should be excellent, again, this spring," said Rusch. "Four consecutive mild-to-moderate winters is the prescription for northern forest deer population recovery from the severe winters of 2012-13 and 2013-14."


LAKE COUNTRY FORECAST
from NOAA weather

Friday




6 -16

Saturday




11 -7

Sunday




13 -5

Monday



20 3

Tuesday



19 0

Ely	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Emb.	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Cook	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Crane L	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Tower	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	
01/29	11	-18	0.00		01/29	8	6	0.00		01/29	5	-17	0.00		01/29	0	-24	0.00		01/29	10	-23	0.00	
01/30	6	-25	0.00		01/30	2	-28	0.00		01/30	2	-25	0.00		01/30	19	-26	0.00		01/30	3	-26	0.00	
01/31	24	-23	0.01	0.2"	01/31	12	-30	0.00		01/31	25	-25	0.04	0.5"	01/31	23	-8	0.00		01/31	6	-20	0.08	1.4"
02/01	13	-8	0.00		02/01	12	-9	0.00		02/01	11	-9	0.00		02/01	0	-11	0.00		02/01	12	-10	0.00	
02/02	4	-22	0.00		02/02	12	-29	0.00		02/02	0	-20	0.00		02/02	1	-24	0.00		02/02	2	-26	0.00	
02/03	4	-22	0.01	0.4"	02/03	-3	-13	0.05	1.0"	02/03	1	-21	0.04	0.6"	02/03	-2	-26	0.00		02/03	1	-26	0.00	0.2"
02/04	4	-29	0.03	0.5"	02/04	0	-32	0.05	1.0"	02/04	1	-23	0.04	0.6"	02/04	1	-35	0.00		02/04	1	-29	0.05	0.6"
Totals			0.73	40.1"	Totals			0.73	41.4"	Totals			0.90	50.1"	Totals			NA	NA	Totals			0.80	37.5"





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Obituaries And Death Notices



Patricia L. Doble

Patricia “Trish” Lynn Doble, 60, of Royalton, formerly of Orr, died on Saturday, Feb. 3, 2018, at St. Gabriel’s Hospital in Little Falls. A Celebration of Life was held on Thursday, Feb. 8 at Emblom Brenny Funeral Service with Father Joseph Herzing officiating. A Celebration of Life will also be held from 4-7 p.m. on Friday, March 9 at the Orr American Legion in Orr. In lieu of flowers, memorials in honor of Patricia can be made to Threads of Hope, c/o Michelle Manick, 10920 Hwy 1, Cook, MN 55723. Arrangements for Patricia are with Emblom Brenny

Funeral Service.

Patricia was born on Oct. 27, 1957, in Salt Lake City, Utah. She lived in Utah and Minnesota throughout her life. She was self-employed. Trish had a love of sewing and quilting. She loved helping others, especially if they wanted to learn how to sew. She treasured her time spent with her husband, children and grandchildren. She was very active with Threads of Hope and Side Lake Quilters. Trish will be remembered for always putting everyone else’s needs before her own.

She will be lovingly remembered by her husband, Gene Doble of Royalton; children, David Maki II of Hibbing, Samuel A. Maki of Hibbing, Jackie (Art) Stout of Arizona, Mary Ann (Justin) Tidwell of Arizona and Emily (Paul) Koch of Orr; siblings, Thomas McGarry of Arizona, Paul McGarry of Utah, Marge Tucker of Georgia, Janice Miller of Arkansas, Marie Forquer of Arizona and Kathy Henline of Arizona; 29

grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Patricia; and a sister, Lola Mae.

Hazel Miller

Hazel Johnson Miller, 91, of Babbitt, died peacefully, surrounded by family, on Saturday, Feb. 3, 2018, at her home at Carefree Living in Babbitt. Funeral services were held on Thursday, Feb. 8 at Evangelical Lutheran Church in Babbitt. Family arrangements were entrusted to Kerntz Funeral Home of Ely.

She is survived by sisters, Vergene Arndt and Mary Helen; six children, Russell (Kathy) Miller of Vadnais Heights, Doug (Carol) Miller of Vancouver, Wash., Sharon (Jim) Boucher of Burnsville, Diane (David) Serena of Babbitt, Darlene (Ken) Simonson of Eveleth and Tom Miller of Maple Grove; 22 grandchildren; 22 great-grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

Rose M. Marsyla

Rose M. Marsyla, 86, of Virginia, formerly of Babbitt, passed away on Friday, Feb. 2, 2018, at the Virginia Care Center. A Memorial Mass will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 10 at St. Pius X Catholic Church in Babbitt with Rev. Fr. Bill Skarich as celebrant. Visitation will be for one hour prior to the service at the church. Spring burial will be in Argo Cemetery in Babbitt. Arrangements are with Landmark Funeral Home in Virginia.

Survivors include her daughters, Lynne (David) Sherman of Babbitt and Nancy (Donald) Doll of Bovey; granddaughter, Amanda (Alexander) Castro of Marshall; and brother, John Ferkul of Virginia.

Keith W. Marshall

Keith W. Marshall, 95, of Winona, formerly of Parkville, died on Tuesday, Jan. 30, 2018, at Lake Winona Manor with family gathered at his side. A Memorial Service

was held on Friday, Feb. 2 at Hoff Celebration of Life Center in Goodview. Burial followed at Woodlawn Cemetery. Arrangements were with Hoff Funeral in Goodview.

He is survived by his son, Wayne (Wanda) Marshall of Babbitt; four daughters, Marilyn (Don) Pedersen of Harrisonburg, Va., Judy (Lowell) Hill of Elk River, Jaclin (Jack) Gunnarson of Winona and Jill (Rick) Monroe of Coeur d’Alene, Idaho; brother, Philip (Jeannine) Kiltie of Apache Junction, Ariz.; many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, extended family and friends.

Claude Kronfuss

Claude Kronfuss, 68, of Bozeman, Mont., formerly of Babbitt, passed away peacefully at his home on Tuesday, Jan. 30, 2018. Funeral services are planned for June 2018 in Babbitt.

He is survived by his daughter, Amanda; grandchildren, Janessa and Tyler; great-grandchild, Bentley; mother, Carol

Kronfuss; six brothers and five sisters.

Richard J. Fossum

Richard “Dick” John Fossum, 77, of Virginia, passed away on Monday, Jan. 29, 2018, at St. Raphael’s Health and Rehab in Eveleth. A memorial service was held on Wednesday, Feb. 7 at Gethsemane Lutheran Church in Virginia with Pastor Nathan Sager officiating. Military Honors were accorded by the Virginia Honor Guard. Arrangements were with Range Funeral Home in Virginia.

He is survived by his wife, Pearl; children, Ted (Caren) of Lake Vermilion, Steve (Julie) of Buhl, Kay (Kelly) of Virginia, June (Bruce) of International Falls and Paula (Eric) of Blaine; nine grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and several cousins and friends.

PUBLIC NOTICES

KULGER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF AUDIT

The Kugler Township Board of Audit will be held on Tuesday, February 20, 2018, at 6 p.m. at Kugler Town Hall. The regular monthly meeting will follow.

The board will also hear an update on the Mesabi Trail plans in the township.

Julie Suihkonen, Town Clerk

Published in the Timberjay, Feb. 9, 2018

GREENWOOD TOWNSHIP ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATIONS

The Greenwood Township Annual Election of Officers will be on Tuesday, March 13, 2018. Absentee ballot applications will be accepted. Applications can be picked up at the Town Hall office, inside the meeting hall entrance, inside the unlocked bulletin board at the meeting hall entrance, and online at our website, www.greenwoodtownshipmn.com.

Return a completed and signed application to: Greenwood Township, 3000 County Rd. 77, Tower, MN 55790.

Or fax to: 218-753-6006, or scan and attach to an email to greenwoodtownship@frontier-net.net.

Voting absentee may be done in person at the office. Office hours are Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. and Fridays from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Sue Drobac, Greenwood Town Clerk

Published in the Timberjay, Feb. 9 & 16, 2018

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF ST. LOUIS
DISTRICT COURT
PROBATE DIVISION
SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
Court File No.
69VI-PR-18-18

In Re: ESTATE OF
MICHAEL J. SELSLEY
Decedent

NOTICE AND ORDER OF
HEARING ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION
OF TESTACY,
DETERMINATION OF
HEIRSHIP, APPOINTMENT
OF PERSONAL
REPRESENTATIVE AND
NOTICE TO CREDITORS

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on March 14, 2018, at 9:30 a.m. a hearing will be held in this Court in Virginia, Minnesota, on a petition for the adjudication of intestacy and determination of decedent’s heirs, and for

the appointment of WILLIAM A. GOOD, whose address is 870 High Street, Suite 17, Worthington, Ohio, 43085, as Personal Representative of the Estate of the Decedent in an unsupervised administration.

Any objections to the petition must be filed with the Court prior to or raised at the hearing. If proper and if no objections are filed or raised, the Personal Representative will be appointed with full power to administer the Estate, including the power to collect all assets, pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, to sell real and personal property, and do all necessary acts for the decedent’s estate.

Notice is also given that (subject to Minn. Stat. 524.3-801) all creditors having claims against the Estate are required to present the

claims to the personal representative or to the Court Administrator within four (4) months after the date of this Notice or the claims will be barred.

Dated: Feb. 7, 2018
BY THE COURT
HON. GARY PAGLIACCETTI
Judge
ANY TURNQUIST/
STEFANIE HIGGINS
Court Administrator

Attorney for Petitioner:
DEFENBAUGH LAW
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Facsimile: 218-365-6164
Email: rae@defenbaughlaw.com

Published in the Timberjay,
Feb. 9 & 16, 2018

EMPLOYMENT



Automotive Technician

Apply by 2/20/2018

Apply online at
www.stlouiscountymn.gov/jobs
or call 218-726-2422

Equal Opportunity and Veteran-Friendly Employer 2/9



Probation Officer - International Falls

Apply by 2/15/18

Apply online at
www.stlouiscountymn.gov/jobs

Equal Opportunity and Veteran-Friendly Employer 2/9



International Wolf Center

Join Our Pack!

The International Wolf Center has openings for seasonal part-time retail and admissions positions, 10-30 hours per week, May-August (with possible hours in the fall). Must be able to work in a fun, fast-paced environment, work weekends, evenings and have excellent customer service skills. To apply, submit a cover letter and resume to careers@wolf.org or stop by the International Wolf Center (located just east of Ely on Hwy 169) to pick up an application.

For additional information,
call Jackie at 218-365-4695 Ext 126.

2/9

EMPLOYMENT

HIRING POLICE OFFICERS



The Breitung Police Department will be hiring 1 full-time and 1 part-time Officer. For more information and an application, visit www.breitungtownship.org. Please submit application, cover letter, and resume to: Breitung Township, Breitung Police Department, PO Box 6, Soudan MN 55782 (218) 753-6660. Deadline: Wednesday, Feb. 27, 2018, at 12:00 p.m.

Published in the Timberjay Feb. 2, 9, 16, and 23, 2018

Super Crossword

Answers

H	E	P	A	T	C	A	D	E	L	E	D	A	L	A	A	H									
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G	E	E			R	D	S				N	I	G	E	R				S	T	I	N	K	E	R

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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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Help Wanted Ads

go in all Timberjay editions

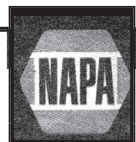
(218) 753-2950 editor@timberjay.com



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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.

AUTOMOTIVE



NAPA PARTS CENTER, INC.
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Langevin Auto & Truck Repair
Full Service Auto Repair & Garage



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2 Miles South of Tower
218-749-0751

HAIR CARE

DREAMWEAVER SALON & DAY SPA- Open Monday-Friday 8:30 – 6:30. 218-666-5594. tfn

VERMILION SHEAR IMAGE- Men's & Women's hairstyling. 314 Main St., Tower, 218-753-2928. Open Tuesday-Friday, 9am – 5pm. 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 Liz Cheney at 218-780-8907 or vhhpdirector@yahoo.com. This ad is paid for by Virgie Hegg Hospice Partners.

LICENSE BUREAU

COOK AREA LICENSE BUREAU- 221 S. Hwy 53, Cook. Open M-F 9-5, FastTrack Title Service-MVR-DNR-Limited DL, Dry Cleaning Drop off/Pick up, CDL/Motorcycle/ Drivers Manuals. Now accepting Visa/MC/Discover. Questions call 218-666-6199. tfn

REAL ESTATE

Search ALL MLS listings at www.pfremmerrealty.com. tfn

FOR RENT

2 BEDROOM APARTMENTS for rent in Orr. Call Dennis at Bayview Apartments, 218-757-0200. tfn

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT – Up to 1150 sq. feet of Prime Office Space on the main level of the Frandsen Bank and Trust Building in Tower. Formerly law offices. Private entrance off of Spruce Street. Contact Amber Zak at 218-753-6100 or Jim Ertz at 651-253-5568. 2/9

APARTMENT FOR RENT IN TOWER- Furnished, 2BR, 2BA, quality throughout, heated attached garage. \$850/mo. Call 218-750-6566 tfn

WANTED TO RENT

LOOKING FOR APARTMENT OR HOUSE TO RENT IN ELY AREA- Please email mngreg-christian@gmail.com. 2/23

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• Trim
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• Industrial Lumber
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8825 Hwy 101, Iron, MN 55751

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Owner
Eileen Kronmiller
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SNOWPLOW

VERMILION SNOW MANAGEMENT- Serving the entire Lake Vermilion area. Roads, Driveways & Sidewalks. Free estimates, insured. tj@vermilionsnowmanagement.com or 218-290-0966. Online at vermilionsnowmanagement.com. tfn

STORAGE

RED ROCK STORAGE- Boats, Cars, Household Items. Ideal Location. Many sizes. Also Mobile Storage Containers delivered to your location. www.redrock-storage.com. Call 218-753-2375. tfn

HELP WANTED

CAMP VOYAGEUR IS HIRING FOR THE SUMMER- PT, FT cooks and bakers, PT kitchen helpers/cleaners. Flexible schedule and we will train. This is a wonderful opportunity if you are creative, like working with youth and enjoy the outdoors. For more information contact cvsprit@campvoyageur.com or 218-365-6042. tfn

LUDLOW'S ISLAND is looking for staff to join its team for the 2018 season. Duties include, but are not limited to, house-keeping, landscaping, and guest services. Competitive wages and an end-of-season bonus. Positions start in May and end in October. Please contact Erin at info@ludlowsresort.com or 218-666-5407. 3/2

WHITE EAGLE is hiring for the 2018 vacation season! Various positions prepping cabins/ grounds & welcoming/assisting vacationers. April through Oct. www.WhiteEagleResort.com/Employment. 4/13

SEEKING CABIN CLEANERS for the 2018 season. Individuals/teams available a minimum of 2 Saturdays/month. www.WhiteEagleResort.com/Employment. 4/13

WANTED

PEDESTAL-MOUNTED 4-POST DEER STAND- Preferably made of non-decomposing plastic or similar material. Tower. Call 218-969-3001 (cell). 3/2

Classifieds run in all 3 editions of the Timberjay.

Line classifieds cost 30¢/word, \$6.00 minimum. Classified ads can be run a second time at half price (private parties only). We now accept payment by Visa, Mastercard and Discover. Call your ad in to 218-753-2950. Display (boxed) classifieds are billed by the "inch"- please call for prices and information on discounts. Call Today – 218-753-2950 or 218-365-3114

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Boat and pontoon rental
Convenience store
Gas, bait & liquor
timbuktumarina.com

TIMBUKTU MARINE
LAKE VERMILION
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Boats **Pontoons**
WEERES
G3 Boats **MERCURY**
SUZUKI **YAMAHA**
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timbuktumarine.com

MERCURY OUTBOARDS
Frank's Marine
Sales & Service, Orr, Mn 55771
Mercury Outboards, MerCruiser, Crestliner, Lund, Spartan Trailers, Ercos Pontoons.
Call 218-757-3150

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Lake Vermilion
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moccasinpointmarine.com



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WANTED

WANTED TO BUY: Will pay cash for junk cars and pickups. Will pick up. Also, we collect used oil. Call 218-757-3255 or 218-780-2579. tfn

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

SUPPORT GROUPS

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 and AL-ANON meet Tuesdays, AA at 8 p.m. and Al-ANON at 7 p.m. Holy Cross Catholic Church, Orr.
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 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.

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

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

BABBITT AL-ANON- meets Thursdays at 7 p.m. at the Babbitt Assembly of God Church.

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.wv

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

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

Super Crossword

WE INTERRUPT THIS PROGRAM

ACROSS

- 1 Of the liver
8 "Hello" singer of 2015
13 The Cowboys, on scoreboards
16 "That feels ni-i-ice!"
19 Variety of coffee
20 Of the kidneys
21 Book like Titus or Jude
23 * Futile endeavor
25 Restricting factor
26 "What — state of affairs"
27 Go away
28 * Non-earthlings
30 Cowboys or Raiders
32 Money matters
34 * Freight vessels
40 * Saw beyond
45 Sirens, say
46 Rearrange
48 Safe, asea
49 Arm parts
50 Imam's God
52 Twisted fiber used in textiles

- 56 Tony-winning Schreiber
57 Bitter beer
58 * Feral horses of the West
61 Bending body part
62 Diner cousin
64 Samovars, e.g.
65 Unwelcome grade
66 Sci-fi captain Jean- — Picard
68 Their names are divided in the answers to the starred clues
70 Muscles to crunch
72 Absorb
75 Ring arbiter
77 Hood's blade
79 Not sickly
83 * People trying to get mates
86 Suffix with 121-Down
87 Distinctive periods
88 Heating device
89 Piñata topper?
91 Slips on sleet
92 Seed casing

- 93 Crumpet alternative
95 "Remington —"
96 * It often adjoins a big bedroom
101 * Folk hero of Vermont
104 — riche
106 British prep school
107 * Result of income inequality
111 Prefix with surgeon
114 Genesis twin
118 Dreadful
119 * Their members love drawing blanks
123 Zero
124 Bar garnish
125 French explorer who named Louisiana
126 "Goodness!"
127 St. crossers
128 Niamey site
129 Scoundrel

DOWN

- 1 "Very funny"
2 Lustful god
3 Daddy
4 Tucked in
5 Up to, in brief

- 6 Drink cooler
7 Algiers area
8 Western gas brand
9 Unheeding
10 "Tuff —" (1986 hit)
11 Vegas intro?
12 Powell of film
13 Break the connection of
14 For each
15 Described
16 "— girl!"
17 Baldwin of Hollywood
18 "Take it"
22 Knight's title
24 Huge hauler
29 Vietnamese neighbor
30 Little kids
31 Double curve
33 Spot in la mer
34 Waterproof sealant
35 Dog-tired
36 Zellweger or O'Connor
37 Fishtank bed
38 Comrade
39 Picnic side
41 — visit (call)
42 "... from — down under" (1981 hit song lyric)
43 Coat fabric
44 Not relaxed

- 47 Until then
50 "Carte" start
51 Body part cut by van
52 Compacted, informally
53 Big water filter brand
54 Seabees' mil. branch
55 Fed. crash prober
57 Agree to
59 Zodiac lion
60 Yogi Bear voicer
63 "Climb — Mountain"
67 Stellar bear
69 Espy
71 Israeli coin
72 "Beat it!"
73 Butler's Scarlett
74 Toenail treatments, for short
76 Waitress at Mel's Diner
78 State of fury
80 Disney mermaid name
81 Gravy spoon
82 German steel city
84 River deposit

- 85 Trig function
90 Tennis call
91 Kenton of jazz
93 Squelches
94 Dance move, when tripled
95 — Balls (snack brand)
97 Infatuate
98 Tennis' — Garros Stadium
99 Elk sounds
100 Gardner of old movies
102 Spice's kin
103 Coral rings
105 Strip of gear, nautically
107 Did vocals
108 English horn relative
109 Cell: Suffix
110 "This — recording"
112 Gutter site
113 On-demand taxi service
114 Vivacity
115 Mope
116 Adept
117 PC sort?
120 Roman 151
121 Have dinner
122 "Cyber" CBS series

1	2	3	4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11	12		13	14	15		16	17	18	
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126						127				128					129						

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

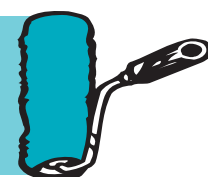
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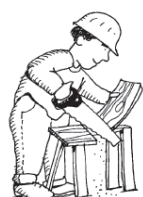
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inspected and approved for a septic system, has a driveway
built. Electric available at road. **\$159,000**

#132951 COOK Little Fork River! 31 acres w/ over 1,300
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Crane Lake-\$60,000 6.7 wooded acres overlooking
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Greaney-\$12,900 5 wooded acres near public lands and
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From Steve Bragg, Business Broker

Hans grew up in southern Iowa, attended college in
Gunnison, Colo., worked on Main Street in Crested
Butte, Colo., helped manage his father's clothing store
in Iowa, and moved to Cook County to purchase
WatersEdge from Jeanne this January. He plans to
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a hands-on owner
operator and continue to
demonstrate the great
customer experience
you have come to
expect from
WatersEdge.



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