



**Inside:**  
**COVID update...** See /9  
**Fall sports...** See /1B  
**Deer hunting outlook...** See /4B

# The **TIMBERJAY**



Serving the communities of northern St. Louis County since 1989

VOL. 32, ISSUE 42 October 22, 2021

\$1.00

## SULFIDE MINING

# New mine leases halted

### SNF mineral withdrawal could jeopardize Twin Metals project

by **MARSHALL HELMBERGER**  
 Managing Editor

**REGIONAL**— The Biden administration announced this week that it is taking steps to protect the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness by prohibiting the issuance of any new

mineral leases on 225,378 acres of the Superior National Forest for the next two years while the Forest Service studies the impacts of a 20-year mineral withdrawal. Those lands are located upstream of the 1.1-million-acre BWCAW, within the Rainy River watershed. According to a press state-

ment, the administration is taking the steps in response to “broad concerns about potential impacts of mining on the wilderness area’s watershed, fish and wildlife, tribal trust and treaty rights, and the nearly \$100 million annual local recreation economy.”

The Forest Service filed its

application for a mineral withdrawal with the Department of the Interior earlier this month, but the application wasn’t official until the Bureau of Land Management, which oversees federal mineral leasing, had given its blessing.

See...**MINE** pg. 10



## LANDSCAPING

# YARD ART

### Soudan’s ‘Daddy Willow’ cultivates rock gardens

by **JODI SUMMIT**  
 Tower-Soudan Editor

**SODAN**- Most people’s gardens feature flowers and vegetables, but Gary Culbert, of Soudan, has also patiently added an artful mix of rocks to his backyard landscape.

Culbert, mostly known for his willow furniture artistry, is affectionately called “Daddy Willow” by many



of his friends and neighbors. His willow furniture was often on display in front of his house on Soudan’s Main Street, and



he said he made many sales to tourists visiting the state park. At 67 years of age, he has led a busy and varied life, working in the oil fields in Alaska, driving semi-truck and school buses, selling real estate (yes, he’s related to those Culberts), and building furniture.

But beyond that resume, Culbert is also a gardener and amateur landscaper.

See...**ROCKS** pg. 11



Gary “Daddy Willow” Culbert has transformed the sloped yard at his home in Soudan into an artistic rock display. photos by J. Summit



## COVID-19

# Vaccine mandate looms at Fortune Bay

### Could result in major employee terminations

by **DAVID COLBURN**  
 Cook-Orr Editor

**TOWER**— Fortune Bay Resort Casino is staring down the barrel of a sudden labor shortage if a group of resistant employees don’t comply with a Bois Forte Band mandate that they get their first COVID-19 vaccine by Nov. 1.

About 25-30 Fortune Bay employees have told their supervisors they will not get the vaccine, in opposition to a Bois Forte Tribal Council mandate issued in late September. That’s according to a press release issued by tribal officials last week. Those who do not qualify for a medical or religious exemption will be terminated if they don’t get the shot.

The mandate also applies to all Bois Forte Development Corporation employees and those employed by the tribal government.

“We know that there are employees out there that will not vaccinate and that is their choice as an individual,” said Tribal Chair Cathy Chavers. “But we’re doing this to help keep our community safe.”

The tribal council’s action came at a time when a new COVID-19 outbreak at Nett Lake and Vermilion was causing great concern among tribal leaders and health officials. The reservation had been case-free for a month when Bois Forte Public Health reported a new case on Sept. 9, and another the next day. Beginning

See...**MANDATE** pg. 12

## ISD 696

# Dozens of students quit Ely school since start of year

by **KEITH VANDERVORT**  
 Ely Editor

**ELY** – The administration’s last-minute mandate of requiring face masks indoors at Ely schools as the new school year began apparently led to an

unprecedented plunge in school enrollment at ISD 696, as many families followed through on threats to pull their kids out of school because of the requirement intended to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

The smallest enrollment

### MORE COVERAGE

ISD 696 face-mask strategy in development **Page 9**

numbers in school history were already reported at the beginning of the school year, 530 students as of Sept. 9, alarming district

officials.

Less than four weeks later, on Oct. 5, Ely school enrollment was reported to the school board at 504 students. Enrollment in Fall 2019 was 573 students, and fell to 559 students in Fall 2020.

Total enrollment at the

beginning of a school year is a primary factor in determining state aid for the district and revenue in the operating levy referendum.

In reviewing the latest data

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



**Outlet Blowout Sale! Starting Thursday, October 14th. Up to 60% off!**

**10 am - 5 pm Thursday thru Monday**

**Stock up on Savings at the Piragis Outlet!**

**piragis.com 218 - 365 - 6745 boundarywaterscatalog.com**

**Contact The Timberjay**

218-753-2950  
 editor@timberjay.com



## Community notices

### Purchase cemetery ice candles by Nov. 1

EMBARRASS- Ice candles for the Embarrass Cemetery are now for sale and must be ordered by Nov. 1. Candles are \$4 each. Call 218-984-2084 to order.

### Craft and bake sale on Nov. 6 supports Embarrass Region Fair

EMBARRASS- A handcraft and bake sale will be held on Saturday, Nov. 6 at the Embarrass Timber Hall from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. sponsored by the Embarrass Region Fair Association, in conjunction with the November Pancake Breakfast.

Breakfast includes all-you-can-eat pancakes, choice of ham or sausage links, juice, and a bottomless cup of coffee the first Saturday of each month through May at Timber Hall. Adults \$6, children (6-10 years) \$3, and under 5 years eat free. Breakfast is held from 8 to 11 a.m.

Proceeds from both breakfast and the sale go to support the Embarrass Region Fair.

### Lake Country Power seeks applications for Community Award

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

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

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

Applications are due by 4:30 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 1. Mail to Lake Country Power, Attn: Tami Zaun, 26039 Bear Ridge Drive, Cohasset, MN 55721, or e-mail to [tzaun@lcp.coop](mailto:tzaun@lcp.coop).

The award recipient will contend for the statewide Touchstone Energy Community Award, which has a cash prize of \$1,000. The statewide award winner will be recognized in March 2022.

Lake Country Power, [www.lakecountrypower.coop](http://www.lakecountrypower.coop), is a Touchstone Energy® cooperative serving parts of eight counties in northeastern Minnesota. The rural electric cooperative provides services to nearly 43,000 members and has offices located in Cohasset, Kettle River and Mt. Iron.

### St. Louis County hires two new Veterans Service Officers

REGIONAL- St. Louis County has hired two new Veterans Service Officers to assist the more than 15,600 veterans living in the county. Greg Clancy will serve as the Veterans Service Officer in Ely, as well as assisting in the Hibbing Office. Jared Sietsema will serve as a Veterans Service Officer in Duluth.

Clancy is a retired Sergeant Major who served more than 27 years in the United States Army and Colorado Army National Guard. He spent most of his military career in aviation as a helicopter Crew Chief/Flight Engineer. During his time in service, Clancy became a certified, FAA licensed Airframe and Powerplant Mechanic, giving him the opportunity to work on or fly every helicopter in the United States Army's inventory. He deployed to Balad, Iraq, with the 36th Combat Aviation Brigade during 2006-2007, during which he assisted in supporting combat operations throughout Iraq as a CH-47 Chinook Helicopter Flight Engineer. He retired from the Army in 2016, moving back to a farm near Hibbing. In his spare time, Clancy is an avid woodcarver who loves fishing and spending time outside at the family farm or their lake cabin.

The Veterans Service Office advocates on behalf of veterans and their dependents, acting as a liaison with various service organizations and other related agencies. In 2020 alone, veterans in St. Louis County received more than \$139 million in federal and state benefits.

Offices are located in Duluth, Hibbing, Virginia and Ely. To learn more about benefits available through the Veterans Service Office, visit [stlouiscountymn.gov/veteran](http://stlouiscountymn.gov/veteran). People are also invited to call any of the offices to set up an appointment. For Ely, call 218-365-8203; Duluth, 218-725-5285; Hibbing, 218-262-6090; Virginia, 218-749-7110.

## EDUCATIONAL SPEAKER

# Learn about peregrine falcons in Minnesota



submitted photos

ELY- A program for college students and the public will be held on Monday, Oct. 25 at VCC in the Fireside Lounge (look for signs) at 7 p.m. Masks are required on the VCC campus. This program is free of charge and sponsored by the Brunfelt-Sainio Memorial Fund for the Public Humanities.

When the peregrine falcon pop-

ulation plummeted to fewer than 200 birds in the lower 48 it was no wonder that many people joined forces to save the species from extinction. Come and learn about the peregrine story, what is being done right here in Minnesota to help the species, and what we have discovered about them after 40 years of research. Jackie Fallon, wildlife biologist, master falconer,

and educator for over 30 years will present. Fallon is currently the VP of Field Operations for the Midwest Peregrine Society and MN state coordinator for peregrine monitoring since 2005. She currently manages all aspects of research at over 50 peregrine falcon territories in Minnesota and Wisconsin. She will bring a live falcon with her.

## MESABI SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

# MSO opens new season in Ely, Oct. 23

ELY – A Joyous Noise will be heard in Ely on Saturday, Oct. 23 as the Mesabi Symphony Orchestra opens their 2021-2022 season, dubbed "Return to Harmony," at the Vermilion Community College Fine Arts Theater.

"As we launch this season after an unthinkable 18-month hiatus, I want to thank you for your continued support of this organization," said Ben Nilles, MSO artistic director.

"Now more than ever, the MSO wouldn't be able to reunite to provide the Iron Range with amazing musical experiences without the support and dedication of the community. On behalf of the musicians and of the Board of Directors, I thank you for helping the MSO thrive and remain a cultural pillar of our communities," he said.

Due to public health precautions of the coronavirus pandemic, the MSO was on hiatus for the past year and a half. "The past 18 months have been unprecedented in a multitude of ways, but it's hard to overstate the impact it has had on performing arts organizations," Nilles said.



Ben Nilles, MSO conductor and artistic director. submitted photo

"Thankfully, the MSO has been able to weather much of the storm, but not without enduring hardships. That's why we are beyond excited to bring the full orchestra back to the stage. Our season theme, Return to Harmony, is meant to encapsulate all of the feelings I, and the orchestra, have about this upcoming season as we hopefully approach an end to the pandemic."

"The concerts to be presented this season by the MSO are full of beloved music. A Joyous Noise sets the tone for the season with familiar and thrill-

## MSO Concert Schedule

- ▶ Saturday, Oct. 23 - A Joyous Noise, 2:30-4 p.m., Vermilion Community College, Ely.
  - ▶ Sunday, Oct. 24 - A Joyous Noise, 2:30-4 p.m., Goodman Auditorium, Virginia Secondary School.
  - ▶ Saturday, Dec. 11 - Holidays at the Symphony, 7-8:30 p.m., Goodman Auditorium at Virginia Secondary School. Spend an evening with the MSO and get in the holiday spirit! It will be a concert full of holiday favorites.
  - ▶ Saturday, Feb. 19 - MSO Features Young Artist Competition Winners, 2:30-4:30 p.m., Babbitt. Come and listen to the talented musicians who won the Young Artist Competition.
  - ▶ Sunday, Feb. 20 - MSO Features Young Artist Competition Winners, 2:30-4:30 p.m., Goodman Auditorium at Virginia Secondary School.
  - ▶ Saturday, April 23 - A Musical Jubilee, 2:30-4:30 p.m., Goodman Auditorium at Virginia Secondary School. Come celebrate the MSO's season finale. This program is full of concert favorites that will bring the season to a rousing conclusion.
- For ticket information, go to <https://www.mesabisymphonyorchestra.org/>.

ing music," Nilles said, "Holidays at the Symphony will be another fantastic way to get in the holiday spirit." The annual Young Artist Competition Winners concert will again feature some of the most talented young musicians in the area, and the MSO season closes with A Musical Jubilee.

The Mesabi Symphony

Orchestra continues to be an integral part of the Northeast Minnesota community. "As I begin my sixth season as Artistic Director and Conductor, I and every member of this organization is honored to bring the performing arts and symphonic orchestra tradition to audiences on the Iron Range," he said.

**#1 RATED CORDLESS PLATFORM**

**EGO POWER+ 56 Volt 530 CFM Handheld Blower**

- Includes 2.5 amp lithium-ion battery with charger
- Up to 75-minute run time on low speed
- Variable speed up to 530 cfm

7804792  
615 CFM Handheld Blower, 7014318...219

**\$179<sup>00</sup>**

**OCTOBER at ACE**

**EGO POWER+ 56 Volt 18" Chain Saw**

- Easy chain tensioning system tightens chain with the twist of a dial
- Built-in LED worklight
- Includes 5 amp lithium-ion battery and charger

7006233

**\$369<sup>00</sup>**

**EGO POWER+ 56 Volt 10" Pole Saw**

- Includes power head, pole saw attachment, 2.5 amp lithium-ion battery and charger
- Compatible with EGO POWER+ multi-head system
- OREGON® Micro-Lite® bar & chain system for narrow-kerf cutting

7804941

**\$349<sup>00</sup>**

**CRAFTSMAN 16" Electric Chain Saw**

- 12 amp motor
- Auto-oiling - built-in oil window and no priming required
- Tool-free chain tensioning - easy to adjust chain

9050197  
Propane cylinder sold separately.

SALE ~~\$84.99~~ **\$74<sup>99</sup>** WITH ACE REWARDS CARD\*

Limit 1 at this price.

**Get your grill ready**  
We've got you covered on fuel

**Weber® 22" Premium Original Kettle Grill**

- 363 sq. in. total cooking area
- Aluminized steel One-Touch® cleaning system

8060195

**\$175<sup>00</sup>**

**Weber® Traveler Portable Gas Grill**

- 320 sq. in. total cooking area
- Wheeled cart is easily foldable

Propane cylinder sold separately.

**\$325<sup>00</sup>**

**NEW**

SEE YOUR HELPFUL HARDWARE FOLKS



PRICES GOOD THRU OCTOBER 31, 2021  
**Merhar's Ace Hardware**  
48 E. Chapman St., Ely • 218-365-3129

All items are independently owned and operated. The prices in this advertisement are suggested by Ace Hardware Corporation. Individual retailer regular and sale prices may vary by store, which may impact actual savings amounts. Savings are good through the end of the month and subject to availability. Some restrictions may apply. All items are sold at participating stores. August 28 - September 30, 2021, while supplies last. Sale and instant savings does not apply to other items. Some restrictions may apply. All items are sold at participating stores. See local retailer website for details. ©2021, Ace Hardware®/Hardware products, trademarks, sale items, clearance and discount items. Ace Hardware, low prices, service and merchandise are trademarks of Ace Hardware. All other trademarks are the property of their respective owners. Some items may require assembly. Ace is not responsible for printing or typographical errors.

# Boutto sentenced in Bois Forte embezzlement case

by DAVID COLBURN  
Cook-Orr Editor

Will spend eight months in prison and must repay over \$300,000

REGIONAL-A former Fortune Bay Resort Casino employee has been sentenced to eight months in prison and ordered to repay \$315,739.87 she admitted to embezzling over seven years while working as a front desk supervisor in the hotel.

Jennifer Lynn Boutto, 32, of Orr, was charged with one count of embezzlement and theft of Tribal funds, a federal offense which carries a maximum penalty of five years in prison and a possible fine. In issuing the sentence on Monday, U.S. District Judge Eric C. Tostrud also imposed one

year of supervised release in addition to the prison term.

Bois Forte Tribal Chairwoman Cathy Chavers applauded the decision in a statement released by the Minnesota U.S. Attorney's Office.

"Far too often crimes are committed against tribes in Indian Country and the punishment is a slap on the wrist," Chavers said. "Boutto serving time in federal prison reinforces the fact that crimes like these won't be tolerated. We are relieved to put an end to this matter and are now able to breathe a bit easier

seeing justice done. Now our community can begin the process of healing and ensuring this never happens again."

Chavers also noted in a social media post that the tribe has already received most of the money back through its insurance company, minus the deductible, which Boutto will have to pay to the tribe. Boutto will pay the balance of the restitution to the insurance company.

Boutto issued false refunds for invoices of Fortune Bay customers after they had checked out and then retrieved the



Fortune Bay Resort Casino's property submitted photo

cash for herself from the Fortune Bay vault. The average refund increased over time, from \$28 at the

outset of the scheme in 2013 to \$531 in 2019, a year in which she took over \$88,000, according to court

documents. In total, she issued 2,994 false refunds

See **CRIME...**pg. 5

## NORTH WOODS SCHOOL

# Social media threat against school quickly diffused

by DAVID COLBURN  
Cook-Orr Editor

FIELD TWP- A threat of gun violence directed at North Woods School and posted to social media last week drew a rapid response from school officials and law enforcement, who quickly determined the school was never in any real danger from the student in a neighboring school who made the post.

"On Oct. 13, the sheriff's office received a call from school administra-

tion at the North Woods school of a threat received via Snapchat to "shoot up North Woods," said St. Louis County Supervising Deputy Nathan Skelton, of Hibbing.

ISD 2142 Superintendent Reggie Engebritson said that a parent who saw the post online notified the school of the threat.

An investigation was conducted at North Woods determined that the source of the threat was an elementary student from Nett Lake School.

"School administration made contact with the Nett Lake School as well, who in turn made contact with the parents of the student and the Bois Forte Police Department," Skelton said. "It was determined that the student had no access to any such weapons."

Engebritson used the district's text alert system that evening to notify North Woods parents of the threat and reassuring them that, "We feel there is no threat to North Woods School."

Engebritson said Monday that she was appre-

ciative of the coordinated effort to respond quickly and effectively to the threat.

"When we are notified about threats to our school, we take each one seriously, regardless of the age of the student," Engebritson said. "We were fortunate to be able to determine who the student was and talk to the parents, plus include law enforcement and administration from the school the student attends."

Engebritson said that in today's world of social media and accompanying stressors, students can react

differently from those of past generations.

"When I was an elementary student, if a group of kids didn't want to play with me or include me, I felt bad, but I was able to deal with it and find other kids to play with," Engebritson said. "I would never have thought to say, 'I'm going to shoot you,' or 'I'm going to shoot up the school.' Not all kids know how to handle rejection or change their behavior so they can fit in better. We need to make sure that kids have the skills they need to be successful

in relationships and life."

Engebritson also pointed to recent additions to student and family support services as something that could reduce the possibility of a similar incident occurring with a North Woods student.

"We are fortunate to have a team that consists of a principal, dean of students, counselor, school resource officer, student and family advocate, and Check and Connect

See **THREAT...**pg. 5

## REAL ESTATE

**RE/MAX Lake Country**  
218-757-3233  
www.TheLakeCountry.com

**Orr-\$69,900** Ash River lots in Bear Ridge on Ash River CIC. Each lot comes with electric, shared septic and water. 155 ft of shared shoreline, a personal slip, gazebo with grill and 1/10 share of all common areas.

**Orr-\$79,900** 8 wooded acres on the Vermilion River with 324 ft of shoreline. **MLS#141328**

**Orr-\$244,000** 3 BR home with 2 garages on 5.45 acres, fully furnished, new hot water heat boiler, water heater and electric. Newer appliances. **MLS#141047**

**Orr-\$195,900** 2 BR cabin near Ash Lake. Built in 2005, sleeps 8 plus a guest sleeper cabin (built in 2013) also sleeps 8. **MLS#142410**

**Daniels Pond, Buyck-\$225,000** 46.5 acres, 1,650 ft airstrip with 3,487 ft of shoreline on a pond. **MLS#141325**

**#1** NOBODY IN THE WORLD SELLS MORE REAL ESTATE THAN **RE/MAX**  
"As measured by residential transaction sides."

**VERMILION LAND OFFICE**  
Real Estate Appraisals

**Looking To Buy Or Sell? Give Us A Call!**

[www.vermilionland.com](http://www.vermilionland.com)  
[info@vermilionland.com](mailto:info@vermilionland.com)  
**Tower: 218-753-8985**

MLS REALTOR

**Sales are great! WE NEED NEW LISTINGS!**  
Contact us for a free property evaluation.  
218-666-5352 [info@bicreality.com](mailto:info@bicreality.com) [www.bicreality.com](http://www.bicreality.com)

**COOK** 11+ acres, undeveloped w/views of Frazer Bay. Several flat and level bldg. sites w/potential for panoramic lake views. **MLS #141098 \$74,900**

**ELBOW LAKE** 18+ acre home/cabin site w/approx. 3,600 ft of lakeshore. Public landing site minutes away. A wide variety of tree cover. **MLS #129868 \$140,000**

**BABBITT** Updated 3 BR, 2 BA energy efficient home w/large 720 sq ft garage and large fenced in backyard. Open kitch/dining, and large living room windows. **MLS #142346 PRICE REDUCED! \$108,000**

**LAKE VERMILION** Seasonal 1 BR cabin in Oak Narrows. 4.55 acres w/150 ft lakeshore. Screen porch, septic and lakewater system. **MLS# 142001 \$349,000**

**NOW IS THE TIME TO SELL!**  
We are looking for listings!! Properties are selling fast. If you've thought about selling now is the time!! We are here to help you make the right decisions and guide you through every step of the process! Free market analysis available. No obligation contact. **Contact us today and let us help you with your property needs!**  
~ B.I.C. Realty

**We sell the North!**

**KW KELLER WILLIAMS CLASSIC REALTY NORTHWEST**

*The NorthMnLakes Group*

**David Lanari Realtor® 218.750.8345**  
[www.northmnlakes.com](http://www.northmnlakes.com) • [david@northmnlakes.com](mailto:david@northmnlakes.com)  
**Serving Lake Vermilion & Surrounding Area**

Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated

# OPINION

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

*The First Amendment of the United States Constitution*

e-mail: editor@timberjay.com

## Editorial

### Economic planning

The free market built a supply chain that's failing; it's time for a new approach

The fallout from the COVID-19 pandemic continues to be felt by businesses across the North Country. Car dealerships are struggling to find vehicles. A local snowmobile dealership told us they won't have sleds to sell this winter. Many building materials remain in short supply.

Demands for all of these products remain exceptionally high, as consumers are eager to spend, but problems throughout the supply chain are making it difficult for businesses who make the things consumers want.

There is no easy fix to the problem, which has revealed the extent to which our globalized economy is vulnerable to shocks like the pandemic. That's something to consider if the Biden administration intends to fulfill its promise to Build Back Better. We know that COVID won't be the last shock to our economic system, so we need to ensure that our economy is more resilient when surprises happen.

We can do that, in part, through economic planning. That's long been considered anathema to many in Washington, D.C., who have long opposed economic planning in favor of the "creative destruction" of the so-called free market. Yet it is the free market, with its relentless focus on short-term profits, that has created the supply chain that has all but collapsed before our eyes.

It's the free market that has prompted U.S. manufacturers, for example, to ship so much of their production overseas. Traditional free market economics suggests that this is all a matter of "efficiency," and that some countries have inherent advantages for some types of production that makes it perfectly sensible that an automobile that's finally assembled in the U.S. includes components from 20 different countries.

In fact, there's nothing efficient about such a system at all. There is only the bottom-line advantage that companies receive from manufacturing in low wage countries. And even that advantage disappears when supply chains are disrupted. When that new car can't roll off the assembly line because an overseas semi-conductor is stuck in a logjam at a foreign port, auto manufacturers are only losing money. Indeed, the *Wall Street Journal* recently reported that auto manufacturers globally are expected to lose \$210 billion this year due to the supply chain issues. That's certainly not efficient.

The current system is even worse from an environmental perspective. The current globalized supply chain, which involves a massive shipping, rail, and trucking infrastructure, is highly inefficient and has become a huge driver of the carbon emis-

sions that threaten our future. Shipping, in particular, will be a difficult transportation mode to shift to non-carbon-based power sources.

Presumably, U.S. manufacturers and retailers alike are beginning to recognize the risks inherent in our current supply chain. Some have already opted to return manufacturing back to the U.S., closer to their intended markets.

But there is a role here for economic and societal planning. While the market does provide some valuable incentives, the notion that it yields maximum value to society is preposterous, as any of hundreds of hollowed-out communities across the Midwestern Rust Belt could attest. Better policies, developed through economic planning, could have prevented much of that social devastation.

The Biden administration has taken some steps to open up supply chain bottlenecks, but that's just treating the symptoms. Investing more in ports to facilitate even more international shipping could ease one bottleneck, but it fails to address the degree to which all that shipping is worsening climate change, which is supposed to be another priority of the administration.

Perhaps we need to take a new approach entirely. Take the auto sector, for example. Fifty years ago, the U.S. Midwest was a booming place thanks to an auto sector that sourced virtually all of its components from hundreds of small to medium-sized parts manufacturers scattered from Ohio to Wisconsin. Collectively, they employed hundreds of thousands of workers and were the basis for a thriving economy in many of those communities. Today, the vast majority of those manufacturers are gone and the jobs went with them, devastating these communities.

The market says that's efficient. We say, "Bull."

If the Biden administration wants to Build Back Better, it would do well to forget about expanding our shipping infrastructure and begin to invest in policies that actually return manufacturing jobs to the U.S. on a major scale, and create the kind of manufacturing hubs that built the Midwest. There's less worry about supply chains, after all, when all your components are built within a couple hundred miles.

The market can't make that happen because it focuses only on short-term profit and views societal costs as irrelevant externalities. Only economic planning can develop the right mix of incentives and investments in infrastructure and worker training to restore the social fabric of America and bring back the middle-class communities we once took for granted.



## Letters from Readers

### We can't take our laws for granted

With news about our unstable southern border and the influx of economic and political refugees, we often don't realize that there are other factors that make people flee their homelands.

The summer 2021 issue of Audubon Magazine, in an article entitled, "The Violent Cost of Conservation" relates some of these stories. A total of 225 conservationists in the world lost their lives to hired guns of cattle, logging and mining interests, mainly in Central and South American countries. The Rule of Law in these countries only exists if the elected leaders are honest and incorrupt, which unfortunately is rarely the case. Also, the militaries can be bought off easily in some areas, leaving park rangers and conservationists only one option: leave the country. The article follows one head park ranger in Columbia who was marked for death all the way to asylum into Canada with his family.

Most of us in the USA take comfort that we are a nation of laws and violence of that nature would not happen here. However, the videos of the invasion of our nation's Capitol building on Jan. 6 and the hostility towards government and school board officials regarding COVID-19 vaccinations/masking makes one reconsider. All it takes is a "leader" making a bald face lie about a "stolen" election and lots of dis- and misinformation on social media to turn things into a heated riot.

**Mark Roalson**  
Hoyt Lakes

### Let's fight COVID, not each other

I read with interest the media reports about the board meeting on Oct. 11, including some comments from members of the public who attended. I had also listened in on the Ely Safe Learning Plan Advisory Council (ESLPAC) meeting on Oct. 7. As

the parent of an Ely high school student, I have a few concerns to share.

1. According to reports, a member of the public pleaded with the school board to not be "neutral" on the matter of a mask requirement at school. By listening carefully to health experts and making decisions based on COVID-19 case numbers, they are being neutral. Being neutral does not mean deciding a matter according to how the speaker (in this case, someone opposed to a mask requirement) wants something to go.

2. Some on the board, along with people from the community, expressed the desire for "numbers" as part of the metrics by which to decide when to switch from requiring masks to recommending masks. But in the draft metrics that were provided by Mr. Erie as a result of the ESLPAC's recommendation there are numbers: 30 cases per 10,000 population in both northern St. Louis County and the 55731 zip code, and 50-percent vaccination rate in each school building, as vaccinations are available to that group of kids. The medical experts on the ESLPAC call were very firm that metrics should be just one figure, and that the vaccination rate is a very important metric when it comes to preventing the spread of COVID. What some people seem to be asking for are not "numbers" but "less restrictive numbers." That's a different matter.

3. The school already mandates vaccinations, as do all public schools. While parents can conscientiously object, vaccinations against measles, polio, chicken pox, etc. are strongly recommended as the surest way to keep not only individuals but whole communities healthy. Nothing more is being sought through COVID vaccines. We need to remember that a vaccine is not solely about an individual's rights and freedom; it's about the well-being of all with whom the individual comes into contact. Though breakthrough cases of COVID can be transmitted by vaccinated people, it is less likely than with a high number

of unvaccinated people. It makes sense that masks would not be deemed as necessary if the vaccination rate were higher. The school is not mandating COVID vaccines, but for those who prefer there not be a mask requirement, getting vaccinated would be a sensible way to help the district move in that direction.

4. Relatedly, now that masks are no longer required at extracurricular activities, I, as someone who wants to stay COVID-free and not pass it to others, am put in the difficult position of having to decide whether to attend my son's band concert or not in the gym on Nov. 4, because there will likely be many people in attendance who are neither vaccinated nor masked. I find that wrong. A person's freedom should end at the point where it risks harming another person (which is why we have laws against driving drunk, as just one example).

5. Finally, let's remember that the school board, the school administration, and other members of the public are not the enemy here. COVID-19 is the enemy. We need to stop fighting each other and work together, following the science, to get past this pandemic. Members of the community: Please stop vilifying the school board until you have faced the Herculean challenge of sitting at that table in the midst of a pandemic and trying to make everyone happy (which isn't possible) while keeping all our students and staff safe (which is possible, even if the means are not fun).

**Heidi Mann**  
ISD 696 parent and former school board member  
Ely

Where the  
North Country  
Sounds Off!

## Open your mind to the magic of poetry

I am a lover of poetry. I read poetry. I write poetry. I share poems. A good poem satisfies me as much as a morsel of fine chocolate. It comforts me like a favorite blanket. It can challenge my point of view,



**KATHLEEN MCQUILLAN**

shell that protects my heart, bringing tears in a moment of unexpected empathy.

Recently, on a morning radioprogram, I listened to an interview with Minnesota's n e w l y a p p o i n t - e d Poet Laureate, Gwen Westerman. She's the third person to be assigned this

honor, and the first Native American. Westerman is a member of the Sisseton Wahpeton Dakota Oyate, her father's people, and a citizen of her mother's Cherokee Nation. She is not only a poet. She is a professor of English and the Humanities at Mankato State University, a quilter, and a researcher and author of the history of our region's indigenous people.

With her beautiful compassionate voice, she delivered the meaning of

her work in a deliberate, measured manner. She explained that her relationship with words and storytelling is rooted in the land and cultures of her ancestors. Her early years were spent immersed and versed in the geography of the Great Plains, Kansas, the Dakotas and Oklahoma. These places account for much of the rich spirit of not only her writing but also the quilts she creates. Childhood tutoring from her grandmother planted

the seed for sewing, but that gift was set aside until she entered her forties. It was then that her creative passion for "patterns" emerged fluently, not only in her poetry but also in her quilting.

She went on to describe the effects of the pandemic on her creativity. Surprisingly, even this accomplished poet reported periods of feeling uninspired, separated from her "muse". It sounded very familiar. When my creative

juices quit flowing, I sometimes worry if I'll ever write again. Her story encouraged me. After listening to our newly appointed "poet mentor" and advocate for "the poet in all of us," I was ready to pick up my pen, convinced that Gwen Westerman was the perfect person for the job!

When the interview ended, I opened my laptop and "googled" her name. I ordered a collection of

See **POETRY...pg. 5**

## Letters from Readers

### To the nursing staff at EBCH

I cannot thank you enough for your kindness,

caring and help with my husband when he was in the hospital. I've had loved ones in St. Mary's and St. Lukes in Duluth; in Mayo Clinics in Rochester and

Scottsdale; in Methodist and Abbott Northwestern in Minneapolis and no one compares to the EBCH nursing staff. You are without a doubt the best

I've ever seen. And don't tell anyone I said this, but your administration needs to give you all big raises because you are one of the top three reasons why

EBCH has such a good reputation! You go above and beyond any nurse, anywhere. Thank you from the bottom of my heart!

And thank you to

Linda DeRemee and Drs. Schwinghammer and Montana for all of your help, too.

**Claire Taylor Ely**

### POETRY...Continued from page 4

her poems, "Follow the Blackbirds". Not wanting the gift of her inspiration to end, I phoned a longtime friend. Sheila Packa served as Duluth's Poet Laureate from 2010 to 2012. She and I belonged to the same Writers Group of five local women who met monthly for over 30 years. Together we self-published two collections of our work. In 2013, our second book, *Uncommon Light*, received the Northeast Minnesota Book Award. Sheila has remained one of my sources of inspiration. And my call once again refueled my passion for words.

Many people I meet show little interest in poetry. I used to be like that. I'd been "turned off" by my

10th-grade English teacher who would assign each student a poem and require us to report on "what it meant." My assignment was William Wordsworth's *Ode to Duty*. I could barely make myself read to the end of the poem, let alone tell anyone what it meant. At the age of fifteen, public humiliation, especially in front of my peers, was the worst. I remember feeling like I was going to die. I think I squeezed out a passing grade from Mr. Kolar but I sure didn't come away with a love for poetry.

In my mid-twenties, I lived with my "big sister" for a while. We developed a daily routine taking turns washing the dishes. She was six years older, a high

school English teacher and totally in love with language. One evening, when it was my turn to clean up after dinner, she came flying into the kitchen with a book entitled "Women Poets". She was on fire. She demanded that I listen while she read a poem out loud. I can't remember if it was Emily Dickinson or Sylvia Plath. It didn't matter. At a certain point I finally announced over my shoulder that I didn't get it. Adding nonchalantly that I really didn't care or want to. After a few seconds of silence, I turned around to assess her reaction. She was dumbfounded.

Karen was never a person who accepted defeat so she sure wasn't going to

let me off the hook on this one! "Wait, Kath! You're just not listening with an open mind." Karen was a teacher by nature. As far back as I could remember, she saw me as her pupil. She used to practice on me along with our dolls and stuffed animals, seated in neat rows on folding chairs and cardboard boxes, "to listen and learn." That was even before I'd entered Kindergarten. So, these dish-detail poetry readings were another chance for her to teach me something important.

"Forget about figuring out the meaning," she went on. "Listen like you're staring at a painting. Poetry is a painting—only with words. The words paint the

picture, tell the story, nudge your imagination. Just let it in. That's it!" Waving her arms like I'd been tagged out at home plate. "No more meanings to decipher," she commanded.

"Oh," I uttered, feigning interest, my focus still on removing dried egg from the tines of a fork. She persisted, "OK. I'm gonna read it again. Now just listen for colors, rhythm, music. You're gonna love this!"

Like a good girl, I did what I was told, determined to finish my job by the time she was done with hers. "And here's another one..." she continued in the background.

As I put the last plate in the cupboard, I'd had an epiphany. I turned to her

expectant face and just said, "You're right, sis. That was beautiful!"

I flashed back to our childhood classroom, entranced by Sister Mary Karen (Yep, she'd be dressed up like a nun!) as she read to us from "A Child's Garden of Verses". After that evening in the kitchen when I finally got it, I was hooked for life. Those dish-detail readings of Karen's favorite poems became a ritual, the perfect trade-off for her, and a lifelong pay-off for me, my forever fascination with the music and magic of a good poem!

### CRIME...Continued from page 3

for \$315,739.87 during the seven-year embezzlement scam.

Boutto was apparently motivated to embezzle from Fortune Bay "out of desperation to pay medical bills and make ends meet," according to court documents, but the average amount of funds she embezzled per year, \$45,105, far exceeded calculated annual medical expenses of \$15,600, the government said. "Although financial circumstances may have motivated Boutto's actions—again, not an excuse—it simply does not account for the full scope of her misconduct," one document filed by the government said. In describing the final 18 months of Boutto's fraudulent activity, the government reported that, "Boutto's bank records reveal spending inconsistent with desperation, a conservative sampling of which includes \$2,080 on entertainment, \$8,426 on health and beauty services, \$1,381 on hotels, \$1,800 on liquor, \$2,741 for motorcycle services, \$5,600 on Amazon purchases, \$3,692 on iTunes purchases, \$4,620 on other

retail purchases, and \$1,514 at restaurants. Boutto also appeared to pay \$373 per month for her cellphone and maintained a SiriusXM subscription. An additional \$22,457 was either withdrawn in cash or transferred to other accounts or individuals. This spending is in addition to other recreational activities enjoyed by the Bouttos, including hunting, fishing, and recreational vehicles."

#### Sentencing

The U.S. Attorney's Office had recommended an 18-month prison sentence and two years of supervised release for Boutto, according to court records. The recommendation was based on U.S. Sentencing Commission Guidelines, with allowances made for Boutto's acceptance of responsibility and cooperation with the investigation. Boutto was also subject to a fine ranging from \$7,500 to \$75,000, but both parties agreed that a fine was "not appropriate" given the amount of restitution involved.

The U.S. Attorney's Office also addressed a victim impact statement filed by the Bois Forte Band in its sentencing

recommendation.

"The statement submitted by the Bois Forte Band highlights the broad distrust sown by Boutto's actions and the deep impact her actions had on the Tribe. It also speaks to how Boutto's crimes directly affected the Tribe's ability to provide medical services to its own members. This heightens the need to craft a sentence that reflects the seriousness of this offense and provides just punishment for it."

Boutto's attorney apparently appealed for no prison term, although a defense document detailing that position appears to have been sealed by the court. Based on the government's response, Boutto's attorney argued that "a probationary sentence is sufficiently severe, that a sentence based on deterrence is not necessary, and that such a disposition would be consistent with comparable cases."

The *Timberjay* discovered precedent for both positions in additional online research.

In April 2021, Cayle Leigh Klinekole was convicted of embezzling \$194,573 from the Kiowa,

Comanche, and Apache Intertribal Land Use Committee, but received no prison time. She was sentenced to five years' probation, including a year of home confinement, 50 hours of community service, and restitution payment.

In September in South Dakota, Jordyn Juanita Kirk received five years' probation and no prison time for embezzling \$14,463.80 from the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate Tribal Court. She was also fined \$3,000 and ordered to repay the funds.

Conversely, in a 2016 case in Oklahoma, Carma Lynn Elliot was sentenced to 18 months in prison, 36 months of supervised release, fined \$100, and ordered to pay restitution for embezzling \$585,397 from the Choctaw Nation.

Fredrick Strohm was sentenced this past March to 18 months in prison, three years of supervised release, and ordered to pay restitution for embezzling nearly \$200,000 over four years as office manager for Cherokee Broadband Enterprises, an entity of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians in North Carolina.

### THREAT...Continued from page 3

mentor," Engebritson said. "Research shows that if we can build relationships with students and connect with them, we will have less negative behaviors and increased positive results with attendance, school work, and social-emotional

learning. With this team in the lead, we can ensure that we are using all of our resources within the school to make sure that every student is accounted for and helped along the way to the finish line of graduation. My hope, by increasing our

student support systems, is to make sure that we have enough staff who can make those connections with kids. If a student is struggling, we want to catch it early and make sure that someone is working with the student and/or checking

in to offer support and help." Skelton said that communication in ongoing with the staff of both schools and Bois Forte Police for further investigation and to formulate a plan and/or bring possible charges in the incident.

### PRESCRIPTION SAFETY

## Stick to trusted providers for prescriptions

**REGIONAL-** The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) on Monday issued its first public safety alert in six years, warning of a dangerous increase in fake prescription pills that contain potentially deadly amounts of fentanyl and methamphetamine.

From the DEA's alert, which can be read in full at [www.dea.gov/press-releases/2021/09/27/dea-issues-public-safety-alert](http://www.dea.gov/press-releases/2021/09/27/dea-issues-public-safety-alert).

International and domestic criminal drug networks are mass-producing fake pills, falsely marketing them as legitimate prescription pills, and killing unsuspecting Americans. These counterfeit pills are easy to purchase, widely available, and often contain deadly doses of fentanyl,

Pills purchased outside of a licensed pharmacy are illegal, dangerous, and potentially lethal. This alert does not apply to legitimate pharmaceutical medications prescribed by medical professionals and dispensed by pharmacists.

Drug-overdose deaths continue to increase across much of the country. That increase is largely driven by opioids. In Minnesota, for example, the most significant rise has occurred among synthetic opioids, such as fentanyl. That's despite the fact that opioid prescribing has fallen 44 percent over the past decade, according to the American Medical Association — seven percent alone from 2019 to 2020.

Dr. Joe Bianco, a family physician who

also serves as director of Essentia Health's opioid stewardship program, says it's imperative to know and trust the source of your prescription drugs.

A 2015 survey conducted by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration examined prescription-drug use and misuse in the United States. The survey found that 12.5 million people aged 12 and older misused pain relievers over the previous year. Of them, 53.7 percent either purchased, stole or were given their pain relievers from a friend or relative. Nearly five percent purchased them from a drug dealer or stranger. Conversely, 34 percent received their pain relievers through a prescription from one doctor.



*the*  
**TIMBERJAY**

Copyright © 2021 by *The Timberjay*. *The Timberjay* (PN 16025) is published weekly on Fridays, 51 weeks per year, by *The Timberjay Inc.*, PO Box 636, Tower, MN 55790. Business/Editorial Office at 414 Main St., PO Box 636, Tower, MN 55790. Call (218) 753-2950 to subscribe. E-mail address is [editor@timberjay.com](mailto:editor@timberjay.com). Periodicals postage paid at Tower, Minnesota.

**POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Timberjay, PO Box 636, Tower, MN 55790.**

This award-winning community newspaper published each week serves the communities of Tower/Soudan, Cook/Orr, and Ely.

Publisher	Marshall Helmberger
General Manager	Jodi Summit
Cook/Orr Editor	David Colburn
Ely Editor	Keith Vandervort
Staff Writer	Stephanie Ukkola
Office Manager	M. M. White
Graphics/Ad Sales	Scarlet Lynn Stone
Ad Sales/Sports	Jay Greeney

#### Official Newspaper:

City of Tower, Townships of Bearville, Eagles Nest, Embarrass, Kugler, Vermilion Lake, Field, Morcom, Leiding, Crane Lake, ISD 707.

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

#### Subscriptions Available:

St. Louis County: \$39 year Elsewhere: \$54 year. We accept VISA/Mastercard/Discover/AmEx. NOTE: Changes of address must be sent or called in to the Tower office. Out-of-state delivery may take 2-3 weeks. For prompt out-of-state delivery try the First Class Subscription: \$100 year or \$10 per month.

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

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

## TOWER-SOUDAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## Remembering those lost at the Soudan Mine

by JODI SUMMIT  
Tower-Soudan Editor

New exhibit being created for Soudan Mine State Park

TOWER- “Miners are our heroes,” said James Pointer, Interpretive Supervisor at the Lake Vermilion-Soudan Underground Mine State Park. “We need to tell their stories.”

Pointer was the guest speaker at this year’s Tower-Soudan Historical Society (TSHS) annual meeting.

And, thanks to a cooperative effort with TSHS, these stories will be told.

How many men died working at the mine is a frequent question of those going on the underground mine tour, said Pointer, along with questions about how much did miners make and where did they go to the bathroom.

Until recently, how many died was a question left unanswered at the park’s interpretive center.

“These workers sacrificed a lot for their families, their community, and our country,” he said. “For me, one death is too many.”

The project got underway two years ago when a TSHS member approached Pointer, who had just given a talk about bats at the TSHS’s annual meeting in 2019. Elaine McGillivray had a great-grandfather who died in the mine in 1894, and she had recently toured the mine with some cousins, who had lots of questions.

“It was a question I had been thinking about,” said Pointer.

A committee of TSHS members was formed to work with Pointer and research began.

Pointer said they decided a memorial needed to be more than names on a wall.

“What was their job, how did they die, what did they leave behind, and what was the effect on their families,” he said.

The search began to assemble a list of names, which now totals 144.

Longtime TSHS member, local historian, and mine tour guide Andy Larson did most of the work, searching through old newspapers and death certificates. The work was made more difficult by the fact that names were often misspelled in mine records because the workers at the mine often didn’t speak English.

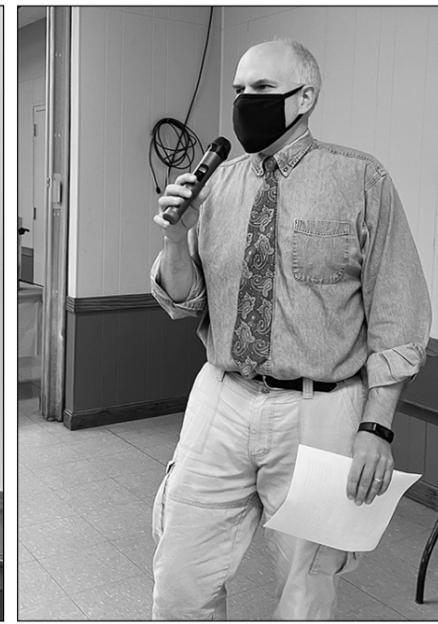
“There were 23 languages spoken by mine workers,” Pointer said. “When a supervisor asked for names they often didn’t understand the language and wrote down the wrong name.”

Larson was able to compile a list with names, age at death, marital status, and nationality in most cases. TSHS member Mary Shedd then compiled the list into a spreadsheet that will be used to add information as it is collected.

“What we are hoping to do is find all their obituaries, any articles about mining accidents, and find family members to do oral histories,” said Pointer. “We have some good stories already.”

Pointer said defining a mining death can be complicated, because some deaths occurred due to an accident at the mine, but the death was not immediate.

“We would consider that a mine death, but the death certifi-



Above left: Elaine McGillivray is spearheading the Soudan Miners Project, in cooperation with James Pointer (above right) at the state park. Below: The committee has been collecting information on all the workers who died at the mine. Volunteers are needed to help with this research, some can be done online, some at the Minnesota Discovery Center.



cate might say something else,” Pointer said. “It is making it tricky.”

McGillivray said they are starting to hear from families who lost relatives at the mine.

“One has a watch that was worn by her grandfather,” she said. “He was a bar man and was killed by falling rocks. The watch stopped at the time of his death,” McGillivray said. “And the family will donate that watch to the exhibit.”

The current idea for the exhibit includes names and dates displayed on the wall, with a binder with pages for each of the names, alphabetically, along with all the information that TSHS has gathered about that specific person.

“So, people can read about each person, their obituary, death certificate, and any other information from the family,” Pointer said. “This is our way of telling the story.”

Other artifacts collected will also become part of the exhibit, he said.

While many of the deaths occurred in the open mine pit or underground, some deaths were on the surface, including some killed by a dynamite explosion, and others who fell off the railroad trestle.

“There were 144 deaths over 80 years of operation,” said Pointer. “It was actually a fairly safe occupation. It was safer than farming was at that time.”

One miner lost his life while loading ore into the ore skip car. The ore skip got away and started rolling toward the open shaft.

“It was a two-and-a-half

ton ore car with a miner trying to hang on and stop it,” Pointer said. “Who is going to win that battle? The car went down the shaft with the miner.”

“These are the stories we want to be able to tell,” he said.

Pointer said as far as their research shows, no children were killed at the mine.

Employment at the mine ranged from thousands in the early 1900s to hundreds in the early 1960s right before the mine was shut down.

### Volunteers needed

With the list of names compiled, now TSHS is looking for volunteers to help research each and every name. This will include both online and in-person work, mostly at the Iron Range History Center in Chisholm.

“We need to match the list of names to articles in the old newspaper,” McGillivray said. “We are also planning to search through death certificates from the county recorder.”

The list of names is online at towersoudanhs.org. The vast majority of deaths occurred between 1884 and 1910.

Anyone interested in helping with this project should email towersoudanhs@gmail.com. The group will begin meeting in October, and even if someone can’t visit the archives in Chisholm in person, help will be needed doing research online.

If you know someone who died in the mine or in a mine-related accident and have information, please send copies of documents to the Tower-Soudan

Historical Society at PO Box 465, Tower, MN 55790 or scan your information and email it to towersoudanhs@gmail.com. Documents needed include death records, newspaper articles, cemetery records, photos of the deceased, details regarding the cause of death, and any other records or memorabilia.

### TSHS updates

The historical society held their annual meeting and dinner in person this year, after taking last year off due to the pandemic. The society has had a busy year, producing a brochure/map of historical places of interest, hosting a series of well-attended history talks on Main Street, funding roof and exterior repairs on the historic fire hall, and hosting a very successful series of “Charlemagne’s Attic Sales” which have so far netted over \$6,000 in sales of donated items, plus some generous monetary donations.

“We also have grown our membership,” said Nancy Larson, TSHS Board Member.

The Charlemagne’s Attic sale also generated interest from relatives of the city’s namesake, Charlemagne Tower. Several family members came up to Tower this summer the weekend of the sale, and two also came back to Tower to attend the annual meeting.

The society intends to continue the attic sales, most likely once a month next summer. Anyone with vintage or collectible items to donate can contact the historical society, which has room to store items over the winter, Larson said.

More history talks are also being scheduled, she said.

Work will continue on the exterior of the fire hall, with \$150,000 in grant funding already procured, and another grant application to the Minnesota Historical Society for \$285,000.

“Then the whole building will be sealed and weathertight,” she said. “Then work will begin on the interior.”

### Trick-or-Treat on Main Street, Oct. 29

TOWER- Tower Main Street businesses will be handing out treats to children on Friday, Oct. 29 after school. Participating businesses will have posters on their door, welcoming the children.

### Embarrass holding special meeting on Oct. 27 to appoint new supervisor

EMBARRASS- Four residents attended the Embarrass Town Board regular meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 13 to express their interest in filling the vacant supervisor seat created by the resignation of Roy Worsham. No decision was made at the meeting.

Potential appointees Roland Fowler, Alyssa Hammond, Jack LaMar and Sharon Rantala were given a list of questions and asked to return on Wednesday, Oct. 27 for interviews. The special meeting begins at 6 p.m. and is open to the public.

### Special music at St. Paul’s, Oct. 31

SOUDAN- St. Paul’s Evangelical Lutheran Church in Soudan is holding a Reformation Sunday Service on Sunday, Oct. 31 at 8:30 a.m. There will be special music featuring Deb Tuominen and Louis Wiermaa

Brunch will follow the service. Everyone welcome to attend. Any questions, call Susan Trucano-Precht at 218-780-1560.

### Red Hat Belles to meet Nov. 11

TOWER- The Northern Red Hat Belles will meet Thursday, Nov. 11 at 11:30 a.m. at the Benchwarmers Grille. Following lunch, the group will go the Nelimark Museum in Embarrass. Please RSVP to Kathy, at 218-753-2530, by Nov. 8. All old and new members, and guests, are welcome to attend.



### Tower Farmers Market makes donation to the Tower Food Shelf

TOWER- The Tower Food Shelf donated \$300 to the Tower Area Food Shelf after a successful “Sharing the Harvest” raffle this season. While the market did not put on their BLT Night Fundraiser this year, due to COVID-19, raffle ticket sales, along with other donations from market customers, made this donation possible. Market vendors had a busy season, with steady support from area residents along with out-of-town vacationers. Several new vendors became regulars at the market this summer.

The winner of this year’s market raffle basket, full of goodies from all the vendors, was market regular Bruce Schelske, of Lake Vermilion and Minneapolis. He was especially excited to win another pie from Shelby. The Tower Farmers Market would like to thank all the market customers this season, as well as all those who bought raffle tickets. See you all next year.

Pictured (from left): Mickey White and Janna Goerd, from the Tower Farmers Market, presenting the check to Tower Area Food Shelf volunteers Marge McPeak and Renee Pollock.

## ELY SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECT



Placement of the precast walls has been the recent focus of construction crews at the Ely school building project. A 350-ton crane was used to lift the panels off of as many as 10 semi-trailers each day. Steel roof joists are stacked nearby to install by the end of the month. Warm temperatures and dry weather have made for favorable building conditions as crews hope to work indoors once winter arrives. photos by K. Vandervort

## TUESDAY GROUP

## BWCAW protection on agenda next week

ELY – The Tuesday Group community educational lunch gathering meets every Tuesday at the Grand Ely Lodge. Participants have an opportunity to order lunch. For those interested in being a host, or who have a speaker suggestion, contact Lacey Squier by email at ElyTuesdayGroup@gmail.com or call her at 218-216-9141.

Upcoming Tuesday Group speakers:

► Oct. 26: Update on the public process for protecting the BWCAW with Becky Rom.

► Nov. 2: Rewriting the Rural Narrative and Rural Resident Recruitment with John Bennett. Bennett has been providing Community Economics programming for the Center for Community Vitality since 2007. He

has a background in public finance, community development and city and regional planning. As a Community Economics Educator, he delivers programs that address technology adoption, business and industry climate, food access, economic impact analysis, tourism issues, market and consumer analysis, public finance, and Internet literacy. In addition, he is involved with several collaborative economic development initiatives in the Arrowhead region in northeastern Minnesota.

► Nov. 9: Transition Towns: Local Responses to Climate Change. Visitors from St. Anthony Park, a St. Paul neighborhood, will show how their community is fostering a transition from fossil-fueled systems to more sustainable ways

of life. Transition Town - All St. Anthony Park (TransitionASAP.org) is part of a worldwide network of communities that are thinking globally and collaborating locally to mitigate climate change and adapt to its effects. Their motto: Smaller footprint, stronger community. Tim Wulling, retired from an engineering career, is a founding participant in Transition ASAP and focuses on lowering energy use. Marilyn Benson is a mostly retired spiritual director and pastoral psychotherapist whose concern for her grandchildren and all children motivates her participation in Transition Town. Mindy Keskinen is a freelance editor who also manages communications for the Transition Town ASAP group.



Fletcher Chopp throws a pass during a recent youth flag football camp at the Ely High School field. photo by K. Vandervort.

## Breathing Out

by Cecilia Rolando © 2021



a big fat fall moon  
sits over the black landscape  
awaits the cold days

## Libraries

## Ely library

Hours: Monday – Friday,  
9:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m.  
Closed on Saturday,  
Sunday, and holidays  
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

## Ely Police Department Activity Report Oct. 1-15, 2021

## Arrests/Citations

► Disturbance- Individual Issued a citation for Disorderly Conduct.

► Domestic Assault- Individual arrested for Domestic Assault.

► Attempt to Pick Up- Officers arrested an individual for an outstanding warrant.

► Traffic Stop- Individual arrested for 3rd Degree DWI.

► Traffic Stop- Individual issued a citation for speed.

## Complaints

► Check Welfare- Officers were contacted to check on a person that has not been heard from in a few days. Officers located the person and they had their phone off.

► Information- Officers were informed by a local business about numerous phone calls that they received.

► Assist Other Agency- Officers assisted a neighboring agency with a burglary.

► Found Property- Officers received a lost credit card. The card was returned to the owner.

► Disturbance- Officers were called about two people yelling in a garage. Officers arrived and mediated the argument.

► Theft- Officers were contacted about a

theft. This case is under investigation.

► Public Assist- Individual brought back to their residence.

► Medical- Officers assisted the Ely Ambulance with a medical.

► Fireworks- Officers were contacted about fireworks. Officers were unable to locate the source of the fireworks.

► Intoxicated Person- Officers were called about an individual that was sleeping in a hallway. Officers brought the individual to the hospital.

► Public Assist- Officers were requested to do a standby while an individual collected their belongings.

► Assist Other Agency- Officers assisted a neighboring agency with a Domestic Assault.

► Disturbance- Officers were called about two people yelling. Officers arrived and mediated the argument.

► Suspicious Activity- Officers were contacted about three

ATV's idling in front of a residence. Officers were unable to locate anyone.

► Suspicious Activity- Officers were contacted about a group of people standing around. Officers located the group and helped them to locate a place to sleep.

► Unwanted Person- Officers were contacted about an unwanted person inside of an apartment building. Officers arrived and the person was gone.

► Callback- Officers were requested to call an individual about information they had on possible drug users.

► Suspicious Activity- Officers were contacted about a vehicle that was driving around in circles very slowly.

Officers located the vehicle and identified the driver as a paper delivery driver.

► Found Property- Officers were given a license that was dropped. The license was returned.

► Drug Incident- Officers were contacted about drug paraphernalia in a public area. Officers collected the items for destruction.

► Animal Bite- Officers were contacted about a dog that bit a person. This case is under investigation.

► Hit and Run- Officers were contacted about a vehicle that was hit in a parking lot. This case is under investigation.

► Burglary- Officers were contacted about a burglary. This case is under investigation.

► Public Assist- Individual let back into their residence.

► Disturbance- Officers were contacted about a generator idling. The individual agreed to turn it off.

► Public Assist- Individual let back into their residence.

► Check Welfare- Officers were contacted about an employee that did not show up to work.

The individual was at home and forgot about work.

► Check Welfare- Officers were contacted to check on an individual that was talking about self-harm. Officers determined the person was not a harm to themselves or others and a safety plan was put in place.

► Check Welfare- Officers were contacted about an employee that did not show up to work. The individual was at home and went to work.

► Suspicious Activity- Officers were contacted about people going into a house unwanted. Officers searched the house and didn't locate anyone inside.

► Trouble Unknown- Officers were contacted about an automated message that was requesting help. Officers determined this to be an accidental message.

► Mental Health- Officers were contacted about an individual

that was experiencing a mental health episode. Officers brought the individual to the hospital for care.

► Fraud- Officers were informed of a scammer calling and requesting credit card information.

► Hazard- Officers were contacted about a deer in the driving lane. Officers located a large branch and it was removed.

► Attempt to Locate- Officers assisted a neighboring agency with an erratic driver.

► Found Property- Officers located an abandoned scooter. This case is pending owner identification.

► Disturbance- Officers were contacted about two individuals fighting over property. Officers mediated the situation.

► Burglary- Officers were contacted about a burglary that happened the previous day. This case is under investigation.

► Parking complaint- Officers were contacted about a vehicle parked for an extended period of time. Officers located the owner and the vehicle was moved.

► Theft- Officers were contacted about a theft. This case is under investigation.

## Support groups

AA - Alcoholics Anonymous

**OPEN AA - 7:30 p.m.** Wednesdays and Saturdays, in-person, First Lutheran Church, 915 E. Camp St., Ely.

**SUNDAY NIGHT AA -**

at St. Anthony's Catholic Church is cancelled.

**ELY WOMEN'S OPEN**

**AA -** Every Monday at noon at St. Anthony's Catholic Church, 231 E. Camp St., Ely.

**BABBITT AA - 7 p.m.**

Tuesdays, Woodland Presbyterian Church

**AL-ANON -** Sundays 8-9 p.m. at St. Anthony's Catholic Church in Ely.

For persons who encounter alcoholism in a relative or friend.

**BABBITT AL-ANON**

Thursdays, 7 p.m., at Woodland Presbyterian.

**CO-DEPENDENTS'**

12-step support group, noon Fridays, St. Anthony's Catholic Church, Ely.

**ADULT BASIC EDUCATION GED**

- Study materials and pre-test available. Call 218-365-3359, or 1-800-662-5711.

**CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUPS:**

Babbitt: 3rd Monday of Month: 6-7:30 p.m. at Carefree Living

Ely: 4th Monday of Month: 10-11:30 a.m. at Ely-Bloomenson Hospital Conference Room B

ARTS IN THE COMMUNITY

# Clues unveiled for River Street art scavenger hunt

Fanciful creations by Cook area artists await discovery by enthusiastic and intrepid hunters

COOK- Those who'd heard there's a new game in Cook but didn't know how to play are in luck this week, as the folks at Northwoods Friends of the Arts have made all the clues for "The Art Scavenger Hunt" available right here.

Nineteen art objects created by more than a dozen Cook area artists are cleverly hidden in plain sight up and down River St. from Highway 53 to the Little Fork River. All are visible from outside downtown businesses, and each has a clue to help lead searchers to the art pieces.

Here are the clues,

both cryptic and clever:

➤1: Photography is an art form. Just don't use a camera in an art gallery.

➤2: Fire can sometimes create beautiful art.

➤3: Glittering beads dress up twigs if done correctly.

➤4: A little snow in the forest can be pretty.

➤5: This little fairy is the queen of recycling.

➤6: Rub my horn for good luck if you can find me.

➤7: Let the sun shine and I will be easier to find.

➤8: Minnesota's king of fish! Catch one that is bigger than me.

➤9: A birch forest shines brighter with a

pretty sunset.

➤10: Catching northern pike in the winter can involve an art form.

➤11: Minnesota's unofficial state bird.

➤12: Metal can become sharp in the hands of an artist.

➤13: Landscapes in the round.

➤14: Even in the dark the forest can be beautiful.

➤15: Only little girls are allowed on the pergola. Listen for me if you can't see me.

➤16: A chiseled face can be work of art.

➤17: In the hands of artists a little dirt from the earth can be beautiful.

➤18: Blooming year

around the colors are amazing.

➤19: Paddington is



**Cook photographer Becky Smith has taken the art scavenger hunt challenge. Here are two small visual clues from her hunting excursion.**

B. Smith photos



my distant cousin.

An additional clue is that the objects were hidden in numerical order, so if you're having trouble finding one, look between the ones you have already found. And while you're hunting, take a break and stop in at one of the many businesses along the scavenger trail.

Once you have found all 19 objects, come by the Northwoods Friends of the Arts Gallery at 210 S River Street to collect a small token for successfully playing along. The gallery is open Thursdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The art scavenger hunt was created by Jim DeVries, and the following artists created artwork for the game: Jim DeVries, Alberta Whitenack, Karen Spotts, Caleb Thom, Jeanne O'Melia, Sue Rauchenfeld, Carol Bowman, Elsie Hyppa, Lyn and Mark Reed, Vicki Nelson, Klara DeVries and Todd Merrett. The project was funded through a "stART on Main Street" grant distributed by the City of Cook, Springboard for the Arts, Rethos and the McKnight Foundation.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### Trinity Church offers free chili community meal

COOK- Nothing goes better with the crisp weather of fall in the North Country than a good bowl of chili for dinner, and that's what Trinity Lutheran Church in Cook will be serving for its monthly community meal on Thursday, Oct. 28 from 4 to 6 p.m.

This month's dinner will be a drive-through affair, with cornbread and dessert complementing the main course.

The public is invited to partake in this free community meal.

### Huge church bake sale coming to Cook on Nov. 5

COOK- The cooks and bakers of Covenant Church and St. Paul's (Alango) Lutheran Church are coming together for a huge bake sale on Friday,

Nov. 15, to be hosted at the Covenant Church, 11 Second St. SE in Cook.

Signs will lead from Highway 53 to the church, where fresh homemade baked breads, coffee cakes, bars, cookies, homemade granola, caramel corn, chex mix, pies and tarts await eager shoppers downstairs inside the church.

Sit-down lunches of wild rice soup and chili will be available, with a takeout drive-through option in the church parking lot.

The public is invited to participate. Doors will open at 8 a.m. and will remain so until everything is sold.

### Member show at NWFA Gallery runs through Oct. 29

COOK- The annual Susan Martin Memorial Member Show continues through Oct. 29 at the Northwoods Friends of

the Arts Gallery, 210 S River Street, in Cook.

Enjoy viewing or purchasing crafts and works of art created specifically for this diverse show by NWFA members. A wide range of artistry is on display, including sculptures of metal, pottery, wood and mixed media, wearable and usable crafts and fiber arts, carvings and wood-burning art, unusual hand-thrown pottery, jewelry and Christmas ornaments.

Located next to Dream Weaver Salon and Spa, the gallery is open on Thursdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For more information, visit the Facebook page or the NWFA website at nwfamn.org.

## PATRIOTIC MILESTONE



It was truly a banner day for Cook Friends of the Parks on Oct. 12 as many assembled to observe veterans from Cook VFW Post 1757 raise the first Star Spangled Banner ever to fly over the new Veterans Riverfront Park. A POW/MIA flag donated by Marguerite Eyre was also raised. Friends of the Parks welcomes additional donations of American and POW/MIA flags in order to ensure the flags displayed are always in good condition.

B. Smith photo

## NORTH WOODS SCHOOL

# Principal gives introduction to newest math teacher

by JOHN VUKMANICH  
North Woods Principal

FIELD TWP- This week we welcome Mrs. Dianna Hazelton to our teacher team at North Woods. Mrs. Hazelton comes to us with many years of teaching experience in different communities in Minnesota, most recently Lake of the Woods-Baudette.

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

Columbia Heights in the Cities is where I went to high school, the Highlanders. I received my teaching degree from Augsburg University.

**Were there teachers who were an influence on you? Please name a few if you can.**

My math teacher, Mr. Sadlowski, and Mrs. Curtain, an elementary teacher, were positive influences on me.

**What characteristics did these teachers have that were important to you?**

They saw potential in me and gave me opportunities. Mrs. Curtain worked with high-performing students and sought me out. I would not have had access to that level of programming. The same with my high school math teacher. He encouraged me to join the math team. When

I got in trouble in high school, he was a mentor who supported me to do better.

**What do you teach at North Woods?**

Kids! More specifically, math.

**Why did you choose teaching as a profession?**

My best mentors as a kid were teachers, so their influence led me to choose teaching as a profession. I also had some



poor teachers, and I wanted to be better than that.

**What are your hobbies?**

Hiking, camping, fishing, snowmobiling, volleyball, running, and kayaking.

**What is something you like about North Woods?**

Being a new teacher to the school, I am starting to get to know the kids, and that seems cool.

**What is a professional goal for you?**

I am currently getting

my administrative license and have one more semester.

**What is something you love about northern MN?**

The outdoors.

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

Take advantage of the opportunities you are given. Also, do things to lift others up and make your community a better place.

**Do you have a favorite saying or expression?**

Nope. I don't.

**What do you hope your students remember you for?**

I want them to remember that their dorky math teacher loves them!

Thank you, Mrs. Hazelton, for becoming a teacher, and for picking North Woods. We look forward to getting to know you better!

### Blood drive at school a success

FIELD TWP- A blood drive at North Woods School last Friday collected 32 units of blood for Memorial Blood Centers.

MBC is the sole supplier of blood products to 19 hospitals in Northern Minnesota and Northwestern Wisconsin.

## CROSS COUNTRY



Addison Burckhardt crosses the finish line of the girls varsity 5K race in third place for the South Ridge Panthers at the Proctor Lions Invitational cross country meet on Tuesday. Zoey Burckhardt claimed another championship on the season with a win in the Division D girls 2400 meters. Alex Burckhardt finished fourth in the 1A boys 5K, and Greyson Reichensperger took second in the Division D 2400 meters. Next up for the Panthers varsity is the sectional meet on Oct. 28 at Cloquet. Photo courtesy of The Pine Knot

## CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

## State hospitals remain swamped with COVID-19 patients

by DAVID COLBURN  
Cook-Orr Editor

REGIONAL- While a majority of states have seen significant decreases in cases and hospitalizations due to the Delta-variant-driven fourth wave of the COVID-19 pandemic, Minnesota continues to buck the trend, enough so that Gov. Tim Walz last week readied the Minnesota National Guard to assist.

“Rising hospital cases have left our hospitals too crowded, and we need action now,” Walz said in an Oct. 15 press release. “That’s why I’m putting the National Guard on alert and taking critical steps to help free up hospital beds and make sure that Minnesotans can continue to get the care they need.”

Minnesota is one of only four states that reported rising COVID hospitalizations over the past two weeks, according to a Monday report by

Becker’s Hospital Review. Minnesota’s 22-percent increase in hospitalizations trailed only Michigan and was well ahead of Montana and Colorado. This occurred while COVID cases nationwide declined for a fourth consecutive week.

Walz also expanded access to the COVID-19 Emergency Staffing Pool, which allows long-term care facilities to request short-term emergency temporary staffing and directed the Department of Human Services to free up capacity at long-term care facilities through modifications of regulatory constraints. Walz’s actions were in response to a backlog of hospitalized COVID patients who could not be transferred to long-term care facilities to continue their recoveries because of staffing shortages that limited the number of available beds.

Demand for hospital beds has remained high,

fluctuating day-to-day as COVID patients add to the number of non-COVID patients needing space. In the past week, the number of ICU beds available in northeastern Minnesota has swung from as few as two to as many as 11, with Tuesday’s number sitting at five.

However, signs that this round of the pandemic may have reached its peak in Minnesota could be found in the number of reported new cases statewide and in St. Louis County this week. Case totals on Tuesday, the day the state reports combined data for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, were down 20 percent statewide from the week prior. The report doesn’t establish a trend, as numbers can vary week to week due to delays in reporting, and there’s also been a drop in testing volume that could depress the total. But the state’s test positivity level also fell below seven percent

for the first time since Oct. 5, another potentially encouraging sign from a key measure of pandemic activity.

New cases also have dipped in St. Louis County. The seven-day case average appears to have hit a peak of 116.9 on Oct. 5 and steadily declined to 93.4 on Oct. 13. Sixty-four new cases were added on Oct. 13, a dramatic drop from the 185 cases reported for Oct. 4. And the test positivity rate for the county as reported in the state’s weekly COVID status update, 4.5 percent, was well below that of the state and also below the five percent threshold indicating aggressive community spread.

Northeast Minnesota also has the third-lowest number of new cases per capita among the eight regions defined by the state health department.

New COVID cases were reported in all six of the North Country zip codes monitored by the

Timberjay last week, with an overall decline from increases seen the prior week. Ely had the biggest increase with eight new cases, followed by Cook with seven. Embarrass had five, Tower, four, Soudan, two, and Orr, one.

### Testing

Walz also activated the National Guard to assist in opening six additional rapid testing sites and plans to expand availability of the tests at existing Community Testing Program locations. The state has already doubled the testing capacity at the DECC in Duluth.

In addition to continuing to offer COVID vaccinations, St. Louis County Public Health also conducts free three-day tests three days per week on the Iron Range. Tests are available Mondays from 1 to 5 p.m. at the Eveleth Auditorium, Tuesdays from 8 a.m. to noon at the AEOA parking lot in Virginia, and Fridays

from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Lions Club building at Olcott Park in Virginia. The department’s Public Health Mobile Trailer used for testing will be moved from the AEOA lot to the Iron Trails Motors Event Center once the parking lot and sidewalks are finished.

### Youth incentives

“Kids Deserve a Shot” is the latest Walz vaccine incentive program to be announced, unveiled last week to encourage 12 to 17-year-olds to get vaccinated.

The program consists of two sets of rewards: a \$200 Visa gift card for those who start and complete their vaccine series over the next six weeks, and five drawings for \$100,000 Minnesota college scholarships for any Minnesotan 12-17 years old with a complete vaccine series. Those vaccinated prior to the start of the program are not eligible to receive a gift card.

## ISD 696 face-mask strategy remains under development

by KEITH VANDERVORT  
Ely Editor

ELY - The ISD 696 Ely Safe Learning Plan Advisory Council (ESLPAC) continues to develop a strategy to keep students and staff in classrooms while at the same time minding public health protocols, especially a face mask requirement, to help slow the spread of the coronavirus.

More stakeholders were included for the advisory council’s meeting last Thursday, Oct. 14, and another meeting was held on Wednesday, Oct. 21 as school administrators work with medical professionals to propose metrics that would lead to dialing back the face mask mandate.

The rule put in place at the beginning of the school year as COVID-19 cases increased was met with resistance by some district parents and residents.

Ely school board members reacted to the pushback by voting last week to take the authority

School board could consider recommendations on Monday

to determine COVID-19 strategies out of the hands of school administrators. Instead, the board will decide by majority rule to approve or deny any health mandates on school property, as recommended by Superintendent Erik Erie.

The indoor mask mandate remains in place during regular school hours, but the board lifted a requirement for face masks for spectators at indoor after-school activities, as recommended by the administration.

A first draft of potential COVID-19 case rate data metrics to be applied in evaluating discontinuance of mandatory masking was rejected by the board last week and sent back to the ELSPAC for more work. Board members noted they did not have enough time to review the revised strategy, and some seemed opposed to the idea that vaccination rates in the school community should be considered in

dialing back the mandate.

At the Oct. 11 school board meeting, Ely parent Frank Udovich criticized Erie for “starting and ending every meeting” of ESLPAC “with a long dragged out number” of COVID deaths in Minnesota. “It is just a statistic,” Udovich said. “No one seems to be impressed, and unfortunately they just make fun of you.”

At the ESLPAC meeting last Thursday, Erie addressed a recent discussion on the validity of the advisory council.

“I was asked why we continue to meet,” he said. “From my perspective, we continue to meet because people are still dying.”

Erie continued, “There was a question as to why we put out statistics about (COVID-19) deaths, and I don’t think that 8,379 people dying in Minnesota from COVID-19 is funny by any stretch. That’s the reason we are still wearing

masks and the reason we are talking about mitigation strategies. If those conditions weren’t out there, we wouldn’t have to be meeting.”

Deaths in St. Louis County from COVID-19 increased from 342 to 352 people last week. The total number of deaths in the United States from the coronavirus pandemic is estimated to be in excess of 726,000.

ESLPAC members discussed mitigation strategies, including a process suggested by the school district’s athletic director, that would include considering several metrics and meeting a majority of case rate thresholds that could trigger a move to optional masking.

In the absence of any other concrete suggestions, most of the local health professionals, school staff, and community members seemed to be in favor of adding more case data

metrics for developing recommendations.

Vaccination rates among students ages 12 to 18 continue to be a viable metric for possible face mask rule relaxation. Erie said that the Ely school vaccination rate is at about 41 percent for eligible students.

“I think that a vaccination rate of greater than 50 percent is a doable goal,” he said. Two vaccination clinics were held on the school campus last week for students.

At an earlier ELSPAC meeting, local physician Dr. Joe Bianco said, “With a vaccination rate of 90 percent we wouldn’t even be talking about wearing masks in school.”

In addition to the local vaccination rate, a bi-weekly COVID-19 case rate of 30 or less (per 10,000 people), for at least two consecutive weeks in northern St. Louis County was recommended

as a trigger to relax mask mandates, along with a ZIP code case data point of 30 or less, also for two consecutive weeks.

Health officials have recently introduced a rolling seven-day COVID-19 case rate average per 100,000 people as a new metric to measure the increase or decrease of active cases.

Ely Public Schools COVID-19 Positive Test Count increased again on Tuesday, Oct. 19, with four new cases reported according to Erie. Ely schools have had nine positive cases of COVID-19 since the beginning of the school year.

ESLPAC members planned to discuss case rate metrics on Wednesday and other options for an updated recommendation for the school board to consider at their study session on Monday. A special meeting would need to be called in order for the school board to take any action.

## ELY...Continued from page 1

at the Oct. 11 school board meeting, board chair Ray Marsnik said, “Any time you lose enrollment it is a concern. What we have to remember, however, is that this is not only in Ely.”

Without directly tying the unprecedented enrollment drop to the face mask requirement, Marsnik did note the coronavirus pandemic as a factor in the decrease.

“As a matter of fact, the State passed legislation in their last session for pandemic enrollment loss support. This is based on declining enrollment for the 2020-2021 school year, and under that we (received) \$35,825,” he said.

Marsnik cited other regional 2020-21 enrollment losses reported to the Minnesota Department of Education.

“Last year we lost 33 students, Cook County lost 65. Chisholm lost 51. St. Louis County (lost) 142. Mesabi East, 28, Mt. Iron-Buhl, 22, Nashauk-Keewatin, 23, International Falls, 49, Greenway, 32, and Lake Superior, 35. So this is a problem that is happening not only in Ely and on the Range, but throughout the whole state of Minnesota. COVID-19 has basically caused an enrollment decline.”

At the start of the current school year, as a new variant of COVID-19

surged across the country, state and local communities, the ISD 696 administration, with the support of the local school board, acted on the strong recommendations of state and local health professionals to require mask-wearing indoors in all school buildings.

Within days, more than 300 people signed a petition, authored by former ISD 696 student Micah Larson, a senior and president of the school’s student council, calling for the reversal of the face mask mandate.

Larson threatened to leave the high school if his petition request was not honored. At the Oct. 11 school board meeting, Larson confirmed that he did drop out.

“I don’t have to be here tonight,” he said. “Why? Because, sadly, I am no longer your student. That all ended on Sept. 27 of this year. At 4:17 p.m., the school district received my transfer paperwork. I never imagined I would be forced to make such a decision. Should I support an institution that doesn’t share the same ethics? Absolutely not.”

Larson spoke during the open forum portion of the meeting on a topic that was not related to the meeting agenda, violating board protocol.

Matt Larson, Micah’s

father, confirmed that five of the family’s children were also recently pulled out of ISD 696, “because of the administration’s inability to make decisions or plans.” He added, “It seems that trying to come up with a COVID plan has distracted from responsibilities in education.”

### Teacher contract

School board members approved a new two-year contract with the Ely Education Association. The pact covers the 2021-22 and 2022-23 school years and provides for salary scale increases each year of roughly two percent.

The wage scale starts at \$46,476 for first-year teachers and increases to \$73,077 for those at the top of the scale with 11 years of experience and a master’s degree, and includes longevity pay up to \$1,855. In the second year of the contract, the scale starts at \$46,376, and increases to \$74,539 at the top end.

Under the Q-Comp alternative compensation program, teachers can receive approximately \$3,000 in additional pay each year if specific goals are met.

ISD 696 provides up to \$10,000 per year for health insurance premi-

ums for single teachers, and up to a maximum of \$20,000 for families.

The new contract was approved unanimously and without discussion.

### Other business

In other business, the board:

► Received the home school enrollment list that showed 34 students are being home schooled this year, up from 31 last year and 17 the year before.

► Heard from facilities director Tim Leeson, who responded to safety concerns regarding the facilities renovation and building project. He asked the public to contact him directly at 218-343-3457 with future concerns.

► Approved a new Ice Arena contract with Ely Blue Line, Inc. at the same rate, \$14,000, as last year.

► Approved the annual senior class trip to Washington, D.C., for March 24-28, 2022.

► Accepted the resignations of paraprofessionals Amanda Mattila and Bobby Ridings.

► Hired Kayci Zorman as a paraprofessional.

► Hired Richard Koval as a cafeteria aide.

► Renewed the following head coaches for the current school year -- Tom McDonald, boys basketball, Max Gantt,

girls basketball, Paula Anderson, boys and girls Nordic skiing, Desirae Cram, dance team, and Donna Kari, speech.

► Approved the following assistant coaching or volunteer assistant coaching positions for the current school year- Tim Omerza, boys basketball assistant, Tom Omerza, girls basketball assistant, Louis Gerzin, hockey

assistant, Tyler Fish, boys and girls Nordic skiing assistant, Nate LaFond and Todd Hohenstein, co-coaches for junior high boys and girls Nordic skiing, Mark Sponholz, Sarah Sponholz, Liz Anderson, Jeff Nelson, Carl Skustad, Mary Grayson, Jerritt Johnston, and Christian Cavalier, volunteer Nordic skiing assistants.



MESABI  
SYMPHONY  
ORCHESTRA

# RETURN TO HARMONY

2021-2022 Season



CONCERT SERIES #1:

## A JOYOUS NOISE

**Ely, MN - VCC Fine Arts Theater**  
Saturday, October 23, 2:30pm

**Virginia, MN - Goodman Auditorium**  
Sunday, October 24, 2:30pm

[www.MesabiSymphonyOrchestra.org](http://www.MesabiSymphonyOrchestra.org)

**TICKET PRICES**  
\$15 adults • \$8 students • \$12 seniors • \$25 family groups

Operating support is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through grants from the Minnesota State Arts Board and the Arrowhead Regional Arts Council, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.

## CITY OF ELY

# Ely property owner avoids 'blight' action by cleaning up

by KEITH VANDERVORT  
Ely Editor

ELY — A blight house issue was resolved by city council members here Tuesday night.

A public hearing to discuss a nuisance property at 1061 E Madison St., held prior to the regular meeting, was quickly adjourned following an updated condition report by building official Doug Whitney. He reported that the owner, Greg MacCallum, and tenants Kyle and Lisa Marie

MacCallum had cleaned up the property.

"We've been working with this property for quite some time," Whitney said. "In looking at the updated photos for this hearing, you can see that the property has been substantially cleaned up. Originally, they had upholstered furniture on the sidewalk and stuff you didn't want outside. The front porch was packed full of stuff. They did a really great job to clean up the property. Now, it doesn't

look a whole lot different than any other houses around town."

Whitney described efforts by his office and the Ely Police Department throughout most of the summer in responding to complaints from neighbors. The July 27 report indicated the property and adjacent city property had household goods and debris that threatened further damage to the residential neighborhood and was an immediate threat to personal property,

health and safety of any residents. The property and front porch was used to store furnishings, a toilet and appliances. A trailer frame was used for storage in the front yard. Whitney declared the property to be a public nuisance at that time.

Mayor Roger Skraba confirmed with Whitney that the property owner was in compliance with the city code, and the issue was removed from the council agenda. City Attorney Kelly Klun concurred with

the move.

"Based on this report, there would be no need for an order for further compliance and the issue is resolved," said Klun.

Council member Al Forsman added, "A lot of times we have these issues come up and they drag on and things get ugly. It is nice we can get to this (point) without any council action. Personally, it is my most hated part of this job as a city council member in dealing with these issues."

## Other business

In other business, the council:

► Agreed to interview three candidates for the assistant police chief position and will hold a special meeting for that purpose on Thursday, Nov. 4.

► Authorized the purchase of a Ford Interceptor squad vehicle for the police department from Lundgren's for \$33,031.38, with law enforcement squad outfitting for an additional \$13,967.91.

## MINE...Continued from page 1

"The Boundary Waters area is an irreplaceable natural resource renowned for high quality fishing, wildlife viewing, and recreational opportunities," said Tom Vilsack, who oversees the Forest Service in his role as U.S. Agriculture Secretary. "I have asked the Forest Service to work with the Bureau of Land Management to complete a careful environmental analysis and engage the public on whether future mining should be authorized on any federal land adjacent to this spectacular and unique wilderness resource."

The administration's action significantly complicates the path forward for the proposed Twin Metals copper-nickel mine, which has generated considerable opposition from conservation groups. The mineral withdrawal, if ultimately enacted, would not, on its own, deprive Twin Metals—a joint venture controlled by the Chilean mining giant Antofagasta—of its two existing mineral leases. Those leases, which the Trump administration agreed to renew back in 2019 after they were terminated in the closing days of the Obama administration, are the subject of two federal lawsuits filed by a coalition of Minnesota businesses and environmental groups. Those lawsuits are currently on hold while the Biden administration completes its own review of

the legality of the Trump administration's decision to renew the leases.

A mineral withdrawal would, however, complicate the company's application for a third mineral lease, which the company says it will require for implementation of its current mine plan. That application will now be on hold while the Forest Service completes its two-year study and would be on hold for 20 years if the withdrawal is eventually approved.

The decision effectively restarts a process that was aborted by the Trump administration back in 2018. The Obama administration had initiated the withdrawal process in late 2016, but the Trump administration canceled the two-year study just prior to its completion and refused to release any of the results of the analysis, despite calls to do so by members of Congress and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

The latest decision should allow the Biden administration to complete the study and make a final withdrawal determination within the remaining three-plus years of its current term of office. The Forest Service is expected to publish its intent to complete an environmental assessment of both the environmental and economic impacts of the proposed withdrawal in the

Federal Register within the next couple weeks. That will begin a 90-day public comment period, which will include public hearings to take testimony. No date or location for those hearings was announced this week, although based on past practice at least one hearing will likely be held in northeastern Minnesota. A previous withdrawal proposal, begun by the Obama administration, had generated more than 90,000 public comments.

## Leases

While the federal mineral leasing program is overseen by the Bureau of Land Management—an agency within the Department of the Interior—the Forest Service manages the surface rights in question and has discretion over whether to allow mining on its lands within the Superior National Forest. In late 2016, the Forest Service had rejected a third renewal of the two existing mineral leases controlled by Twin Metals, citing what it viewed as an existential threat to the environmental integrity of the BWCAW, renowned for its exceptional water quality. Mine opponents have argued that the proposed mine, which would process sulfide-based ore, would inevitably cause acid drainage that could permanently impact water quality downstream. The BWCAW is located just a few miles downstream

from the proposed mine.

Mine supporters argue that the proposal would create hundreds of high-paying jobs and they tout claims by the company that the mine can be built and operated safely. Opponents argue that the existing recreational and service industry built up around the Boundary Waters creates a more diverse and sustainable local economy.

This week's announcement is a major step forward for mine critics, led by the Ely-based Campaign to Save the Boundary Waters. Enactment of a 20-year mineral withdrawal is the first of four initiatives that the campaign has undertaken to achieve permanent protection of the BWCAW from sulfide mining within its watersheds. The campaign is also working with Fourth District Congresswoman Betty McCollum on federal legislation that would enact a permanent ban on sulfide-based mining within that portion of the headwaters of the Rainy River watershed located upstream of the BWCAW. In addition, the campaign is working to update state mining rules and to advance new state legislation that would prohibit the permitting of sulfide-based mines upstream of the wilderness.

## Viability of the mine questioned

The economic viability of the Twin Metals mine has long been in doubt. While the deposit that Twin Metals has proposed to mine is vast, it is also low grade, mostly below one-percent copper, with much smaller percentages of nickel and platinum group metals. A 2014 pre-feasibility study issued by the project's previous owner, Duluth Metals, suggested

marginal profits, even with metal price assumptions at near record highs. The preliminary mine plan prompted Antofagasta to decline an option to purchase a larger stake in the venture and as Antofagasta stepped back, Duluth Metals' stock collapsed as investors soured on the project's \$2.5 billion price tag combined with marginal returns. Antofagasta eventually picked up the outstanding shares of Duluth Metals for about \$85 million, which was pennies on the dollar.

Despite nearly seven years since taking control of the venture, Antofagasta has yet to make any updated financial projections public. It did produce a mine plan, which it submitted to both state and federal regulators nearly two years ago, but that proposal included no financial estimates. The plan called for a 20,000-ton-per-day underground mining operation, which is substantially lower output than the 2014 plan, which called for production approaching 50,000 tons per day.

## Plenty of reaction

Twin Metals Minnesota expressed "deep disappointment" with Wednesday's announcement, but noted that the company's mineral rights span 11 presidential administrations and that the company remains steadfast in its commitment to uphold those rights and advance its proposed mining project. "We are working to determine the best path forward to continue advancing our proposed world-class underground copper, nickel, cobalt and platinum group metals mine," said the company in a statement. "We are firmly dedicated to the communities of northeast Minnesota and to advancing a sustainable mining project that will bring much-needed economic growth to our

region, in addition to the opportunity to responsibly develop the critical minerals needed for our global efforts in combatting the climate crisis."

Others weighed in as well in support of Twin Metals and the jobs the mine could create. Minnesota's Eighth District Congressman Pete Stauber blasted the administration, which he accused of "putting politics over science." Stauber also directed fire at Democratic members of the state's congressional delegation, who have supported protection of the BWCAW. "Today's announcement further proves that the Biden Administration and Democrats in Congress are incapable of doing what's right for union members and working families across northeast Minnesota," said Stauber.

Closer to home, District 3A state Rep. Rob Ecklund called for an environmental review of the mine project itself, without "undue delays or interference."

"The roadmap announced today is duplicative, unnecessary, and arbitrary, preventing us from even considering the project and its potential to boost our regional economy," Ecklund added.

But Congresswoman McCollum lauded the decision. "Today's action by the Biden administration is a welcome return to the science-based decision making that should govern the management of our public lands," McCollum said in a statement. "After years of broken promises and ongoing obstruction of taxpayer-funded data from the prior administration, I am pleased that President Biden is committed to completing the necessary analysis to understand the impacts that sulfide-ore mining could have on this priceless reserve of fresh water, the biodiverse habitat it supports, and the economic livelihood of the surrounding community."

Becky Rom, national chair of the Campaign to Save the Boundary Waters agreed. "You don't allow America's most toxic industry next to America's most popular wilderness. This is a great first step on the pathway to permanent protection. The appropriate next step for the administration is to revoke the two Twin Metals leases that the Trump administration unlawfully reinstated."

Chris Knopf, executive director of the Friends of the Boundary Waters, said the decision marks a dramatic turnaround from the previous administration. "After years of the previous administration doling out arbitrary and unlawful favors for a Chilean owned-mining company and launching an all-out assault on the Boundary Waters, people are breathing a sigh of relief," he said.

## Join our TEAM! Virtual Career Fair

Do you have a interest in Healthcare?

Are you a displaced worker?

Attend our virtual Job Fair with Human Resources and learn more about our positions and how to join our team!

**Monday, October 25  
7 AM-Noon**

**Full Time, Part Time & Casual positions available!!**

Nursing Assistants—Care Center  
Registered Nurse—Hospital/ER or Care Center  
Licensed Practical Nurse—Care Center  
Environmental Services—Housekeepers & Laundry  
Admissions—Patient Registrar  
Activities—Activities Assistant  
Radiology—Radiologic Technologist  
Dietary—Dietary Aide/Cook

You must RSVP in order to received a zoom meeting link and schedule a time.  
RSVP to: [humanresources@cookhospital.org](mailto:humanresources@cookhospital.org)

Competitive Wages ~ Benefits ~ Paid Time Off ~ Sick Leave ~ PERA retirement  
~ Life & Disability Insurance ~ \*Tuition Reimbursement ~ \*Sign on Bonus  
and more

Cook Hospital & Care Center is an EEOE.  
Cook Hospital & Care Center  
10 5th Street SE  
Cook, MN 55723

**Questions, call Stephanie Maki at 218-666-6220**



• Presents •

**Peregrine Falcons in Minnesota**  
A program for college students and the public

**Monday, October 25 • 7 PM**  
at VCC in the Fireside Lounge (look for signs)



Plus, see a live peregrine falcon

Come and learn more about the peregrine story, and what is being done right here in Minnesota to help the

species. Jackie Fallon, wildlife biologist, master falconer and educator for over 30 years, will be our presenter. She is currently the VP of Field Operations for the Midwest Peregrine Society and MN state coordinator for peregrine monitoring since 2005 and manages all aspects of research at over 50 peregrine falcon territories in Minnesota and Wisconsin.

**Masks are required on the VCC campus**





Gary Culbert's rock garden in Soudan took more than 10 years to complete. photo by J. Summit

**ROCKS...**Continued from page 1

"I moved to Soudan in the late 1990s," he said, "and my house just had a tiny flower garden right behind the house."

Culbert soon added some large vegetable beds to his backyard, which sloped downwards and tended to be wet, and

rimmed the outer slopes with lilac bushes. He built out a large deck behind his house and garage, adding raised vegetable beds to complement the other garden beds in the yard below. He installed a watering system to keep his plants happy, and added

apple trees and grape vines.

He shares his garden bounty with his six children, nine grandchildren, and one new great-grandchild, as well as many neighbors and friends, some of whom help with tending the garden when he is out of town.

But a garden wasn't the answer for a curvy slope that bisected his yard that was too tough to mow or cultivate.

So, in 2007, he ordered a 10-yard load of rocks from Seppi in Virginia and started spreading them on the slope. This first load

kept him busy for a while, and somewhere along the way he realized he could make patterns, using sizes, shapes, and colors to create lasting designs.

"My initial plan was just to use plain rock on the slopes," he said. "But slowly it became this. Now

I look at my yard and ask myself, I did this?"

The rock garden was completed this year, more than 10 years after he made his first design.

His first large pattern was a medicine wheel with a pretty chunk of quartz in the center.

"The day after I finished that, it snowed," he said.

But the next spring, he kept at it. Working more some years than others, he finally completed the project this year.

The designs were created mostly with found rocks, some from the shores of Lake Superior, others found closer to home. He purchased a few more loads of small rock and pea gravel.

The rocks are light and dark, earth tones and reds, featuring some of the iron-rich rocks found in our area.

Some rocks sat for years before he found the perfect use for them. Other rocks suggested designs from the start. But what all these rocks have in common is that they were placed one by one, by hand.

"I was beachcombing and found a rock that looked like an ear," he said, "and then finally I found another." The two matching ears grace a small human figure who is holding a flower.

Culbert used landscaping fabric as an underlayment at the start, but then switched to pieces of rubber roofing, which is less likely to let weeds spring up. As for eliminating weeds that sprout up among his rock creations, he uses a combination of vinegar, salt, and soap, applied a few times each summer.

The rock garden includes a fire pit in the center with lawn chairs and several benches so that Culbert and his friends can sit and enjoy the view.

And no sooner than the rock garden was completed, it may soon have new owners. Culbert is moving to a small, off-the-grid cabin on land he owns in Embarrass, and plans to put the Soudan house on the market soon.

"I hope whoever buys my house will keep it going," he said.

The gardens are shielded from the street, but his neighbors have come to enjoy it. Two young boys who live next door like to hide tiny figurines among the rock, adding to the more understated tiny animals that Culbert has placed near some of the designs.

Culbert's wife Kathy, a well-known local fiber artist, and basket-maker, died in 2013. She was an active member of the Range Fiberarts Guild and taught local community education classes.

He definitely will be putting in gardens, both flower and vegetable, at his new homestead, and planting apple trees, but has no plans as yet for a second rock garden there.

Gary would welcome tours of his rock garden. If anyone is interested, please email Jodi at editor@timberjay.com and we will forward your contact information.

## JUST ANNOUNCED! FALL SALES EVENT AT FORD OF HIBBING!

**2021 FORD BRONCO  
HAS ARRIVED!**

**FORD OF HIBBING HAS INVENTORY TO SELL AND WE ARE DISCOUNTING OUR PRICES TO MOVE IT. IF WE DO NOT HAVE WHAT YOU ARE LOOKING FOR, WE WILL ORDER YOUR VEHICLE WITH THE COLOR AND OPTIONS THAT YOU WANT! GOT A TRADE IN? GREAT WE WANT IT AND WILL GUARANTEE YOUR TRADE VALUE\*\* ON AN ORDERED VEHICLE! FORD OF HIBBING WANTS TO BE YOUR DESTINATION TO PURCHASE YOUR NEW & USED CARS, TRUCKS, & SUV'S AND WE ARE GOING ALL OUT TO MAKE THAT HAPPEN! STOP IN EXPERIENCE THE FORD OF HIBBING DIFFERENCE ON THE BELTLINE OR AT FORD OF HIBBING.COM**

\*\* SEE SALESPERSON FOR DETAILS

### PRESIDENTS AWARD WINNER!

FORD OF HIBBING HAS RECEIVED FORD MOTOR'S MOST PRESTIGIOUS AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING SALES PERFORMANCE & CUSTOMER SERVICE! ONE OF ONLY SEVEN WINNERS IN MINNESOTA!

<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="flex: 1;"> <h3 style="margin: 0;">2021 F150 XLT SPORT CREW CAB 4X4</h3> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">\$53,115 MSRP -2000 SPORT DISC -1000 BONUS CASH -2200 FOH DISCOUNT</p> <h2 style="margin: 0;">\$47,915</h2> <p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">EVERYONE'S PRICE</p> </div> <div style="flex: 0.5; text-align: center;"> <div style="background-color: red; color: white; border-radius: 50%; padding: 10px; width: 40px; height: 40px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin: 0 auto;"> <b>SAVE \$5200</b> </div> </div> <div style="flex: 1;"> <p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">#25057</p> </div> </div>	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="flex: 1;"> <h3 style="margin: 0;">2021 ESCAPE SE 4WD</h3> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">\$30,425 MSRP -2000 CUSTOMER CASH -500 FOH DISCOUNT</p> <h2 style="margin: 0;">\$27,925</h2> <p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">EVERYONE'S PRICE</p> </div> <div style="flex: 1;"> <p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">#24971</p> </div> </div>
SPORT PACKAGE, HEATED SEATS, ECOBOOST	REMOTE START, HEATED SEATS & STEERING WHEEL, ECOBOOST

### TONS & TONS OF PRE-OWNED VEHICLES!

<h4 style="margin: 0;">2018 FLEX AWD LIMITED PAN ROOF, 2ND ROW CAPTAINS</h4> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">#7752</p> <h3 style="margin: 0;">\$27,954</h3>	<h4 style="margin: 0;">2015 ESCAPE SE 4WD</h4> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">#7718A</p> <h3 style="margin: 0;">\$16,398</h3>	<h4 style="margin: 0;">2016 FUSION SE 88K MI</h4> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">#7722</p> <h3 style="margin: 0;">\$13,973</h3>	<h4 style="margin: 0;">2018 F150 PLATINUM 5.0L W/6.5FT BOX</h4> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">#7689</p> <h3 style="margin: 0;">\$43,980</h3>
<h4 style="margin: 0;">2017 EDGE SPORT AWD</h4> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">#7730</p> <h3 style="margin: 0;">\$27,942</h3>	<h4 style="margin: 0;">2013 F150 PLATINUM</h4> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">#25040A</p> <h3 style="margin: 0;">\$16,980</h3>	<h4 style="margin: 0;">2013 ESCAPE SEL 4WD</h4> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">#7790</p> <h3 style="margin: 0;">\$13,980</h3>	<h4 style="margin: 0;">2019 GRAND CARAVAN SXT</h4> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">#7739</p> <h3 style="margin: 0;">\$23,450</h3>
<h4 style="margin: 0;">2017 EXPEDITION LTD EL</h4> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">#25033A</p> <h3 style="margin: 0;">\$34,980</h3>	<h4 style="margin: 0;">2009 FORESTER 2.5X PREM.</h4> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">#7776A</p> <h3 style="margin: 0;">\$7,980</h3>	<h4 style="margin: 0;">2011 RAM 1500 ST</h4> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">#25030A</p> <h3 style="margin: 0;">\$16,980</h3>	<h4 style="margin: 0;">2008 ESCAPE XLT AWD</h4> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">#7733A</p> <h3 style="margin: 0;">\$5,998</h3>
<h4 style="margin: 0;">2012 FOCUS SEL 57K MI</h4> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">#7787</p> <h3 style="margin: 0;">\$9,980</h3>	<h4 style="margin: 0;">2010 F150 LARIAT CREW</h4> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">#247830</p> <h3 style="margin: 0;">\$10,450</h3>	<h4 style="margin: 0;">2017 JEEP RENEGADE LATITUDE AWD</h4> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">#25034A</p> <h3 style="margin: 0;">\$19,980</h3>	<h4 style="margin: 0;">2018 F150 XLT CREW</h4> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">#24873A</p> <h3 style="margin: 0;">\$30,980</h3>
<h4 style="margin: 0;">2018 EXPLORER XLT AWD W/30K MILES</h4> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">#24892A</p> <h3 style="margin: 0;">\$33,483</h3>	<h4 style="margin: 0;">2009 CADILLAC STS V8 AWD</h4> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">#7776A</p> <h3 style="margin: 0;">\$9,980</h3>	<h4 style="margin: 0;">2012 EXPLORES XLT AWD W/LEATHER</h4> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">#7750A</p> <h3 style="margin: 0;">\$10,978</h3>	<h4 style="margin: 0;">2017 F150 XLT S/C</h4> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">#24821A</p> <h3 style="margin: 0;">\$31,980</h3>
<h4 style="margin: 0;">2012 TERRAIN SLE-2 AWD</h4> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">#94138</p> <h3 style="margin: 0;">\$10,980</h3>	<h4 style="margin: 0;">2007 F150 LARIAT CREW</h4> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">#248638</p> <h3 style="margin: 0;">\$10,980</h3>	<h4 style="margin: 0;">2011 EXPLORER LIMITED AWD</h4> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">#247008</p> <h3 style="margin: 0;">\$12,975</h3>	<h4 style="margin: 0;">2007 SIERRA 1500 W/6.0L</h4> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">#248588</p> <h3 style="margin: 0;">\$5,978</h3>
<h4 style="margin: 0;">2017 ESCAPE SE W/ TRAILER TOW</h4> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">#7726</p> <h3 style="margin: 0;">\$16,980</h3>	<h4 style="margin: 0;">2010 RANGER SPORT S/C</h4> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">#24427B</p> <h3 style="margin: 0;">\$13,980</h3>	<h4 style="margin: 0;">2008 EDGE SEL W/LEATHER</h4> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">#24738B</p> <h3 style="margin: 0;">\$6,980</h3>	<h4 style="margin: 0;">2016 FUSION SE HYBRID</h4> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">#7778</p> <h3 style="margin: 0;">\$16,980</h3>
<h4 style="margin: 0;">2010 G6</h4> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">#24940B</p> <h3 style="margin: 0;">\$3,980</h3>			

2627 Hwy 169  
fordofhibbing.com  
888-246-8616

LEIGH LONSON 218-212-7202

TIM CARRUTH 218-293-4606

RYAN AULTMAN 218-293-4606

ERIC GRAFF 218-293-4627

MIKE DAY 218-293-4637

RANDY ROY 218-293-4625

JAMI HENDRIX 218-293-4636

TEIGAN BOSARGE 218-293-4596

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

# New Ely Zup's Market to open 'softly' next week

by KEITH VANDERVORT  
Ely Editor

ELY – The new and expanded Zup's Market will open next Wednesday, Oct. 27, with what manager Jimmy Zupancich said will be a "soft, soft opening."

Late last week, as wholesale distributors and store employees rushed to fill the endless shelves of the new 35,000-square-foot facility with a plethora of groceries and dry goods, construction crews were putting in lights outside and hanging signage. The new sausage factory and smoke house, along with the expanded deli, was getting set up.

"We have to open, no matter what," Zupancich said as he kept a brisk yet frantic pace in directing the setup from one end of the store to the other. "We may have a few empty shelves as we wait for more products to be delivered and stocked, but we are moving forward with this

exciting new facility for Ely shoppers," he told a visitor.

The former Zup's store on top of the hill in Sheridan Street closed for good last Monday and employees and shoppers were moved temporarily down the street to the Northland Market. "We have to move equipment and inventory from Northland to the new facility, and I expect there will be some chaos as we get everything organized. I hope everyone can bear with us as we get this all nailed down and operating. We want to do it right. I think everyone will be really impressed," he said.

He said the freezer space and dairy cases in the new store will be tripled in size, and "the deli is huge!" The opening of the adjacent Zup's liquor store and Essentia Pharmacy facility may be delayed this fall but will open as soon as possible, according to Zupancich.



Robert Norris, above, stocked coffee and tea products this week in preparation for the "soft" opening of the new Zup's Market in the former Shopko building in Ely. Manager Jimmy Zupancich, below, directed the installation of endcaps. photos by K. Vandervort



**WE BUY CLEAN USED VEHICLES**

**PRE-OWNED DEALS**

<p><b>2021 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 LT Crew Cab 4x4</b></p>  <p>MSRP \$50,565 Customer Cash -\$1,500 <b>* NOW \$49,065</b> <b>And Get 2.49% APR</b></p> <p><small>*2.49% APR up to 72 months on approved credit with GM Financial. Not compatible with all offers. Must take delivery by 11/1/2021.</small></p>	<p><b>2020 Jeep Cherokee Trailhawk 4x4</b></p>  <p><b>\$33,990</b></p>	<p><b>2019 Chevrolet Malibu LT</b></p>  <p><b>\$22,990</b></p>
--	---	---

**GREAT DEALS!**

**NEW INVENTORY ARRIVING DAILY**  
View Our Full Inventory at [www.waschke.com](http://www.waschke.com)

**WASCHKE FAMILY CHEVROLET • COOK**  
HRS: M-F 8am-6pm, Sat. 9am-2pm  
126 N Hwy. 53, Cook, MN  
218-666-5901 • 1-800-238-4545

## MANDATE...Continued from page 1

Sept. 13, six consecutive days of reports included 19 new cases across both sectors of the reservation. A record 27 new COVID cases were reported in less than two weeks at the end of September. At one point, there were as many as 12 active cases among children 18 and younger.

"It's alarming," said Bois Forte Tribal Chair Cathy Chavers at a recent meeting. "We have to protect our communities in both Nett Lake and Lake Vermilion. We want everyone to respect our wishes and to take steps to turn around the disturbing trend we're seeing with this pandemic. I wish it would just go away, but that's not going to be happening anytime soon."

However, the surge may have waned recently, as Bois Forte Public Health hasn't posted a new case announcement since Oct. 12, when four new cases were identified.

### Fortune Bay

Staffing at Fortune Bay has been stretched thin ever since they reopened in June 2020 after being closed for nearly three months due to the pandemic. Employees have been asked to do more, according to the release, even as some operations curtailed their hours of service.

The deadline for employees to notify resort managers of their intent to get vaccinated or to refuse was Monday.

"The numbers of those who said they will not get vaccinated have dropped, but any loss of staff will be tough to deal with," said Interim General Manager Elizabeth Deegan. "We'll assess the numbers again next week and see if we'll have to alter our hours of operation. Hopefully, we won't have to make that decision, but we also have to be realistic."

"These are certainly trying times," said Director of Human Resources Beth Adams. "Vaccine mandates have been imposed at several larger companies and as one of the largest employees on the Iron Range, we are not excluded from having to make hard decisions like this."

The Bois Forte Mobile Vaccine unit will be on site at Fortune Bay two more times before the Nov. 1 deadline for the added convenience of those employees who decide to

get vaccinated, the release said. To ward off having too many employees at one time who may feel the effects of the vaccine, a staggered model is being used to ensure departments are adequately staffed.

Adams said these are not easy decisions to make, but added that management has to follow the directives of the tribal council.

"They too have tough decisions to make," said

Adams. "As Chairwoman Chavers said, we all thought we'd be done with this pandemic by now, but unfortunately no one knows when we'll get back to a sense of normalcy."



**Smart people. Straight talk.**

**Paul Molitor**  
Baseball Hall of Famer and Manager

**Jim**  
UCare de-complicator

We make Medicare easier.

1-866-537-1281 (TTY 1-800-688-2534)

8 am to 8 pm, seven days a week.

Or call your local broker.



people powered health plans

UCare Minnesota is an HMO-POS plan with a Medicare contract. Enrollment in UCare Minnesota depends on contract renewal. Y0120\_2459\_11304\_092021\_C



# SPORTS

Serving northern  
St. Louis County  
since 1989

## VOLLEYBALL

### Ely routs Bigfork to finish 19-6

Heads into Section 7A playoffs as top-seed; will have bye in first round

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

ELY — The Timberwolves wrapped up an impressive regular season at home on Tuesday, as they thoroughly dominated Bigfork in straight sets, 25-17, 25-7, and 25-13.

The win will send Ely, now 19-6, into post-season action as the top seed in the Section 7A playoffs. They'll

enjoy a bye in the first round, which gets underway Monday, and will host their first playoff game on Wednesday.

"I am so proud of how hard these girls have worked this season," said Ely Head Coach Megan Wognum. "Now the real work begins as we head into the playoffs."

As she has much of the season, junior Rachel Coughlin led Ely offensively

against Bigfork, posting a game-high 11 kills. She added six digs, three aces, and a blocked shot to her totals for the night. Coughlin's sister Kate also had a strong night, posting seven kills, six digs, and two aces. Senior setter Katrina Seliskar added 25 assists, ten digs, three kills, and three aces, while senior Raven Sainio tallied four kills, a dig, and an ace.

**Right: Ely's Rachel Coughlin goes up high for a kill against Bigfork in their regular season finale.** photo by J. Greeney

In volleyball action on Monday, Rachel Coughlin had a huge night at Grand Marais as she led the Wolves to a 3-1 victory over the Vikings.

See **WOLVES...**pg. 2B



## FOOTBALL



### Twin routs lift Grizz as playoffs loom

T. J. Chiabotti eclipses historic career rushing mark at East Central

by DAVID COLBURN  
Cook-Orr Editor

FIELD TWP- Playing up a class against 7AA Mesabi East was no worry at all for the North Woods football team last week, as the Grizzlies notched their fourth consecutive win with a 44-6 home victory.

That streak moved to five on Tuesday with an easy 52-7 road triumph over winless East Central to wrap up a 6-2 regular season.

The Grizzlies have turned into a point-scoring juggernaut in the past four games, tallying 198 points in contests where the reserves have gotten extensive fourth-quarter playing time.

There's no arguing that senior running back T.J. Chiabotti is having a season

**Above: Grizzlies defenders T.J. Chiabotti, Jake Panichi, Eric Aune, and Jared Chiabotti gang tackle a Mesabi East runner.**

**Below: T.J. Chiabotti streaks past a Mesabi East defender on the way to an 88-yard touchdown run on his first carry of the day.** photos by D. Colburn

for the ages. With a 62-yard scoring jaunt against East Central, he became only the 19th player in Minnesota prep football history to rush for 5,000 career yards. His 320 yards and three touchdowns against Mesabi East vaulted Chiabotti to the top of the chart of the state's top

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



### Storm blow T-wolves away



by KEITH VANDERVORT  
Ely Editor

ELY — A challenging Ely football season didn't get any brighter last Friday, when the Timberwolves filled an open date on their schedule with an invitation to Hill City/Northland. The Storm blew into town with a vengeance, sweeping the Wolves away 32-0

**Left: Ely quarterback Mason Davis hands off to Jason Kerntz during last Friday's contest with Hill City.**

photo by K. Vandervort

in cold, drizzly conditions at Memorial Stadium.

Hill City, now 6-1, took the lead halfway through the first quarter on a short run into the end zone. They missed the two-point conversion, to leave the score 6-0.

Just 20 seconds later, the Storm picked off Ely quarterback Mason Davis and took it in to go up 12-0. "It was a broken play from the start," said Ely Coach Louis Gerzin. "We tried a screen play, but there was some miscommunication between the quarterback

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

## VOLLEYBALL

### Grizzlies drop final match to Chisholm

by DAVID COLBURN  
Cook-Orr Editor

CHISHOLM- The North Woods volleyball team closed out its regular season on Monday with a 3-1 loss to Chisholm in a match that provided mixed signals as the Grizzlies roll into sectional tournament action next week.

Having lost to the Bluestreaks in the Mesabi East tournament nine days prior, the Grizzlies came out of the box hot on Monday, getting good ball movement on offense as they opened a 6-0 lead in the first set. Appearing stunned, Chisholm shook off the Grizzlies' salvo and climbed back into the game, forging a tie at 9-9 on the way to their own six-point advantage at 20-14.

The Grizzlies' Skyler Yernatich halted the Bluestreaks surge as North Woods mounted a comeback, pulling to within 24-23 before losing the final point and game.

The Grizzlies had their strongest showing of the match in the second game, a 25-19 win made more notable by the fact that they accomplished it without the services of one of their starters, Hannah Kinsey, who left the game midway with an injury and did not return. Leading 13-9 at the time, the Grizzlies appeared determined not

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

### Shorthanded 'Hawks slip to Floodwood

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

FLOODWOOD — A COVID outbreak left the Nighthawks shorthanded, and it cost them in their regular season finale against Floodwood Monday night. The Polar Bears took it in straight sets, 25-19, 25-22, and 25-13.

"It was a tough way to end the season," said Northeast Range Head Coach Jodi Reichensperger. "We were playing without our normal setter and shuffled people around, which did not bode well."

The team's normally crisp passing wasn't apparent on Monday night and it showed in the stats as the 'Hawks managed just 20 kills. Senior standout Hannah Reichensperger, who has been averaging 25-plus kills a night in recent games, struggled to reach 15 against the Bears.

Natalie Nelmark added five kills on the night.

The team posted a whopping 46 digs, but that total showed a team on the defensive most of the night. "When you look at the stat sheet and have way more digs than kills

See **NIGHTHAWKS...**pg. 2B

## SWIMMING

# Another new school record for NER's Tedrick

by KEITH VANDERVORT  
Ely Editor

CLOQUET – Northeast Range High School's standout swimmer Lily Tedrick just keeps shaving time off the clock. She broke her own record yet again this month, this time against Cloquet/Esco/Carlton at a dual meet last Thursday. The junior took first place in the 100 Butterfly event with a time of 1:06.90.

That broke her previous record of 1:08.00 set earlier this month at the Rock Ridge Triangular. Tedrick had set her previous personal best and Nighthawk team record in 2019 with a time of 1:08.17.

"Tedrick is having a great season," said Coach Cheri Debeltz. "In fact, all the girls are doing very well."

At the CEC dual meet on Oct. 14, Tedrick also won the 200 Individual Medley with a

time of 2:30.81. Tedrick and the NER relay team of Anna Larson, Maggie Dammann and Morgan McClelland won the 200 Freestyle Relay in 1:56.15.

McClelland posted a second-place time of 6:34.11 in the 500 Freestyle. Tedrick, McClelland, Anna Larson and Alli Krekelberg finished the 400 Freestyle Relay in second place with a time of 4:22.37. CEC won the meet by a score of 119-48 points.

The Nighthawks competed in the True Team 7A Sections last Saturday in Duluth. "The cool thing about this meet is everyone who swims scores points for the team," Debeltz said. NER finished tenth out of 11 teams with 800 points.

Tedrick posted a fifth-place finish in the 200 Individual Medley with a time of 2:33.09, and a sixth-place finish in the 100 Butterfly with a time of 1:09.94. Tedrick, McClelland, Larson and

Kelly Thompson finished fourth in the 200 Freestyle Relay in 1:51.98. That same Nighthawks' relay team posted a seventh-place finish in the 400 Freestyle Relay with a time of 4:08.69.

Northeast Range was scheduled to host International Falls on Tuesday, Oct. 19, and Chisholm on Tuesday, Oct. 26.

## FOOTBALL...Continued from page 1B

and the running backs."

As has been the case much of the season, the Wolves' offense never seemed to gel, and that left Hill City in charge throughout. They added six more points on a long drive early in the second quarter and struck again on a long pass just ahead of the break to take a 24-0 lead into the locker room.

The Storm scored on their first possession in the third

quarter and added a two-point conversion to take a 32-0 lead.

"I thought we played with them for most of the game except for six plays," Gerzin said. "We had some blown coverages and some broken plays, but a handful of plays swung the game in their favor."

Jason Kerntz was Ely's top producer offensively, racking up 84 yards rushing, while Drake Hanninen and Eddie

Prijatel added 20 yards apiece. Davis totaled 39 yards passing, including two strikes for a total of 23 yards to Erron Anderson.

Prijatel led the defense with 13 tackles, while Deegan Richards added eight tackles. Anderson and Chase Sandberg each had six tackles, and Hanninen added five.

Senior halfback Harry Simons missed the game with a high ankle sprain injury and

was set to remain on the sideline on Wednesday night (after the *Timberjay's* weekly presstime) when Ely traveled to Kelliher/Northome/Littlefork-Big Falls for their final regular season game. The Timberwolves will be on the road for a Section 7 playoff game on Tuesday, Oct. 26. Their opponent is to be announced this weekend.

## WOLVES...Continued from page 1B

Coughlin posted 19 kills and 23 digs and served up an ace in one of the best performances of her career to date. The Wolves took the first set 25-21, then dropped a close second set 25-27 before rebounding for solid wins, 25-14, 25-16, to cap the match.

"It was an excellent game for the Wolves tonight," said Ely Head Coach Megan Wognum. "We had to fine tune our passing a bit after the first set and the players stepped up

and did just that," she added.

Coughlin wasn't the only Ely player with a big night Monday. Thomas, who has been one of the top producers for the Wolves all season posted an impressive 11 kills, 16 digs, and a block. Seliskar also had a strong performance, with 41 set assists, 13 digs, and three aces. Kate Coughlin tallied five kills in addition to 18 digs and a pair of aces, while junior Madeline Kallberg added six kills, three digs, and

two aces. Senior Raven Sainio added two kills and nine digs, while fellow senior Charly Flom added nine digs.

Rachel Coughlin led the Wolves offensively last Thursday as well, when Ely treated visiting Nashauk-Keewatin to a three-set drubbing, 25-9, 25-19, and 25-17. Coughlin posted 11 kills, nine digs, and blocked four shots, while Thomas added four kills, 11 digs, and three blocked shots. Kallberg added

five kills and five digs while Kate Coughlin posted two kills, 11 digs. Seliskar added 28 set assists, two digs, and three aces. A total of a dozen Ely players posted stats for the match, showing the team's depth.

"We had solid fundamentals all around," said Wognum. "It was nice to be able to get some other players on the court for a bit as well."

## NW GIRLS...Continued from page 1B

to let this one slip away. Getting consistently strong passing and sets, Abigail Shuster, Morgan Burnett, and Yernatich kept the Bluestreaks off balance offensively and never let Chisholm get closer than three points as they knotted the match 1-1.

Game three was a barn-burner, with the lead swapping sides six times as neither team

enjoyed a lead greater than three until the end. North Woods held a tenuous 20-17 lead when Chisholm suddenly went on a tear, reeling off six consecutive points before the Grizzlies' Tori Olson stopped the streak with a deep kill shot. It wasn't enough, however, as Chisholm notched the come-from-behind victory, 25-21.

The Grizzlies were never in the fourth game, looking tentative and defensive as they fell behind 13-4 en route to a 25-14 loss.

North Woods finished the regular season with a record of 11-14, going 9-9 against 7A sectional opponents and 3-3 in their final six matches. The Grizzlies, back at full strength

after a series of midseason matches where many of their starters were absent from the lineup, have been fine-tuning their rotations for a sectional tournament run, but with Kinsey's status uncertain, they may need to again lean more heavily on their reserves. The sectional tournament bracket was not available at press time.

## NIGHTHAWKS...Continued from page 1B

or even hitting attempts, that means trouble," said Reichensperger.

Contributing to the dig total were Reichensperger, with 13, senior Erin Backe (12), freshman Danica Sundblad (11), and senior Audrey Anderson (10). Anderson also filled in

as setter for freshman Maizy Sundblad, posting 20 assists. A Tuesday night game, that was previously scheduled to be the 'Hawks final regular season match-up, was canceled, which left Northeast Range looking ahead to the post-season.

Despite the loss, the

'Hawks wrapped up the regular season at 15-9, good for second seed in the Section 7A playoffs, which get underway on Monday. The 'Hawks will have a first-round bye and will host their first playoff game on Wednesday.

**'Hawks top Mariners**

The shorthanded 'Hawks had more success against Silver Bay last Thursday, after they adjusted to a 25-20 first-set loss to take the next three sets 25-17, 25-13, and 25-21.

Senior Hannah Reichensperger had another huge night, posting 27 kills,

16 digs and eight blocked shots. "We were able to get our bearings and pull it together for the win," said Nighthawks Head Coach Jodi Reichensperger.

Hannah had help from senior Natalie Nelmark, who posted eight kills, 17 digs and a block. Senior

Erin Backe added 21 digs and two kills, while senior Thia Lossing added ten digs and two kills. Senior Audrey Anderson filled in as setter and posted 27 assists and nine digs.

## GRIZZ...Continued from page 1B

ground gainers, according to the *Minneapolis Star-Tribune's* MN Football Hub, with 1,659 rushing yards. That's 53 more than second-place Academy of Holy Angels back Emmett Johnson, and Chiabotti got there with 49 fewer carries than Johnson, averaging 10.8 yards a carry. Toss in his pass catching, and Chiabotti is over 1,800 all-purpose yards for seven games with 24 touchdowns and 158 total points.

But Chiabotti is the first to acknowledge that he wouldn't be having such a phenomenal season if not for a group of teammates who play under the radar, a group Chiabotti praised on his Twitter account after the Mesabi East game.

"Our linemen are playing lights out!" Chiabotti wrote. "TEAM!" The Grizzlies' offensive line was a unit in flux in the early part of the season, with some players getting used to new positions while others missed playing time due to injuries or illness. But in the latter part of the season, the line has coalesced around a core group of starters.

Grizzlies Head Coach Joel Anderson calls senior Ethan Byrum the anchor of the offensive line, not only for his talent but his

leadership.

"He gets it, he's been doing it a long time," Anderson said. "He's helping direct traffic out there."

Carter Holman transitioned from splitting carries in the backfield to the line, and Anderson talked about the senior guard's upsides.

"He's filling some big roles for us," he said. "He's big, he's a strong kid, and he's very fast and physical."

At 6'6" and 226 pounds, junior Anevay Goodsky-Spears is an imposing figure for any defender unlucky enough to line up across from him.

"If you were to draw up a lineman that coaches at the next level want to see, that's him," Anderson said.

Freshman Nick Abramson is another runner who nailed down a starting role as a lineman, and while Anderson said he'll probably return to the backfield in a year or two, Abramson's performance has been key to the unit's success.

Junior Kohen Briggs holds down the middle of the line at center.

"He's been working at getting quicker feet after snapping the ball," Anderson said. "This year we've had very good center-quarterback exchanges,

even last Thursday (against Mesabi East) in conditions that were about as unfavorable as you could get."

At 6'1" and 223 pounds, junior tight end Olin Nelson has the size, speed, and hands Anderson needed to round out the Grizzlies' front six.

"He's another one of those kids that at a younger level was a back," Anderson said. "In his first couple of years of varsity he played receiver. These are all the kind of guys that can collapse the side of a defensive line by themselves, and you put them together and move them around and it's a lot of fun to watch."

**Mesabi East**

On the Grizzlies' first offensive play from scrimmage against the Giants, the line opened a big hole for Chiabotti, who then cut to the sideline and sprinted 88 yards for a touchdown, setting in motion a dominating performance against their 7AA opponent.

Chiabotti followed that up with a 33-yard scoring run, and the Grizzlies capitalized on a Jake Panichi interception with a 52-yard scoring drive capped by a one-yard yard from Panichi. With conversion passes from Ty Fabish to Jared Chiabotti and Nelson, the Grizzlies had a comfort-

able 22-0 lead with 4:38 left in the first half.

After Mesabi East returned the ensuing kickoff for its only score of the evening, North Woods answered with another T.J. Chiabotti touchdown, a 14-yard scamper. Getting the ball back again at their own 29-yard line with only two minutes left before the half, the Grizzlies quickly moved downfield. Wideout Eric Aune hauled in a leaping 21-yard sideline reception to set the Grizzlies up at the Giants' 32. On first down at the 20, Fabish lobbed a pass that Jared Chiabotti scaled the ladder to catch over a Giants defender at the five before whirling and diving into the end zone for the score. T.J. Chiabotti's conversion put the Grizzlies up 36-6 at the half.

North Woods scored its final touchdown on the opening drive of the second half, an 80-yard gem topped off by another Fabish touchdown pass, this one an 18-yarder to Aune.

"They made us have to adjust in what we were doing both offensively and defensively, so there were a lot of positives that came out of that game," Anderson said. "I think it was one of our more complete games of the year."

**East Central**

Tuesday's contest against East Central was one in which Anderson challenged the Grizzlies to dictate their own level of play. The Eagles were winless in six attempts, losing by an average score of 54-7, and there was little doubt going in that North Woods would walk away with a win.

Dictate they did, as North Woods was up 44-0 at the half before swapping second-half touchdowns in the 52-7 drubbing.

The Grizzlies added a new wrinkle to the offense on their first score, a 65-yard pitch-and-pass combo from Jared Chiabotti to Aune on the third play of their first possession. Aune was also on the receiving end of a 23-yard touchdown pass from Fabish.

It was a breakout night for quarterback Fabish, as four of his six completions went for touchdowns, including 65 and 37-yarders to Jared Chiabotti and a five-yarder to Olin Nelson.

T.J. Chiabotti only touched the ball 11 times but racked up 159 yards rushing with two touchdowns and two conversions.

"We threw the ball a little bit this game," Anderson said. "We had a

## CROSS COUNTRY

### Ely boys top field at I-Falls

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

I-FALLS— The Ely boys cross-country team finished seven runners in the top 12 spots during the Hial Pike meet held here Oct. 12, to finish first in the three-way contest with 23 points. Mesabi East finished second (44 points), while the host Broncos held up the rear (70 points). Mt. Iron-Buhl fielded only a partial team and didn't factor into the team totals.

Ely senior Gabe Pointer finished fourth overall, with a time of 18:19.7. Junior Jake Cochran and freshman Caid Chittum finished fifth and sixth respectively with times of 18:22.4 and 19:00.30. Junior Ben Cavalier took the eighth position (19:03.8) while sophomore Leo Stalmer finished tenth (19:30.5), freshman Silas Solum took 11th (19:42.8), and senior Jon Hakala finished twelfth (19:43.9).

In the girls competition, Ely junior Zoe Devine finished third overall, with a time of 20:51.6, to help lift Ely to a second-place team finish in the competition. Fellow junior Phoebe Helms finished in sixth place with a time of 22:07.9. Freshman Anna Dunn finished in 11th place (23:15.8) while senior Gracie Pointer took 12th with a time of 24:23.9.

Mesabi East finished first in the team tally, with 30 points, to Ely's 44 points. International Falls took up the rear with 47 points.

nice mix of pass and run."

**Sectionals**

Section 7A playoff matchups weren't available by presstime, but at 6-2 the Grizzlies are a lock for a first-round home game at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 26. If the Grizzlies make it through the first two rounds and seeds hold, North Woods would be looking at a rematch against undefeated Deer River in the sectional final on Nov. 5 in Proctor.



**PETERSEN DRILLING**  
Since 1948  
Wells  
Water Systems

- PUMPS
- WELLS
- HYDRO-FRACKING

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

## Obituaries and Death Notices

**Alan D. Kittelson**

Alan "Al" Duane Kittelson, 63, of Virginia, died on Tuesday, Oct. 12, 2021, in Virginia. A visitation will be held from 11:30 a.m. until the 12 noon memorial service on Friday, Oct. 22 at Bauman-Cron Funeral Home Chapel in Virginia. Pastor Liz Cheney will officiate. Lunch will follow. Family services are provided by Bauman Family Funeral Homes in Virginia.

Al was born in Albert Lea, and grew up in Lafayette, Ind., and Schaumburg, Ill. He was mostly known for his sense of humor and his love of the Northwoods. His favorites were bird watching on the lake, fishing, and his old Jeep named "Mule". His professions were many and included house painting, and working at Fortune Bay, Walmart in Pine City, and Minntac. Al will be missed by his many friends and family.

Al is reminding us....."Don't forget about how I loved to make people smile. I met Margaret Whiting in the late 80's. We were a family of three including her daughter, Heidi, until our son, Ryan Oliver Kittelson, was born in 1989 in Minneapolis. Ryan and Kayla Aho gave me three beautiful grandchildren and live in NYA. My mother and father, Duane and Darlene Kittelson, have lived near Tower for many years and my sister lives in Mesa, Ariz."

"I am preceded in death by my brother, Bruce Edward. Many people knew my grandparents, George and Helen

Kittelson of Albert Lea, and Herbert and Dena Peterson of Emmons."

**Judy Dabruzzo**

Judy Seibert Dabruzzo, 71, of Woodbury, and a 37-year island resident on Pelican Lake in Orr, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, Oct. 12, 2021, with family present. Northern Minnesota has been a slice of heaven for the family as they all live near the Twin Cities. A funeral service was held on Tuesday, Oct. 19 at Wulff Woodbury Funeral Home in Woodbury. Memorials are referred to the family.

She is survived and will be deeply missed by her husband, David; children, Dr. Danielle Dabruzzo-Hintz (Matt) and Anthony Dabruzzo (Megan); granddaughter, Victoria Hintz; siblings, Jean Bednar (James), Martin Seibert (Sybil), Linda Ek (Jim), Lonie Seibert and Debra Mordick (Brad); sisters-in-law, Debbie Lynch, Linda Holter, Kathy Seibert and Delores Seibert; and many other family members.

**Gerald C. Jacobson**

Gerald C. "Jake" Jacobson, 79, of Ely, passed away on Sunday, Oct. 17, 2021, after a battle with cancer. Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 25 at Veterans On The Lake with military honors provided by the Ely Honor Guard. Family arrangements have been entrusted to Kertz Funeral Home of Ely.

He is survived by his wife, Sue Kauppi Jacobson; daughter, Barbara

(David Stone) Anderson; Jacobson, Steven (Molly) Jacobson and Lee (Cristin McMullen) Jacobson; grandchildren, Jessica Anderson, Emily Jacobson, Lindsay Jacobson and Sam Jacobson; sisters, Joyce (Scott) Seifert and Lorraine Haas; brothers, Larry (Susan) Jacobson and David (Julie) Jacobson.

**Leonard F. Lubarski**

Leonard Francis Lubarski, 83, a longtime resident of Embarrass, passed away on Sunday, Oct. 17, 2021, at North Star Manor in Warren with his family by his side. He will be buried next to his wife, Shirley Gentilini, at a graveside gathering at noon on Friday, Oct. 29 in the East Pike Cemetery in Pike Township.

He is survived by his children, Mike (Dierdre) Lubarski of LaPorte, Linda (Dean) Isaacson of Crookston, Bob (Sandy) Lubarski of Minnetonka and Veronica (Jeff) Halvorson of Warren; 10 grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren; siblings, Gary Lubarski, Shirley Anfinson and Patricia Hoepfer; and Shirley's children, Connie Hermanson, Deborah Hart, Cindy Forseen, Susan Austin and Steve Gentilini.

**Frank J. Korpi**

Frank J. Korpi, 83, of Soudan and Ely Island-Lake Vermilion, went home to be with the Lord on Wednesday, Oct. 13, 2021. A celebration of life is being planned for the spring or summer of 2022. The family prefers donations in Frank's name to the Honor Flight Network at [honorflight.org](https://padlet.com/RememberingFrank/2021). Anyone wishing to share a memory of Frank is invited to post or comment at <https://padlet.com/RememberingFrank/2021>.

He is survived by his soulmate, Eunice Harju Korpi; nine children, Tim Korpi of Soudan, Scott Korpi (Sherry) of Land O'

Lakes, Fla., Rhonda McConnell of Tampa, Fla., Douglas Korpi of Mt. Iron, Amy Curfman (Kevin) of Palo, Melanie Korpi of St. Petersburg, Fla., Lyle Korpi (Rosemie) of Lutz, Fla., Alan Korpi (Barbara) of Jupiter, Fla., and Ryan Korpi of Mt. Iron; eight grandchildren, David Tedman (Harmony), Steven Solkela, Kirsten McConnell, Nicholas Korpi, Noah Korpi, Nolan Korpi, Audrey Curfman and Zach Curfman; and two great-grandchildren, John Tedman and Ellie Curfman.

**Lloyd E. Reing**

Lloyd Elwood Reing, 88, of Cook, passed away on Tuesday, Oct. 12, 2021, at the Cook Hospital with his family by his side. A memorial visitation will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 23 at Mlaker Funeral Home in Cook, followed by burial with military rites at the Cook Community Cemetery. Arrangements are with Mlaker Funeral Home in Cook.

**Lyle F. Conaway**

Lyle F. Conaway, 91, of Virginia, died on Saturday, Oct. 9, 2021, at Waterview Pines in Eveleth with his daughters by his side. A memorial gathering will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 23 at the Virginia Servicemen's Club. Memorials are preferred. Family services are provided by Bauman-Cron, a Bauman Family Funeral Home in Virginia.

He is survived by his eight children, Dan (Shirley) of Orr, Dave (Mary Lou) of Virginia, Kate (Nick) Pershern of Virginia, Kurt (Deb) of Eveleth, Scott of Two Harbors, Maureen Holappa of Virginia, Brian (Diane) of Britt and Pete of Virginia; flying buddy, John Mohr and his family; 19 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; extended family and friends.

**Emery C. Trangsrud**

Emery Clarence Trangsrud, 90, a longtime resident of Embarrass, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, Oct. 12, 2021, at Waterview Pines in Virginia. A graveside service with military honors was held on Tuesday, Oct. 19 in the Embarrass Cemetery. Arrangements were with Ziemer-Moeglein-Shatava Funeral Home in Aurora.

He is survived by his four children, Mark of Blaine, Wash., Bradley (Sue) of Roseau and Julie of Sanford, Fla.; six grandchildren, Carrie (Paul), Sarah (Brian), Donovan (Natasha), Andrew, Katie (Christian) and Emily; eight great-grandchildren, Tanner, Dillon, Breydon, Jacob, Annabelle, Colin and Evie Mae; brother-in-law, Ron Solberg; brothers, Julian and Milo; sister, Elna; and many nieces and nephews.

**Clarence W. Ivonon**

Clarence W. Ivonon, 99, a longtime resident of Virginia, originally of Ely, died on Friday, Oct. 8, 2021, at Waterview Pines in Virginia. Private family inurnment services will be held. A celebration of life will be held at a future date. Memorials are preferred and may be directed to the East Range Hospice Team, the Virginia Salvation Army, or a memorial of the donor's choice. Family services are provided by Bauman-Cron, a Bauman Family Funeral Home in Virginia.

He is survived by his wife of 67 years, Eila Nurminen Ivonon; daughter, Kristina "Tia" (Brian) Ivonon-Smith; grandchildren, Kyle R. Smith (Megan), Senja A. Smith (Nacia); great-grandson, Layton James Smith; nieces, nephews, extended family and friends.

**Evelyn A. Koski**

Evelyn A. "Evie" Lehto Koski, 86, of Virginia and Birch Lake-Babbitt, originally of Embarrass, passed away on Wednesday, Oct. 13, 2021, at Heritage Manor Nursing Home in Chisholm. The family would like to express their sincere thanks to the Heritage Manor Staff for their kind care of Evelyn.

Per her request, there will be no service. Private burial will be at a later date. Arrangements are with Landmark Funeral Home in Virginia.

She is survived by her four children, Debby (Tom) Smuk, Dee (Gary) Kochevar, Mike (Joanne) Koski and Dawn (Stephen) French; nine grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

**Aileen E. Aho**

Aileen Evelyn Alto Aho, 78, of Virginia, passed away on Wednesday, Oct. 13, 2021, at Essentia Health in Virginia. The family would like to thank the staff at the Essentia Health Virginia Emergency Room and Intensive Care Unit for the wonderful care Aileen received. Private family services will be held at a later date. Arrangements are with Range Funeral Home in Virginia.

She is survived by her children, Warren Aho of Cherry, Deanna Leppala of Embarrass and Keri (Tony) Kaml of Pengilly; son-in-law, Brian Leppala of rural Virginia; granddaughter, Amanda (Erik) Johnson of Pengilly; grandson, Cody Leppala of rural Virginia; brother-in-law, David Aho of rural Virginia; nephews, Ken Aho of Biwabik and Roy Aho of Texas; niece, Kim Aho of Grass Valley, Calif.; numerous cousins, other relatives and friends.

**Fruit Favorites Gift Box**

ONLY **\$23.99\***  
Special, limited-time offer!

SAVE \$15!  
Reg. Price \$37.99

Call 1-844-903-4510 to order item 296X or Visit [HaleGroves.com/H2YF48](http://HaleGroves.com/H2YF48)  
\*Only \$23.99 (reg. \$37.99) plus \$5.99 shipping and handling per pack to 48 contiguous states. Some restrictions may apply. IC: H2YF48

**NORTHERN COMMUNITY RADIO**  
KAXE 91.7 FM Grand Rapids  
89.9 FM Brainerd  
KBXE 90.5 FM Bagley/Bemidji

Independent, nonprofit community radio serving Northern Minnesota.

**NOW BROADCASTING IN ELY**  
**103.9 FM**

**EBCH**  
Ely-Bloomenson Community Hospital

**Ask Brock the Doc**  
COVID-19 Masking

**Q: When should I be wearing a mask?**  
**A:** Due to the highly contagious Delta variant, it is recommended that fully vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals wear their masks in the following settings:

- Indoor businesses and crowded settings
- Crowded outdoor public locations in areas with higher transmission rates
- Schools, healthcare settings, homeless shelters, and correctional facilities

It is also recommend for immunocompromised people or people who live with, or frequently interact with someone who is immunocompromised, to mask up anytime they interact with anyone outside their home.

**Q: Why does wearing a mask help stop the spread of COVID-19?**  
**A:** The virus that causes COVID-19 is mainly spread by respiratory droplets when people breathe, talk, cough, or sneeze. Wearing a well-fitted mask helps to stop these droplets from spreading to others. Wearing a mask is important because nearly 40-50% of people with COVID-19 do not have symptoms. Even without symptoms, you can still spread the virus. Wearing a mask is only **ONE** factor in stopping the spread of COVID-19. You should still follow all recommendations, including staying home if you are sick unless you need medical care, socially distance by staying 6 feet from others and washing your hands often. By following these recommendations, you can provide an extra layers of protection against getting and spreading COVID-19.

Dr. Brock Urie is an Emergency Room Physician and the Chief Medical Officer at Ely-Bloomenson Community Hospital. Dr. Urie graduated from the University of MN, Duluth, with his Bachelor's Degree in Biology and attended Medical School at the University of Minnesota School of Medicine. He completed his Residency in Emergency Medicine at Western Michigan Universities School of Medicine in 2015. During residency, Dr. Urie served as a flight physician and county medical control physician, and a clinical instructor of Emergency Medicine.

[ebch.org](http://ebch.org) 328 W. Conan St.  
Ely, MN 55731  
218-365-3271

Ely-Bloomenson Community Hospital is committed to caring for and enhancing the health and well being of the community it serves.



# Outdoors

Our lives in the  
Northwoods

## WHITETAILS

### Deer hunters will find good access, below-goal numbers



REGIONAL—Nearly half a million firearms deer hunters are preparing for the firearms deer season that opens Saturday, Nov. 6, and offers opportunity to spend time outdoors with friends and family, find adventure, and put venison in the freezer.

Hunters help keep deer numbers in line with population goals across the state and deer hunting is the primary tool used to manage deer populations. Managing

deer populations contributes to the overall sustainability of Minnesota's landscapes, natural systems and economy.

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources' wildlife managers report favorable weather so far this year and good opportunities to harvest deer in most areas. Currently, managers report dry conditions that can improve hunter access due to low water conditions in wetlands, floodplains and small water bodies.

Hunters need to know the boundaries of the deer permit areas and any chronic wasting disease regulations that apply where they hunt. Detailed information about each permit area and CWD area can be found on the DNR's interactive deer map. Additional information about CWD areas, carcass movement restrictions, and voluntary sampling can be found at [mndnr.gov/cwd](http://mndnr.gov/cwd).

#### Northeast Minnesota outlook

The Arrowhead region is coming off a milder-than-usual winter in 2020-21, but that doesn't mean that hunters should expect to see an abundance of deer in most locations, as most permit areas remain below goal.

Because white-tailed deer are adaptable and highly

See **OUTLOOK**, pg. 5B



## LIFE FORMS

### The blob of many colors

The more we learn about slime molds, the stranger they appear

**B**ack in my college years, I spent a year at the University of Oregon in Eugene, which was where I first became aware of the unusual nature of slime molds. My soon-to-be-wife Jodi and I lived in a small house near campus that winter and, like a lot of student housing, the place had its issues. It was the slime mold that came through the window rail in our bedroom that winter that told us we could add rotting windows to the list.

The soft yellow blob oozed its way through the window and spent a couple months there, before developing fruiting bodies and subsequently drying up as weeks of winter rain turned into a pleasant spring, along about February.

I've paid attention to slime molds ever since. While Oregon's oh-so-wet but mercifully short winters make great conditions for slime molds, it turns out they are remarkably versatile and widespread, being found on every continent on Earth save for Antarctica. We have lots of them residing here in the North Country.

Yet, to say they are unusual hardly tells the tale. To this day, even those who research slime molds aren't entirely sure what they are, or at least how they relate in evolution-

**Above: A large bright yellow slime mold photographed earlier this year near Tower appears to engulf downed wood. This variety is known as "dog vomit slime mold."**

**Right: A different variety of slime mold was photographed last week. This one appeared elevated off the ground on grass stalks. These "growths" are actually collectives of millions of single-celled, amoeba-like creatures that normally go about their business independently, consuming organic matter for food.**

ary terms with the rest of life on this planet. For years, scientists classified slime molds as fungi. They aren't classified that way any longer, but that's about as much as scientists can say with agreement. Some lump them with protists, while others think they are better lumped with amoebas.

Regardless of how they're classified, slime molds are all around us, but they usually aren't very obvious. For the most part, they live as microscopic, single-celled organisms in the soil, or your lawn, or the forest leaf litter, where they slowly move along, ingesting organic matter along the way. They only "appear" in a way that we can detect on the rare occasions when they



assemble en masse, usually during periods of food shortage, when the organisms assemble to procreate. Such an assemblage is known as a plasmodium and they can appear in a variety of colors. A bright yellow variety, which has been unceremoniously named "dog vomit slime mold," is often seen in our area. I found one last week, growing in the grass along a roadside, that was a tannish-white, although they can appear in pink, purple, and gray, depending on the variety. The texture is soft, gel-like, and almost drippy at times, often with many folds that can give the slime mold a brain-like appearance.

When assembled, this collective of millions of once-independent cells begins to act like a single organism. Some of the cells convert themselves into fruiting bodies, known as sporangia, which will produce the millions of spores that will perpetuate the next generation of the slime mold.

Surprisingly, slime molds get even weirder. Many scientists who've studied slime molds agree that, once assembled as a collective, they seem to maintain a kind of intelligence, which is remarkable given that they are

See **SLIME**, pg. 5B

## WILDLIFE

### Feds face lawsuit over lynx trapping

by **MARSHALL HELMBERGER**  
Managing Editor

REGIONAL—The USDA's Animal Services division killed just over 1.5 million wild creatures last year, which ranged from 8,524 common ravens to 626 great blue herons, to 13 northern cardinals, to 707 river otters.

Most of the killings were intentional, undertaken by federal trappers, although thousands of birds and mammals are unintentionally killed by the service each year as well. That has included threatened and endangered species, like the Canada lynx, and it's those deaths that appear likely to land the federal agency in court.

The Center for Biological Diversity has filed a notice of intent to sue the agency over the deaths of several lynx in Minnesota over the past several years. In a press statement, the CBD says it plans to sue over Animal Services' inadequate analysis of the risks to lynx as a result of the agency's wolf-trapping program in the state. That program killed 203 wolves, 167 coyotes, and 30 foxes last year.

"Wildlife Services' cruel killing of wolves and other wildlife is harmful and totally out of touch with science," said Collette Adkins, carnivore conservation program director at the CBD. "The science shows that nonlethal methods of addressing conflicts with wolves work. We're hoping to force federal officials to consider alternatives to all this needless killing."

The CBD is asking Animal Services to work with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to analyze and mitigate the adverse effects of the federal program on the lynx.

The CBD has an ongoing lawsuit against the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources for state-permitted fur-trapping, which is also causing injury and death to lynx.

"Year after year we see sickening reports of lynx getting caught and even killed by traps set for wolves and other animals," said Adkins. "Instead of relying on barbaric and indiscriminate traps to kill predators, governmental agencies should work with livestock operators to implement modern measures to prevent conflicts with wildlife."

The notice of intent to sue starts a 60-day clock, after which the CBD can file its lawsuit.



**MARSHALL HELMBERGER**

REFLECTIONS OF FALL



Morning light and golden aspen and birch leaves reflected in the calm waters of Robinson Lake Monday morning. photo by M. Helmberger

Outdoors briefly

**Powwow Trail reopening to be celebrated Oct. 30**

ISABELLA — The U.S. Forest Service and the Boundary Waters Advisory Council will host a celebration of the completion of the reconstruction of the Powwow Trail, which was nearly destroyed as a result of the 2011 Pagami Creek Fire.

The event is set for 1.-2:30 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 30, at the trailhead entry point at Forest Center, near Isabella.

The celebration is set to mark the end of a ten-year effort to reclaim the 30-mile-long wilderness hiking trail, which was effectively lost as a result of the Pagami Creek Fire as thousands of burned trees toppled into the trail, rendering it impassable. At the same time, a dense flush of new jack pine trees, that sprouted in the wake of the fire, further choked the trail.

While many had assumed the trail could

never be reclaimed, the Boundary Waters Advisory Committee, led by Martin Kubik, helped to organize 150 crews of volunteers over the years to reopen the route. The crews cut more than 20,000 deadfalls— by hand, since chain saws are prohibited in the BWCAW. With the successful trail effort completed, the Forest Service has renewed efforts to restore several campsites along the trail and recently replaced the aging trailhead kiosk near Forest Center. The Forest Service and the BWAC also coordinated on the replacement of an aging trail bridge at Diana Lake.

Speaking at the event will be John Benson, Forest Service recreation planner, Martin Kubik, founder of the BWAC and of the Kekekabic Trail Club, Susan Pollock, BWAC president, and BJ Kohlstedt, Pagami Creek fire coordinator. Shannon Rische, Superior National Forest Deputy Forest Supervisor, and other Forest Service officials will be attending.

**LAKE COUNTRY FORECAST** from NOAA weather

Friday				Saturday				Sunday				Monday				Tuesday			
42 27				44 28				47 35				49 40				56 37			
Ely	Hi	Lo	Prec. Sn.	Emb.	Hi	Lo	Prec. Sn.	Cook	Hi	Lo	Prec. Sn.	Orr	Hi	Lo	Prec. Sn.	Tower	Hi	Lo	Prec. Sn.
10/11	66	50	0.06	10/11	67	50	0.12	10/11	65	50	0.45	10/11	55	50	1.75	10/11	67	50	0.07
10/12	58	53	0.01	10/12	58	52	0.01	10/12	56	50	0.01	10/12	64	46	0.01	10/12	56	51	0.00
10/13	59	53	0.00	10/13	59	52	0.00	10/13	58	49	0.00	10/13	57	45	0.01	10/13	58	51	0.00
10/14	58	49	0.04	10/14	58	48	0.03	10/14	58	46	0.17	10/14	50	45	0.30	10/14	58	46	0.10
10/15	50	43	0.00	10/15	50	42	0.00	10/15	51	43	0.01	10/15	45	39	0.01	10/15	51	43	0.00
10/16	47	37	0.08	10/16	46	35	0.06	10/16	46	43	0.08	10/16	55	34	0.00	10/16	47	34	0.15
10/17	56	29	0.00	10/17	56	28	0.00	10/17	56	36	0.00	10/17	64	32	0.00	10/17	56	29	0.00
Total	15.36			YTD Total	18.56			YTD Total	17.76			YTD Total	19.74			YTD Total	21.00		

Outdoors briefly

**Mixed reports on ruffed grouse season so far**

REGIONAL—Some hunters have zigged while others have zagged and that's led to a mixed bag of reports of the ruffed grouse season to date, according to Tom Rusch, DNR Tower area wildlife manager.

The best few weeks of the season are here, however, with the

leaves now mostly down and with the summers broods beginning to disperse.

"I've heard some glowing reports and some sour grapes," said Rusch. "And like fishing, the glowing reports tend to come through pretty tight lips."

As usual, hunter effort is likely to make the difference when it comes to hunter success, notes Rusch.

Hunters who've spent time in the woods have been reporting finding significant numbers of birds in some cases. So, get out and take advantage of the season.

**SLIME...**Continued from page 4B

absent a brain or any of the neurons that we have traditionally believed were essential to intelligence. Yet, just as we're now starting to recognize that plants have a form of collective intelligence, or at least an ability to communicate, it is becoming clear that slime molds can be remarkably smart when it comes to certain tasks, like finding food in the most efficient manner possible.

One truly evocative study

placed a small bright yellow slime mold collective atop a map of Canada. Then, the researcher placed rolled oats, which slime molds really like, on top of the map, located at each of the major Canadian population centers. The slime molds could somehow detect the presence of the rolled outs and sent threads of bright yellow cells out to make contact with each of the food sources. By the time the slime molds had contacted

all of the oats, the yellow threads were a nearly perfect overlay of the Canadian highway system.

The study wasn't just a fluke. Researchers have recreated similar experiments and have found that slime molds are remarkably efficient— at least as efficient as a highway engineer— at finding the shortest path between two food sources. How they do that without eyes or any other of the senses we

**OUTLOOK...**Continued from page 4B

mobile, this year's drought is not expected to negatively impact deer populations.

Drought conditions are expected to increase access opportunities in some areas like wetland, stream and lakeshore habitats, but in general, hunter access due to local surface water impacts is expected to be close to normal.

Every deer permit area is unique, with different mixes of deer habitat quality and land ownership. Permit areas also experience different levels of seasonal weather, predator pressures and deer survival, especially over winters, affecting local deer numbers and hunter success. In the northeast region, three interrelated factors have the most impact on the deer population: forest habitat quality, winter severity and pre-

dation.

Long-term trends in forest management have less impact on the deer herd when conditions are mild or normal because deer are able to move easily to find food and cover. During severe winters, thermal cover and forage availability become more important. Deer have more difficulty moving around and may become more susceptible to predation. Forest cover, food availability and predator numbers, as well as hunting pressure, vary across the landscape and can make a big difference on deer populations at a local level. Deer populations are typically higher on private land as opposed to public land.

Hunters are expected to encounter the most deer in areas of mixed habitat where there is a blend of

forest and open fields of private land. Areas farther north with extensive public lands are still struggling to recover from past harsh winters. It's important to acknowledge that the deer population recovery is typically faster in the south and southwestern part of the region, while recovery generally takes longer when moving to the north and northeast.

Bag limits will be conservative again this fall in most deer permit areas to give local deer populations the chance to grow more in areas where their numbers are still below the established, publicly vetted population goals. The DNR will be reviewing deer population goals for additional deer permit areas in the northeast region this winter.

**YOUR HOME-DECOR STORE**

All furniture may not be as shown.

**ANDERSON FURNITURE & KITCHENS**  
AndersonFurnitureCompany.com  
214 2nd Ave. S, Virginia, MN • 218-741-9356

INTEREST FREE FINANCING AND LAYAWAY AVAILABLE

**MIKE'S LIQUOR**  
401 E. Sheridan, Ely MN • 218-365-5087

**Introducing....Dog Brew**  
by Anheuser-Busch  
*Limited quantities • so stop today!*

**INTRODUCING DOG BREW BY BUSCH**

**living well THERAPY**

**PHYSICAL THERAPY**  
402 Spruce St, Tower

**Opening October 25**  
Now Taking Appointments  
218-481-7603 • living-well-therapy.com

Living Well Therapy is an independent private practice physical therapy clinic with locations in Duluth, Floodwood and now opening in Tower. Come see our beautiful new location and meet our therapists. Call for a free phone consultation or to schedule an appointment.

**Offering:**

- Surgical rehab
- Back and neck care
- Dry needling
- Athletic injury recovery and prevention
- Injury recovery
- Strength and conditioning
- Balance training and fall prevention

More information at [living-well-therapy.com](http://living-well-therapy.com)  
In network with most insurance plans.

Life shouldn't hurt, if it does, we can help!

**Scenic Rivers Clinics**

**COVID-19 Vaccine Appointments Available**

Scenic Rivers is now scheduling appointments for individuals to receive COVID-19 vaccinations at our medical locations following state eligibility guidelines. Supply is limited and call volumes are high, so we appreciate your patience. If you believe you meet the MN state vaccine eligibility requirements, please call the number below to schedule an appointment.

**Cook Medical Vaccine Scheduling**  
20 5th St SE  
(218) 361-3297

**Tower Medical Vaccine Scheduling**  
415 N 2nd St, Suite 2  
(218) 753-2405

**1-877-541-2817**  
[www.ScenicRiversHealth.org](http://www.ScenicRiversHealth.org)

24 Hour Emergency Care Available Through Cook Hospital

# EMPLOYMENT

### Now Hiring Crew Members

Text or Call Paul Ivancich 218-235-1064  
**COMPETITIVE WAGES!**  
**NOW HIRING HOURLY CREW**  
**STARTING AT \$13-\$15/HOUR!**  
**IMMEDIATE INTERVIEWS FOR AWESOME PEOPLE! FUN, FRIENDLY TEAM!**

Ely DQ Grill & Chill is looking for a few outstanding and responsible personalities who want to work in a fun, clean, professional, rewarding, energetic environment! Hourly wage is based on experience, and availability. Part and Full-time jobs available! We are a local, family-owned and operated, equal opportunity employer. If you have the positive attitude, upbeat energy, and the willingness to learn, we may just have the job for you! We offer competitive wages, discounts on food, advancement opportunities, FREE cake on your birthday, and guaranteed FUN! 10/22



### Steger Mukluks is Hiring!

► Positions are available in Sales and Production  
 ► Full-Time, Part-Time, Seasonal, and Year-Round positions available  
 ► Competitive Wages and Benefits

Steger Mukluks has been providing employees a safe and fun work atmosphere in Ely, MN for 35 years.

Email [officeassist@mukluks.com](mailto:officeassist@mukluks.com) or call 365-6634 to join the team! 10/22



### COOK HOSPITAL & CARE CENTER

Our Specialty is You

#### OPEN POSITIONS

10 Fifth Street SE Cook, MN 55723

**Admissions**  
FT Patient Registrar

**Hospital/ER**  
PT Registered Nurse (Wage starting at \$34.06, \$4,000 Sign-On Bonus)

**Radiology**  
FT Radiologic Technologist

**Care Center**  
FT & PT Nursing Assistant (Wage starting at \$16.36/hr - \$1,500 Sign-On Bonus)  
PT RN or LPN (\$4,000 Sign-On Bonus)

**Dietary**  
PT Dietary Aide/Cook

**Environmental Services**  
FT Housekeeper  
Casual Laundry Aide  
Casual Housekeeping & Laundry

**Activities**  
PT & Casual Activities Assistant

**TO APPLY:**  
[www.cookhospital.org/join-our-team/](http://www.cookhospital.org/join-our-team/)  
 More Info? Contact Human Resources  
**218-666-6220**  
[humanresources@cookhospital.org](mailto:humanresources@cookhospital.org)

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

Equal Opportunity Employer/ Affirmative Action Employer

### POSITION OPENING

#### Ely Public Schools

#### Paraprofessional (3 positions)

Ely Public Schools is accepting applications for Paraprofessionals for the 2021-2022 school year; background check required.

Qualifications include:  
 ► Associate's Degree/equivalent or complete a Para Pro exam with a passing score ([www.ets.org/parapro](http://www.ets.org/parapro))  
 ► Preferred experience working with school age children  
 ► Evidence of ability to work cooperatively and communicate effectively in a collaborative setting.  
 ► Background check required.

Benefits include:  
 ► Paid sick leave, personal days and vacation  
 ► Health and life insurance  
 ► Flexible spending account  
 ► PERA retirement

Application available at: [www.ely.k12.mn.us](http://www.ely.k12.mn.us)

A complete application must include the following:  
 ► District Application  
 ► Resume  
 ► College Transcripts  
 ► 2 letters of recommendation

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

Starting Rate of Pay: \$16.90/hour

Hours: 6.5 hours/day

Deadline to apply: October 27, 2021; open until filled.  
*Published in the Timberjay, Oct. 15 & 22, 2021*



### Heavy Equipment Mechanic

Apply by 10/25/21

#### Planner/Senior Planner

Apply by 10/25/21

#### Forestry Technician II- Virginia

Apply by 10/28/21

[www.stlouiscountymn.gov](http://www.stlouiscountymn.gov) or call 218-726-2422

Equal Opportunity and Veteran-Friendly Employer 10/22

## PUBLIC NOTICES



### City of Tower SEEKING APPLICANTS

#### Appointed Councilor / Mayor

See [www.cityoftower.com/positions-available](http://www.cityoftower.com/positions-available) for job description.

Applications available at City Hall.  
 Deadline Monday, November 1, 2021

Published in the Timberjay, Oct. 15 & 22, 2021



### CITY OF TOWER OPENING

#### Tower Economic Development Authority Board Member

Should be a resident or business owner in Tower. Send or email a letter of interest to: TEDA, c/o City of Tower, PO Box 576, Tower, MN 55790 or email [clerk.treasurer@cityoftower.com](mailto:clerk.treasurer@cityoftower.com)

Published in the Timberjay, October 15 & 22, 2021



### Social Studies Teacher .5 FTE

Vermilion Country School in Tower, MN is seeking to hire a .5 FTE Social Studies Teacher for the 2021-2022 school year. Position open until filled.

For more information, please email [jsummit@vermillioncountry.org](mailto:jsummit@vermillioncountry.org) or call Jodi Summit at 218-753-2950

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### BEARVILLE TOWNSHIP CALL FOR BIDS

Bearville Township will be accepting bids for the sale of a 1978 International Cargostar 1950B Fire Truck.

Details: Air brakes, Allison Automatic Transmission, 3208 Caterpillar Diesel Engine, 1000 GPM Waterous Pump, 500 gallon Steel water tank, Odometer-36,703 miles. No Title

"As-is" condition-Truck may be seen at the Bearville Fire Hall: 13949 Co. Rd. 22 (one mile east of Hwy 65) To view contact: Kathy Cressy - Clerk 218-376-4495. Best Offer.

Submit your sealed bid by November 5, 2021 to:

Bearville Township-Fire Truck , 62949 County Road 557, Cook, MN 55723

Bids will be opened and considered at the Bearville Town Board meeting, Tuesday, November 9, 2021 at 6:30 p.m at the Bearville Town Hall. Bearville Township reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Kathy Cressy, Bearville Township Clerk

Published in the Timberjay, Oct. 22 & 29

### Residents of Soudan Proper SNOWPLOW ASSESSMENT DUE NOVEMBER 1, 2021 \$10.00

Mail payments to:  
 Breitung Township  
 Box 56, Soudan, MN 55782  
 Attn: Snowplow Assessment

Or drop off in the Township Water Payment Box

This ensures that the total \$10 goes to the township. If paid through Property Tax Statement, the county takes a portion.

Dianna Sundahl  
 Clerk, Breitung Township

Published in the Timberjay, Oct. 8 & 22, 2021

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### BEARVILLE TOWNSHIP Accepting Bids/Quotes for Snowplowing (Cedar Lane)

Bearville Township is accepting bids/quotes for the 2021/2022 snowplowing of Cedar Lane area- Beatrice Lake contract. Route would begin at the point where St. Louis County stops plowing (formerly Robertson's), 1.45 miles to Beatrice Lake Forest Road, .4 miles of Beatrice Lake Road to Cedar Lane, .48 miles of Cedar Lane, from Cedar Lane .8 miles of Beatrice Lake Road ending where Echo Lane meets Beatrice Lake Road (approximate total distance 3.1 miles).

Plowing must begin when there is a 4" snowfall, and road must be kept open the entire season. The snowplowing seasonal contract would be in effect from November 1, 2021 until May 1, 2022. Requesting bids for the entire season. A Certificate of Insurance is required upon acceptance of the bid.

Please contact Bearville Supervisor Jennifer Cressy: 218-969-6856 or Kathy Cressy- Clerk: 218-376-4495 or [beavrl@frontiernet.net](mailto:beavrl@frontiernet.net) for more details. Sealed bids must be received by November 5, 2021 to be considered and will be opened and awarded at the Bearville Town Board of Supervisors' meeting, November 9. The meeting begins at 6:30 pm at the Bearville Town Hall, 13971 Hwy. 22- 1 mile East of State Hwy 65. Mail sealed bids to: Bearville Township Snowplowing bid, c/o Kathy Cressy-Clerk, 62949 County Road 557, Cook, MN 55723. Bearville Township reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Kathy Cressy, Bearville Township Clerk

Published in the Timberjay, Oct. 22 & 29

## Subscribe Today

# (218) 753-2950

### COMMUNITY RESOURCES MANAGER

Habitat for Humanity has partnered with over 100 families since 1995 to build homes, communities, and hope! Join our dedicated and successful team of staff and volunteers to help build affordable homes with our neighbors on the Iron Range.

The Community Resources Manager focuses on:

- Recruiting volunteers for construction and committee activities
- Enhancing relationships with the area's churches, businesses, and organizations
- Assisting with grant research, writing, reporting and fundraising activities
- Developing media stories to advance the knowledge of Habitat's mission in the community (The full job description can be found at [www.nslchf.org](http://www.nslchf.org))

Experience and Skills

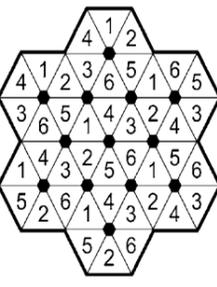
- A commitment and passion for Habitat's Christian housing ministry
- Four years management experience preferred
- A bachelor's degree or equivalent training and/or experience
- A demonstrated work ethic and ability to work successfully on a team
- Strong public speaking, writing, leadership, and organizational skills



This is a full-time position, worked from the Habitat office with an annual salary starting at \$40,000 to \$50,000 depending on experience. Interested candidates can apply by emailing a detailed cover letter and resume to executive director, Nathan Thompson at [habitat@nslchf.org](mailto:habitat@nslchf.org). For more information please call Nathan at 218-749-8910.

### SNOWFLAKES

solution



**Find It HERE**  
**753-2950**

### Answers

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

## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

© 2021 King Features Synd., Inc.



# TIMBERJAY CLASSIFIEDS

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

## AUTOMOTIVE

**Langevin Auto & Truck Repair**  
Full Service  
Auto Repair & Garage  
Hours: 8 AM-5 PM M-F  
2 Miles South of Tower  
218-749-0751

## BUILDING SERVICES

**EAST DHU RIVER SAWMILL INC**  
"Put A Piece Of Northern Minnesota In Your Home"  
Superior Quality  
• Plank Paneling  
• Trim  
• One-Of-A-Kind Moldings  
• Industrial Lumber  
**218-744-1788**  
8825 Hwy 101, Iron, MN 55751

## HAIR CARE

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

## HOSPICE

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

## SUPPORT GROUPS

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

MS SUPPORT GROUP- meets the second Friday of the month at 1 p.m. at the Babbitt Municipal Building, senior room. Open to all. For information contact Mary at 218-827-8327.

ORR AA meets Tuesdays at 8 p.m. at Holy Cross Catholic Church, Orr.

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

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

BABBITT AL-ANON- meets Thursdays at 7 p.m. in the upstairs of Woodland Presbyterian Church.

AL-ANON FAMILY GROUP- Are you troubled by someone's drinking? Al-Anon Family Group is a community-based mutual support program for the friends and families of alcoholics. It is confidential and open to anyone affected by someone else's drinking. Hope Lutheran Church in Embarrass hosts an Al-Anon group on Monday evenings at 6 p.m. 218-984-2037.

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

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

ELY WOMEN'S OPEN AA MEETING- Every Monday at noon at Ledgerock Community Church, 1515 E Camp St., Ely

IF YOU THINK YOU HAVE A PROBLEM WITH DRUGS, give yourself a break. There is a way out with the help of other recovering addicts in Narcotics Anonymous. We have been there. For meeting or other information call 218-728-3199. (Narcotics Anonymous is a non-profit organization.)

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

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS- East Range meetings and information, call 218-749-3387 or www.district8online.org.

AA FRIDAYS- 7 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 262 E Harvey St., Ely. Meets in the basement.

## Try out the Timberjay classifieds

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, AmEx, 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

## MARINE

**ARONSON BOAT WORKS**  
LAKE VERMILION, TOWER  
Located two miles southwest of Tower on Hwy. 169  
Summer Hours:  
Mon-Fri: 8:30-5:30,  
Sat: 9-5, Sun 9-3  
MERCURY LUNO HONDA  
Storage • Complete Service • Sales

**MERCURY OUTBOARDS**  
Frank's Marine Sales & Service  
Mercury, Crestliner, Lund  
www.franksmarinesales.com  
franksmarine@centurytel.net  
Hwy 53, Orr • Call 218-757-3150

**Handberg's MARINA**  
ALLUMAWELD  
EVERGLADES POLARIS GODFREY  
Sales • Service  
Rentals  
General Store  
218-993-2214  
www.handbergs.com

**Grubben's MARINA & VILLAGE**  
Boat launch, rental, store & repair  
Cabins for a great, fun vacation  
See us at: www.grubbens.com  
Call us at: 218.753.5000  
4296 Arrowhead Point Rd, Tower MN 55790

## MOCCASIN POINT MARINE

4655 Moccasin Point Rd  
Lake Vermilion  
218-753-3319  
Storage, Boat Rentals, Service/Repairs/Sales  
Mechanic on Duty  
moccasinpointmarine.com



**TIMBUKTU MARINA**  
ON LAKE VERMILION  
218-666-2131  
7401 Oak Narrows Rd - Cook MN  
Cabin rentals  
Year round boat storage and dockage  
Boat and pontoon rental  
Convenience store  
Gas, bait & liquor  
timbuktumarina.com

**TIMBUKTU MARINE**  
ON LAKE VERMILION  
218-666-2276  
2125 Vermilion Dr - Cook MN  
Ranger Premier  
WEERES  
Boats MERCURY  
SUZUKI YAMAHA  
Sales, service, storage, boat lifts, docks, trailers and accessories  
timbuktumarine.com

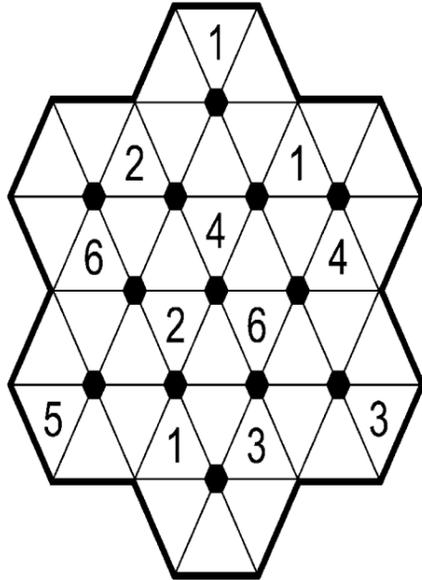
Subscribe to the TIMBERJAY!  
Call 218-753-2950



## SNOWFLAKES

by Japheth Light

There are 13 black hexagons in the puzzle. Place the numbers 1 - 6 around each of them. No number can be repeated in any partial hexagon shape along the border of the puzzle.



DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦

♦ Easy ♦♦ Medium ♦♦♦ Difficult

© 2021 King Features Synd., Inc.

## Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

## Super Crossword

## GONE FISHING

- ACROSS**
- 1 Longtime movie theater chain
  - 6 Sound signal booster, for short
  - 12 Coiled like a corkscrew
  - 20 As red as —
  - 21 Accounting book
  - 22 Oahu city
  - 23 Possessions of a fish?
  - 25 Catches in a trap
  - 26 "Sax by the Fire" musician John
  - 27 Donald's first ex
  - 28 Flower girl, sometimes
  - 30 Fender ding
  - 31 Back street
  - 33 Fish just beyond the visible light spectrum?
  - 35 More flamboyant
  - 38 Twisty turns
  - 40 37-Down minus five
  - 41 Puck-pushing fish?
  - 43 With child
  - 48 180 degrees from west, in Spanish
  - 49 "Deathtrap" writer Levin
  - 50 Made a dove's sound
  - 52 Python kin
  - 53 Hold to one's policy
  - 57 Steak options
  - 59 Bums around
  - 61 No longer fashionable
  - 62 Guy's retro 'do given by a fish?
  - 64 Like a cook or a welder
  - 68 Land amid water, in Italy
  - 69 An inverse trig function
  - 70 Fish going here and there?
  - 72 Pasty luau food
  - 73 Delivery path
  - 74 Roaming sorts
  - 75 Was a counselor to
  - 80 Extra play periods, in brief
  - 81 "Robin —" (old Irish ballad)
  - 82 Simpson trial judge
  - 84 Ashy-faced
  - 85 Hot Chinese cuisine
  - 88 Swallow a fish quickly?
  - 92 Tummy muscles
  - 93 Yoga posture
  - 95 Country singer Porter —
  - 96 Fish skilled at mimicking sounds?
  - 101 String ties
  - 102 Woeful cry
  - 103 Steer-roping contest
  - 104 Milton of TV
  - 106 Jai —
  - 110 Reeling off
  - 112 Fish alongside Harry Truman's wife?
  - 115 Detest
  - 116 "Spectre" co-star Greg
  - 117 Get hitched on the run
  - 118 Became dim
  - 119 Singer Vic
  - 120 Detect
- DOWN**
- 1 Terminal
  - 2 Slender reed instrument
  - 3 Slender swimmers
  - 4 New Jersey locale where Hamilton and Burr dueled
  - 5 Big inits. in fuel additives
  - 6 Short-billed shorebirds
  - 7 Recompense
  - 8 Adam and Eve's garden
  - 9 Taj Mahal city
  - 10 Convened
  - 11 Hester in "The Scarlet Letter"
  - 12 See-through
  - 13 Northern Oklahoma's — City
  - 14 Slid in
  - 15 "Solo" director Howard
  - 16 Abu's master
  - 17 Lorelei, e.g.
  - 18 Kagan of the bench
  - 19 Like used chalkboard erasers
  - 24 Former Heat coach Pat
  - 29 Possibilities
  - 32 Repose
  - 33 British verb ending
  - 34 Work unit
  - 35 Tom Jones' "— a Lady"
  - 36 Quizmaster, e.g.
  - 37 Prefix meaning "eight"
  - 38 Corn unit
  - 39 Info provider at the bottom of a PC window
  - 42 Tool set, e.g.
  - 43 Keats, e.g.
  - 44 Form again
  - 45 Simple calculators
  - 46 Like wet blankets
  - 47 Take a small bite of
  - 50 Secret cooperation
  - 51 — a time
  - 54 "Death Be Not Proud" penner
  - 55 Entreated
  - 56 Extras after the main text
  - 58 It flows through arteries
  - 59 Permissible
  - 60 Surg. centers
  - 62 Heat's city
  - 63 Middle name of Elvis
  - 64 Frizzy dos
  - 65 Collapse in frustration, in slang
  - 66 Awaken
  - 67 See 94-Down
  - 71 Equine color
  - 75 Sun. follower
  - 76 Like human thumbs
  - 77 Parade ruiner
  - 78 Sommer of "Zeppelin"
  - 79 Hart or hind
  - 81 From Graz or Linz
  - 83 Onetime JFK carrier
  - 86 Queasy from riding, in a way
  - 87 "Euphoria" airer
  - 88 "Lah-di- —!"
  - 89 Like many highways
  - 90 Rock's Van —
  - 91 Vanity
  - 93 Live
  - 94 With
  - 97 Amazon
  - 98 Relay athlete
  - 99 Italian bridge
  - 100 Sidled
  - 101 "Heaven" singer Adams
  - 104 Fill-up point
  - 105 Waffle brand
  - 107 Writer Uris
  - 108 Vipers
  - 109 "Understood"
  - 111 Luigi's three
  - 113 Eggs, to Livy
  - 114 — Plaines

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19				
20					21						22											
23					24						25											
26					27					28	29				30							
			31	32					33					34								
35	36	37						38	39					40								
41								42				43	44				45	46	47			
48								49			50	51						52				
53				54	55	56			57	58						59	60					
					61						62					63						
64	65	66	67						68					69								
70									71					72								
73									74					75			76	77	78	79		
80									81					82	83			84				
85					86	87					88				89	90	91					
					92						93	94			95							
96	97	98						99	100					101								
102														104	105				106	107	108	109
110																						
115																						
118																						

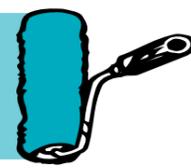
Find It Here

Call 753-2950 to subscribe to the Timberjay!





# HOME IMPROVEMENT GUIDE



## Your Source For Roofing

- METAL ROOFING
- ARCHITECTURAL SHINGLES

Bryan (218) 269-1039  
Karl (612) 418-8953

Licensed • Insured BC# 785662

VermillionRoofing.com | VermillionRoofing@gmail.com



## Real Estate Closing Services, Title Insurance & Abstracting

**Northeast Title Company** has competitive rates and professional services assuring peace of mind for our customers before and after closing. We take pride in our service and have a proven history of being a leader in the industry. Customers can expect quality services and products along with a professional staff that takes pride in every closing. Our warm, friendly, and professional approach in all of our transactions ensures our customers a level of comfort that is unmatched in the industry.

**ELY OFFICE**  
545 E. Sheridan St • Ely, MN 55731  
Phone (218)365-5256  
**Angie Mikulich**  
Licensed Closing Agent

**VIRGINIA OFFICE**  
612 13 St S • Virginia MN 55792  
Phone (218)741-1515  
**Jodee Micheletti**  
Owner/Licensed Closing Agent

**COOK/SURROUNDING AREAS**  
Phone (218)666-3174  
**Sharon Maronick**  
Licensed Closing Agent

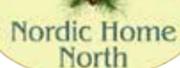
www.netitle.com



## Licensed Septic Design & Installation

- ◆ Complete Site & Building Preparation
- ◆ Road Building, Land Clearing, Basement, Demolition
- ◆ Digging, Dozing, Hauling
- ◆ Sand, Gravel, Crushed Rock, Black Dirt

Call for an estimate • 218-365-4220  
2408 Hwy. 169, PO Box 608, Ely, MN 55731  
jschulze.excavating2@gmail.com



## Stop In To Check Out Our NEW Selection of Chairs & Recliners



303 Main St., Tower, MN • 218-753-3313  
Mon-Sat 10ish - 4ish and by appt. 612-280-9195  
www.NordicHomeNorth.com marit@nordic-home.com  
"Rugs, gifts & furnishings" • "Simply the Finest"

## YOU CALL, WE HAUL!

- Cement Trucks, Building Materials
- Septic-pumping Trucks, Dirt
- Well-drilling Equipment
- Propane Delivery

Carl Anderson  
**Anderson Barging, Inc.**

Cell 218-780-4955  
www.andersonbarging.com

Covering all of Lake Vermilion



In Business Since 1979

"Fetch us" for your fall projects!

It's a great time to be outdoors!



Landscaping Services, Patios, Garden Design, Retaining Walls, Yard Restoration

(218) 365-6037 • 2331 Old Hwy. 169, Ely  
1/4 mi. east of 88 & 169 • greenstonenursery.com



## Peace of Mind Property Management

Phone: 515-442-5339  
www.tristatelakepm.com  
Email: tstatelakepm@gmail.com

## THE FINISHED LOOK

BUILDING | ROOFING  
REMODELING

John Thomas Almeida  
Owner & Designer  
Pingajt@gmail.com

(218) 235-7305

KITCHENS • BATHROOMS • FIREPLACES • BARS  
Licensed & Insured - License #BC674311

## TIP-TOP CHIMNEY SERVICE

A Renewable Energy Company

Cleaning, Repairs, Inspections,  
Stainless Liners and Caps

218-290-5370  
P.O. Box 564, Gilbert MN 55741  
Email: tiptopchimney@gmail.com

Bonded & Insured

Dealer of

- Osburn-Wood and Gas Stoves
- Electric Fireplaces



## ROOFS

The FINISHED LOOK



REPAIR & INSTALLATION

218-235-7305

Licensed and Insured  
License # BC674311

## Your All-Season Project Headquarters

- ✓ Lumber
- ✓ Hardware
- ✓ Tools
- ✓ Paint
- ✓ Friendly Service

"We've Got What You Need!"



We are a UPS site

## VERMILION LUMBER

HOME OF THE PROFESSIONALS  
218-753-2230  
302 Main St., Tower, MN  
M-F: 8 AM-5 PM; Sat: 8 AM-Noon

## FOREST CONCRETE PRODUCTS

Delivered Redi-Mix Concrete  
Septic Tanks

We have: Concrete Steps & Sidewalk Pavers, Crushed & Washed Rock, Sand, Garden Soil, Crushed & Screened Gravel, Different Types of Concrete Blocks. FREE ESTIMATES for site development, roads, fill and excavations.

Celebrating Over 48 Years!

From Ely to Tower-Soudan and Virginia, using local gravel pits to support all your needs.

FOREST CONCRETE PRODUCTS



1715 E. Sheridan, Ely, MN 55731  
office 218-365-6161 • plant 218-365-4030  
fax 218-365-6985 • cell 218-341-3197

## FALL HOME & CABIN REFRESHERS

Our friendly, knowledgeable staff will help you find what you're looking for!

We Are Your Complete Remodeling Headquarters!

## We've Got It All!

- ✓ Sauna Stoves & Accessories
- ✓ Tile
- ✓ Flooring
- ✓ Carpet & Rugs
- ✓ Storage Systems
- ✓ Countertops
- ✓ Bathrooms
- ✓ Cabinets
- ✓ Window Treatments
- ✓ AND More!

Sauna Accessories



Cabinets



Remnants Galore!



Read us online at

www.timberjay.com

(218) 753-2950

BIG Enough to Serve you; small Enough to Know You



8401 Enterprise Drive N., Virginia/Mt. Iron  
(1/2 Mile West on Highway 169) • 741-6690



HOURS:  
8-5:30 M-F

Find us on facebook.

TAKE TIME TO VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.floortoceilingvirginia.com