

Rut up close See /4B



# The INOUR 28th Year Serving Northern St. Louis County! Now In Our 28th Year Serving Northern St. Louis County! VOL. 28, ISSUE 47 December 1, 2017

**SULFIDE MINING** 

# Land exchange bill helps clear way for PolyMet

Nolan-sponsored measure approved by House, 309-99

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

WASHINGTON, D.C.— Enactment of a land exchange that would help clear the way for PolyMet Mining's proposed coppernickel mine near Hoyt Lakes took a step closer to reality

on Tuesday with the passage

of legislation that would enshrine the exchange in federal law and effectively

end current court challenges

to the deal.

The full U.S. House voted 309 to 99 to approve the measure, known as H.R.

3115, sponsored by Eighth District Congressman Rick Nolan. The land exchange would swap about 6,650 acres of federal land at the site of the proposed open pit mine for about 6,690 acres of other lands scattered

throughout the Superior National Forest.

Nolan, in a floor presentation to House members, called the exchange a "wonderfully good deal for the taxpayers and the concerns of the environment."

Environmentalists dispute that contention and have filed suit to block the exchange, arguing that the public is getting shortchanged by offering up

See...BILL pg. 11



Rep. Rick Nolan

# Christmas season begins up north





The 2017 Christmas holiday season in Ely got off to a festive start last weekend. A Holiday Fantasy arts and crafts event at the city's Miners Dry facility featured activities for kids. Emma Larson, above left, put the finishing touches on an angel-painting project. Horse-drawn carriage rides, above right, were offered along the Trezona Trail. Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus, right, made an appearance for photographs and to collect wish lists from area children.

photos by K. Vandervort



### Snow City celebration set for Saturday in Orr

ORR – Orr hosts its annual Snow City celebration on Saturday, Dec. 2. This popular holiday tradition, sponsored by the Orr Chamber of Commerce, includes a day full of holiday activities. The festival begins with an all-you-can-eat pancake breakfast at the Orr American Legion from 7-10 a.m. followed by a craft show from 11 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Lunch will be served from 11 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. and will feature soup, hot dogs, hot chocolate, coffee and water

The popular Snow City Parade begins at 1 p.m. After the parade, stop by the American Legion for a chance to visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus. The festivities conclude with the Virgie Hegg Lights of Love ceremony at 5:30 p.m., which will be held this year at the Orr Center in Orr, the old Orr School. Refreshments will be served after the tree lighting.



#### WASTEWATER

# Tower faces growth limits from treatment plant capacity

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER

Managing Editor

TOWER— This small city, seemingly poised for new development, has now come face-to-face with a significant limit to its growth: wastewater treatment capacity.

It's a situation made worse by the city council's recent decision to connect the Hoodoo Point Campground and add several new RV sites there at the same time. That facility's 97 campsites, most of which are occupied by RVs during the summer, are likely to consume most, if not all, of the remaining wastewater treatment capacity in the pond system that the city jointly owns and operates with Breitung Township.

That raises questions about the ability of the city to approve new hook-ups in a timely manner for a long list of projects in various stages of development, from harbor

See...TOWER pg. 12

#### **ELY RECREATION**

# School Board nears decision on ERCC

With final report in hand, vote could come Dec. 11

by KEITH VANDERVORT Ely Editor

ELY—The Ely School Board could make a decision as early as Dec. 11 concerning partnering with the Ely Regional Community Complex to build a recreation center on school

In a study session Monday night, school board members reviewed a revised16-page proposal from the ERCC board and appeared generally satisfied with the details as presented, especially the part about the ERCC not costing the taxpayers in the school district any money.

"Our fundraising efforts would be toward both capital and construction costs, as well as the development of a dedicated fund should revenues not meet expenditures," the report said. "We do not intend to ask the School District to pay an ongoing subsidy, but there

See... ELY pg. 10



Check out Poetry at the top of the stairs!

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#### LEARNING THEATER

# High school student, and director

### Ely's Kat Schmidt set to direct original play next summer

Tower-Soudan Editor

ELY- High school junior and Vermilion Community College PSEO student Kat Schmidt has always loved the theater. And this summer, thanks to help from Story Portage, a new non-profit group in Ely dedicated to promoting literacy and reading in the Northwoods, Kat will have the chance to direct a play set in the Ely area.

"Paddle Off the Map" is an original play by Susan Hawkinson set in the Boundary Waters. The play, according to Hawkinson, is still undergoing final revisions. This is her first stab at playwriting, and she has been working with a mentor/editor to get the play ready for production. Hawkinson, in turn, has offered to act as a mentor to Schmidt, a junior at Vermilion Country School who is now attending Vermilion

Community College as a PSEO student.

The match between the aspiring playwright and student director was made by Story Portage's Jeanette Cox.

"She helped me write the grants and connected me with Hawkinson," Schmidt said. Cox is a family friend who Schmidt has known since she was a young

Story Portage received a \$1,000 grant from the Northland Foundation for the project.

"This will cover most of the production costs," said Schmidt, "such as the costumes, props, and advertising."

A second grant, \$500 from the Ann Bancroft Foundation's Dare to Dream program, will fund the mentorship part of the project, including travel between Grand Rapids and Ely to visit the playwright. The two will also spend time studying the art of directing, learning about stage directions, and doing a book study of Shakespeare's "Hamlet."

"I met Kat last summer," Hawkinson said. "I was in Ely working on some other projects." When Schmidt heard about the play, she asked if she could direct it. Hawkinson is a retired English instructor at Itasca Community College who lives in Grand

Schmidt hasn't read "Paddle Off the Map" yet, but said she has a good grasp of the storyline and the characters, which include three young girls. The play is set on Lake Kekekabic, in the Boundary Waters.

"It's got magic in it," she said. "It is a beautiful story."

"We will start practicing the play this summer, as soon as school lets out," she said.

This will be Schmidt's second time directing a play. Last year she directed the VCS production of "The Brothers Grimm Spectaculathon," a mad-

Kat Schmidt gestures while performing in a play last year at Vermilion **Country School** in Tower.

fiile photo

dash romp through the world of the Grimm fairy tales.

"I learned it was okay to have people hate you sometimes," she said. "But I was working with good people and it was a good experience." Her mother, Karin, who teaches at VCS, was her mentor for that project, and also coached the actors. This is a role that Karin will once again assume. Karin is a well-known local actress, and has played parts in many popular Ely musi-

Jeanette Cox, who is also a writer and an educator, along with Hawkinson will also be assisting in the production.

area girls will look into the Dare To Dream program. The programs gives out grants of up to \$500 for girls, living in Minnesota, to fund art, cultural, leadership, educational, and wilderness experiences. Grantees must work with an adult mentor, and pursue a project that allows them to explore the outside world, learning to recognize their own abilities, values, and strengths

in the process. Grants are awarded

two times a year, in the spring

and fall. For more information,

visit www.annbancroftfounda-

Cox said she hopes that other

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## Portion of Tomahawk Trail closed due to extreme ice

PUBLIC SAFETY

REGIONAL- Due to extreme icv conditions and danger from trucks hauling timber, the Kawishiwi Ranger District has temporarily closed a five-mile portion of the Tomahawk Road (Forest Road 377) from Highway 1 east to Forest Road 381. The road is closed to the following types of traffic:

➤ Any vehicles driven by the general

➤ Snowmobiles, dogsleds, and allterrain vehicles.

Motorists are reminded to use caution

on all Superior National Forest Roads. Many are ice-covered.

This closure will remain in effect

tion.org.

until road conditions improve and closure postings are removed. It is prohibited to travel on forest roads that are posted closed or are designated as closed by this order. People involved in current timber management contracts and activities will be allowed access.

For more information on closures, check the Superior National Forest website, at www.fs.usda.gov/superior/.





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CITY OF TOWER

# Council approves utility rate hike for 2018

by Marshall Helmberger Managing Editor

TOWER—The cost of water and sewer in Tower is going up following city council action on Monday. The council approved a \$5 per month increase in the operation and maintenance charge, pushing the quarterly utility bill for city customers to \$202.50, up from the current charge of \$187.50.

The council considered three other alternatives, which increased other portions of the bill by varying amounts, but Mayor Josh Carlson advocated increasing the operating and maintenance portion. The rest of the council agreed, and the new rates will take effect in January.

The council made the move on rates in response to higher fees that they expect beginning next year from the Tower-Breitung wastewater district. The district has seen higher expenses in recent months and needs to replenish its depleted reserve accounts, according to wastewater manager Matt Tuchel. It's been several years since the city last raised water and sewer rates.

In other business, the council took no action on a proposal by Ambulance Director Steve Altenburg and City Clerk-Treasurer Linda Keith that the ambulance department rent a house in Tower to provide lodging for prospective emergency responders who would be part of a new paid, on-call ambulance service. Keith said she had contacted the owners of a fourbedroom house who would be willing to rent it for \$3,750 per year for the next two years while the city builds a new ambulance hall. The city would also be responsible for utilities, lawn care and snow removal, and light maintenance, said Keith.

The council approved the new paid on-call system last spring, but Altenburg said the lack of housing for the emergency responders has made it difficult for potential employees to meet the five-minute response requirement. The cost of implementing the new system isn't clear, but would result in a sizable increase in city payroll and other costs. During a presentation to the council last spring, Altenburg estimated a base payroll cost of \$137,280, but he never provided the council with an accounting of other costs, including fringe benefits, which would add about \$27,500 to the cost of the program. Altenburg proposes to pay for the service by accepting more hospital transfers, but his budget includes no additional expense for the extra miles and other travel costs associated with those transfers. Nor does the budget include the cost of building and maintaining living quarters for employees while on call.

Carlson expressed some support for the idea. "The ambulance service is still very busy," he said, noting that the city had advertised for on-call personnel earlier this year. "We did not receive any applications, but we did hear interest. The only downside to it was that people didn't have any place to stay. So the interest is there for the positions, if we had a place to house them." Both Carlson and Altenburg indicated that they weren't necessarily looking for council approval immediately. "I thought I would bring it [the idea] to you and see what you thought," said Altenburg. "I thought it was something worth discussing as a short-term solution," he added. "This is something to chew on," said Carlson.

Councilor Lance Dougherty, however, expressed doubt about

the idea. "I'm not in favor of renting a house and going that route," he said. Instead, he suggested switching from the proposed 60-hour shifts to 12-hour, to avoid the need to house employees. "I'm not going to rent a house when we can change the job description," Dougherty said.

said.

That suggestion met pushback from Altenburg. "We're still spinning our wheels," he said. "The shift thing, the reason I did that is because even though these paid on-call jobs are going to be full-time hours, they're not full-time jobs. We can't afford to pay benefits...we're not that big yet. The only way we can make the job worth it is to give them enough money and cover enough time during the week." Altenburg said the 60-hour shifts still leave responders with enough

See COUNCIL...pg. 5

CRIME

# Ely man faces rape charges

by KEITH VANDERVORT

Ely Editor

ELY - An Ely man, 34, remains in the St. Louis County Jail after pleading not guilty to five felonies related to an alleged sexual assault last week. Bail was set at \$350,000.

David Alan Nielsen was charged last Wednesday with criminal sexual conduct in the first degree, assault, threats of violence, and kidnapping.

According to police, the sheriff's department as well as Ely police responded to Ely-Bloomenson Community Hospital on Nov. 20 on a report that a female juvenile has

been sexually assaulted and threatened with a knife by an adult acquaintance. The adult was identified as Nielsen, and he was arrested the following morning.



Authorities said Nielson picked up the teenage victim while she was walking home from school on Monday, Nov. 20. He apparently knows the girl's mother. The complaint said he told the 15-year-old he

would teach her how to drive.

After the two made it to just outside of Ely, according to the complaint, Nielsen pulled out a knife and told the teen to take off all her clothes. She reported to police that he sexually assaulted her five or six times inside his vehicle. The complaint said that as he drove her home, Nielsen threatened to kill her if she told anyone, and also threatened her friends and family. The incident is still under investigation.

The kidnapping charge includes a maximum sentence of 40 years in

See CHARGES...pg. 5



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# OPINION

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"CONGRESS SHALL MAKE NO LAW...ABRIDGING THE FREEDOM

e-mail: editor@timberjay.com

### Editorial

## **Setting priorities**

### Questionable planning creating problems for the city of Tower

As we report this week, the Tower City Council has taken an issue that needed attention and turned it into a critical problem — apparently without realizing it.

It's a troubling pattern we've seen in recent months, where the council makes decisions without all the facts or the due diligence we expect from local leaders.

In the most recent case, the city council opted to spend upwards of half a million dollars to extend the municipal sewer to Hoodoo Point Campground, at a time when the combined city-township wastewater treatment system is nearing its capacity. We've been questioning this project for months, in part because we've never seen a clear plan to pay for the revenue bond the city plans to issue for the project. Proposed rate increases at the campground, plus the addition of several new RV sites, will pay much of the cost, but even the city's own numbers suggest that some of the debt service will come from campground profits that the city relies on, in part, to fund its operations.

But the bigger issue is that the connection of the campground is expected to increase the wastewater flow by about 10,000 gallons per day. According to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, the Tower-Breitung wastewater treatment system has only about 15,000 gallons per day of remaining capacity until it reaches what the agency considers the upper safe limit— and that's before adding the campground.

Once the campground is operational next spring, the system will be very close to full capacity, and that poses real concerns given plans in the works for town home development, a privately-owned RV park, a potential hotel and additional commercial development. While the MPCA tries to work with communities to ensure that potential development isn't needlessly delayed or denied, the agency has less room to maneuver when a system is nearing capacity. And the agency is less likely to show flexibility if a community isn't advancing a plan to address the problem.

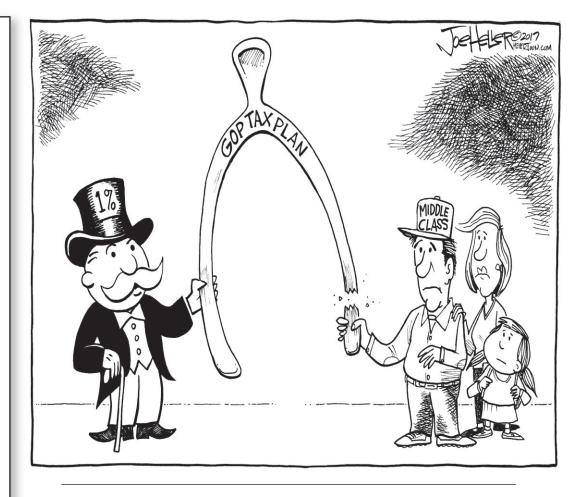
While an expansion of the Tower-Breitung wastewater capacity was probably always going to be necessary given anticipated new development, questionable planning by the city council has turned a manageable problem with a longer

time horizon, into something much closer to an emergency, and it makes the cost-benefit of the campground project all the more troubling. The Tower-Breitung Wastewater Board, realistically, needs to have a plan in place and an application submitted to the state's Public Facilities Authority by March 1, 2018, to have a reasonable chance of bringing additional capacity on line by 2020.

We've argued for some time that the city needs to prioritize, and this is another example of why that's important. Adding a half dozen RV sites at the campground, which prompted the decision to extend the municipal sewer, probably deserves to be on the city's wish list, but certainly nowhere near the top, and not at the possible expense of real development that will add to the city's tax base and bring new jobs to the community. We can only hope that the MPCA will allow the city to connect the first phase of 20 town homes, which would likely put the system at over 85 percent of capacity, at least based on the current threeyear average flow. The prospect of adding much beyond that would seem to be in serious question. If a hotel project ends up on hold because the last of the city's wastewater capacity was squandered on an unnecessary campground project, residents should be

Residents should also be asking where all the money will come from to pay for the things the city needs, much less the frills that some city officials desire. The city is already committed to installing roads and utilities for the town homes, which will likely require bonding. And city officials continue to push for new city buildings, although they've kept a tight lid on their plans, so it's tough to know how much that all might cost. A city water main also needs replacement. Expanding the wastewater capacity could easily cost \$1 million or more.

An expanded tax base could help to pay for some of these things. Which is why the remaining wastewater capacity should have been reserved for projects like the town homes and a hotel, that would provide the growth in tax base the city so desperately needs. Now, the council has added one more hurdle to development efforts in the city. The city has plenty of those already.



### Letters from Readers

#### New tax bill bad for families earning under \$100,000

The new CBO score came out this week on the new proposed tax cuts being debated in the Senate. The Congressional Business Office is the only real non partisan accounting agency there is that all agree on. The new report today said the new tax cut bill would negatively impact individuals who make less than \$30,000 per year by 2019 and most of those making under \$75,000 would be negatively affected by 2027. Remember that the average median income in America is \$56,513 annually. All of the tax cuts and benefits go straight to Americans earning more than \$100,000 a year according to the CBO. It will also add 1.4 TRILLION dollars to the deficit over the next 10 years. Pay attention everyone, because this may affect you negatively in many ways. If you're making over \$100.000 a year. I can see why you're for this bill. If you're making under that amount and are for this bill, I don't even

know what to say. **Trov Swanson Tower** 

#### Deer story offers food for thought

Good articles on deer hunting this week— informative, with depth and breadth.

Educational for the nonhunter. Detailed and well-developed, and written with enough latitude for interpretation and extrapolation for appreciation of the variations in gender that occur in any species.

With a little luck, the light bulbs in a few of our friends

skulls will flicker long enough to appreciate a public restroom sign that says, "Whatever."

Dave Porter

Minneapolis

#### Pleased with the decision of the hospital board

I am a taxpayer in Greenwood Township. I have talked to quite a few people in Greenwood and Tower, and we are all pleased that the Cook Hospital District will not pursue forcing Greenwood to join their hospital district. Greenwood was not mentioned in any of the statues when the hospital district was formed. Greenwood has enjoyed a good working relationship with the Tower ambulance service and the Virginia Hospital. The only thing Greenwood has in common with the district is that we are both located in St. Louis County.

I believe the majority of property in Greenwood is owned by absentee owners. If we need surgery or are sick we go to our home town doctor for treatment and don't seek care at our weekend retreat. When we educate our kids we send them to school in our home town and again not at our weekend retreat. We have no say in local elections and yet we are one of the highest taxed groups in Minnesota. When we need help at the Legislature we have to depend on the representatives and senators who are located in the district where we vote. I hope you will be able to act in our best

interest in the upcoming session. Our best wishes for a good holiday season.

> **Dave and Jean Seppelt Greenwood Township**

#### Frontier woes aren't confined to Minnesota

I just wanted you to know how much I look forward to receiving the Timberjay. The quality of the content is amazing.

The reason for today's email is because I just read the story about Frontier communications and at this minute I am on hold waiting for Frontier to answer my third call about my Frontier bill. The complaints that you outline in your article are not unique to your part of Minnesota. The same thing is happening in Connecticut. I called in July to complain about my bill and was promised a reduced rate. I called again in August when the reduced rate didn't show up and was told it hadn't been keyed in correctly but would be corrected. Since then, no correction, and in fact my bill has gone up each month for mysterious unknown reasons. When I called two days ago to complain, I was told that the computer notes never showed anything about the promised discount. When I called again yesterday, I was told that the computer notes show that I was promised the reduced rate in July but that it hadn't been keyed in. I then asked that I be given the promised rate from July and that I be credited with the over billing since then. I was told they couldn't do that because I hadn't called each month to complain about the bill. I am now on hold waiting for a supervisor. Please tell Steve Wilson that I share his feelings about Frontier.

**Gary Sklaver** Clinton, Conn.

# Another twist in life comes without notice

Lately my life seems to be taking 90° turns without

The morning after Thanksgiving, I was walking to the garbage can with a couple items since it was a delayed pickup day, and my intention was to put them in the can by the road, go back inside, finish my coffee, take a shower, have some breakfast, and decide what I was going to do with three luxurious days with very few

commitments ahead of me. Maybe decorate some pots and fire up my new-used kiln for the first time. Maybe even throw



some pots. I could rearrange my indoor jungle of plants rescued from early winter, the still-blooming geraniums and fuschias showing off in a huddle in the middle of the living room floor. I had been debating whether to cut down the canna lilies and prepare the tubers for wintering-over in the basement, when the one I kept alive last winter as an indoor plant sprouted a beautiful new apricot blossom, as if singing out,

"Nope, I'm not done, stand back with those pruners!" My Christmas cactus had doubled in size, basking outside this summer, and was dressed out beautifully with a multitude of pink blooms.

I had also thought I might have some phone time with my brother in Dallas and my friend in Denver who had a birthday on Sunday. Do some reading and write this column. Make some turkey soup from Thursday's carcass. Have breakfast with a friend. So many possibilities. But then the turn happened and with no warning I was down, on my back on the ice, looking at my wrist that had an impossible S-curve, sending tidal waves of pain up my arm. I moaned out loud, "Please don't tell me it's broken!!" which was kind of the equivalent of looking outside on Oct. 27, pleading, "Tell me it's not snowing!" Denial would be so much more effective if it could actually change reality.

I crept back into the house, left a message with one friend and reached the second one, who came over with her visiting cousins, bundled me over to the clinic and stayed with me through the waiting time, the x-rays, more waiting time, the excellent attention of Dr. Joe Bianco, the not surprising report that it was broken and the unwelcome news that it was broken so badly, I would need to go to Duluth to get it rearranged with the addition of some hardware to keep the bones in place. The good news was that

See **SLIP AND FALL...**pg. 5

# **Canoe festival facing choppy waters**

### Event coordinator resigns from organizational role in annual event

by KEITH VANDERVORT

Ely Editor

ELY - The Great American Canoe Festival in Ely is in peril of sinking and the Ely Events Bureau is looking for ideas to keep it afloat.

Wendy Lindsay submitted her resignation to the Ely Events Bureau on Nov. 1, citing operating losses for the fledgling festival in its first two years. In addition, Lindsay indicated she was resigning as general events coordinator for the bureau. However, Lindsay indicated in a third letter to the bureau that she would like to continue to coordinate the extremely successful Ely Marathon and associated events.

"We are concerned about the Canoe Fest and its losing capacity in its first two years," Mayor Chuck Novak told city council members last Tuesday. "We don't have another event to schedule at this point, but we are throwing out ideas to expand the time available for a chamber (of commerce) person, or the possible use of the new director of Incredible Ely to support our efforts. We're looking for ideas on moving forward."

In her resignation letter, Lindsay said her organization, Stone Soup, has operated at a loss for the first two years of helping coordinate the Canoe Festival, however, she doesn't want to see the festival end. "If you are unable to find a replacement, I would rather not see this dissolve and would appreciate being contacted," she said.

She cited the need for clear goals in an attempt to make the festival a success, including:

➤ Redefining success -"The original goal of the event was to promote tourism in Ely. It was planned for at least three years of a negative balance sheet. Measurement of success needs to be increased visibility and tourism in a down calendar time of year. If profit is the main goal, it was set at a poor time of year."

➤ Additional events—"No one will drive up from the Twin Cities to do a four-mile canoe race. A regional draw needs many layers of activities."

➤ Broader marketing— "Marketing for this event needs to be done on a larger scale. The goal is to expand tourism, not make money off of local canoeists and school children."

➤ Different timing—"If the focus of this event is the races, the dates will need to be moved as we are competing with another large canoe race during this

➤ More collaboration—"I have been working with the Wooden Boat Society, the Canoe Museum group and the Ely Folk School for future collaboration. A "Guinness Book of World Record of folks in a boat" is currently in the works for 2019 and would be a nice addition to this

Lindsay highlighted many items to be addressed in considering her contract renewal for the Ely Marathon. "I understand that the focus now of the board is profit," she said. "The original focus of the board and my current focus as Event Coordinator is on bringing a quality event to the city of Ely. Clarity of purpose and measurement of success will make the process easier for all involved.'

She asserted that profit should not be a main goal. "If profit were the goal, we would charge local charitable organizations a fee to get the privilege of selling at the event, or do liquor sales on our own. We would also cancel the evening music unless paid for by evening vendors. We would run the race earlier in the year during the heavy travel season. The chamber and city are serving their members if we can document increased sales and revenue for chamber members, charitable groups and the community as a whole," she

Lindsay cited simplification of accounting procedures, a clear understanding of marketing responsibilities, a long-term race improvement plan, and a clear open communication structure when "hiccups" arise as areas of improvement for future Ely Marathon events.

In other business, the

➤ Approved the submission of a CDBG application for 7th Avenue and water tower supply

line projects; ➤ Authorized the application for funds from IRRRB for down-

town beautification projects;

➤ Approved the purchase of a 2009 Freightliner truck with 587 miles from the DNR for \$5,000 with conversion in 2020 to firefighting duties; ➤ Accepted the low bid of

\$51,300 from Low Impact Excavators Inc. for the demolition of four residential buildings; ➤ Approved the transfer of

the On Sale Liquor License and Sunday Liquor License from Rockwood Bar and Grill of Ely, Inc., to ASIN-MITIG,LCC. pending receiving proper paper work and background checks;

➤OK'd the contract with Premier Pyrotechnics for \$15,000 for the 2018 Fourth of July fire-

➤ Approved a Sunday On Sale Liquor License for Northern Grounds, pending proper paperwork and fees.

### **SLIP AND FALL...**Continued from page 4

it was a slow day on the surgical ward, so I wouldn't have to wait until the next

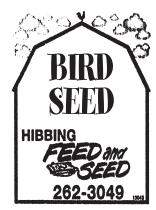
Another friend was free to take me down and help navigate through the Essentia maze, finding someone who knew where there was a bed I could lie down on...4E or 4W? She told us I was scheduled for surgery at 5 p.m., but she couldn't say if I'd be staying overnight. The surgeon came to my room and said I could wait and see if I wanted to stay, but he recommended it since I wouldn't be released earlier than 10 p.m. I said I was sure I would want to stay, thinking, "Are they crazy? Having a general anesthetic and somewhat complicated surgery, then a two-hour drive to an empty house? I don't think so!" Not to mention that my friend needed to know whether to stay or head back to Ely.

Being in that medical environment makes me feel like an alien in a strange land with its own language, culture and sets of rules. Some of those rules have been drastically improved since my mom spent a lot of time in hospitals many years ago, especially in regard to food and visitors. In the bad old days, you had to eat at the prescribed time when your tray arrived on a tall, rolling cart along with 20 other meals, or make due with a snack cup of pudding, a carton of milk or some crackers. days Essentia/Duluth, you have a room service menu to order from with choices for special diets, and the food is prepared in one of the four restaurants and delivered with a smile while it's still hot! Gazounds. Through the years, the

medical world has also figured out that patients feel better and heal better when they have caring, nurturing people around them, while giving them the right to keep those people out who are not so. When visiting hours were limited to three hours in the afternoon and 90 minutes at night, I became a guerrilla visitor, sneaking in at all hours, hiding in the bathroom, smuggling in favorite foods for Mom. Once I snuck in a new puppy to show Mom, sure I'd be tossed out on my ear if they caught me. A nurse told me this week that now pets are allowed to visit! I'm sure they draw the line at a horse or llama, but still! Once Mom was in the hospital over Easter, so I sewed up a giant, sixfoot-tall rabbit out of sheets with crepe paper clothing and waltzed it down the halls, giving other patients something to smile about, too. Many other puppets have accompanied me on hospital visits through the

I can remember being told that visitors get in the way of hospital personnel doing their work, but they certainly have figured that one out. I was impressed by the cheerful professionalism of almost everyone who came into my room, and we're talking a pretty steady stream of humans who were particularly fascinated with taking my "vitals." Twice there were people who wheeled their cart in, cheerfully announcing they were there to collect my vitals, which somehow made me think of the turkey gizzards I harvested to make stock for the gravy (do keep in mind that I was taking a pain killer)...and I had to tell them someone beat them to it, minutes earlier. A bit confused, they left, never to be seen again, which made me wonder if they were freelance vitalstakers who cruised the hallways, swooping in to preempt the regular staff, getting paid like piecework for their accumulated temps and blood pressure read-

All of it has a surreal air about it, given the speed of response in that high tech world; the only delay being precisely due to that rapid response when I appeared out of the blue from Ely, and they couldn't figure out what ward I'd be sleeping (or attempting to sleep) in. While it is never easy to sleep in a busy, often noisy hospital environment, I was able to remove one irritant by speaking up. I was having trouble going to sleep after surgery, and finally when I did, an obnoxious squawking woke me up... three times. A nurse responded to my call, and said, "Oh, when you fall asleep, you breathe less deeply, so your oxygen level drops and the alarm goes off." My oxygen levels were in the excellent range, and I pondered the inanity of this but kept my mouth shut, grateful that she was able to fiddle with the settings so it didn't happen again. Blessings on her and the many others who offer their skills, care, explanations, and even some humor to make the hospital experience better...and a special thanks to Jen, 4E nurse... or was it 4W?



#### **COUNCIL...**Continued from page 3

time in the week to do other

"But now we have to rent a house for them to stay in," said Dougherty. "Where are they going

to stay during the 12-hour shift?" Altenburg asked.

"At the office," responded Dougherty. "I go to work. He goes to work. People go to work and sit in their office all day long."

"We're just brainstorming ideas," said Keith.

Whether the proposal comes back to the council agenda remains to be seen. In other action, the

council: ➤ Denied a request

by Orlyn Kringstad for a new street light at the entrance to the Marjo Motel. Kringstad, who is leasing the motel, said he's had several complaints about the poor visibility at the new entrance, which

was altered as a result of the Hwy. 169 bridge project. The former entrance was adjacent to the Marjo sign, which provided clear illumination of the entrance. Kringstad said the current situation is a public safety hazard. Kringstad had contacted Minnesota Power, which informed him that a standard streetlight would cost \$197 to install and about \$23 a month to operate. Mayor Carlson, however, called the installation fee misleading. "The light that they're suggesting or requiring we put up is a \$15,000 light," he said. "It's a lot easier if the property owner just takes care of it," said Clerk Keith.

A representative of Minnesota Power confirmed to the Timberjay on Wednesday that the cost of the light's installation would be \$197, unless an

entirely new pole was required— which would

cost about \$1,000. ➤ Approved the purchase of a new trailer for the ambulance department to house the department's rescue sled and related vehicles. The cost of the trailer is \$10,823, including the freight. Altenburg said he would see if the city could get a decent trade-in on the ambulance service's existing trailer, which was purchased about four years ago and has very little wear.

➤ Appointed Deputy Clerk Terri Joki-Martin as the city's representative on the Lake Vermilion Trail

➤ Approved a new wastewater board joint powers agreement and bylaws.

teardown program.

➤ Approved a resolution authorizing application to the IRRRB residential

domestic abuse, assault,

# ANNIIAI ADD W\* CITY **FÉSTIVAL** Saturday, Dec. 2

**Pancake Breakfast** All-U-Can-Eat • Orr American Legion 7 AM-10 AM

#### **Crafters Fair**

Orr American Legion 11 AM-3:30 PM

Tables still available call Veronica 218-757-0070

#### LUNCH

Orr American Legion 11 AM-3:30 PM soup, hot dogs, hot chocolate, coffee

### PARADE at 1 PM

**Downtown Orr (Line up at Wallys)** CASH PRIZES for top 3 floats!

To enter the "Float Contest" call Shannon at ReMax 218-757-3200

After the parade meet Santa & Mrs. Claus **Orr American Legion** 

#### **Lights of Love &** Refreshments at 5:30 PM

Orr Center (Old Orr School)

#### **Medallion Hunt**

Daily clues starting Monday, Nov. 27 Clues posted at the Orr Post Office and on the Orr Area Chamber Facebook page by 10 AM. Claim your prize at ReMax Lake Country in Orr

#### Join Us For A Fun Day!

Sponsored by the Orr Chamber of Commerce



prison and a \$50,000 fine, while two counts of criminal sexual conduct are pun-

ishable with up to 30 years in prison and \$40,000 fines. Nielsen will make his next court appearance on

District Court in Virginia. Court records indicate

Monday, Dec. 4, in the

**CHARGES...**Continued from page 3

that Nielsen has numerous prior convictions dating back to 2001 in Minnesota, including felony crimes of

assault of a police officer, auto theft, drug crimes, driving while intoxicated, and violating protection orders, as well as several misdemeanors.

### **Northeast Range High School honor roll**

#### **A Honor Roll**

Grade 7 Rachael Kratz Inga Lakey Jennie Nelson **Grade 8** Audrey Anderson Erin Backe

Ty Fabish Markus Maki Natalie Nelmark

Hannah Reichensperger Grade 9

Christopher Ferguson Dillon Gorsma Kaleb Kappes-Bliss Oskar Koivisto Phoebe Morgan James Zupancich **Grade 10** Carolyn Desilets

Maude Lenz Shelby Nelson Kaliyah Reinhardt Grade 11 Jacob Bjork Sophie Lenz Mikayla Mellesmoen Mersadies Stordahl

Grade 12 Marshall Backe Tasha Bissonette Alvx Haburn ShaRee

Kachmarzinski Melissa Nelmark

#### **B Honor Roll**

Grade 7 Connor Berhow Olivia Bjork Morgan Bush Zoey Cameron Logan Meskill

Josephine Powell Alice Wolter

**Grade 8** Aili Bee Wyatt Gorsma Joscelyn LaSart Thia Lossing Rylan Poppenhagen Hunter Shenett Jenna Smith **Grade 9** Anne Barich Robert Bielejeski Willa Koivisto

Alexia Lightfeather Bralyn Lislegard Sadie Theel Ethan Zaitz

Grade 10 Makaya Bodas Robert Daugherty Lara Poderzay Jason Skube Travis Vogh Grade 11

Chloe Aase Heidi Houghton Joshua Kesler Annkathrin Ketterer Taina Koivisto Chelsea Larson Shayler Lislegard Maija Maki Ruth Morgan Justice Porisch **Grade 12** 

Zachary Anderson Emma Barret Chase Bialke Courtney Kilmister Mylea Laulunen Madisyn Littler Hannah Peitso Brett Rosendahl Bethany Runquist Wynn Tripp Jonathan Weston

#### **Vermilion Penguins to meet on** Wednesday, Dec. 6

TOWER- The Vermilion Penguins Snowmobile Club will meet on Wednesday, Dec. 6 at 7 p.m. at Fortune Bay. All members and interested community members are encouraged to attend.

The club Christmas Party will be held on Friday, Dec. 8 at the Vermilion Club with social hour at 6 p.m. and dinner at 7 p.m. Please RSVP to Autumn at the VC by Dec. 1, by calling 218-753-6277. If you so choose, bring an inexpensive gift for the holiday gift exchange.

#### NCUA Dashing Past Your Loan Payment Skip Your Loan Payment with Skip-a-Pay!\*

Consumer loans including auto, boat, ATV, snowmobile, RV, and unsecured personal

loans are eligible. \$25.00 service Fee Per Loan



24 S. River St. Cook, MN 55723

SAINT LOUIS COUNTY

BETTER WASTE SOLUTIONS

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218-666-5940 www.NorthStarCreditUnion.org

\*terms and conditions apply, not all loans are eligible, speak

with a loan officer for additional details

#### **Area Solid Waste Facility** site hours

Cook Transfer Station

2134 S. Beatty Rd., Cook

Hours

Mon: 10am-6pm

Tues thru Sat: 9am-3:30pm

Soudan Canister Site

5160 Hwy 169, Soudan

Hours

Mon, Wed, Sat:, Sun

8am-5pm

Aurora Transfer Station

5910 Hwy 135 N., Aurora

Hours

Mon, Thurs, Fri: 8am–4pm

Tue, Wed:10am—4pm Sat: 8am—noon

Regional Landfill 5341 Regional Landfill Rd, Virginia

Hours

Mon-Fri: 8am-4:30pm

Sat: 8am-3:30pm

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

Tue: 9:30am-3pm Wed: 11am-5pm

**County 77 Canister Site** 2038 County Rd. 77, Greenwood Twp Winter Hours Thurs, Sun: noon-5pm

**Embarrass Canister Site** Hours Sat: 12:30-4:30pm

Thu: 10am-5pm

**Household Hazardous Waste** Facility

5345 Regional Landfill Rd, Virginia Hours Tues and Sat: 8am-1pm

Winter hours effective October 1st through April 14th

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

www.stlouiscountymn.gov/recycle



- LIGHTS OF LOVE -

# **Christmas Tree Lighting Party for** area families on Sunday, Dec. 3

TOWER- Please join us in celebrating the holiday season with a Christmas tree lighting ceremony on Sunday, Dec. 3 at 4 p.m. in front of the Lake Vermilion

After the ceremony we will proceed to the Tower Civic Center where members of the Tower-Soudan Area Singers, directed by Rolf Anderson, will lead us in Christmas carols. A new addition to the holiday celebration will be a Bell Choir, "The Joy Ringers," under the direction of Jane Johns. Refreshments and Christmas cookies will be served along with a special stocking on the tree for each child. The Christmas tree lighting is an event held for the

Virgie Hegg Hospice Partners, Inc. "Lights of Love" in Cook. This non-profit organization offers support for families and patients in need of hospice care. It will be an evening of Christmas cheer for the entire community.

Pastor Doug Workman helped hang wreaths on the cultural center building. submitted photos



#### **COMMUNITY ED**



# Turkey, turkey



Tower-Soudan Community Ed sponsored a holiday craft class under the able eyes of teacher Cindy Myre. Above: Students showed off their turkeys and holiday drawings. photos by S. Ukkola





#### **HOLIDAY EVENTS -**

#### **Little Church will** hold a service on Sunday, Dec. 3

VERMILION LAKE TWP- The Little Church of Vermilion Lake Township will host a service on Sunday, Dec. 3 at 4 p.m. Jon Salo will lead the service. There will be

a potluck with coffee after Cook **VFW** 

# Open Daily at Noon

**CLOSED on TUESDAYS** 

**Happy Hour** Daily 4-6 p.m. All Beer & Drinks Bar Menu & Pizza Available

**Event Rentals** Welcome 218-780-6709

**Pull-Tabs Sold Daily** Lic. 00390

**Sunday FREE Pool** 

Thursday Bingo Early Bird 6 p.m. Progressive Prizes

Friday 4:30-7 p.m. Hamburger Special

Take-Out 666-0500

the service. Everyone is welcome to attend. The Little Church is located on Wahlsten Rd./Highway 26.

#### Adopt-a-Senior event on Monday, Dec. 4 at Soudan **Baptist**

SOUDAN- Adopt-a-Senior coordinator Bob Romig will be at the Soudan Baptist Church on Monday, Dec. 4 at 6 p.m. to ready the Christmas cards for area seniors. No writing will be involved. Bob can use all the helping hands he can get. This year there are over 1,300 seniors who will be receiving gifts and cards. Please come out and stay as long as you can. If you have any questions, call Adrienne DeVries at 753-8922.

#### **Red Hat Belles to** meet Friday. Dec. 8 at the **Vermilion Club**

TOWER-Northern Red Hat Belles will meet on Friday, Dec. 8 at 12:30 p.m. at the Vermilion Club. A limited menu will be available. Please RSVP to Pam at 753-3006 or Kathy at 753-2530 by Dec. 4. Bring unwrapped gifts for Toys for Tots, and also non-perishable items for the Tower Area Food Shelf. Any recycled items you may have will be used for gifts. New members and guests are always welcome.



# **Start thinking about Operation Santa**

HOLIDAY GIVING

Donations needed by Dec. 8: toys, gift cards, and cash welcome

TOWER- This year's Operation Santa toy drive is officially underway. Operation Santa is a local fundraiser which purchases Christmas gifts (toys, gift cards, and warm winter items) for children whose families use the Tower Food Shelf. Last year we served over 150 area children.

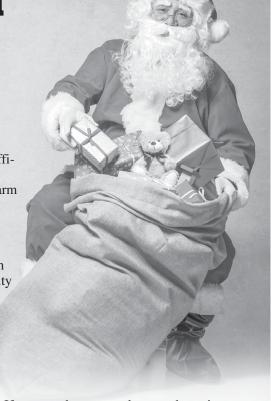
Take advantage of the great deals offered over the upcoming holiday to bring some joy into a child's life.

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

The effort is organized by The Timberjay and the Tower Soudan Civic Club, with help from many area groups, churches, organizations, and individuals. If your group or church is planning to donate this year, please contact Jodi at 218-753-2950. (This helps with planning!)

Lake Country Power's Operation RoundUp® program has once again made a very generous donation to the Tower Soudan Civic Club (formerly the Tower Women's Club), to help cover the cost of purchasing warm items for the chil-

We are looking at donations of toys, games, art supplies, and sporting equipment for children, and gift cards to either Target or Walmart for our teenagers (\$10 or \$15).



If you purchase a toy that uses batteries, please also send a spare set!

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

Donations can be dropped off at the Timberjay in Tower, and will be distributed at the food shelf on Dec. 19.

### THE NEWS OF THE WEEK FROM Ms. VERA MILION



#### Hearts,

I will not mention the unseasonable cold. I know that some of you are out there ice fishing and skiing and snowmobiling, wearing layers and layers of down filled clothes. I look tubby enough without extra padding. Besides, I am always worried that when dressed like the Michelin snow man one false move will have me tumbling down a hill where I'll not be found until spring! Or worse, one misstep and over I'd go to become a light snack for the only insomniac bear in Minnesota. Go, go on your fancy motorized sleds, have a good time, but leave me alone!

It was a quiet Thanksgiving. We had a wonderful meal without the usual squabbles and

"I COOKED! You

have to do the dishes." "Did I ASK you to cook?"

That is not a winning argument— if we want to eat, someone HAS to cook. I have been and always will be the person with the can opener.

Heaven knows that I am not a political person. I vote, but many times I am not even close to being on the winning side. I was so sure that Adlai Stevenson was a shoo-in that I voted for him the second time. It was that picture of him with the holes in his shoe soles that lost it for him!

I am only going to say this about our present political climate. It's the young lady that speaks for the prez- Sarah Huckabee Sanders. She makes \$179,700, has a net worth

of \$8 million and can't get a good haircut? The office might have something to with her appearance and demeanor. When I watch her, I keep waiting for the moment she just loses it and starts attacking the reporters with the podium. I also get nervous with that one eyebrow that seems to have a life of its own. I bet she is a great gal who has to do this because she lost a bet... or something.

Enough politics... I find it bad for the digestion. As if THAT was ever a problem.

If it gets more frigid and the furnace dies, we shall huddle around the fireplace and keep warm using the dozens and dozens of seed and plant catalogs that arrive daily. I will keep my fingers from freezing by making one plant list after another.

This year for sure, I am getting the blue potatoes and those long radishes. I WILL have hollyhocks growing along the garage. I will have roses—white, red, pink and no thorns. I will have at least one cabbage and rows of radishes not tunneled by worms. I will have my own dill so I won't have to schlep to Zup's and hope it hasn't all been sold. One summer, I want the cukes and the dill in my garden to agree on when they are mature and canning-ready!

Hear my battle cry, deities of the garden!

We are trying to become tres intelligent here. We have subscribed to the New York Times, just the Sunday edition, so the rest of the week we are still pretty befuddled and have no idea what is going on in the

Moose and his basement buddies have become quite enamored with the cooking section. The boys rushed into the kitchen with this recipe which might come in handy for our friends.

**Burned Toast Soup** Yield - four servings, Time - 40 minutes

This is from cookbook author Jennifer McLagan, who developed this recipe. She describes it as a simple toast soup, "...a rustic dish that stretches leftover bread into a comforting meal." McLagan tasted an upscale version of it at a restaurant in Paris, rushed home and created her own recipe in which she includes her 2014 cookbook, "Bitter: A Taste of World's Most Dangerous Flavor." The recipe requires thorough and severe toasting. The bread should turn black along its edges and deep brown all over. Use thickly sliced bread, so it's not carbonized all the way through, and the ratio of burned bread to deeply toasted bread will work in your favor. Once the bread soaks up the bacon-infused stock and is blitzed with milk and mustard, all of its

mellow.' This is the recipe EXACTLY as it appeared in the New York Times.

intense, smoky flavor will

Ingredients

1-3/4 ounces bacon, chopped

2 cups chicken stock 5-1/2 ounces sour-

dough bread, or about 3 thick slices

1 cup milk 1 tablespoon Dijon

mustard 1 tablespoon sherry

vinegar 4 tablespoons butter

Salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste

Directions

In a small stockpot or Dutch oven, cook bacon over low to medium heat until cooked through, but not crisp. Reserve a few pieces of bacon for garnish, if desired. Pour the chicken stock over the bacon, bring to a simmer and remove from heat. Let stand for 20 minutes

Toast the bread slices under a broiler or in a toaster, allowing them to blacken on the edges and turn deep brown all over. Add toast to the stock, ripping it up if it does not fit in the pot. Let stand for 10 minutes so the toast can soak up the stock.

Meanwhile, heat the milk in another pan until it steams, then add it to the pot. Add mustard and vinegar, season with salt and pepper. Use an immersion blender to purée then return to the pot. Heat gently. When hot, whisk in the butter until it disappears into the soup. Add salt and pepper to taste, garnish with reserved bacon.

Hilda found this recipe in the NYT and as soon as we can get Blue Curação and cream of coconut we shall make a batch to prepare for the next bliz-

> **Jack Frost Cocktail** Yield – about 6 cups Ingredients

Light corn syrup or honey for rimming glasses Flaked coconut for

rimming glasses

8 cups ice (more or less depending on desired con-

1 cup pineapple juice ½ cup Blue Curação ½ cup vodka or light

½ cup cream of coconut

Directions

Rim the glasses: pour a thin layer of corn syrup onto a plate and dip the rims into the corn syrup, then dip in coconut flakes.

In a blender, blend ice, pineapple juice, Blue Curação, vodka (or light rum) and cream of coconut until desired consistency is reached. Pour into glasses and serve immediately.

Ms. Vera Milion

#### **AEOA Senior Dining Menu**

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

Reservations are appreciated the day before, or morning of, but walk-ins are always welcome. Take-outs available. Seniors age 60 and older who have registered for the program and their partners qualify for special pricing of \$4 per meal, but all ages are welcome at the regular rate of \$5.75. There are no income guidelines.

Meals are served from 12:30 - 1 p.m. on days when the charter school is open. Call the school at 218-753-1246 ext. 1003 for reservations, or call AEOA at 1-800-662-5711 ext. 7323 for the one-time registration process.

#### Week of Dec. 4 Monday-Beef Fried Rice, Bread Stick

Tuesday- Hot Italian

Wednesday-Chicken Chop Suey over Brown Rice, Chow Mein

Thursday-Hamburger Gravy over Mashed Potatoes, Dinner Roll, Green Beans Friday- Pigs in a

Blanket, Baked Beans.

#### Week of Dec. 4

#### **Monday**

TOPS - Immanuel Lutheran Church, Tower,

**December 1, 2017** /

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

#### Tuesday

**Tower Area Food Shelf-**Open on the third Tuesday of every month from 2:30-5:30 p.m.
Located in the back of the Timberjay building on Main Street. Next food shelf day is Dec. 19.

Greenwood Fire Dept.-Meetings on the first (drill) and third (business meeting) Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m.

#### Presbyterian Church.

Wednesday

Questions, call 753-2332. **Thursday** 

Tower AA- Open Basics-7 p.m. at St. James

Vermilion Country School Board- Fourth Thursday (except near holidays). Meetings posted online at vermilioncountry.org.

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



#### **Interfaith conversation at Immanuel on** Sunday, Dec. 10

TOWER- On Sunday Dec. 10 at 11:30 the community is invited to participate in an Interfaith Conversation with Kadra Abdi and her sister about their Muslim faith and their journey with LSS as refugees from Somalia. The group that has been participating in the study, "My Neighbor is Muslim" has invited Kadra to join us as we conclude this study. This event will be in the Fellowship hall and is open to the public.

# the TIMBERJAY

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Marshall Helmberger

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

#### Subscriptions Available:

St. Louis County: \$34 year Elsewhere: \$49 year. We accept VISA/Mastercard/Discover. Please specify Tower/Soudan, Cook/Orr or Ely edition.

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. Online subscriptions cost \$27.95/year; details at www.timberjay.com.

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

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### Bookmobile Schedule

#### Bois Forte Boys/Girls Club Greenwood Town Hall Soudan Fire Hall Tower Civic Center Embarrass, Four Corners

**Wednesday, Dec. 20** 

11:00-11:30 a.m. 12:00-12:30 p.m. 1:45-3:00 p.m. 3:15-4:15 p.m. 5:15-6:00 p.m.

Wed.

Expanded hours year-round Monday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Saturday Sunday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

For info: 1-800-450-9278

Soudan Canister

Transfer station

Hwy. 77 Canister Winter hours now in effect Thursday 12 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Sunday 12 p.m. - 5 p.m. Recycling canisters available daily at the Greenwood Town Hall. For info: 1-800-450-9278

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

#### Libraries

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

**Babbitt library** 

Phone: 365-5140

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

#### Support groups

AA - Alcoholics Anonymous AA - 7 p.m. Mondays, First Lutheran Church. 915 E. Camp St. WOMEN'S AA - Noon Mondays, Ledgerock Community Church, Ely use 15th Street entrance BABBITT AA - 7 p.m. Tuesdays, Woodland Presbyterian Church. AL-ANON - Sundays 8-9 p.m. at St. Anthony's Catholic Church in Ely. For persons who encounter alcoholism in a relative or friend. **BABBITT AL-ANON -**Thursdays, 7 p.m., at Woodland

Presbyterian Church. **CO-DEPENDENTS**' 12-step support group, noon Fridays, St. Anthony's Catholic Church, Elv. **ELY AREA FOOD SHELF** - third Wednesday each month. 15 W. Conan St..

ADULT BASIC EDUCATION GED Study materials and pretest available. Ely Community Center Thursday 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Tower by appointment. Call 365-3359, 827-3232, 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

WINDOW INTO YESTERDAY

# The Great Augustus: Ely's Man of Magic

by DAVID KESS Ely-Winton Historical Society

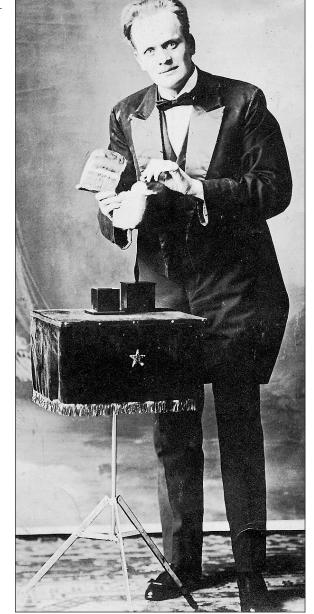
In January of 1979, Ely historian Lee Brownell wrote a newspaper column entitled "Little Known Facts About Our Town."

Among the interesting people he wrote about was a man called The Great Augustus, master of the mystic arts. In real life this was August Gabriel Maki who was born in Finland in 1895 and came to Ely as a babein-arms. His father Gust established a shoe and leather goods shop where Steger's Mukluks now stands.

The Great Augustus appeared with his magic show at the Elco Theater, the Opera House, and the Washington Auditorium in Ely.

He also traveled a circuit through the Range towns, to Minneapolis, some towns in Wisconsin and supposedly also to Chicago. But he always showed up back on the streets of Ely on the Fourth of July performing his feats of magic and new novelty tricks. The children paid with nickels and dimes. Anything to do with China and the Orient interested him. His Chinese name was Lee Hong Kye.

Augustus first found his muse for the magical arts in other magicians who performed at the Elco Theater. He was taken on as an assistant by a number of them but he gave most credit to a woman magi-



cian by the name of Magical Madame Ovette. "She," he is quoted as saying, "promoted me to a higher plane in the magical world."

It was in a small modest cabin on an island on Shagawa Lake that August, my great uncle, died in 1940. He was 45years old. He was a loner, had never married, and was considered to be a bit eccentric.

A display of many of his pictures, a top hat and a rabbit, cards, coins, a black cape, a silk scarf, a wand and more can now be seen at the historical society office at Vermilion Community College. The week after New Year's



Ely's August Gabriel Maki, born in Finland in 1895, was a magician known as the Great Augustus, left. He also portrayed himself as Lee Hong Kye, above.

photos courtesy of the Ely-Winton Historical Society

wthe display will move to the Ely Public Library.

About the Elco Theater and the Opera House:

The Elco Theater once stood on Chapman Street where the pool hall and Heavy Metal Sports now operate. In its day it had been both a vaudeville and silent movie theater. The arcade across the front was a large well-lit arch and the foyer featured an inlaid porcelain tile floor.

Later, falling into disrepair, it was replaced by the new Ely Theater on the next block, a theater with 900 seats and "talkies" real sound and voices. Movies were once huge in

The Opera House began its life as the Temperance Hall. It too later took on a new life with stage performances, concerts, and lectures but eventually became a vaudeville and silent movie theater.

Today, the building operates as the Ely Bowling Center. When "talkies" came to Ely the State Theater was built on Sheridan Street. Closed now for a number of years the newly refurbished marquee advertises for a new operator for the movie theater. We can only hope.

# the TIMBERJAY

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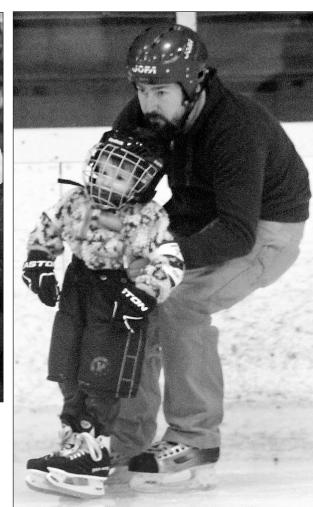
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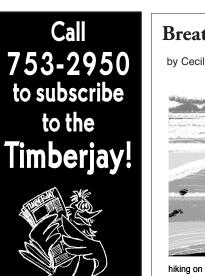
#### **OUR COMMUNITY**

# Kids give hockey a try for free



Ely youth recently had a chance to try hockey for free at the Ely Ice Arena though a program sponsored by the local youth hockey program. Logan Larsen, above, gets his helmet fitted by his father, Brad. Mike Lund, left, keeps his son, Henrick, steady on his feet as they take a spin around the rink. photos by K. Vandervort





#### **Breathing Out** by Cecilia Rolando © 2017



hiking on lake ice sounds bellowing below feet

two to five inches

#### Ely Free Clinic open Mondays

ELY - The Ely Community Health Center is Ely's Free Cinic. They are open every Monday evening from 5:30-7 p.m. in the lower level of the Frandsen Bank building on 1st Ave. in downtown Ely.

They are available to see anyone who does not have health insurance. They are also available for anyone who has health insurance but has unaffordable co-pays or deductibles (underinsured).

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

#### **Co-dependents meet on Fridays**

ELY – The Ely co-dependents support group meets Fridays at noon at St. Anthony's Church in Classroom 3. Use west side entrance. For more information, go to www.coda.org.

ELY FOLK SCHOOL

# **Holiday party, classes hosted by Folk School**

ELY - On Saturday, Dec. 2 while the blustery winds of winter gust through the streets of Ely, a festive gathering will take place at the Ely Folk School. The annual Holiday Party to celebrate the lights of the holiday season and another successful year of traditional skills and craft will begin at 7 p.m.

There will be refresh-

ments and a holiday singalong, as well as a very unique silent auction. Various instructors throughout the year were invited to donate items that they have carefully crafted towards our cause. The money raised through this effort will help to fund our new forge and blacksmithing shop, among other things. Some of the featured items include Latvian mittens, baked goods, hand knit scarves, baskets, and cutting boards.

Also available starting on Friday evening will be raffle tickets for the Winter Festival raffle which will



Instructor Bert Hyde along with assistant Mark Olson show off their handsewn really warm beaver hats. The silent auction will feature one of these plush beaver hats generously donated by Bert. submitted photo

offer a bent willow chair crafted by John Bajda, snowshoes laced by Peta Barrett, and a stained glass window from Rosemary Shepherd. These tickets are available for \$5, and the drawing will take place in March.

The folk school has been busy with activities all fall, but will take a short break over the winter holidays. Action will start back up with a very busy time during the Ely Winter Festival in February. Check the website to find out what is happening.

Upcoming classes are as follows:

Saturday, Dec. 2 1 p.m.-Porcupine Ball Ornaments 2 p.m.-Make Your Own Wreath

4p.m.-Kids'Fly-Tying Christmas Ornament

7 p.m. -Holiday Fundraiser Party

Sunday, Dec. 3
4 p.m.-Porcupine Ball
Ornaments

Tuesday, Dec. 5
10 a.m. -Inkle Loom

Friday, Dec. 8

6 p.m.-Learn to Knit a Norwegian Style Sweater (three-day class)

5 p.m.-Make Real Mincemeat Pie

Saturday, Dec.9

9 a.m.-Learn to Knit a Norwegian Style Sweater (three-day class)

9 a.m.- Create a Hardbound Book

9 a.m.-Wet-Felting Wool Slippers

1 p.m.-Stained Glass **Sunday, Dec. 10** 

9 a.m.-Learn to Knit a Norwegian Style Sweater (three-day class)

9 a.m.-Create a Hardbound Book

#### News In Brief

#### Chili feed to raise money for cancer

ELY - An Ely sixth-grader, Robert Towley, 11, is hosting a chili feed on Friday, Dec. 1 from 4-7 p.m. at First Lutheran Church, 915 E. Camp St., to do his part to fight cancer.

Robert witnessed firsthand the devastation the disease can do when it attacked his uncle, Chad Meskill.

The youth has set an ambitious goal of raising \$2,500 for St. Jude's Research Hospital in Memphis, Tenn., starting with the chili feed. The event is open to the public and a free will offering will be accepted.

#### Yesterday's news, this week

from the archives of

#### THE ELY MINER

Courtesy of the Ely-Winton Historical Society

**November 30, 1917** 

#### **Coal situation remains serious**

All efforts possible have been put forth by those having the distribution of coal in charge to have an equal allotment made. Notwithstanding this there has been difficulty experienced and more difficulty will be experienced from now on.

While dealers are trying in every way possible to supply the necessary demands for hard coal, they claim to be up against the proposition of the wholesalers who are holding coal. The claim is also made that parties are securing coal in carload lots through channels not altogether in the wartime code and that in this manner people who cannot use anything but hard coal are not receiving enough for their immediate wants.

The state commission has written a letter to the commission in this city in which they ask that more soft coal be used. This is all very well for those who can burn the bituminous brands but is not very satisfying to those who must either have hard coal or change their heating systems throughout.

In a letter to the local commission, Chairman McGee says:

"All concerned in the handling of hard coal are now facing a very serious condition and as I see it, there is but one way to avoid itin your community. Beginning with the operators and miners, stocks of hard coal are being distributed at the very same rate as in 1916. Stocks being allotted to the wholesalers in this fashion are in turn being divided among the dealers and I feel that a warning at this time should be given to the dealers receiving coal to the end that they may follow the same plan in disposing of such stocks as are shipped to them. If that hard coal that is shipped into the country is distributed a little to each customer, the situation will be relieved. Everybody will be supplied with enough to take care of their immediate needs and there will be no cases of suffering. It will require the hearty cooperation of everybody to handle the present situation."

#### **Very sad death**

Last week, we reported that Miss Bess K. McDonald, penmanship teacher in Ely schools, had undergone a successful operation at Shipman Hospital for appendicitis. The paper had not reached all of its readers when the news of her sudden unexpected death cast a gloom over the city.

Miss McDonald had recovered and was about to leave the hospital for her rooms at J. Meitunnen's when she, without warning, reeled and fell into the arms of the attendant nurse. Physicians were summoned at once and all that medical skill could do was tried to revive her but she expired. Embolism was given as the cause of her death.

The passing of Miss McDonald was a severe shock to her many friends in this city. She had been a resident here for the past two school terms and was in her third term as superintendent of penmanship in the district.

She is survived by her parents of Watersmeet and a sister at Hibbing.

#### WILDERNESS WARRIOR

# First Defender of the Boundary Waters

It's November 2017, and we are squarely in the middle of the fight to save the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness from the threat of sulfideore copper mining next to and upstream from the Wilderness.

This is a good time to

recall that the Superior National Forest, and the Boundary Waters within it, exist today only due to an unbroken chain of preservation efforts, beginning with Minnesota's first Forestry Commissioner, Civil War veteran General Christopher C. Andrews.

For some of us, the current fight to prevent sulfide-ore copper mining in the watershed of the Boundary Waters is all we know of the 115-year-long episodic contest between those who would protect the Boundary Waters for all time, and others willing to break, consume and risk its pollution to extract an immediate, limited and narrowly-shared cash benefit. We are on the right and selfless side of this contest, and thank goodness for the seasoned advocates alongside us who also fought and helped win earlier battles. Specifically, the years-long efforts that led to passage of the 1978 BWCA Wilderness Act, and before that, the 1964 Wilderness Act itself. We owe them our

First on the list of those to whom we owe thanks is General C. C. Andrews, who took the first decisive steps to protect what is now the Superior National



General C.C. Andrews (1829-1923)

Forest and the Boundary Waters.

A Civil War veteran who enlisted at the start of the war as a private in the Third Minnesota Infantry, C.C.Andrews rose quickly through the ranks and was honorably discharged in 1866 as a Brevet Major-General.

Born in New Hampshire, Andrews studied law at Harvard, passed the bar, moved to Kansas Territory and then to Minnesota, where he opened a law practice, operated a newspaper and won a seat in the Minnesota Senate.

Upon his discharge from the Army, he briefly returned to his law practice in St. Cloud, served two stints as a diplomat (U.S. Minister to Sweden and Norway from 1869-1877; Consul General in Rio de Janeiro from 1882-1885) and upon returning to Minnesota, was appointed Minnesota's first Forestry Commissioner.

As Forestry

Commissioner from 1895 to 1911, General C. C. Andrews advocated scientific forest management and responsible logging at a time when unsustainable and chaotic private commercial logging was liquidating vast acreages of towering virgin white and red pine at breathtaking speed.

After clear cutting their

lands, the companies abandoned them without paying land taxes, moving on always to acquire, log, and abandon new tracts, a practice termed "cut and run." A favorite tool of timber barons ravenous for fresh timberland was the fraudulent conveyance of homesteaded lands, a practice that by the late 1890s was diverting hundreds of thousands of acres every year through the hands of the timber companies.

Alarmed by what he saw, General C. C. Andrews petitioned the U.S. General Land Office (GLO) to withdraw some of the remaining areas of far Northeastern Minnesota from homesteading. In 1902 the GLO acted on the petition and set aside 500,000 acres of United States land in the Quetico-Superior area as off-limits to homesteading.

Later, after he returned from a canoe trip in the Lac La Croix area and petitioned for the withdrawal of additional federal lands from homesteading, the GLO granted two more land withdrawals (in 1905 and 1908), which together protected 659,700 addi-

tional acres of U.S. public domain forest lands, lakes and islands – all in an area Andrews considered to be one of the most important and beautiful in Minnesota.

The 1,159,700 acres assembled by the 1902, 1905, and 1908 federal land withdrawals provided the foundation for President Theodore Roosevelt's establishment of the Superior National Forest in February 1909 – which he did largely at the urging of General C. C. Andrews and others.

That act influenced

Ontario's provincial government, which was dealing with similarly unsustainable practices, to follow suit in April 1909 by establishing a forest reserve just to the north of the SNF. Four years later that Ontario forest reserve became the Quetico Provincial Park.

After his time as

Forestry Commissioner, General C. C. Andrews served on Minnesota's Civil War monuments commission, authoring the commission's report recommending state monuments in national military cemeteries in Arkansas, Tennessee and Georgia. Brevet Major-General Christopher C. Andrews is buried under an unassuming gravestone at Oakland Cemetery in St. Paul, roughly a mile north of the State Capitol Building.

This article was posted on the Save the Boundary Waters website on Nov. 22, 2017.

### News in Brief

### St. Nicholas Day will be celebrated on Sunday

ELY - The Slovenian Union of America, Branch 23 in Ely is presenting their second annual St. Nicholas Day celebration at St. Anthony's Church hall on Sunday, Dec. 3, beginning at about 11 a.m.

The actual feast is on Dec. 6, but the SUA chooses to hold the event on the first Sunday of the month. The St. Nicholas outfit has come directly from Slovenia and the outfits for the angels and the devils, played by high school students, were made here, according to organizer Pat Koski.

"St. Nicholas is played by a gentleman who came from Slovenia as a little boy," she said. "There are little bags of goodies for the children, the story of this man is told and we will have a woman in her nineties who

tells of when St. Nicholas visited her in Slovenia,"

Card stock sheets of St. Nicholas will be available for children to color and cut out. Carols will be sung. Cocoa, coffee and goodies are served to all.

"We also have a ceiling to floor upside down Christmas tree which has a story behind it," Koski said.

# ENVIR MENTAL SERVICES BETTER WASTE SOLUTIONS

#### Area Solid Waste Facility site hours

**Aurora Transfer Station** 

5910 Hwy 135 N., Aurora

Hours

Mon, Thurs, Fri: 8am-4pm

Tue, Wed:10am-4pm

Sat: 8am-noon

Soudan Canister Site

5160 Hwy 169, Soudan

Hours

Mon, Wed, Sat:, Sun:

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

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

Household Hazardous Waste
Facility
5345 Regional Landfill Rd, Virginia
Hours
Tues and Sat: 8am—1pm

8am-5pm

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

Sat: 8am-3:30pm

Winter hours effective October 1st through April 14th

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

ce hours 8-4:30 Monday through Friday www.stlouiscountymn.gov/recycle

### www.timberjay.com

#### **First Baptist Church hosts Annual** Ladies Christmas Tea on Dec. 4

COOK- All the ladies of the community are invited to attend the annual Christmas Tea at the First Baptist Church of Cook on Monday, Dec. 4 at 7 p.m. The theme is "Simply Christmas." Join the ladies of First Baptist Church to contemplate the profound, yet simple message of the Christmas season. The ladies look forward to sharing this delightful evening of reflection, rest and refreshment with you. Christmas music, readings, carolsinging and refreshments will add touches of festivity to the evening. The ladies of First Baptist Church look forward to welcoming you and trust that this delightful evening will help usher the Christmas season into your heart and all of your Christmas plans.

#### **Fifth Annual Lutefisk and Meatball** Dinner on Saturday, Dec. 9

COOK- Trinity Lutheran Church in Cook will be holding their Fifth Annual Lutefisk and Meatball Dinner on Saturday, Dec. 9 from 4-7 p.m. Dinner includes lutefisk with white sauce and/or melted butter, meatballs, potatoes and gravy, green beans, rutabaga, lefse, homemade bread, cranberries, pickled herring, desserts and more. Cost is \$15 for adults and \$6 for children under ten. Take-out meals are available. Net proceeds will be donated to ELCA World Hunger, Cook Community Food Shelf, and other ministries. Trinity Lutheran is located at 321 2nd St. SE. All are welcome.

#### **North Woods Chapter of National Honor Society induction ceremony on** Wednesday, Dec. 6

FIELD TWP- The National Honor Society of North Woods High School is pleased to announce the selection of Lauren Arvila, Bria Chiabotti, Bethany Cotton, Hailey Hakkila, Clayton Janssen, CeCilia Martinez, Trevor Morrison, Olivia Niska, Nicole Olson, Brendan Parson, Kylie Parson, Karlyn Pierce, Nicole Roy, Alanna Rutchasky, Ian Sherman, Neiva Smith, Sasha Strong, and Kayla Towner for membership in the North Woods Chapter.

You are cordially invited to attend the induction ceremony in the North Woods High School commons on Wednesday, Dec. 6 at 5 p.m. Please join us for cake and coffee following the ceremony.

#### Volunteer Appreciation Night at Cook Library on Thursday, Dec. 14

COOK- Stop by the Cook Public Library on Thursday, Dec.14 at 5:30 p.m. to help us thank and celebrate all the volunteers who dedicate their time and share their talents at the library. Hot beverages and light snacks will be available courtesy of the Friends of the Cook Public Library.

Our library volunteers serve in a variety of ways including running the circulation desk, shelving materials, serving on the library board, advocating and fundraising with the Friends of the Cook Public Library, leading programs such as Summer Reading and the BFF Club, participating on the Teen Advisory Board (TAB) and working at special events like the Quilt Lovers Tea.

The Cook Public Library thanks everyone who volunteered this year. We would not be able to provide such outstanding services and programming without your commitment to this library. Thank you.

#### **Bookmobile schedule**

Visit your library on wheels, the Arrowhead Library System Bookmobile. Local stops and times include:

Thursday, Dec. 7, 28 Nett Lake -Community Center 9:30-10:15

Orr City Hall/Tourism Center 11:00-11:45

Buyck Vermilion River

Tavern 1:15-1:45

SAINT LOUIS COUNTY

Ash River Trail Canister Site

11391 Ash River Trail

Winter Hours

Sat: 12:30pm-4:30pm

**Orr Canister Site** 

4038 Hwy 53

Winter Hours

Tue, Thu: 9am-noon

Sat: 8am-noon

**Cook Transfer Station** 

2134 S. Beatty Rd.

Hours

2:00-2:30 Crane Lake - Ranger Station Kabetogama – "Town" Hall 3:45-4:15

For further information on the Bookmobile or Mail-A-Book services, write or call the Arrowhead Library System, 5528 Emerald Ave., Mt. Iron, MN 55768 218-741-3840, or check our website at www.alslib.info.



# **Get ready for the Orr Snow City** celebration on Saturday, Dec. 2

ORR

ORR - Get ready to jumpstart the holiday season as Orr hosts its annual Snow City celebration on Saturday, Dec. 2. This popular holiday tradition, sponsored by the Orr Chamber of Commerce, includes a day full of holiday activities. The festival begins with an all-you-can-eat pancake breakfast at the Orr American Legion from 7-10 a.m. followed by a craft show from 11 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Lunch will be served from 11 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. and will feature soup, hot dogs, hot chocolate, coffee and

The popular Snow City Parade begins at 1 p.m. To register your float for the parade, please call Shannon at 218-757-3200 or you may also come to line up that day. There will be cash prizes for the top three floats. Parade line-up is at Wally's Auto. After the parade, stop by the American Legion for a chance to visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus. The fes-



tivities conclude with the Virgie Hegg Lights of Love ceremony at 5:30 p.m., which will be held this year at the Orr Center in Orr, the old Orr School. Refreshments will be

served after the tree lighting.

**Snow City** 

Medallion

Congratulations

Hoffer, Jeremy Wright, and

Maverick, who

submitted photo

found this year's

found!

to Patrick

medallion.

Tables are still available for the craft show. To reserve your spot, please call Veronica at 218-757-

### **Donations needed for this year's Lights of Love**

REGIONAL- The 27th annual VHHP Lights of Love campaign, our largest fundraiser of the year, begins in November to commemorate National Hospice Month and National Family Caregivers Month. Last year's Lights of Love raised over \$6,300.

Donations (taxdeductible) may be given in honor or memory of a loved one. Ice candles are available for purchase to be displayed as part of the tree lighting ceremonies.

Please mark your calendars and join us for the Lights of Love tree lighting and caroling which will take place at the Cook Community Center on Friday, Dec. 1 at 5 p.m., Orr's Community Center on Saturday, Dec. 2 at 5:30 p.m. and on Sunday, Dec. 3 at the Lake Vermilion Cultural Center at 4 p.m. You are also invited to join us following the ceremonies for coffee, cider and treats.

For more information about Virgie Hegg Hospice Partners, visit our website at www.vhhp.org or contact Liz Cheney (Program Director) at 780-8907 or Shawna Kishel (Chairperson) at 666-5096. To make a donation, you can find a form on our website. Please make checks payable to VHHP Lights of Love and mail to PO Box 244, Cook, MN 55723. PayPal is also available via our website.

— CRANE LAKE

# Crane Lake News by the Singing Teapot Dames



CRANE LAKE- We had a ghost town but now things are slowly getting back to normal. This was the year everyone went away for Thanksgiving. Even Crane Lake Chapel was closed for Sunday services but will resume on Dec. 3, which is also the first Sunday in Advent. The word "Advent" is derived from the Latin word adventus, meaning "coming." The New Year in the church begins with the season of Advent — a time to help prepare for Christmas, when Christians celebrate the fulfillment of longing for the Savior with the birth of Jesus. So, what is Advent? It's the season that lasts about four weeks, beginning four Sundays before Christmas and ending on Christmas Eve.

8380 Hwy 73

Hours

2038 County Rd. 77

Winter Hours

Office hours 8-4:30

The church's Christmas season begins on Christmas Eve and lasts for twelve days. So, Advent is a season of anticipation that leads up to Christmas. During this time, Christians observe a season of prayer, and reflection — followed by anticipation, hope and joy. Each Sunday during Advent, Christians light a candle on the Advent wreath. The Advent wreath, or Advent crown, is a Christian tradition that symbolizes the passage of the four weeks of Advent in the liturgical calendar of the Western church. It is usually a horizontal evergreen wreath with four candles. The color for

Advent is purple. It is time to start thinking of Christmas and all the busy preparations of getting ready for the holiday. The weather has been warm this week, finally a break in the wind, cold temperatures and snow. It makes outside decorating and holiday shopping a lot easier if the weather is agreeable.

Traditions are very important during the holidays. Just about every family has a Christmas tradition. One tradition the Dames have heard of is from Ruth Carlson. She has a service for 12 of Christmas dishes. Rather than have them out only on Christmas Day, on Dec. 1, she takes down her everyday dishes and puts her Christmas dishes in the cupboard. They are used at every meal until Jan. 2, when they are put away for another year. Do you have a tradition for the holidays you would like to share with us? Please share by sending it in to the Dames using the information listed at the end of this column.

Is one of your traditions putting up a Christmas tree? Originally "real" Christmas trees were from standing forests. About midway through the 20th century, tree farms began to spring up. Today, most Christmas trees are grown on commercial farms. Almost all of the 50 states produce Christmas trees, with Oregon being the largest producer of farmraised "real" Christmas trees, at almost five million annually. North Carolina and Michigan hold the second and third spots, respectively, on the Christmas tree producers list. Whether you have a "real" tree or an artificial one, a Christmas tree is the centerpiece in many homes during the holiday season.

Did you venture out on "Black Friday?" Officially, the Christmas buying has begun. Many

people say they start their shopping in July and are done by the time December rolls around. One of the Dames tried that one year, but she forgot what she had purchased and where she had stored the items, and didn't find them until the

next July! At any rate, the holiday season is upon us and there will be buying, decorating, and wrapping to be done. How much time do you spend on this? Research suggests that American consumers spend about 42 hours buying gifts, wrapping them, and returning them during the holiday season. This includes hours spent partying and traveling to visit friends and family. Most shoppers expect to stand in store check-out lines for about three and a half hours on average. If shopping during the peak hours, shoppers can expect to spend four or more hours in line. Women plan to spend twice as long as men do. And some plan to spend much more time, especially in the partying department!

If you are looking for dinner or drinks, the place go is Danny's Sportsmen. Trails End is closed until Dec. 26 at 4 p.m. Trails staff will be around if you wish to contact them about any of their other businesses.

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

the Teapot Dames are singing off.



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www.NorthStarCreditUnion.org

terms and conditions apply, not all loans are eligible, speak

with a loan officer for additional details

Mon: 10am-6pm Tues thru Sat: 9am-3:30pm 5345 Regional Landfill Rd., Virginia

Mon-Fri: 8am-4:30pm Sat: 8am-3:30pm Household Hazardous Waste Facilities 3994 Landfill Rd, Hibbing Tue, Sat: 8am-1pm

Sat: 8am-1pm Winter hours effective October 1st through April 14th

Kabetogama Lake Canister Site

Winter Hours

Wed: noon-4pm

Sat: 8am-noon

**Portage Canister Site** 

6992 Crane Lake Rd.

Winter Hours

Tue, Sat: 1pm-4:30pm

**Regional Landfill** 

5341 Regional Landfill Rd, Virginia

Hours

Monday through Friday www.stlouiscountymn.gov/recycle

site hours

# Lights of Love takes place Dec. 1-3in Cook, Orr and Tower

REGIONAL-The annual Lights of Love tree lighting ceremonies are set to take place in three Northland communities this weekend. LOL takes place yearly the first weekend in December as a way to remember and honor loved ones while raising funds for local hospice patients and their families.

This is the 27th year LOL will take place in Cook. Over the years

the ceremony was added in the Orr community as part of their Snow City Celebration and in the last four years it has been added in the Tower community. Each community puts its own touches on the ceremony, but they all involve a tree lighting ceremony, local clergy providing a blessing and prayer, a few Christmas carols and then of course fellowship!

You can participate this weekend

in any of the following LOL ceremonies:

Friday, Dec. 1 - Cook Community Center at 5 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 2 - Orr Community Center at 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 3 - Tower Lake Vermilion Cultural Center at 4 p.m. Fellowship following with a community choir and more at the Tower Civic Center.

NORTH STAR CU -

# **Protect yourself from identity theft**

COOK- The recent Equifax breach effected 143 million Americans. North Star Credit Union held a free seminar explaining what that means for you and how to protect yourself from identity theft in the future. Equifax is one of the three major credit reporting agencies along with TransUnion and Experian. Together, these companies develop your credit score that is used to determine your rates for loans, car insurance, and can even impact potential job offers. North Star held the event to help our community understand how the recent Equifax information breach happened, how to recognize identity theft, and steps to take to protect your identity. The breach happened at the end of July 2017. Hackers accessed the personal information of millions of consumers in the United States. Equifax has made a website allowing people to confirm if their information was stolen, and sign up for a free ID Theft Protection service. April Sanderson of Lutheran Social Services showed the group of 11 community members how to use the Equifax site, and explained the pros and cons of signing up for identity theft monitoring services. Information regarding how to access the Equifax site can be found on North Star Credit Union's website blog (www.northstarcreditunion.

org/blog/) titled "Equifax Breach".

Data breaches are not the only thing we need to protect ourselves from; ID thieves will often try and get information from you over the phone or online. With your information, they can open credit cards, take out loans, or take a job using your name. This will all affect your credit report and credit score which impacts your ability to take out credit in the future.

It is important, especially after a data breach, to monitor your credit report for any changes that you did not make. This could even be something small, like seeing a new city appear in your past locations. Any new information that is not supposed to be on the report is a red flag, and you should take steps to protect yourself. Every year, you can get a free copy of each of your three credit reports (Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion). It is a good idea to spread your free reports out by requesting one of them every four months. This lets you see any recent changes in your information.

One way to prevent new accounts from being opened in your name is to freeze your credit report. Equifax is temporarily offering this service for free for anyone who has had their identity compromised, and Experian and TransUnion are offering the same service for a \$5 fee. When creditors pull your report, they will not

be able to see any information unless you "thaw" the report first. You can thaw your credit report for a set time period or indefinitely. More information regarding how to freeze your credit can be found on the North Star

Another way to protect yourself is by getting new credit card numbers. There were approximately 209,000 people who had their credit card numbers stolen in the Equifax breach. Each person has an average of five credit cards, that means more than one million card numbers were stolen in the breach. You can get a new credit card number by calling the company and explaining that your information has been compromised.

All North Star Credit Union members are eligible to receive six free sessions with Lutheran Social Services (LSS) as part of their membership. LSS can help you recognize identify theft, help you complete the steps to freeze your credit, and provide financial counseling. LSS can be reached at 218-248-2702 or www.lssmn.org. For more information regarding how to protect yourself from identity theft, fraud, or scams, visit http://www.ag.state. mn.us/.

GRIZZLY UPDATES

### **SRO Krueger provides support to students**

As you may be aware, North Woods School, along with the other four schools in ISD 2142, is lucky enough to have a School Resource Officer funded by the district and St. Louis County. Our five sites share two officers. Initially, there may have been some confusion about the role and responsibility of the SRO, and I would like to focus this week's message on talking a little about our SRO, Deputy Matt

Krueger. One of the unique aspects of the St. Louis County Schools is that we are remote. Very remote. Many area schools in our neck of the woods have a local police department just a few blocks away able to respond at a moment's notice. Not so at North Woods. While we are fairly close to law enforcement based out of Cook and Bois Forte, the response time for an officer if a call is made could be anywhere from a few minutes to a half an hour or longer depending on the location and availability of the officer on duty. With an SRO on site, we have the added safety of law enforcement in the building if an emergency situation requires it. As parents and community members, you can be assured that your kids are much safer in a building with a School Resource Officer than without.

The role of Deputy Krueger is NOT to administer school discipline. That responsibility still remains 100 percent with school staff and administration.

The role of the SRO is to

support school discipline.



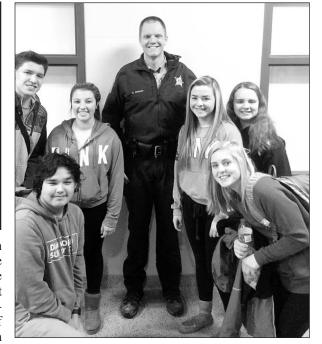
**JOHN** VUKMANICH

For example, in situation where students may have had a physical fight, the SRO is on site to document it and address it appropriately. A large number of our tenth through twelfth graders drive to school. Deputy Krueger has done an excellent job working with our students on appropriate driving and reinforcing with kids the responsibility that they have while driving, especially on school grounds with students in the area. When bullying or harassment issues arise, Officer Krueger meets with the parties involved and discusses the legal side of the conflict, along with giving advice on strategies and resolutions. These are just a few examples of the support role of the SRO.

Deputy Krueger is excellent at building relationships with kids. He spends a great deal of time in the lunchroom with all ages, talking and getting to know them. I don't feel that our students feel threatened by his presence here, but rather view him as a resource and a part of our

school-wide support

system. He really cares



about the well being of our kids and community.

There have also been cases where students have needed medical, mental health, and county social services support. Having Deputy Krueger on site allows us to coordinate directly with other county, medical, and law enforcement services. We are all aware that many of our families and students have a higher level of need for these services than ever before.

Schools nowadays deal with a myriad of challenging issues that were not even on our radar years ago including mental health, social media, parental custody issues, substance use, homelessness and student insubordination/ lack of compliance to name

es of a School Resource

Officer, ultimately Deputy

While the majority of our students will never need to utilize the servic-Mon-Sat: 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Krueger makes North Woods a better place for all of us!





**Effective** 

#### **BFF Gingerbread Event at Cook** Library on Thursday, Dec. 14

**December 1, 2017** 



COOK- The Cook Public Library is pleased to host its third annual BFF Gingerbread Event on Thursday, Dec. 14 at 4 p.m. This year all children are welcome to help build a gingerbread village to display at the library during the month of December. To ensure we have enough supplies, please contact the library at 218-666-2210 or email crystal.phillips@alslib.info by Friday, Dec. 8 to let us know you're attending. This event is sponsored by the Friends of the Cook Public Library.

#### **Cook Seniors Christmas Party** on Wednesday, Dec. 6

COOK-The Cook Seniors will hold their annual Cook Senior Citizens Christmas Party at the Crescent Bar and Grill on Wednesday Dec. 6 at 12 noon.

Call Lois at 666-5578 for reservations. Everyone is welcome to attend.

#### **Adopt-a-Senior event on Monday,** Dec. 4 at Soudan Baptist

SOUDAN- Adopt-a-Senior coordinator Bob Romig will be at the Soudan Baptist Church on Monday, Dec. 4 at 6 p.m. to ready the Christmas cards for area seniors. No writing will be involved. Bob can use all the helping hands he can get. This year there are over 1,300 seniors who will be receiving gifts and cards. Please come out and stay as long as you can. If you have any questions, call Adrienne DeVries at 753-

#### **Red Hat Belles to meet Friday,** Dec. 8 at the Vermilion Club

TOWER-The Northern Red Hat Belles will meet on Friday, Dec. 8 at 12:30 p.m. at the Vermilion Club. A limited menu will be available. Please RSVP to Pam at 753-3006 or Kathy at 753-2530 by Dec. 4. Bring unwrapped gifts for Toys for Tots, and also non-perishable items for the Tower Area Food Shelf. Any recycled items you may have will be used for gifts. New members and guests are always welcome.

# the TIMBERJAY

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Jodi Summit Melissa Roach Stephanie Ukkola Keith Vandervort M. M. White Scarlet Lynn Stone Jay Greeney

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Moving? Questions about your subscription?

Call the Tower office at (218) 753-2950.

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**8** December 1, 2017

# COMMUNITY EVENTS AND NOTICES

#### **Lutefisk and meatball dinner on** Tuesday, Dec. 5 at Gethsemane

VIRGINIA- Come and enjoy a lutefisk and meatball dinner on Tuesday, Dec. 5 from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Gethsemane Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Dinner will include lutefisk with drawn butter and cream sauce, handmade Swedish meatballs, potatoes and gravy, lefse and bread, a vegetable, beet pickles, coffee, milk and cupcake.

Gethsemane Evangelical Lutheran Church is located at 901 S 4th St. in Virginia. Call 218-741-4961 with any questions. Cost for dinner will be \$16 for adults, \$6 for children ages six through 12, and children ages five and under will be free.

#### **Vermilion Dream Quilters Christmas** party on Dec. 7

TOWER- The Vermilion Dream Quilters will gather together for their annual Christmas party on Thursday, Dec. 7 at the Vermilion Club. The social hour will begin at 5:30 p.m., followed by pizza and salad at 6 p.m.

The crayon challenge from the 2016 party is due and there will be an optional \$10 brown bag gift exchange. In the spirit of giving, members are encouraged to bring new hats, mittens, socks, and/or sweatshirts in infant to teen sizes. These items will be donated to Operation Santa. The 2017 Christmas party challenge will be introduced. Bring a candy bar to the party to participate in this new challenge. Kathy Lovgren and Judy Politano will be the hostesses for this Christmas gathering.

The Vermilion Dream Quilters is a guild with members from throughout the Iron Range and Arrowhead Region and is open to anyone interested in quilting and creative sewing. Members encourage and instruct each other and share tips. For more information, please contact Corrine Hill in Tower at 218-753-4600.

#### **Sons of Norway Lodge 40 meets** Thursday, Dec. 7

VIRGINIA- Sons of Norway Haarfager Lodge 40 will meet at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 7 at the Virginia Senior Citizen Center for our annual Family Potluck Christmas Party. Join us around the Christmas tree and expect a visit from the julenisse. The serving committee is Duane and Sue Gustafson, Ray and Ivy Reinholtzen, Sharon Crep, and Art Lee. Anyone interested in Norwegian culture and heritage is welcome to attend.

#### Still life painting class starting on Saturday. Dec. 2 at Lyric

VIRGINIA- It's time to start painting! Instructor Jane Wertanen will lead a class on painting a traditional still life at the Lyric Center for the Arts. The class is in two sessions, Saturdays, Dec. 2 and 16 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. This class is for beginning artists. Find more information and to register, go to https://squareup.com/store/the-firststage-gallery or register in person at Lyric Annex, 516 Chestnut St. in downtown Virginia on Thursday or Friday between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.

#### "And Yet We Hope" at Mesabi Unitarian on Dec. 2

VIRGINIA- This Sunday marks the beginning of the season of Advent in the Christian community. The first theme celebrated during Advent is hope. Perhaps this is one of the greatest of all the gifts that faith and the human spirit have bestowed upon us. Even in challenging times and seemingly against all odds, we can remain hopeful if we are open to receive this gift. Join Reverend Eric Northard on Sunday, Dec. 2 at 10:30 a.m. to reflect on hope, and how hope impacts each of our lives.

Mesabi Unitarian Universalist Church is located at 230 7th Street South in Virginia. Usual services are Sundays at 10:30 a.m.A parent/infant area is provided, as is toddler care, and religious education is provided for the over fives. All are welcome and the church is handicap accessible.

For more information, visit www.mesabiuu.org.

# Merry TubaChristmas concert on Dec. 9



The low brass section of the Mesabi Community Band, tuba players Tom Baldrica, Dennis Jerrold and Skip Ferris, euphonium players Ron Maki, Larry Baker, Keith Vagle and Ruth Jayson invite all area tuba and euphonium players to participate in the upcoming Merry TubaChristmas on Saturday, Dec. 9 at 1 p.m. in the Eveleth Municipal Auditorium. The Mesabi Community Band will also present a concert after the Merry TubaChristmas concert. submitted photo

EVELETH-For the fourth year, tuba and euphonium players from around the area will come together and present Merry TubaChristmas 2017 at the Eveleth Municipal Auditorium on Saturday, Dec. 9 at 1 p.m.

The Merry TubaChristmas performance features traditional Christmas carols especially arranged by American composer Alec Wilder. The warm, rich organ-like sound of the tuba-euphonium choir has won the ears and hearts of audiences worldwide. It is no wonder that TubaChristmas has become an estab-

lished Christmas tradition in cities throughout the world.

Merry TubaChristmas is celebrating its 44th anniversary (1974-2017). Created by Harvey Phillips, the first TubaChristmas was held Dec. 22,1974,on"The Rink at Rockefeller Center" in New York City. TubaChristmas is an annual event honoring Phillips' mentor/teacher, the late great tubist William J. Bell (born Christmas Day 1902). Every Christmas season, tuba and euphonium players of all ages gather all around the nation to pay respect to all the great artists/teachers who represent their heritage.

Merry TubaChristmas, performed by the Mesabi Community College Band under the direction of Paul Helfter, will create a wonderful afternoon of Christmas music and holiday spirit. The event is free to the public, but in the spirit of holiday giving, if you can, please bring a nonperishable food item, or make a free will monetary donation for the Quad City Food Shelf. For more information, call Tom Baldrica at 615-715-

TIMBERJAY Newspapers

#### VOYAGEURS

#### Legends of the Wilderness at local libraries on Monday, Dec. 4

REGIONAL- The Arrowhead Library System is pleased to present Homeward Bound Theatre's Legends of the Wilderness, with Jacques La Christian. This is a free program being offered for ages eight though adult at the Babbitt Public Library on Monday, Dec. 4 at 1 p.m. and at the Ely Public Library on Monday, Dec. 4 at 3:30 p.m. This program will also be at the Cook Public Library on Wednesday, Dec. 13 at 6 p.m.

Experience the wilderness through reenactment of the 1800s with French Canadian Voyageur Jacques La Christian. See Indian beadwork, flintlock rifles and pistols, along with furs of various types used in the fur trade in the U.S. and



David Popilek, as Jacques, has

been entertaining diverse groups of people with his educational and compelling series of historical stories, exhibits and CDs for over 30 years.

This program, sponsored by Arrowhead Library System, was funded in part or in whole with money from Minnesota's Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund. To learn more about Arrowhead Legacy Events, please see our calendar at www.alslib.info, find us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/Arrowhead Legacy, on Pinterest at https://www.pinterest.com/alexisleitgeb/legacy-events, or like us on Facebook at http://www.facebook.com/alslibinfo.

ELY WINTER FESTIVAL-

# 2018 Ely ArtWalk artists wanted

ELY-Artists, it's that time again. Believe it or not, the 2018 Elv ArtWalk is just around the corner, Feb. 1-11. The show will once again be held during the Ely Winter Festival. Our non-competitive, non-profit display of Elv's creative talent will be the 19th edition of Ely's hardy midwinter window-shopping event. Traditionally more than 40 businesses participate by offering their store windows as a city-wide gallery. ArtWalk entry registrations are due on Monday, Dec. 11.

Paper entry forms can be found at Kess Gallery, Art & Soul Gallery and the Chamber of Commerce. Artists can register at www.elyartwalk.org, which can also be accessed through www.elywinterfestival.com. Individual entries require a \$10 fee and groups may register for \$30. Those with PayPal accounts can pay online, the most popular method, but other options are detailed on the site and in the paper application.

The Ely ArtWalk draws many visitors from all around the Arrowhead and beyond. Most of the work can be purchased and one hundred percent of sales go to the artists. The event is made possible, in part, by Minnesota voters through legislative appropriations to the arts and cultural fund via the Arrowhead Regional Arts Council. Additional support comes from the Donald G. Gardner Humanities Trust Fund and the Ely Chamber of Commerce.

### **TOWER BINGO** Monday, Dec. 4

TOWER- Senior Bingo will be held in Tower on Monday, Dec. 4 at the Tower Civic Center from 11:45 a.m. - 3 p.m. There is a \$10 charge for the bingo party, which includes lunch. All ages are welcome to attend this community event. Lunch is served starting at 11:45 a.m., and bingo begins at 12:45 p.m. Senior Bingo is organized by the Friends of the Vermilion Country Charter School. In case of inclement weather or school cancellation, bingo may be cancelled. Questions, call Jodi Summit at 218-753-2950.

#### **Upcoming dates for 2017:**

Monday, December 4 No bingo in January Monday, February 5 Monday, March 5



#### **T-S Area Singers perform Christmas Concert on Dec. 17**

TOWER- The Tower-Soudan Area Singers have prepared a concert you do not want to miss. Under the direction of Rolf Anderson and pianist Lynn Watts, the 30-member choir has prepared an afternoon of fun and nostalgia for the whole family at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 17 at the Tower-Soudan Elementary

Included in the repertoire of songs are favorites such as The First Noel, Joy to the World and Everywhere Christmas Tonight, as well as the fun and rousing music and lyrics of 'Twas the Night Before Christmas, The African Noel, and You're a Mean One, Mr. Grinch. These, combined with moving and tender psalms such as Mary Rocked the Little Baby and Bethlehem Winds, are sure to get you into the

Special appearances will be made by Santa and Mrs. Claus, as well as the Grinch. The vocal and instrumental talents of these area musicians will be followed by a coffee an'.

A free will donation will be taken.

# COMMUNITY EVENTS AND NOTICES

**EMBARRASS** 



The Nelimark Homestead will be filled with holiday gifts, fresh-baked goods, and more. file photo

# Nelimark Homestead open Dec. 8 - 9 for holiday gift shopping

EMBARRASS- It's a snowy December again in Embarrass. That means it's time to start thinking about holiday gifts for everyone on your list. The Nelimark Heritage Museum is the place to do your shopping for Christmas gifts of all kinds. The Nelimark will be open only one weekend before Christmas, on Friday and Saturday, Dec. 8 and 9 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Starting Friday morning at 10 a.m. the Nelimark will be open with locally crafted items and goodies

galore for you and your family. Items available include homemade candies, Finnish biscuit, jule kakka, potica, peanut brittle, flatbreads, sweet breads, rye breads, homemade taffy, fruitcakes, cinnamon rolls, fruit tarts, artisan breads, pies, colorful aprons, refurbished collectibles, Finnish gifts, glassware, mementoes, children's books, holiday decorations, wreaths, items from yesteryear, sauna supplies, handmade soaps, handmade oils, kitchen items, wooden signs of all kinds, books by local authors, old

postcards and more.

The local artisans will be on hand to welcome you and your friends from across the Range on Friday and Saturday, Dec. 8 and 9, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. with fresh brewed coffee and cider free for all to enjoy. You can sit and have a visit with neighbors or browse the rooms upstairs and down and just enjoy your day at a very popular and unusual local gathering place. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

#### – MINNESOTA DISCOVERY CENTER ———

### Iron Range Labor Story opening at MDC, Dec. 7

CHISHOLM- Join us for the grand opening of our newest permanent exhibit! Blue-Collar Battleground: The Iron Range Labor Story will be unveiled on Thursday, Dec. 7 at 6 p.m. at the MN Discovery Center (MDC). Blue-Collar Battleground features over 100 years of Iron Range labor history and highlights the struggle many endured to get economic justice. The night will be filled with a discussion led by Pam Brunfelt on topics such as unions, strikes, spies and immigration, then followed with a tour of the new exhibit.

The name Blue-Collar

Battleground came from the different settings labor has had to battle through: from the underground mines, to the picket lines, and spy offices, to the halls of Washington, D.C. "This exhibit is very central to what the Iron Range is as a region," says Allyse Freeman, Curator at MDC. From start to finish, this exhibit took a little over three years to complete. "It started with the Enough! 1916 Mesabi Range Strike exhibit then transitioned into this final exhibit," says Freeman.

If you enjoyed the 1916 Mesabi Range Strike exhibit, then you will thoroughly enjoy Blue-Collar Battleground: The Iron Range Labor Story. The 1916 Mesabi Range Strike is a small part of history in the new exhibit which encompasses the 100 years since then. The only item on display from Enough! will be the Red Flag from a parade in Hibbing; everything else is new. Complimentary appetizers and cash bar will be available. This event will have free admission and is open to the public.

For more information, please visit www.mndiscoverycenter.com or call 800-372-6437 or 218-254-7959.

#### **Embarrass Pancake Breakfast and Holiday Boutique, Saturday, Dec. 2**

EMBARRASS- A Pancake Breakfast and Holiday Boutique will be held on Saturday, Dec. 2 from 8 to 11 a.m. at Timber Hall. Come and enjoy all-you-can-eat pancakes, your choice of ham or sausage links, fruit, juice and a bottomless cup of coffee. The cost is \$5 for adults ages 11 and up, \$3 for children ages 6-10 years old, and children younger than five years may eat free. This event is sponsored by the Embarrass Region Fair Association.

#### **Tower Holiday Craft Show set for** Saturday, Dec. 9

TOWER- The Tower Holiday Craft Show will be held on Saturday, Dec. 9 from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. at the Tower Civic Center. Stop by to browse the wares from over 20 area crafters who will be offering gifts for all ages along with holiday baking.

A few tables are still available at \$20 each and must be reserved and paid for in advance. Checks can be made out to Friends of VCS and mailed to Vermilion Country School, PO Box 629, Tower, MN 55790 or can be dropped off at the charter school or at the Timberjay office in Tower. For more information, call Jodi Summit at 218-753-2950.

#### A Beautiful Un-Christmas Concert set for Sunday, Dec. 3

VIRGINIA- Join the Mesabi Symphony Orchestra on Sunday, Dec. 3 at 2:30 p.m. in Virginia's Goodman Auditorium. The program, "The Beauty of Music," will delight your ears and your soul with treats from the masters of melody, including Elgar, Strauss, Bizet, Vaughan Williams and more. For more information, visit www.mesabisymphonyorchestra.org.

#### Range Respite ceasing operations

REGIONAL- Range Respite Project, Inc. will be ceasing operations on Nov. 30, 2017. Since 1993, Range Respite has been privileged to serve family caregivers in Northern St. Louis County. We have been honored to provide support programs to help thousands of caregivers care for themselves and their loved ones with disabilities and chronic diseases. We have been able to provide our services these many years because of the tremendous support of dedicated volunteers, organizations, staff, and the public.

We who have been involved with Range Respite extend a heartfelt thank you, especially to those who have helped in some way to care for those who care so deeply and selflessly for others. This is an ever-growing need that is present in our society, and it is our wish and prayers that our mission's passion will continue on and spark continuing assistance for these unsung heroes. This special community is a precious gem in society and deserves to be treasured as such. We hope that family caregivers will also continue to reach out for and seek similar support services, such as the Senior Linkage Line.

If you have any questions, please contact us ASAP at lkolocek@rangerespite.org.



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### **Tower-Soudan Athletic Association Thank You**

**Embarrass-Vermillion Credit Union** 

The Tower-Soudan Athletic Association would like to thank the following businesses and individuals for their generous donations to this year's Fall Auction Fundraiser. The money raised is used to support athletics and activities at Tower-Soudan Elementary and Vermilion Country School, as well as summer baseball programs. Also, thanks to all those who volunteered at the event.

> Anderson Furniture **Aronson Boat Works** Benchwarmer's Mica Berg Bergetta Indihar **Bob's Service Brandenburg Gallery**

**Boundary Waters Dog Grooming Broten Construction** 

**Corrine Hill** 

**Ely Subway** 

Crapola D'Erick's **Eloranta and Associates** 

Firelight Galleries/Rozella's Rack **Fortune Bay Resort Casino** Frandsen Bank- Tower Good Ol' Days Grea Northrup Amy Hinkel and Paige Olson **IBI Construction/Dostert Family** Jeanne's Cards & Gifts Joan Dostert Jodi Summit **Kay Vandervort** Leann's Beauty Shop Johnson Brothers Wines/ Leigh Lillquist Marshall Helmberger Elaine McGillivray **Muriel Scott Nordic Home North Northern Pine Embroidery Northwoods True Value** Piragis Northwoods Co. The Quick Ladies **Rocket Liquor Rocks the Jewelers** 

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#### CITY OF ELY

# Ely property taxes to drop for 2018 despite levy increase

by KEITH VANDERVORT Ely Editor

ELY - Taxpayers in the city of Ely will likely pay \$34,500 less in property taxes next year than in

City Council members conducted a Truth in **Taxation Hearing Tuesday** night, and will certify the final levy next month. No one spoke in favor or against the proposed budget.

Total proposed property taxes are at \$1,698,679. City-wide, that is an increase of \$33,307, or two percent over 2017, according to Clerk-Treasurer Harold Langowski. "The decrease in property taxes is due to other general fund revenues," he said. Local Government Aid is budgeted to increase by \$85,300. "That makes a tremendous difference as we look at our priorities and move forward," he said.

Langowski broke the news that the taxable market value of property in the city of Ely for 2018 increased \$5,198,000 compared to 2017. "In talking with the (St. Louis) County assessor last month I knew it was going to go up, but I was really surprised at that big amount," he said. Langowski is still waiting to receive the breakdown of residential and commercial property values.

Fiscal disparities contributions to the city of Ely increased by \$93,659 compared to 2017. "Again, that is a big number from 2017 and obviously affects the amount of taxes paid in the city of Ely," he said. Langowski explained that, "Other communities in our region are doing better on the industrial and commercial side than Ely and we are a benefactor of that disparity. It is good to see that benefit, but look down deep to why we are getting it.'

According Langowski, "The proposed tax statements mailed earlier last month, indicated a decrease, or little change, to taxpayers even with the two-percent proposed levy increase. There are many contributing factors to that."

The 2018 proposed

budget for the city of Elv shows a 7.68-percent decrease in the General Fund, from \$446,900 to \$\$412,600. The Library Fund dropped by \$8,600, from \$281,700 to \$273,100. Debt service decreases slightly, from \$231,600 to \$228,400.

The Cemetery Fund increase from \$21,100 to \$24,300 reflects the increased lawn mowing necessary for the recent

wetter summers, and other improvement projects, according to Langowski.

The Airport Fund remains unchanged at \$13,000. The Equipment Replacement Fund stays at \$150,000.

The Capital Projects Fund jumps almost 15 percent, from \$521,000 to \$597,200. "As you know, we are looking at (renovating) Seventh Avenue by the school ball fields, the water tower feed replacement project, and other miscellaneous parks and recreation projects,' Langowski said.

A\$2,333,200 increase in Capital Projects Fund

expenditures is due mostly to airport projects, including apron resurfacing, and parking lot and entrance road resurfacing. A \$2,449,400 increase in Capital Projects Fund revenue is due mostly to federal grants for the airport projects, Langowski said. "Obviously, without those grants, those projects are not possible," he said The special levy for the

Economic Development Authority rises from \$29,000 to \$30,000 for 2018. "By state statute, that amount is dictated by our taxable market value of properties," he noted.

#### **ELY** ... Continued from page 1 —

are other avenues that we are pursuing who may be willing to provide ongoing support." An earlier draft report

estimated that the Ely School District would pay \$70,000 per year to use the facility. That financial requirement has been eliminated. "We attempted to

estimate how much of the space and facilities might be utilized by the school for its physical education, activities, and athletic programs," the report said. "We have determined that there are significant opportunities for use by the school district, but rather than estimating usage we assumed neither a usage cost by the district nor a lease cost for the use of the land."

According to the operating pro forma detailed in the report, the ERCC shows annual expenditures of \$907,694 and revenues of \$717,280, leaving a deficit of more than \$190,000.

"We recognize that the current pro forma shows a deficit similar to that in Grand Marais, that is funded by the City and Cook County," ERCC board member Kurt Soderberg said. "What we do not yet have in our plan, nor have we asked for, is funding from local units of government. At this time our plan is to have our endowment, or other means, in place at the time of a formal commitment to move forward. One significant advantage the facility will have is no loan debt to repay. This will help in addressing revenues and expens-

Soderberg summarized the report to the school board Monday night. "If the school board

approves this request, we would request that the school board determine its usage of the ERCC and then an appropriate usage fee can be negotiated. Similarly, a professional appraiser will be utilized to determine the lease cost paid by the ERCC to the district annually," he

With a \$5 million anonymous grant already in hand, the ERCC board intends to submit a bonding request to the State of Minnesota for an additional \$5 million for the project.

ERCC Chair Jeff Sundell revealed that the group just received a \$1 million matching grant. "If we are able to raise a million dollars, will get an additional \$1 million which will put our total funds at \$7 million for the project," Sundell said.

"We are well ahead of similar projects with funding at this stage,' Soderberg added.

The ERCC board has determined that the site on the southwest corner of the school campus is the preferred location for both students and community members. An architectural rendering, taking into consideration the new elementary school playground was provided

The ERCC secured the services of Lawal Scott Erickson Architects to evaluate the Ely School District site to determine its ability to host the facility. The conclusion reached was: "....the site overall is very expansive and can fit a variety of new buildings and uses, completely consistent with a Recreation Complex, new or existing entrances to the ice arena, and a new entry and student drop-

#### What would be included?

The preliminary design of the ERCC encompasses an approximately 50,000-square-foot facility, with the following facilities:

➤ Aquatic facilities – a six-lane pool with a zeroentry area beside it to enter a therapy, instructional area - about 14,000 square feet, including the pool deck. This was the number one identified need in the survey and from our meet-

➤ A gym with two cross-courts, enabling 30 players in each court about 7,000 square feet. This item arose as an important need in most survey responses.

➤ An aerobics area of about 1,200 square feet.

➤ A cardio wellness area of about 2,500 square elevated ➤ An

running/walking track an important need that may be met without additional

➤ A multi-purpose room of about 1,500 square feet that can include space for a computer lab.

➤ 2,400 square feet of additional space. In Grand Marais this space was used for Child Care space and we have allowed additional space due to the success in the Grand Marais facility. This need has not yet been tested within our community.

➤ Locker rooms of

about 5,500 square feet. ➤ Administration/ meeting space of about 1,800 square feet.

➤ Vending/gathering space of about 400 square

➤ Lobby/corridor/rest room space of about 8,000

square feet. ➤ Mechanical spaces of about 5,000 square feet.

➤Climbing wall of 700 square feet (if located inside). In addition, other less well-known but increasingly popular programs may be included in

the final design. "This is an approximation of the derivation of the 50,000 square foot estimate, but work would remain to fine tune and modify based upon needs, funding, and site considerations," the report said. All facilities would be handicapped accessible. One of the concerns

expressed are those regarding traffic and parking. "The site shows parking sufficient to provide for normal clientele but using the experience of the Grand Marais facility, the only times that parking is problematic is during times when multiple events are going on at the school," according to the report. "The ERCC facility will add to that problem, but also will be adding parking to a portion of the site and therefore the net addition should not be substantial. The Ely Police Department and Operations Director for the city of Ely will be consulted on minimizing traffic concerns."

#### **Competition with** other facilities

There are other physical training and community gathering facilities in Ely that are operated as forprofit businesses, including Amici's Event Center, Heavy Metal Sports, Studio North, and Elv-Bloomenson Community Hospital. There will undoubtedly be some overlap of programs and fitness equipment, according to the report.

"We don't intend to do the sorts of things that Amici's is already doing, such as birthday parties. The Heavy Metal people have said they are fully on board with what we are proposing to do," Soderberg said. "The hospital has given us no feedback, but we haven't heard any pushback from them whatsoever. We are talking with Studio North to work together, and hope to continue conversations with them."

He indicated that the ERCC's bottom line is to have a complete program. "It is not our goal to put someone out of business, but all of the essential elements need to be in our package," the report said. "A swim and gym only program would not meet the expectations of potential members who want all of the elements, including cardio, weight training, as well as other elements. We will work hard to try to see how these programs may co-exist with ours. Should there be other programs in

town that are focusing upon specific activities (such as dance) we would work to avoid those programs within our facility.'

Concern has also been expressed about the ERCC getting into the business of holding larger community functions such as those provided in other venues in Ely. "As shown in the Pro Forma, ERCC only plans to offer small birthday parties or other gatherings that can utilize the gymnasium, pool, or similar facilities," according to the report.

The potential for this complex to integrate with other facilities in town could develop once the ERCC is in operation. "As an example, at the Grand Marais facility, a severe shortage of day care facilities was addressed by opening a day care within their complex to help parents. This option exists for the ERCC but no development work has been done in this regard," the report

#### Swimming pool concerns

School Board Chair Ray Marsnik questioned the swimming pool being used for varsity swim team meets. The plans for the swimming pool were expanded from a four-lane to a six-lane swimming area. "Have you discussed a diving board and spectator seating area for the swimming pool?" Marsnik

Neither feature has been addressed by the ERCC board. "That is the kind of thing that can be negotiated in an agreement or arrangement in the project," Sundell said.

With regard to aquatics programs, the Ely School Board eliminated girls swimming after the 2006/2007 school year and closed the pool in a round of budget reductions. Since then the Ely students have had the opportunity to participate in girls swimming through a cooperative program with Northeast Range in Babbitt, at no cost

to the district. "Ely swimmers make up a strong majority of the team and there is concern that Northeast Range will either eliminate the program or ask Ely to pay a greater share for the cost," the report said. "Having a pool nearby would not mean a resumption of varsity swimming but could offer that in the future, or simply could avoid some of the substantial travel that Ely parents and students must make for practices with no local pool. This is a community benefit not previously identified or discussed but would exist regardless of which site is chosen."

School Board member Heidi Mann indicated her concern with undermining the swimming program at Northeast Range. "We have had a successful relationship with them and I wouldn't want to give the impression that we were trying to pull back from that cooperative and do our own thing," she said.

#### **Economic** development

"The development of a multi-use facility such as we propose will employ a substantial number of full and part-time employees and will be an enhancement to the tourist economy, as well as improving the wellbeing of our region," the report said.

The ERCC is on the

priority list of projects for the Ely Economic Development Authority. "We have had many discussions with (Ely Clerk-Treasurer Harold Langowski) from the beginning of this, Sundell said. "Mayor Novak is a proponent of it, and the city's economic developer, John Fedo. We anticipate somewhere between seven and 10 full-time jobs, so this is a priority under economic development."

The report said, "We envision this facility being another reason for people to visit and remain in Ely. We have heard from visitors that a year-round for the pool, the facilities, and the sense of community that is inherent with a recreational type facility would draw and keep them here. Visitors may also have privileges based upon membership elsewhere in the state or country. A facility such as this would certainly be an added attraction to the area to further entice families and retirees to move here."

#### Shovels in the ground

All involved agreed that any construction planning is far down the road, but the ISD 696 Superintendent asked for a best-case scenario of when shovels would go in the ground.

Sundell indicated that construction would not start before 2019. "The reason I throw that out there is because this dialogue has taken longer than we thought," he said. "We were hoping for 2018, but that has passed. It could be 2020. We are hoping in the next couple of years."





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# Puncher Point road vacation petition raises concern in Breitung

by STEPHANIE UKKOLA

BREITUNG TWP-Township officials, at their Tuesday afternoon meeting, rescinded a road vacation petition that had been accepted at the previous meeting for a seldomused road off of Puncher Point Road leading to an undeveloped boat landing.

The petition was submitted "to ensure that Public Water Access Rules are adhered to, such as: the launch area must be kept clear and the following activities are unlawful: littering, camping, shooting, building fires, and consuming alcoholic beverages." And "to prevent the spread of invasive species by eliminating the use of an unregulated or controlled access point to Lake Vermilion following the Aquatic Invasive Species Laws and Requirements."

The petition stated that these rules and laws are more likely to be followed and are more convenient to abide by at the existing three regulated public access points nearby, HooDoo Point, McKinley Park, and Stuntz Bay. The

petition said that such regulated sites have inspectors on site and have excellent parking, while the Puncher Point site lacks any development or dock landings, has inadequate and unsafe parking for vehicles and trailers, and no inspectors.

The town board members had initially believed that any person who lived within three miles of the road and landing was eligible to sign the petition. However, after discovering that the requirements were to be a landowner, a resident voter of Breitung Township, and to live within

three miles, the board rescinded the acceptance of the petition because there were only seven eligible signatures, one less than the required eight for the petition to be accepted.

Furthering the confusion, it was reported in the *Timberjay* on Nov. 24 that the township had approved the road vacation petition. The township did not approve the petition but had only accepted it, meaning that the petition had not been finalized but simply accepted for a public hearing to be set.

Over ten concerned

citizens came to Tuesday's meeting to express opposition to the petition and to seek clarification on the status of the issue. Harold Langowski said that he has been using the landing for many years and has never seen any problems; he said he didn't believe that aquatic invasive species had been a problem at that site. Rodger Manning worried that his property could lose value if this landing is vacated. "It doesn't do anyone any good," Manning said, 'people aren't there drinking, fighting, or burning things." John Turk, a Puncher Point resident, said, "I've used this landing for 50 years and can only remember one issue from back when I was in my twenties."

The residents who asked that the road and landing be vacated will have to submit a new petition with at least eight eligible signatures to be considered. Chairman Tomsich explained that the process of a road vacation is defined under Minnesota State Statue 164.07 should anyone wish for further clarification.

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

valuable surface lands above a sizable mineral deposit acre-for-acre with lower-valued timber lands and swamp.

Nolan argued that the lands the Forest Service is giving up offer no public access and are located in a mining region, while obtaining lands that have better access for the public. "They [the public] get more lakeshore property, more timber land, more wild rice land, and more wetlands," said Nolan.

The congressman also addressed what he called "terrible misinformation," that he said some critics have put out, including suggestions that the mine has the potential to impact water quality in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. Standing next to a map of the region, Nolan took pains to point out to his colleagues that the PolyMet mine would be located south of the Laurentian Divide, which means water from the site would flow south, rather than north toward the Boundary Waters.

In fact, the direction of water flow from the mine has been a hotly-contested issue. While the environmental review of

the project predicts that ground and surface water from the mine will flow south, the Department of Natural Resources has indicated that it cannot rule out the possibility that some groundwater from the mine will eventually empty into the Peter Mitchell pit, located about a mile north of the proposed PolyMet mine. The Peter Mitchell pit is located north of the divide and will eventually flow into the Kawishiwi River watershed following closure of the taconite mining operation there.

But Nolan discounted that risk. "In no way can it in any way harm the Boundary Waters or I wouldn't be standing here today advocating for its purchase," he added.

Environmentalists condemned the House action, which would still require Senate approval and a signature from President Trump. A coalition of Duluth-based environmental groups called the measure "a taxpayer rip-off, and a huge windfall for foreign mining corporations PolyMet and Glencore." Glencore, the Swiss-based global commodities broker, is a significant shareholder in the

PolyMet project. "The PolyMet bill sets a terrible example for how highly contentious, unpopular, and environmentally damaging projects are dealt with by our politicians," read the statement issued by the groups.

Nolan also took heat from Leah Pfifer, of Isanti, who is challenging Nolan for the DFL endorsement in 2018. "From my father to my great-great grandfather, the Iron Range mining industry has employed my family for four generations," said Pfifer. "It is an industry I care about deeply and one that must flourish. However, I strongly oppose this legislation because it is not the role of our government to circumvent due process in order to facilitate the creation of new mining projects. It is precisely this sort of political opportunism that has fractured the DFL in the Eighth and rendered us the only Democratic district in the nation at risk of flipping from blue to red next year."

#### Project continues, questions remain

As Congress debates the merits of enacting the

land exchange for PolyMet, state officials continue to move ahead slowly with the permitting process. Assistant DNR Commissioner Barb Naramore said the state officials expect to receive an updated Permit to Mine application from PolyMet within a matter of days, and that the DNR still hopes to issue a draft permit by the end of the year. "However, as we've said previously, there's a lot that must come together in order to meet that schedule," Naramore added.

Naramore said she expects the new Permit to Mine application to include an updated financial assurance proposal from PolyMet, with changes based on the DNR's review of its previous application.

While the DNR and other state agencies will need to approve the vast majority of the nearly two dozen permits that PolyMet will need to open the mine, the company is still waiting for a wetlands impact permit from the Army Corps of Engineers, which has been in process for years.

Despite the progress

to date, investor interest in the PolyMet project continues to appear lackluster, reflecting a difficult investment climate for new mining projects. The company's stock price remains mired in the 60cent range per share, where it has remained since the summer. While copper prices have recovered some lost ground in recent months, nickel prices remain well below the levels that PolyMet had forecasted in its feasibil-

ity report. Other copper mining projects in the U.S., with full permitting already in hand, have struggled to find investment capital to begin operations. PolyMet officials have indicated the project is attracting significant investor interest, but the company has yet to announce a financial backer for the initial investment of approximately \$600 million to bring the proposed mine into production.



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

town homes to a new hotel, to a proposed privatelyowned RV park.

City officials have known for as long as two years that anticipated new development was likely to tap the remaining capacity of the community's wastewater facility. As currently designed, the system can theoretically treat up to 172,000 gallons of wastewater per day, although the state's Pollution Control Agency typically resists allowing communities to use more than 85 percent of their treatment capacity, to limit the frequency of violations. The Tower-Breitung system is currently running at about 76 percent of capacity, according to John Thomas, who oversees wastewater regulatory compliance from the MPCA's Duluth office. Even at 76 percent, the system has not always been able to comply with state standards for the quality of water it's discharging into the East Two River. At its current volume, the system could likely handle an additional 15,000 gallons per day and still stay within 85 percent of its design capac-But that volume is

expected to jump by at least 10,000 gallons per day when the city connects the Hoodoo Point Campground, according to wastewater manager Matt Tuchel. That sewer project is currently under construction and should be connected when the campground opens for the season next May.

#### **Permit snafu**

But first the city will need an MPCA permit to hook up the entire campground, as is currently planned. The city did apply for a permit in August, and received the go-ahead in September. But the city's application only included the hook-up of six new RV sites that the city is creating as part of the half million-dollar campground project, not the entire camp-

The six sites are designed to accommodate a discharge of 160 gallons per day each, or 960 gallons for the six sites combined. The MPCA's Thomas said the permit his agency issued in September only allows the six sites to connect, so the city will need to submit a revised application for the full project.

Given the much greater volume involved, the MPCA is likely to give the permit significantly more scrutiny, particularly since the extra flow is likely to push the system's volume to about 82 percent of capacity.

#### Development on hold?

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**HOODED SWEATSHIRTS** 

The city's decision to tap much of its remaining wastewater capacity to connect Hoodoo Point Campground, poses uncertainty for some of the community's ongoing development, including plans for town homes at the harbor, a second RV park along the East Two River, a possible hotel, and additional residential development, much of it planned by Orlyn Kringstad and his Tower Vision 2025.

The first phase of that project includes 20 town homes at the harbor, but that development alone could add about 6,500 gallons per day of additional flow to the Tower-Breitung wastewater facility, likely putting the system above 85 percent of capacity. Kringstad has also been working to bring a new hotel and other commercial development, additional town homes, and affordable housing to the community, all of which would further add to the wastewater flow. Other projects either planned or underway include the new Lake Vermilion Cultural Center, an expansion of Lamppa Manufacturing, and the possible re-opening of the Iron Ore Bar.

Dave Rose, who is seeking to develop a 27unit RV park along the East Two River, had planned to connect the facility to the municipal system, but he said the city's engineer has since suggested he look at installing holding tanks instead, at least temporarily. Rose noted, however, that the Tower-Breitung Wastewater Board gave him the go-ahead to connect last year, but that was before the city had decided to add its own campground to the system. Rose said he's willing to work with the city, but has yet to commit to using holding tanks for the project.

Yet if the city allows Rose to connect his RV park, it could delay the planned connection of town homes at the harbor, which are now slated for a spring 2018 construction start.

#### MPCA flexibility

While its mission may be to limit pollution, officials with the MPCA aren't insensitive to the needs of small communities to foster new development, according to Thomas. While the agency uses 85 percent of design flow as a target maximum, he said it's more of a guideline than a hard number. "At that point we start to look at whether a moratorium [on new connections], further 'I and I' reductions, or removal of projects are in order," he said. "The first approach is to address I and I." I and I, otherwise known as "inflow and infiltration," is a chronic issue for most wastewater treatment systems. It comes from small cracks or gaps in the sewer lines, or from sump pumps that are illegally connected to the system, both of which allow ground or surface water to enter the system. However it occurs, I and I, if left unchecked, can quickly use up capacity and add treatment costs for wastewater facilities.

Whether or not the MPCA would require the city to hold off on new hookups if it's in the process of addressing the issue isn't clear. "It depends on the particulars of the situation, depending on the project, how big, and where they are at now," said Thomas. "It's not an easy position for us to be in. We try to work as much as we can with the community to try to be sure that doesn't happen."

At the same time, systems operating near capacity are more likely to struggle meeting water quality standards for their discharge - a fact that the Tower-Breitung system has already experienced. In 2014, when the system saw higher-than-usual flows, it significantly exceeded its discharge limits for phosphorus on several occasions. Phosphorus is a common pollutant that's known to encourage algae growth in freshwater lakes, so it's a key concern given that the Tower-Breitung system's discharge winds its way into Lake Vermilion.

Phosphorus is best removed from wastewater through settling, and that means the longer that the water can remain in the stabilization ponds, the better, according to MPCA's Thomas. But as wastewater systems near capacity that becomes more difficult, since if the ponds are allowed to fill too much, it can cause breaching or other damage to dikes, which can be costly to repair and allow discharge of poorly-treated wastewater.

The capacity issue is also complicated by the fact that wastewater flow can vary significantly from year-to-year, and that could provide the Tower-Breitung system a bit more wiggle room depending on the total volume of flow in 2017. When the MPCA indicates that the Tower-Breitung system is running at 76 percent of capacity, that's based on a three-year includes the years 2014-2016. But 2014 was an extremely cold winter, which prompted many local residents to run their water continuously to prevent freeze-up. That additional winter flow pushed the system's total volume to 85 percent of capacity that year, which contributed to the phosphorus violations. The next two years saw significantly lower flows. In 2015, the flow dropped to about 70 percent of capacity, followed by a modest increase to 73 percent in 2016. It's the average of those three years that Thomas uses when he lists the system at 76 percent of capacity. But next year, when that three-year average no longer includes 2014, the system's rated average could drop, although probably not by much according to Tuchel. "A lot will depend on our 2017 number," he said, "and right now, it's not looking too good." Tuchel said the frequent rain this summer added to the system's I and I, pushing the flow of wastewater higher. "We

#### Finding a solution

might gain a little bit, but

probably not much," he

The city and the township have three main options for addressing the issue, none of which come without significant cost. The city could halt new development, which seems unlikely, particularly since some of the planned new construction, such as the harbor town homes, is subject to signed development agreements.

Barring that option, Tower and Breitung must either develop a plan for significantly reducing wastewater inflow to the three existing stabilization ponds, or build additional capacity, such as a fourth pond. Both the city and the township have been working for years to reduce I and I into the system and have made significant progress in reducing it over the past ten years according to Tuchel. That's the good news. The bad news is that the recent progress means the easy and inexpensive ways to reduce I and I have already largely been tapped.

That leaves the final option, building additional capacity, as the most likely solution— and that's a process that can take considerable time, according to Paul Scheirer, municipal wastewater section manager for the MPCA. "First, we encourage folks to look at all their options. Sometimes they get too focused on what they're currently doing," said Scheirer. Cities typhiring a consultant to help them analyze their potential alternatives.

TIMBERJAY Newspapers

While the Tower-Breitung system has room for a fourth stabilization pond, that's not the only means to address capacity. According to Scheirer some communities opt for land application of some of their wastewater flow, although that typically works best in agricultural areas. "Cities and consultants usually go with whatever is the lowestcost option," said Scheirer.

Once all involved have agreed on an alternative, finding a source of funding is the next step, and that can take considerable time- typically about two years says Scheirer. Municipalities have an annual March 1 deadline to submit applications for funding through the state's public facilities authority, which provides low interest loans for city water and sewer projects.

"Generally it's a twoyear track," said the MPCA's Bill Dunn, who oversees the wastewater and stormwater financial assistance program, which prepares the project priority list for public facilities loans.

While the MPCA frequently works with communities to try to tap available grant dollars, Dunn said such projects are mostly funded by loans, unless affordability becomes an issue. Affordability could be an issue in the case of Tower and Soudan, where median household incomes tend to be quite low, and that could allow the communities to qualify for more grant dollars. "You can apply for a grant to buy down 80 percent of the loan cost," said Dunn.

Sewer costs are considered affordable if they amount to 1.4 percent of the community's median annual household income. Water rates are considered affordable if they don't exceed 1.2 percent. Currently, the city charges about \$195.45 per quarter, or \$782 annually for both water and sewer, including taxes and other assessments. Assuming a median household income of \$38,000 in the two communities, ratepayers could expect to pay as much as \$988 annually before rates would be considered unaffordable.

The issue of wastewater treatment capacity was set to be discussed during a special meeting of the Tower-Breitung Wastewater Board on Thursday evening, after presstime for the *Timberjay*'s Dec. 1 edition. A report on that meeting will appear in



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GIRLS BASKETBALL

# Grizzlies dominate **'Streaks**

North Woods wins season opener 64-35

by Marshall Helmberger

Managing Editor

CHISHOLM— The Grizzlies girls dominated a young Chisholm team on Tuesday night, notching a convincing 64-35 win in their basketball opener. "It was a good start to the season," said North Woods Head Coach Robbie Goggleye, and it bodes well for a team that's looking to improve on last year's win total.

The game was never close, as the Grizzlies built a 36-15 halftime lead and cruised in the second half, outpacing Chisholm 28-20 in the stanza."We started hard and started fast," said Goggleye."They started some freshmen and we put a lot of ball pressure on them. They had a lot of turnovers and we capitalized on them."

66They had a lot of turnovers and we capitalized on them.

> **Head Coach Robbie Goggleye**

Junior guard Bria Chiabotti led scoring for North Woods, with an impressive 24 points, including a couple three-pointers. Fellow junior guard Hanna Sandberg tallied 11 points, including two treys, while junior forward Regan Ratai, sophomore forward Nicole Olson, and junior forward Kate Stone scored eight points apiece.

Goggleye said his junior-dominated team is benefitting from another year of experience. "Our girls were more mature and physically stronger [than

Chisholm]," said Goggleye.

If North Woods struggled at all, it was on free throws, connecting on just four of 16 shots from the

The Grizzlies host Northeast Range on Thursday. Game time is 7:15 p.m.

Above: Grizzlies junior guard **Bria Chiabotti drives** toward the basket during Tuesday night's season opener in Chisholm. Chiabotti led all scorers in the match, with 24 points.

**Right: Grizzlies** sophomore center Sasha Strong reaches over Chisholm freshman Sofie Anderson for a blocked shot.

photos by C. Stone



**HOCKEY** 

# Wolves drop opening series

by JAY GREENEY

Sports writer

ELY — A young Timberwolves hockey team showed progress in a two-game series with Kittson Central this past weekend, but still lost both games to the Bearcats.

Ely struggled in the season opener for both teams on Friday evening, falling 10-3. But the Bearcats needed a late game rally in their Saturday matinee to edge the Wolves,

The Wolves played well in the rematch as Kittson led 1-0 at the end of the first period. In the second period, Ely outscored the Bearcats 4-2 and took a 4-3 lead into the third period. A quick goal to start the final period gave Ely a 5-3 lead and the apparent momentum. But the tide quickly turned as the Bearcats netted three unanswered points, with the game winner coming with less than two minutes left in the game.

Ely Head Coach Ben Johnson said he liked what he saw on Saturday. "The team played much better. We didn't have as many penalties and mistakes in game two."

Ely is playing with a smaller upperclass and is likely to depend on younger players to step up to remain competitive this season. The Wolves are starting the season with eighth-grader Chase Sandberg in goal. He had a much better second game as he allowed six goals on 41 shot attempts.

Friday night's opener had the Wolves down just 3-2 at the end of the first period. However, the Bearcats scored seven of the next eight goals to win game one, 10-3.

"We have a young team and we made



some mistakes," said Johnson. "We had too many penalties.'

Ely had 22 minutes of penalties compared to just ten for Kittson Central. The Wolves recorded 24 shots on goal, compared to 21 for Kittson Central. But the Bearcats made them count, as ten of them hit home.

Ely senior Gage Merhar, junior Nick Mattila, and sophomore Luke Olson notched

Ely's Matt Gerzin hits heavy traffic in front of the Bearcat net during their weekend series at home.

photo by J. Greeney

goals for the Wolves in Friday's match-up. The 0-2 Wolves hit the road Saturday to play Wadena-Deer Creek. Game time is 2

# **Sports** week

#### **Boys bball**

Friday, Dec. 1 NER at Evel-Gil, 7:15 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 4 NER hosts South Ridge, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 5 NW at Bigfork, 7:15 p.m Ely hosts Two Harbors, 7:15 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 8 NW at Fond du Lac, 7:15 p.m Ely hosts I-Falls, 7:15 p.m. NER hosts Chisholm, 7:15 p.m.

#### **Girls bball**

Friday, Dec. 1 NER at Evel-Gil, 7:15 p.m.

Monday, Dec 4 **NER hosts South** Ridge, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 5 Ely hosts North Woods, 7 p.m.

#### **Hockey**

Saturday, Dec. 2 Ely at Wadena, 2 p.m.

#### WEATHER



#### Skywarn volunteers to be recognized on Saturday

by STEPHANIE UKKOLA Timberjay staff writer

REGIONAL-Skywarn volunteer storm spotters from around the country are being honored this Saturday with a national recognition day. Skywarn spotters are the real-time, on-the-ground weather reporters whose job is to report severe weather incidents to the National Weather Service, often by HAM radio. NWS has access to many weatherpredicting technologies such as radar, satellite, and weather stations, but technology has limits, and that is where the human Skywarn spotters fill the gap.

The North St. Louis County Skywarn Response Group has over 100 trained Skywarn spotters, including the entire Ely and Vermilion Lake fire departments, said John Lindquist, coordinator for NSLC Skywarn. The types of severe weather that spotters report include

See **SKYWARN...**pg 2B

#### KNOW YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS

# Attorney general offers advice on pension advance schemes

Some companies attempt to convince people to hand over some of their monthly pension payments in exchange for a short-term loan. Exchanging future pension benefits for quick cash now might seem enticing, but can be a very expensive way to borrow money and result in low monthly pension payments for years

#### **How the scheme works**

You might find a website online, see an ad that promises quick cash, receive a telephone call from an outfit with an official-sounding name, or get referred to a company by an acquaintance.

The company offers a lump sum payment (i.e. a loan) today in exchange for the right to a portion of your future monthly pension payments. These agreements are an expensive way to borrow money. In addition to taking some of your pension check for as long as the next five or ten years, these agreements may include additional hefty fees. The payment you get today is often only a small fraction of the amount you must eventually pay back to the

For example, a company may offer a lump sum payment of \$1,500 to a Minnesota veteran in exchange for the right to receive \$300 a month for the next five years from his future military pension payments. In total, the veteran is required to pay the company \$18,000 from his military pension payments, which is a 240percent interest rate on the \$1,500 he borrowed.

#### **Points to consider**

Check with the Minnesota Department of Commerce on whether the company is licensed as a lender in Minnesota.

Check with the Better Business Bureau and online to see if there are any complaints on the company.

Compare how much you must

repay to how much you borrow. For instance, you may borrow \$2,000 but repay \$20,000. Know how much of your future monthly pension payments the

company will take and for how long,

and how this will impact your budget

and ability to pay your monthly bills. Research all fees and whether

the company requires you to buy life insurance that names the company as beneficiary.

Consider possible cheaper alter-

Know whether you can cancel the contract if you change your mind.

#### **Military pensions**

Regardless of what the company may tell you, be aware that federal law generally prohibits the assignment of your military pay or pension benefits to a pension advance company.

#### **Consider alternatives**

As an alternative to a pension advance, you might consider a loan through your bank or credit union. If you are behind on bills, your creditors may be willing to work with you if you contact them right away and ask for more time. If you would like assistance in managing your finances, you may wish to contact a reputable nonprofit credit counseling agency, which may be able to help you develop a budget or debt management plan.

#### MnDOT event

#### **Coffee and conversation meeting** set for Thursday, Dec. 7 in Virginia

VIRGINIA-The Minnesota Department of Transportation has scheduled a Coffee and Conversation meeting from 10 a.m. to noon, on Thursday, Dec. 7. The public is welcome to attend and learn about MnDOT winter road maintenance operations and winter driving safety. Chris Cheney, MnDOT District 1 Maintenance superintendent will give the presentation. There will be time for questions, comments and discussion after the presentation.

MnDOT plans to host Coffee and Conversation meetings quarterly. Speakers and presentations will focus on transportation topics. All meetings will be scheduled from 10 a.m. to noon at MnDOT Headquarters in Virginia, at 101 N Hoover Rd.

Dates for future Coffee and Conversation meetings are posted at http://www.dot.state.mn.us/d1/.

Please plan to attend.

To request an ASL or foreign language interpreter, or other reasonable accommodation, call Janet Miller at 651-366-4720 or 1-800-657-3774 (Greater Minnesota), 711 or 1-800-627-3529 (Minnesota Relay). You also may send an email to ADArequest.dot@state.mn.us.Please request at least one week in advance, if possible.

#### Brietly

#### **Elderly Tower** couple victimized in phone scam

TOWER- It was an eventful month for Tower residents Rosie and Earl Zimmerman. In November, the couple celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary. They were also scammed out of \$7,000, by thieves running a relatively common con, known as the "Grandparent Scam."

The scam involved a young man who called, claiming to be the couple's grandson (and they knew the Zimmermans had a grandson named Adam), along with a supposed police sergeant who also got on the phone line. The Zimmermans were told their grandson needed bail money, and they should go to Target or Walmart to purchase gift cards to cover the bail. The person claiming to be the grandson insisted that his grandparent not call his parents, because he was embarrassed about being arrested. They were then told to read the numbers off the back of the gift card over the phone, supposedly to the policeman. After they had been called back a second time, and then a third time, requesting additional gift cards, the couple realized they had been scammed. But it was too late to recover the gift card money already spent.

The Zimmermans' children recently set up a gofundme account (www.gofundme.com/zimmerman) and have raised almost the entire amount, which is a great relief to the couple, who live on a limited income.

Earl and Rosie would like to warn other area seniors about this scam, and hope that no other seniors fall for a similar scheme. The holidays are a frequent target time for scammers. The AARPhas information on their website (aarp.org and search for 'avoid scams') about how to avoid scams, and details about this and other holiday season scams.

Earlier this fall another senior couple in the Tower area was targeted by a scam regarding Publishers Clearinghouse. Luckily they were asked for a certified check, and the local bank staff asked a few questions

and realized the couple was being targeted before they actually sent in

#### Tower woman seeks return of stolen items

TOWER-Tina Brown was doing multiple loads of laundry at the Tower Laundromat on Thursday, Nov. 16. When she briefly left the building, someone stole a purple Crown Royal bag filled with quarters, along with a mint green laundry basket of towels and four sweatshirts (including two melon-colored Fortune Bay sweatshirts).

Brown is seeking to have her stolen items and money returned with no questions asked (can be brought to Good Ol' Days), or will pay a reward for information leading to the arrest of whoever stole her money and items. Anyone with information can call Brown at 218-780-

### Mesabi Symphony Orchestra Celebrating 40 years! Selections from Carmer Georges Bizet Bedrich Smetana The Moldau "Nimrod" from EnigmaVariations Edward Elgar and more. Goodman Auditorium in Virginia Sunday, December 3, 2:30pm ARROWHEAD REGIONAL TICKET PRICES \$10 adults • \$5 students • \$8 seniors

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

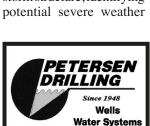
funnel clouds or tornados, rotating wall clouds, hail of any size, damaging winds, unusually heavy or flooding rains, and downed trees. Skywarn spotters undergo a training that teaches them the basics of thunderstorm development, fundamentals of storm structure, identifying

features, information to report, how to report, and basic severe weather safety. "The idea is that we have a bunch of guys ready to rock and roll" when severe weather arises, said Lindquist. HAM radio is the preferred method of communication, because of its reliability in severe weather but spotters can

also report severe weather by other means, including a new phone app called MPING, Meteorological Phenomena Identification Near the Ground.

Lindquist said he would like to give a "heartfelt thank you to all the people who have spent hours and days working through Skywarn and

HAM radio, especially my own Skywarn Response Group." Anyone over 18 can become a Skywarn spotter. Look for upcoming classes to be posted in the Timberjay. Classes typically last about two hours and are free of charge.



- PUMPS
- WELLS HYDRO-FRACKING
- 1-800-662-5700 Spring Park Rd.

Mt. Iron, MN 55768 Subscribe to the TIMBERJAY!





SATURDAY, **DECEMBER 9** 9 A.M. - 3 P.M. TOWER CIVIC CENTER

Stop by for homemade baked goods, holiday gifts, craft items, coffee an', taco-in-a-bag, and more! Get your holiday shopping done close to home!

OWER CRAFT SHOW

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Timberjay!

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



#### Rev. David W. Pearson

Reverend David William Pearson, 82, of Lake Duluth and Vermilion-Tower, died peacefully in his home on Friday, Nov. 24, 2017, after a ten-month struggle with cancer. Services for David will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 3 at Peace Church, 1111 N 11th Ave. E in Duluth. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Peace Church.

The family would like to thank Drs. Joe Bianco, Steve Kuross, Bob Stubenvoll, Paula Termuhlen and Mark Monson, as well as the nurses, hospice, and other staff of Essentia Health in Ely and Duluth for their tremendous care and compassion.

The son of Florence and William Pearson, David was born in Duluth on Sept. 30, 1935. A graduate of Duluth East High Gustavus School, Adolphus College, and the University of Minnesota, he started his career as a mechanical engineer at Northrop Corporation in Los Angeles, Calif. In 1960 David felt called to the Lutheran ministry and attended Augustana Seminary in Rock Island, Ill., where he met his beautiful wife Judy. David's pastoral career spanned many churches, including Unity Lutheran in Chicago, Ill.; Trinity Lutheran in Rice Lake, Wis.; Epiphany Lutheran in Minneapolis; First Lutheran in Brainerd; and Concordia Lutheran in Duluth, where he presided for 17 years. After retiring from full-time ministry, David became an interim pastor at King of Kings Lutheran in Woodbury, Mount Olivet Lutheran in Minneapolis, and United in Christ Lutheran in Eveleth.

A passionate advocate for peace and justice, David

championed the Civil Rights movement, marching with Martin Luther King Jr. from Selma to Montgomery, Ala., in 1965. In conjunction with First Lutheran in Brainerd, he sponsored a 13-member family of Vietnamese refugees, and, along with Judy, adopted two sons from Korea, Jon and Tim Pearson.

David also loved the outdoors. From the day they found their shoreline property on their honeymoon, David and Judy worked tirelessly to build a cabin on Lake Vermilion. The peaceful oasis became the focal point of family vacations, celebrations, and saunas. An expert fisherman, David would reel in walleye from secret locations across the lake and share the catch with family and friends, sautéing the filets to perfection.

David's compassion for others, joy for life, and mischievous sense of humor accentuated by his sparkling blue eyes, will be enormously missed.

He is survived by his wife, Judy; sons, Scott (Kristi Pearson), Jon and Tim; daughters, Jennifer (Doug Hoffman) and Stephanie; and ten grandchildren, Ellie, Seth, Kai, Jack, Sam, Hannah, Sieanna, Devon, Joshua and James.



#### Richard L. Perala

Richard Leroy "Dick" Perala, 76, of Lake Vermilion-Tower, died on Sunday, Nov. 26, 2017, at his home. A gathering of family and friends will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 1 at Range Funeral Home in Virginia.

Richard was born on March 21, 1941, in Duluth, to Betty Perala. He grew up in Makinen and Markham and was a 1959 graduate of Aurora-Hoyt Lakes High School. Richard was united in marriage to Judith Papesh on

Aug. 1, 1964, in Virginia.

He retired in 2001 after 36 years as a member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 294 in Hibbing. He split his retirement years between his lake place on Vermilion and the homestead farm in Makinen.

Richard is survived by a son, Michael (Lisa) of Virginia; three grandchildren, Anthony (Lucy) of Roseville, Juliann of St. Louis Park and Jack of Virginia; his companion of the past seventeen years, Peggy Hayden, her daughter, Rhonda (Tyler Berg), and her grandchildren, Zachary Gregorich and Landon Paine; a brother, Kenneth (Toby) Kauppinen; a sister, Amy Kauppinen; sister-in-law, Nancy Kauppinen; several nieces and nephews; and his best dog, Kelly.

Richard was preceded in death by his mother, Betty in 1981; a son, Richard Jacob in 1985; his wife, Judy in 2000; a brother, Donald (Nancy) Kauppinen in 2010; a sister, Karen Kauppinen in 2017; and niece, Peggy Kauppinen in 2017.



#### Beverly A. Fosso Beverly Ann Fosso,

88, of Bear River, passed away on Saturday, Nov. 18, 2017. A short service and luncheon will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 2 at the Bear River Community Center. Arrangements are with Mlaker Funeral Home of Cook.

Beverly was born in Fertile, to Benjamin and Clara (Simonson) Anderson, on Oct. 31, 1929. She graduated in 1948 from Chisholm High School. She was united in marriage to Lorry Arthur Fosso on Sept. 11, 1954, at Faith Lutheran Church in Chisholm. Beverly was a loving wife, mother, grandmother and greatgrandmother. She held

several jobs, starting at the shirt factory in Chisholm, driving the Head Start van for the Alango High School, working for the Cook Forestry Service through the CSEP Program, working for the Lake Vermillion Resort Association at the Cook Visitors Center, and serving as the Morcom Township Treasurer in Bear River for 41 years, retiring in August 2017. She was a member of Faith Lutheran Church in Chisholm where she taught nursery school for 36 years before joining the Bear River Lutheran Church.

Beverly loved everything that Northern Minnesota offered: fishing, camping, hunting, snowmobiling, feeding and watching the birds, taking drives to look at the fall colors, playing Bonko, volunteering at the Bear River Fair and Ruby's Pantry in Cook. She loved spending time with her family, especially her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Her most cherished times were "get-togethers" and enjoying her family during the holidays. She loved people and will be dearly missed.

Beverly is survived by her sons and daughter, Mark Fosso of Bear River, Diane Fosso of Hibbing and Gary (Deborah) Fosso of Bear River; sister, Punkie Podvin of Cloquet; brother, Dennis Anderson of Chisholm; brothers and sisters-in-law, Karl (Ann) Fosso of Magdalena, N.M., Wesley (Debbie) Fosso of Bear River, Duane Rice of Nashwauk and Ken (Shirley) Szweduik of Hibbing; grandchildren, Jason Fosso of Chisholm, Justin (Kalee) Fosso of Hibbing, Eric Fosso of Hibbing, Christopher Fosso of Bear River and Emily Fosso of Bear River; great-grandchildren, Michael, Kaitlyn, Tyler, Daniel, Nicholas and Conner; all her special nieces, nephews, extended family and friends.

Beverly was preceded in death by her parents, Clara and Ben; in-laws, Martha and Gunder; beloved husband, Lorry; sisters, Dolly and Jean (and Jean's husband Benny); sisters and brothers-in-law, Janet Szweduik, Marge and Minnow Anderson, Glennes and Bud Anderson, and Joe Podvin;

nephew, Scott Anderson; and niece, Shelly Simmen.

#### Damien R. Hutar

Damien Robert "Bobbo" Hutar, 66, of Ely, passed away on Friday, Nov. 24, 2017, at Boundary Waters Care Center in Ely after a battle with cancer. A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Tuesday, Nov. 28 at St. Anthony's Catholic Church in Ely. Military honors were provided by the Ely Honor Guard. Family arrangements were entrusted to Kerntz Funeral Home of Ely.

He is survived by his brothers and sisters, Greg (Kathy) Hutar of Ely, Dina (Dick) Hill of Ely, Celia (John) Guillemette of Rosemount, Rosie (Vic) Hutar of Ely and Dortz (Bob) Winsor of Ely; and numerous nieces and nephews, cousins and friends.

#### Carol M. Johnson

Carol M. Carlson Johnson, 79, of Ely and formerly of Mt. Iron, passed away on Monday, Nov. 20, 2017, at Ely-Bloomenson Community Hospital. Memorial services were held on Tuesday, Nov. 28 at the Mt. Iron Community Center with Dan Radtke officiating. Burial was at Park Hill Cemetery in Duluth. Arrangements were with Landmark Funeral Home of Virginia.

She is survived by her daughters, Cindy (Steve) Pettinelli of Tower and Cathy (Calvin Seguin) Andrews of Aitkin; son, Ken (Sherri) McLellan of Mt. Iron; grandchildren, Christopher (Abbey Strong) Pettinelli, Mark (Donna) Pettinelli, Toni Wallander, Travis (Bernadette Pospeck) Andrews, Nikki McLellan, Jamie (James) Heitzman and Jesse (McKenzie) McLellan; and six great-grandchildren.

#### Jessie A. Hernandez (Ma'iingan)

Jessie Anne Porter Hernandez (Ma'iingan), 33, o f the Vermilion Reservation, died on Saturday, Nov. 18, 2017, in Essentia-St. Mary's Medical Center in Duluth. Tribal Rites were held on Wednesday, Nov. 22 in the nett Lake i ribai Government Center. Charlie Smith was the Spiritual Advisor. Burial followed in

the Bois Forte Cemetery at Nett Lake. Family services were provided by Bauman-Vermilion, a Bauman Family Funeral Home in Tower.

She is survived by her mom, Roberta Porter; children, Madison Porter, Devin Porter, Carlos Hernandez Jr. and Kayden Hernandez; sisters, Monica Porter and Kerie Porter; grandmas, Mary Porter and Caroline Boshey; uncles, Brian Moyer, Robert Moyer Jr., Turk Goggleye and Harry Porter; aunts, Bessie Medicine and Rebecca Acevedo; nieces, nephews, extended family and friends.

#### Alvin C. Lamppa

Alvin Clyde Lamppa, 83, of Embarrass, died on Friday, Nov. 17, 2017, at Carefree Living in Babbitt. Visitation was held on Monday, Nov. 20 at Vermilion Funeral Home in Tower. Funeral services were held on Tuesday, Nov. 21 at Hope Lutheran Church in Embarrass with Rev. Evelyn Weston officiating. Interment was in the Embarrass Cemetery. Family services were provided by Bauman-Cron, a Bauman Family Funeral Home in Virginia.

He is survived by his wife, Janet of Embarrass; children, Brian (Liisa) Lamppa of Embarrass, Regan (Brenda) Lamppa of Richfield and Paula (Corey) Roseth of Mifflinburg, Pa.; sister, Alice Niemi of Virginia; grandchildren, Aaron (Nancy) Lamppa, Kyle (Sarah) Lamppa, Nicholas Roseth, Nathan (Juliette) Roseth and Noah Roseth; great-grandchildren, Sophia, Lance, Max and Natalie Lamppa, and Laurel Roseth; step-great-grandson, Alex (Anna) Bee; stepgreat-great-granddaughter, Avery; and numerous extended family and friends.

#### Jacquelyn H. Meehan

Jacquelyn Helen Meehan, 79, of Soudan, died on Wednesday, Nov. 8, 2017, in Golden Horizons Assisted Living Center in Tower. Private family services will be held at a later date. Family services provided by Bauman-Vermilion, a Bauman Family Funeral Home in Tower.

2,521,191.82

102.11

24,690.94

#### **PUBLIC NOTICES**

ISD 707 • Nett Lake School Budget Notice

#### Department of Education Minnesota Department of DISTRICT REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES Division of School Finance Education ED-00110-40 1500 Highway 36 West **BUDGET FOR FY 2017 AND FY 2018** Roseville, MN 55113-4266 GENERAL INFORMATION: Minnesota Statutes, section 123B.10, requires that every school board shall publish the subject data of this report. District Name: ISD #707 Nett Lake District Number: 707 **FY 2017 ACTUAL FY 2017 ACTUAL FY 2018 BUDGET FY 2017 BEGINNING FUND JUNE 30, 2017 ACTUAL FY 2018 BUDGET REVENUES AND** JUNE 30, 2018 PROJECTED FUND **EXPENDITURES AND REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES AND FUND BALANCES BALANCES** TRANSFERS IN **FUND BALANCES** TRANSFERS IN TRANSFERS OUT TRANSFERS OUT General Fund/Restricted 233,322 233,322 233,322 1,291,609 2,238,378 2,417,521 2,177,823 2,677,849 General Fund/Other 1,112,465 612,439 Food Service Fund 1,708 110,911 105,753 6,866 62,600 111,931 (42,465)7,376 31,356 Community Service Fund 2,047 36,685 36,546 31,356 **Building Construction Fund** 61,835 Debt Service Fund 20,692 59,536 22,990 147,524 150,015 20,499 Trust Fund

Internal Service Fund OPEB Revocable Trust Fund Ś \$ OPEB Irrevocable Trust Fund OPEB Debt Service Fund \$ **TOTAL - ALL FUNDS** 1,549,377 2,447,808 2,590,186 \$ 1,406,999 \$ 2,424,493 \$ 2,976,341 \$ 855,151 CURRENT STATUTORY OPERATING DEBT PER MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 123B.81 LONG-TERM DEBT AMOUNT OF GENERAL FUND DEFICIT, Outstanding July 1, 2016 \$ 38,866,503 IF ANY, IN EXCESS OF 2.5% OF EXPENDITURES 06/30/2017 Plus: New Issues 1,621,494 COST PER STUDENT - AVERAGE DAILY MEMBERSHIP (ADM) 06/30/2017 14,000 ess: Redemeed Issues Outstanding June 30, 2017 40,473,997

TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURES

FY 2017 OPERATING COST PER ADM

Other Short-Term Indebtedness \$ - The complete budget may be inspected upon request to the superintendent.

Comments:

Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB)

SHORT-TERM DEBT

Certificates of Indebtedness

Y 2017 TOTAL ADM SERVED + TUITIONED OUT ADM + ADJUSTED EXTENDED ADM

**December 1, 2017** TIMBERJAY Newspapers



2017 REGULAR FIREARMS DEER SEASON

# Deer harvest jumps 29 percent in the area

by Marshall Helmberger

Managing Editor

REGIONAL - A 168percent increase in the harvest of antlerless deer during the 2017 regular firearms deer season helped boost the total harvest over last year by 29 percent in northern and central St. Louis County. That's based on final numbers issued by the Department of Natural Resources this week.

The total number of bucks registered this year was actually down three percent over last year, as more hunters opted to take advantage of additional antlerless tags in most permit areas and the hunter's choice designation in permit area 177.

Last year, antlerless deer made up just 18 percent of registrations. This year, 39 percent, or nearly four in ten, registered deer were antlerless, and that likely is a reflection of the more seasonable temperatures that greeted hunters this season, as opposed to 2016, when opening

weekend featured record high temperatures in the 70s and mild weather continued through the second weekend.

"The 2017 opening weekend was cold with 4-6" of snow and wind followed by sub-zero temperatures mid-week," said Tower DNR Area Wildlife Manager Tom Rusch. "This negatively impacted hunter effort, and therefore, the harvest," Rusch added.

Hunters appeared to focus

See HARVEST...pg. 5B



#### **Area Deer Harvest**

Final results for regular firearms

Year Bucks Antlerless Total 2015 5,446 167 5,613 2016 5,220 1,204 6,424 2017 5,048 8,273

Preliminary harvest totals for permit areas in northern St. Louis and Lake counties, including 108, 117, 118, 119, 130, 132, 176, 177, and 178.



#### First the doe, then a buck—then a second bigger buck and more

e were late for work one day last week, and it was for the best reason of all. There are days that remind me of why it's great living where we do, out on a ridge on the edge of the Lost Lake Swamp, and this was one of those mornings.

We were just about to head out the door, when I spotted a doe advancing towards the house. It's a yearling deer that's made a pest of herself in recent

weeks, eating the cup or so of cracked corn I toss under the feeders most mornings for the blue jays and the ruffed grouse.

I walked up to one of the windows and started knocking in order to scare her away, and that's when I saw the buck running towards her. It



HELMBERGER

was a decent-sized male, probably an eight-pointer, and I assumed for the first second or two that he was making a play for the doe. That's when I saw the third deer, a big, thick-necked ten-pointer, antlers down, who was headed right for the smaller buck. With a doe in contention, he wasn't going to tolerate any competition and he was moving fast. I could understand why the eight-pointer was hightailing it. If that big buck were coming my way, I'd

clear out, too. The two ran to the northwest right past the house, not more than 40 feet out. They stopped in the middle of an open outcrop that separates our house from the



cliff's edge that drops into the swamp. The smaller buck skulked off into a stand of young balsam, momentarily defeated. The big buck stood his ground, in the open, not more than 50 feet out from the

I was standing near the window and didn't want to move. "Jode," I said excitedly, "grab my camera!" Jodi moved fast and five seconds later I had my big Canon in hand and was zeroing in on the tenpointer. I fired off several shots as he posed majestically.

About that time, the smaller buck was circling back in, but the big buck wasn't letting him anywhere near the doe. He had obviously been tracking her for a while and she was sending him the right signals. He would slowly walk up to her from behind. She would raise her tail invitingly. I was hoping for more shots of the big buck but he kept putting brush and trees in between us, which makes it tough to shoot with an autofocus lens. I moved from window to window, went upstairs

Above: A beautiful tenpoint buck as captured from our picture window two days after the end of the firearms deer season.

Right: The doe watches from a distance.

photos by M. Helmberger

and down looking for the best vantage points, mostly striking out.

The ruckus soon attracted more deer and at one point I realized there were at least six of them circling around the

margins of the action, including the smaller buck and at least three other antlerless

More than once, the big buck would dart towards the smaller male to keep him at bay. Each time, I was amazed at the sense of power that seemed to propel the big deer. He was a stag in every sense of the word, his big antlers rubbed to a lustrous finish. I'd seen bigger deer before, even shot one with a bigger rack, but for both Jodi and me it was the first time we'd ever had the chance to watch the drama of the rut on full display. With the pursuit of the doe, the fending off of rivals, and the patient coaxing of the doe, in this case a female that had likely not been bred before. I've spent many hours in a deer stand, but this was the closest I'd ever been to the action.

It was easy to understand why the rut takes such a toll on bucks, and in this case, the evidence was apparent. I noticed at

See WHITETAILS...pg. 5B

#### Outdoors briefly

#### **VNP** urges caution near Kabetogama's **Rudder Bay**

INTERNATIONAL FALLS - Voyageurs National park staff closed Rudder Bay on Kabetogama Lake in the fall due to a large floating cattail mat. The bay remains closed for safety reasons. To prevent the mat from creating a navigational hazard, park staff moved the mat to Rudder Bay, and enclosed the entrance of the bay with a silt barrier.

While ice conditions do not currently allow for travel across frozen surfaces, park staff are planning for winter snowmobile access and will be addressing this issue near Rudder Bay to allow for safe snowmobile travel through the area along a designated trail.

Please keep the following in mind when traveling in the vicinity of Rudder Bay this Snowmobile access through

Rudder Bay will be closed until the designated trail is officially Once open, the designated

trail will be routed along the west shoreline edge of the entrance to Rudder Bay. The rerouted section of trail

will be narrow and have a slight

rise as it goes along the shoreline travel slowly. The silt barrier across the entrance to the bay will be clearly

marked with orange fencing and reflective stakes. Avoid this area. DO NOT drive on, near, or

tamper with the silt barrier. Doing so will destroy the barrier and cause potential navigational hazards in the spring.

#### Fishing reports

#### Ely area

There is no SAFE ice! That being said, there are places to fish here locally that have six to eight inches of clear, hard ice. Most of the smaller lakes in the area have enough ice to support four-wheeler and foot traffic. Lakes that have any size or depth to them still have areas of open water so if you feel you must get out, play it safe by drilling holes as you go. Some nice walleyes and perch are being caught on Shagawa Lake, and early morning and late afternoon seem to be the best time to target them there. One Pine and Johnson lakes have seen some traffic and there have been some decent crappies and sunnies coming through the holes. If you're inclined to do some foot travel, Range Lake has been doing well with both panfish and walleyes throughout the day. Courtesy Babe's Bait located

at Ely's west entrance.

from NOAA weather

#### Fishing reports

#### **Kab Nam area**

While some of the smaller lakes in the area have enough ice to walk on, Kabetogama is struggling to make ice. Just when we thought an early winter season was in store, Mother Nature slaps us in the face with high winds and fluctuating temps. Needless to say, we are a ways out from the main lake having serviceable ice.

On the bright side, small bays famous for their world-class spear fishing are seeing some action as ice is thick enough to walk on. Gordon at Sandy Point Lodge is planning to have his spear houses out and ready to go after the Thanksgiving holiday. Sandy Point is the only spear fishing outfitter on the lake and if you haven't spent time in a spear house, it's an experience you won't forget. Don't forget to stop

into Gateway General for all your spear fishing needs! We have spears, decoys and anything else you will need for your unforgettable day in the spear house!

Duck hunting ended on Nov. 21 in the north zone and was poor at best as the season came to an end. Most hunters were limited to large bodies of water after the cold snap we had two weeks ago.

Deer hunting also has come to an end with hunters experiencing average success. Weather was the deciding factor early on, making hunting tough in the northland but it improved as the season progressed.

We are in a transition period and hoping for light winds and cold temps to get the hard water season in gear.

Courtesy Cooper's Gateway Store, Lake Kabetogama

#### WHITETAILS...Continued from page 4B

least one fresh wound on the big buck, a bloody patch on one of its ears where a patch of skin had apparently been torn off. It was a wound I was sure the smaller buck had not inflicted. which means he had faced other encounters, most likely with other big, possibly bigger, deer. Whitetail bucks play for keeps during the rut. While they usually don't kill each other, serious wounds are hardly unusual, and fatal encounters aren't particularly rare.

For whitetails, the timing of the rut is governed by day length, not by temperature or snow cover, and the deer season is generally timed to coincide with the peak of buck activity. The rut is generally considered to have three phasesseeking, chasing, and tending. We were witness

to the tending stage, which makes sense since we were past the peak of the rut. At this point, the big buck was already zeroed in on his target doe, so he was more focused on keeping rivals away while he waited for the right time. Female whitetails are typically in estrus only for 24-48 hours, so it's a narrow window of receptivity. And even after they've mated, a big buck will hang around for a while, just to keep other bucks away. It's certainly not unknown for twins to be sired by different males, so there's good reason for a big buck to ensure he's got a fertile doe to himself.

Of course, it's one thing to read about the ways of the whitetail during the rut. It's another thing entirely to watch it play out from your picture window.





#### LAKE COUNTRY FORECAST







Tuesday



Ely	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Emb.	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Cook	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Orr	Hi	Lo I	Prec. Sn.	Towe	r Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.
11/20	29	26	0.00		11/20	16	-3	0.00		11/20	23	3	0.00		11/20	39	14	0.00	11/20	20	9	0.00	
11/21	35	23	0.01	0.1"	11/21	36	4	0.00		11/21	40	20	0.02	0.3"	11/21	25	10	0.00	11/21	41	15	0.00	
11/22	40	35	0.01	0.1"	11/22	14	13	0.00		11/22	20	2	0.02	0.4"	11/22	19	3	0.00	11/22	17	0	0.00	
11/23	35	18	0.00		11/23	18	-5	0.03	0.5"	11/23	21	2	0.01	0.2"	11/23	34	18	0.00	11/23	20	3	0.00	0.2"
11/24	31	17	0.00		11/24	32	13	0.04		11/24	44	19	0.03		11/24	39	30	0.00	11/24	40	12	0.00	
11/25	34	25	0.01		11/25	39	30	0.00		11/25	41	18	0.02		11/25	28	12	0.00	11/25	40	15	0.18	
11/26	26	5	0.00		11/26	31	18	0.00		11/26	27	11	0.00		11/26	28	14	0.00	11/26	29	8	0.00	
Totals			28.26	13.1"	Totals			35.01	14.0"	Totals			28.48	23.6".	Totals			NA	Totals			29.92	12.9"

#### HOLIDAY GIVING

## Gifts from the Minnesota woods

REGIONAL—This holiday season, support Minnesota businesses that make and sell gifts made of wood from local forests. Thousands of items are made from wood harvested in Minnesota forests.

"Wooden toys, handcrafts and keepsakes are great green gift options," said Kristen Bergstrand, DNR utilization and marketing program coordinator. "Plus, wood is a renewable resource that is natural, beautiful and durable."

Wooden chests, rocking chairs or horses, children's toys, picture frames and artisan bowls or wood crafts are one of a kind items that are often passed down to future generations as family mementos. "Right now wooden signs with

an inspirational saying are very popular," Bergstrand said. "Many local artists repurpose wood from pallets to create them."

Making products from trees often requires less processing and energy than plastic or other products. Wood is also renewable and



reusable. Most wood products can be recycled and wood waste can be converted into green energy as biomass.

Buying wood products also helps the environment. Trees absorb carbon dioxide, a greenhouse gas that causes global climate change, and store carbon in their wood,

Left: Arts and crafts from Minnesota forests can make a great holiday gift for friends and family on your list. Photo courtesy DNR

keeping it out of the atmosphere. Locally-made products from trees harvested in Minnesota use less fossil fuel for transportation than imported goods.

Supporting the wood products industry helps protect forests from development because woodland owners are able to generate income from a harvest. It also helps sustain local Minnesota economies and creates jobs and financial support for small and large retail business across the state.

So this year, give the gift that makes sense—wood—and help support Minnesota's forests and local businesses.

Visit the DNR wood products webpage at www.mndnr.gov/ forestry/wooden-gifts.html to learn more about the benefits of buying and using wood products.

#### **HARVEST...**Continued from page 4B-

their activities in the three permit areas with the most deer and the most permissive antlerless harvest. Nearly 70 percent of the deer harvested in the region came from permit areas 176, 177, and 178, and all three saw big jumps in the number of antlerless deer registered by hunters. In all three of those permit areas, the buck harvest actually declined. Permit area 176 saw the biggest drop, with 1,123 bucks registered this year, compared to the 1,437 in 2016. Hunters in permit area 177 registered slightly fewer bucks, but harvested 759 antlerless deer, a 253-percent increase over the year before. While bucks still comprised 61 percent of the harvest across the region, that wasn't the antlerless deer made up 52 percent

of the total harvest.

Permit area 118 experienced an even bigger jump in the antlerless harvest. Last year, hunters registered just 73 antlerless deer in the permit area. But this year, with a hunter's choice designation in effect, hunters took 536 antlerless deer, a whopping 734-percent increase. That was just slightly fewer than the 557 bucks that hunters registered in the zone.

Permit area 178 experienced the largest number of deer registrations in the region, with 2,409 registered, including 1,660 bucks. Permit area 176 came in a distant second, with 1,799 deer registered, including 1,123 bucks.

In the border country, deep snow in some places appears to case in permit area 177, where have hampered hunter success. In permit area 108, hunters registered

180 fewer deer than last year. Permit area 119, located north and east of Orr, fared even worse, with the overall harvest down 24 percent. Rusch said the lack of winter cover, resulting from intensive timber harvesting in those areas, appears to be hampering the deer herd's recov-

Across northeastern Minnesota, hunter's registered 36 percent more deer than last year. Based upon the number of antlerless permits available and the number of permit areas that allow multiple deer to be taken. the DNR is projecting the total statewide deer harvest to be around 200,000. To date, firearms and archery hunters have harvested about 180,000 deer this year.



#### **PUBLIC NOTICES**

\*\*\*IMPORTANT PROPERTY TAX HOMESTEAD NOTICE\*\*\* This will affect your 2018 property taxes & eligibility for Property Tax Refund

Have you purchased or moved into a property in the past year? Contact your county assessor to file a homestead application if you or a qualifying relative occupy the property as a homestead on or before <a href="December 1">December 1</a>, 2017.

What is a qualifying relative?

For agricultural property, a qualifying relative includes the child, grandchild, sibling, or parent of the owner or of the owner's spouse. For a residential property a qualifying relative also includes the owner's uncle, aunt, nephew, or niece

When do I apply?

You must apply on or before December 15, 2017.

Contact the assessor by December 15, 2017 if the occupancy or use of the property you homestead has changed in the past year.

If you sell, move, or for any reason no longer qualify for the homestead classification, you are required to notify the county assessor within 30 days of the change in homestead status.

For information contact one of the following Assessor's Offices:
Duluth Offices...726-2304 Virginia Office...749-7147
Hibbing Office...262-6089 Orr Office...471-7735 Ely Office...365-8208 1-800-450-9777 Long distance (within St. Louis County)

STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF ST. LOUIS

DISTRICT COURT
PROBATE DIVISION
SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT Court File No. 69VI-PR-17-160

Estate of LYNNE NETTIE HILL, a/k/a LYNN HILL, a/k/a LYNNE MELLETTE HILL, NOTICE AND ORDER OF

HEARING ON PETITION FOR SUMMARY ASSIGN-MENT OR DISTRIBUTION AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is given that a petition

has been filed requesting that the Estate assets be summarily assigned and distrib-uted without probate admin-

The petition also requests the

probate of an instrument purporting to be the Decedent's last Will dated March 8, 2009, and any codicil(s) to the Will dated (none), and separate writing under Minn. Stat. 574.2 54.1 ("Will") writing under M 574.2-513 ("Will").

Any objections to the petition must be filed with the Court prior to or raised at the hearing. If proper, and if no objections or claims are filed or raised, the Court may issue a decree distributing or assignment the Estate's assets.

It is Ordered and Notice is now given that the Petition will be heard on January 10, 2018, at 9:30 a.m. at this Court at Virginia, Minnesota.

Michelle Anderson, Judge Amy Turnquist, Court Administrator Stefanie Higgins, Deputy

Attorney for Petitioner RAE R. BENTZ #218376 DEFENBAUGH LAW OFFICE 107 East Camp Street, Ely, MN 55731 218-365-4977

Published in the Timberjay, Dec. 1 & 8, 2017

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING October 10, 2017

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Orr City Council was held Tuesday, October 10, 2017, at the Orr

Mayor Joel Astleford called the Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Roll call was taken and the Pledge of Allegiance was

Mayor Councilor Joel Astleford Tom Kennebeck Councilor Lloyd Scott

Present:

Also present: Clerk/Treasurer Cheri Carter; Maintenance Supervisor Maintenance Paul Koch: Assistant Rocky Hoffman; Ambulance Finance Officer Jim Gray; and Melissa Jim Gray; and M Roach, The Timberjay.

Item E was added to the

agenda: Approval of Labor Agreement between City of Orr and International Union of Operating Engineers Local Motion by Bruce Black, second by Lloyd Scott, to approve Consent Agenda

consisting of Minutes of Regular Meeting of September 11, 2017; and expenditures in the amount of \$71,724.80. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Tom Kennebeck, second by Ericka Cote, to approve attendance of city staff for the following trainings: Paul and Rocky -MnDOT Aeronautics Fall Fly-Around for airport managers;

Beth - Minnesota Clerks Region II Training, Asset Management and Your Utility; and Cheri - Minnesota Rural Water Association, Financing Your Community Projects. All in favor. MOTION CAR-

Two quotes have been received to repair the asphalt on King Road: (1) Parrk Paving - \$5,530.00; and (2) C&C Winger - \$7,500.00. Motion by Bruce Black, second by Ericka Cote, to approve the quote from Parrk Paving in the amount of \$5,530.00. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Bruce Black, second by Tom Kennebeck, to have the City Clerk send notices to delinquent utility customers that unpaid charges will be assessed to county tax rolls on November 30, 2017. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

second by Ericka Cote, to approve pre-application grant requests to the IRRRB and CDBG for sanitary sewer improvements to King Road. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Tom Kennebeck,

Motion by Bruce Black, second by Lloyd Scott, to approve Labor Agreement between City of Orr and International Union of Operating Engineers Local No. 49 for January 1, 2018, through December 31, 2019. MOTION CARRIED.

REPORTS FROM DEPART-MENT HEADS:

Liquor Store: Liquor Store Manager Charles "Chet" Nieman was not present for

Call

meeting. Sales from this September were higher than sales from last September.

and Sewer: Water Supervisor Maintenance Paul Koch reported the generator for the water pump went out and had to be repaired. The transfer switch is not working. He is working with a local electrician to see if repair parts can be obtained. He may have to look into a call system. They will have to find a new location to apply biosolids next year. They will be working on flushing sewers and hydrants before the onset of cold before t weather.

Airport: Airport Manager Rocky Hoffman reported he has finished mowing for the nas finished mowing for the season. They have been working on repairing and replacing bulbs for the runway lights. Fuel inventory as of September 30 was 2,114 gallons of 100LL and 1,049 gallons of Jet A.

Director Jim Gray reported the new overhead doors the new overhead doors have been installed and are in working order. The new radio system and tower has been installed and is a big improvement in communications. Jim noted there has been some minimal damage to the overhead doors. He has brought it to the attention of Township Supervisor Pete Glowaski. Cause is unknown and does not affect operation or safety of doors. From the 1st of the year through September 30th, the ambulance has responded to 127 calls. They have billed \$236,000 and received \$236,000 and received \$112,000 for services ren-dered as of 9/30/17. They have received approximately \$3,200 this year from St. Louis County for out-of-city runs. Transfers are up. They are planning on budgeting \$25,000 in capital improvements for 2018, which includes possibly purchasing another stair chair.

Fire Department: No report.

Library: No report - library is

Tourist Information Center: Cheri Carter reported it has been busy with tourists look-ing for hiking trails and trail maps.

Comments from Council/ Visitors: None.

Comments from Mayor:

Diana Klakoski, Ambulance Director, arrived at the meet-ing at 7:25 p.m. Mayor Astleford asked if there was anything she wished to dis-cuss with the council or add to the ambulance report. She replied in the negative.

Motion by Bruce Black, second by Ericka Cote, to adjourn. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED. Meeting adjourned at 7:30

Respectfully submitted,

Joel R. Astleford, Mayor Cheri J. Carter, Clerk/Treasurer

Published in the Timberjay, Dec. 1, 2017

#### **EMPLOYMENT**



#### Planner/ Senior Planner Apply by Dec. 18, 2017

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

Equal Opportunity and Veteran-Friendly Employer 12/1



#### **International Wolf Center** Wolflink Marketing Coordinator

The International Wolf Center is seeking applicants for the position of WolfLink Coordinator. This position will market and promote education programs to past and prospective schools. The ideal candidate will have strong sales and organizational skills as well as oral and written communication skills. To apply, submit a a cover letter and resume to careers@wolf.org or stop by the International Wolf Center (located just east of Ely on Highway 169) to pick up an application. Temporary, 12-month part-time position with hourly wage DOQ & E. For job description, please visit:

www.wolf.org 1396 Highway 169 • Ely, Minnesota

#### **POSITION AVAILABLE**

Experienced automotive repair technician, full-time with benefits. Apply in person or send resume to: Cassandra Dejno, Waschke Family Chevrolet, 126 N Hwy 53, PO Box 549, Cook, MN 55723; 218-666-5901 or 800-238-4545. tfn

#### Nett Lake Schools, Nett Lake, MN Seeking Tech Support

The Nett Lake School is seeking Tech Support for the remainder of the 2017-18 school year. The current position is for 1 day a week, but may increase at specific times throughout the year based on district's

Qualifications include:

- Self starter
- Dependable
- Experience with networks Experience with Apple platform
- and devices.
- Experience with SMART boards
- Willing to learn Telepresence Applications Ability to maintain hardware

Ability to install new software and updates

Interested parties please submit a letter of interest, resume and 3 work-related references to: James J. Varichak Nett Lake Schools

13090 Westley Drive Nett Lake, MN 55772 This position will remain open until filled. Salary will be based on experience.



#### **Vermilion Country School Special Ed Paraprofessional**

\$14.00 per hour, benefit package (prorated at 20+ hours/week), approximately 180 days/school year plus a few training days, approximately 8:30 am to 3:15 pm, except with additional duties

#### Full job description online at www.vermilioncountry.org/employment

The Vermilion Country School (VCS), is a grades 7-12 public charter school in Tower. Responsibilities include, but are not limited to: interact with staff, students, parent/guardians, and the community; facilitate academic and personal goal-setting; assist students with skill development in reading and math; monitor student progress; manage the physical needs of students as needed; chaperone field explorations; records maintenance and due process paperwork; proctor assessments and diagnostic tests; supervise students during lunch and out in the community; address behavior issues in accordance with school policy; maintain strict confidentiality; assist office staff and director as needed.

Minimum qualifications: Experience working with children, and a commitment to their learning; Excellent math, reading, and organizing skills; Excellent computer and office machine skills; Mature, friendly, and responsible; Commitment to the school's mission and vision; Positive references: A minimum of 60 semester credits or the amount required to complete two full years of fulltime enrollment as determined by the institution of higher education attended; or an AA, AS, or AAS (or higher) degree; or a passing score on an assessment from the state-approved list (The ParaPro test has been approved for state-wide use. The cut score is 460.) Additional desired qualifications (please see website).

#### Van Driver

\$11.00/hour (\$16.00/hour CDL); 10-15 hours/week, am and pm routes, with additional hours as needed. Driver Qualifications: Regular Class D license (CDL preferred); Prefer experienced drivers (CDL highly preferred); Criminal and driving record clearance; Drug and alcohol tests may be mandated; Must be able to work entire school year; Must be able to work with and supervise

Van driver can also be employed as a para, or can be a stand-alone position. Both positions will remain open until filled.

Please e-mail resume, cover letter, transcripts of college work and/or ParaPro score, and three letters of recommendation to: Vermilion Country School, P.O. Box 629, Tower, MN 55790 kfitton@vermilioncountry.org. www.vermilioncountry.com

VCS is an Equal Opportunity Employer

# 753-2950 to subscribe to the Timberjay!

#### ROOMBA GRAPPLE MANTRA A S T E R S I C O N I C AUGURED OXEYES BEATINGTHEWRAP STAIRSECANAAGO C H A P T E R S M I S T E R W R I G H T HEREIIN VETSATENETS O R T O N A T O N E S U S A I N W R E N A N D S T I M P Y H R S E E L O A I K E N R E M O A U D E N A M A L G A M D E A D W R I N G E R M A N I A C A R G U E R S E A T E R Y PHILIPWROTH UNHORSE LEMONIIMACTASTE EREEGGMMAGAZINEWRACK BREWSREHOMEHALAL R O B E N A P S T O V G E N O M E I W R E S T M Y C A S E A R R E S T E E F L O H I S A R B I D E A L L I N E A L W R A Y O F S U N S H I N E E S C A P E A N G O R A S T E E R E R S H O R E S S E E N A T E S T R A D A

**– Super** Crossword –

Answers

# Weekly **SUDOKU**

by Linda Thistle

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

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

#### DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging ▶◆ HOO BOY!

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# Read us online at www.timberjay.com



# TIMBERIAY 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**



CENTER, INC. 45 E. Chapman Street

365-3132

#### **Langevin Auto** & Truck Repair

Full Service Auto Repair & Garage



#### HAIR CARE

218-749-0751

VERMILION SHEAR IMAGE-Men's & Women's hairstyling. 314 Main St., Tower, 218-753-2928. Open Tuesday-Friday, 9am - 5pm. tfn

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 For more information contact Program Director Liz Cheney at 218-780-8907 or vhhpdirector@yahoo.com. This ad is paid for by Virgie Hegg Hospice Partners

#### **LICENSE BUREAU**

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

#### MEDICAL/ **THERAPY**

TRUE CARE MEDICAL THER-APY CENTER- Phylical & Occupational Therapy, Mon.-Fri., 9-5, Phone: 218-666-2697. Fax: 218-666-2620. 12/15

#### REAL ESTATE

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

#### **SNOWPLOWING**

SNOWPLOW SERVICES-Residential and commercial plowing in Tower, Soudan, Greenwood, and Lake Vermilion area. 218-235-7475.

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

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

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

#### **SUPPORT GROUPS**

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

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

AL-ANON FAMILY GROUP-Are you troubled by someone's drinking? Al-Anon Family Group is a community-based mutual support program for the friends and families of alcoholics. It is confidential and open to anyone affected by omeone else's drinking. Hope Lutheran Church in Embarrass hosts an Al-Anon group on Monday evenings at 6 p.m. 218-984-2037

### Sell It Here

#### Classifieds run in all 3 editions of the Timberjay.

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

#### **MARINE**



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

Thursdays at 7 p.m. at the Babbitt Assembly of God

MS SUPPORT GROUP- meets the second Friday of the month at 1 p.m. at the Babbitt at 1 p.m. at the Babbitt Municipal Building, senior room. Open to all. For information contact Mary at 218-827-

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

VIRGINIA 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

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

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

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.)

CREDIT REPAIR SCAMS-"Credit problems? No problem!" No way. A poor credit history takes time to repair, no matter what anybody claims. The Federal Trade Commission says no company can remove accurate or timely information from your credit report. Learn more about managing credit and debt at ftc.gov/credit. A message from The Timberjay and the FTC.

#### **DOG GROOMING**



### Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

# IMBUKTU

aer Premier WEERES Boats MERCURY Sales, service, storage, boat lifts,

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**ACROSS** 

1 Tussle (with)

8 Hindu chant

14 Robotic floor

vacuum

21 Daisy types

22 Relatives of

23 Pounding

statues

26 Step up or

27 Instant, for

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28 Santa —

College

30 Book parts

Orville or

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40 Celtics rival

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Wilbur was

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21-Across

20 Predicted

### **Super** Crossword

54 Singer Clay 55 San —

resort)

59 Fusion

one's shawl? machine 25 Like sacred on the fritz?

67 People debating

34 What aviator steed 74 Tea garnish

37 Found on these pages of 1998 76 Mini-serving 38 Kitty treater 39 Fill up fully

79 Prior to 80 Flan need

done to a dramatist Joe

a pet songbird with 92 Islamic equivalent of kosher

26

54

93 Trial attire **50** 60-min. units 51 "Rockaria!" band, in brief

(Italian 57 Poet W.H. -

64 Old laundry that's totally

66 Raving sort

70 Bistro, e.g. 71 "Goodbye, Columbus"

he's very angry? 73 Throw from a

75 Apple debut

82 Damage

periodical? 89 Pub buys 91 Find a new

place for, as

96 Siestas 98 "Mazel -!" 99 Hereditary

sequence 100 Declaration upon pulling your valise

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**E**YAMAHA

forcefully? 103 Many a handcuffed

person 105 - Jo ('80s track star)

106 That guy's 107 Certain Wall St. trader

108 Paradigm 109 Hereditary

author when 111 Actress Fay who was always cheerful?

117 Get free of 118 Silky goat or

rabbit 119 Helm handler

120 Beaches 121 Observed in the vicinity of

122 Actor Erik

#### DOWN

2 Lament 3 — Khan

4 Impose 5 Capital of Kosovo

21

68

82

107

111

118

121

83

98

24

1 Yackety-yak

43 "Bad!" sound

relative

44 Shopping

39

36 Hotel

38 Cast a ballot

35 Océan liquid

42 Take — view

digest) 76 Sierra

Nevada lake 112 — pro nobis

22

25

70

99

103 104

119

122

108

112

28

77 Sea of — (waters off Ukraine) 78 Gaming

113 That gal's 114 Levin or Glass

115 TV neighbor of Homer

85 86 Syndicate, 113 | 114 | 115 | 116

# **MARINE**

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fun vacation See us at: www.grubens.com Call us at: 218.753.5000 4296 Arrowhead Point Rd,

Tower MN 55790

**46** Old

book

48 Racial

Testament

equality gp.

49 Part of YTD

52 Dirty looks

classic)

56 Rx signers

59 Plenteous

Time"

62 Stitch's

64 "Yeah, no

65 Taylor of

67 Chair part

73 — Reader

68 Traipse

kidding!"

61 Japanese

film genre

6 Like the pre-

7 - Allan Poe

9 Bunyan's tool

8 Comic Jay

10 Story for an

11 Radials for a

Rolls, say

12 Fails to stay

13 Viper variety

14 Slickers and

galoshes

hunting tribe

15 Wilde with

17 Household

18 Intelligent

19 Fancy ties

season!"

28 Gallery gala

31 Berlin man

32 Funnyman

33 Hireling

34 "... three

a tub"

Johnson

24 "- the

30 Grub

wit

16 Bison-

poker-faced

anchor

Easter period



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# (218) 753-2950

### **AMENDMENT**

83 Somehow manages with

84 Pair attached to an axle 85 Also- -

51 Lawn gadget (losers) 86 Scores

53 Ham - (deli 87 Arose (from) 88 Painter Paul 89 Nectar lover

58 Golden rule's 90 CIA worker second word 93 Searches and robs

60 Bill of "Real 94 Wise-looking 95 Bucking one 97 Card game

expert John 99 Bestows cartoon pal

101 Triangle, 63 Dive variety e.g. 102 Fly into -

(get furious) 103 Madison Ave. output

"The Nanny" 104 Find a new purpose for

108 "- first 69 Sporty auto you don't 72 Tepees' kin succeed ..."

(alternative 110 Corn spike **111** Once existed

"City" dweller 81 Non-Jews 116 Time of note



# OME IMPROVEME

218-787-2377

Master Plumber

**FOR SALE** 

**UDOVICH GARBAGE** 

& ROLL-OFF SERVI

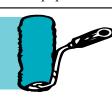
Servicing the Iron Range Area & North

20 and 30 yard

**Roll-off Boxes** 

for cleanup,

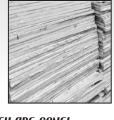
demo & garbage



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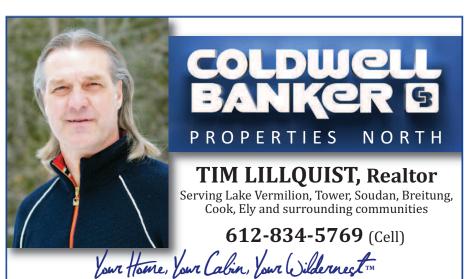
Ash River-\$75,000 2 boat-access lots available with shared ownership on the road. Kabetogama Lake-\$189,000 Cabin at the water's edge

with 193 ft of lakeshore. MLS#132161 Ash Lake-\$89,900 19 acres and 700 ft of waterfront.

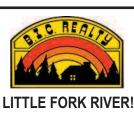
MLS#131574 Crane Lake-\$195,000 Log cabin on 80 acres down the Rollick Creek. MLS#132675

Crane Lake-\$185,000 Boat-access cabin on 4.38 acres with 591 ft of shoreline. MLS#127501

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