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# The TIMBERJAY



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VOL. 29, ISSUE 9 March 9, 2018

## ELY CITY COUNCIL

# Parks board abandons Pillow Rock

### Development plan offered by naturalist group

by KEITH VANDERVORT  
Ely Editor

ELY – The Ely Parks and Recreation Board has essentially washed its hands of the Pillow Rock debate. They threw the issue into the hands of the City Council for direction this week, who promptly threw the issue into the hands of the Clerk-Treasurer's office.

The Ely City Council and Parks and Recreation Board have washed their hands of the 2.7 billion-year-old natural landmark in the city. All development projects are now under the approval and responsibility of the Clerk's office. file photo

under the leadership of Bill Tefft, presented a five-year Pillow Rock Plan to the Park and Rec Board at their Feb. 26 meeting. The board voted to forward the plan to the council.

"I sat at the Park and Rec (meeting)," said Mayor Chuck Novak

Tuesday night, "and the Park and Rec Board said they want nothing more to do with it. Any discussion about any involvement around the Pillow Rock, for cutting grass, brush, any-

See...ROCK pg. 9



## BOUNDARY WATERS CHORAL FESTIVAL



# Choral Boot Camp

by JODI SUMMIT  
Tower-Soudan Editor

ELY- High school choir members from Ely, International Falls, Mt. Iron-Buhl, Silver Bay, and the Vermilion Country School-Tower participated in what might be called a choir "boot camp" during the Boundary Waters Choral Festival in Ely on March 2.

About 75 students participated in the all-day festival this year, traveling to Ely for a full day of musical

**Above:** Boundary Waters Choral Festival participants gathered for a post-concert selfie Friday.

**Right:** Guest conductor Dr. Matthew J. Olson discusses a solo part with VCS student Jacob Dorman. photos by J. Summit

workshops and small group instruction from three vocal music faculty members from

See...CHORAL pg. 11



## SULFIDE MINING

# Groups seek judge's review on PolyMet Permit to Mine

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

REGIONAL— At least four environmental organizations are asking the Department of Natural Resources to complete a contested case hearing before rendering a verdict on the proposed Permit to Mine for PolyMet's planned copper-nickel mine near Hoyt Lakes.

The Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy, the Center for Biological Diversity, and the Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness submitted a joint petition to the agency last week that seeks several significant changes to the proposed permit, or a contested case hearing if the DNR denies the proposed alterations. The Duluth-based group Water Legacy filed a separate petition asking the DNR to deny the permit to mine outright, or hold a contested case hearing on the proposed permit.

A contested case hearing is a hearing run by an administrative law judge to evaluate disputes about material issues of fact in a permit decision. Contested case hearings are commonly ordered to evaluate complex factual issues, and are requested by parties on all sides. For example, U.S. Steel recently requested a contested case hearing on a permit for the Minntac mine.

"Before making a decision on the PolyMet permit, a full, fair, and fact-based hearing is needed so the DNR

See... POLYMET pg. 9

## SISU HERITAGE ANNUAL MEETING

# Finnish educational model could have worldwide impact

by JODI SUMMIT  
Tower-Soudan Editor

EMBARRASS-What does Finland have to teach the world about education? It turns out that this small Nordic country may have some of the answers to

Dr. Philip Johnson, president of Finlandia College in Hancock, Mich., spoke at the recent Sisu Heritage Annual Meeting in Embarrass. photo by J. Summit

increasing the educational achievement for students around the world.

Dr. Philip Johnson, President of Finlandia University in Hancock, Mich., was the guest speaker at this year's Sisu Heritage Annual Meeting in late

February. A Lutheran Minister who spent 14 years along with his wife as a missionary in Ethiopia, he noted he has happily settled into life in the "copper country" of Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

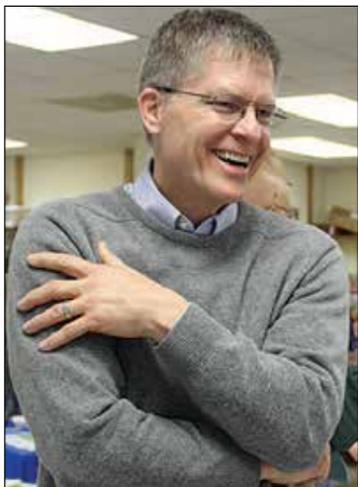
"It is a real privilege to visit Embarrass," he said. "Preserving your culture and history is hard work. It takes a lot of grit, of sisu." Finlandia is rooted in

Finnish culture, he noted, as is Embarrass.

"I am not an expert on the Finnish model of education," he said, "but I have explored it."

He asked any teachers in the audience to help tally the years of educational experience in the room. The total was over 200 years of teaching experience.

See...SISU pg. 11



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CITY OF TOWER

# Altenburg seeks charter change to allow him to be mayor

Charter prohibits ambulance director or fire chief from simultaneously holding council seat

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

TOWER— City ambulance supervisor and fire chief Steve Altenburg is seeking a change in the city's charter that would also simultaneously allow him to serve as mayor. Altenburg proposed the change at the commission's Feb. 28 meeting. It would amend Section 2.05 of the city of Tower's charter to eliminate a provision that prohibits members of the council to hold "incompatible offices," as set forth in state law.



Steve Altenburg

The provision expressly states that: "No member of the council shall hold any paid or unpaid department head position (i.e. Fire Chief, Ambulance Supervisor, etc.) or full-time position within the city of Tower."

The provision dates back about 20 years ago, when city officials learned that they were in apparent conflict with the state's constitution because two members of the council at the time, Ballard Turnbull and Bill Hiltunen, also served as department supervisors. Turnbull was ambulance supervisor and Hiltunen served as fire chief.

In response, Turnbull stepped down from the council and continued as ambulance supervisor until his untimely death. Hiltunen resigned as fire chief and remained on the council for several more terms.

Charter commission chair Sheldon Majerle said he's opposed to Altenburg's proposal.

"I have not changed my mind one bit on incompatibility," he said. "I don't want to change the charter at all."

It remains unlikely, however, that a change in the city's charter would ultimately allow Altenburg to serve in such positions in either case, since the same provisions that prompted the change in the city's charter remain in effect today. And previous attorneys general opinions suggest that Altenburg's proposal conflicts with more than just the city's charter, and point to the incompatibility of, essentially, serving as your own supervisor.

In 1971, Minnesota Attorney General Warren Spannaus determined in an official opinion that the chief of a city-operated fire department could not simultaneously serve on the city council, because the council had direct supervisory control over the fire chief.

By contrast, individuals who are simply members of a city-run fire department or an ambulance service can serve on a council, because they are directly supervised by their chief or director,

rather than the city council. Spannaus wrote: "Since the ... council supervises the discharge of the fire chief's duties, one man serving in both capacities would encounter a conflict of public duties. This conflict requires the conclusion that the two offices are incompatible."

State law does allow the fire chief of an independent nonprofit fire corporation that merely contracts with a municipality to serve on that same city council, but that exception would not apply to the city of Tower, which has a city-run department.

It must be noted that neither the law nor the city charter prohibits Altenburg from running for any city elected office he might seek. However, were he elected, he would automatically forfeit his other positions, including ambulance supervisor and fire chief.

As Attorney General Miles Lord wrote in an official opinion for the city of Aurora in 1958, the fact that an individual might hold

an office that could be incompatible with an elected position does not affect his eligibility to file and be elected to that position. But Lord concluded that upon election, the individual in question would automatically vacate the incompatible position.

City Clerk-Treasurer Linda Keith said she has not sought a legal opinion on whether Altenburg could serve as both mayor and as the head of other city departments.

Whether there is support on the charter commission for the change remains to be seen. And Majerle said he'll argue that Altenburg should abstain in any vote on the question by the seven-member commission. "He wants to change the charter for his own gain, so he would have to abstain," contends Majerle. "It affects him financially."

The *Timberjay* sought comment from Altenburg for this story. He did not offer comment as of presstime.

THE CHANGING ENERGY ECONOMY

# Minnesota reaches renewable energy goal seven years early

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

REGIONAL— Minnesota is both using less electricity and producing more of it through renewable sources, like wind and solar, and that's allowed the state to meet its renewable energy goals seven years early.

That's according to a new study issued last week by Bloomberg New Energy Finance. Several years ago, Minnesota set a renewable energy goal of 25 percent by 2025, but the state's utilities have moved even faster than expected in adopting

renewable forms of energy production and implementing energy efficiency to reduce overall demand. That's allowed the state to achieve its 25-percent goal well ahead of time.

Coal remains the largest single source of electrical generation in the state, but its share of the overall energy mix has fallen from 46 percent in 2013, to 39 percent as of last year. During the same time, Minnesota added 1.6 gigawatts of power generation from wind and solar. Renewable sources of power now generate more electricity in Minnesota than the state's two nuclear power plants.

The study found that the change

is increasing the percentage of electricity used in Minnesota that is produced within the state. While the state remains a net importer of energy, the installation of renewable forms of energy has helped reduce the state's reliance on out-of-state energy sources by 63 percent.

The increase in renewable production combined with greater efficiency has helped the state lower its overall carbon emissions by 27 percent from 2005 levels. That leaves the state just three percent short of its 2025 goal of a 30-percent reduction

See ENERGY...pg. 5



Solar photovoltaics are producing a growing share of Minnesota's electrical needs.

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EXPANDING YOUR HORIZONS

# Noted experts to speak on foreign affairs

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

REGIONAL— If you're wondering about the state of foreign affairs in this unusual political environment, you won't want to miss the upcoming presentations by Tom Hanson and Vladimir von Tsurikov, to be held in Tower and Ely, March 19 and 20.

Tom Hanson is a longtime U.S. Foreign Service officer who now serves as Diplomat-in-Residence at the Alworth Institute at the University of Minnesota-Duluth. Hanson is



Tom Hanson



Vladimir von Tsurikov

a highly-accomplished speaker on foreign affairs, who goes far beyond the headlines in providing insight into U.S. foreign policy and international relations. Hanson's Foreign Service postings included East Germany, France, Norway, the

Soviet Union, Sweden, and the former Soviet Republic of Georgia.

Joining Hanson will be Vladimir von Tsurikov, who serves as director of the Museum of Russian Art in Minneapolis and he brings an engaging perspective on diplomacy through art and culture. Tsurikov has a passion for the advancement of Russian art and culture, and a strong record of international collaboration. Previously, Vladimir served as Director of the Foundation of Russian History in New York. "2018

is shaping up to be an unusually turbulent year in global politics," says Hanson. His presentation will describe key issues facing the U.S. today, such as North Korea, the threat of trade wars, the implications of China's massive Silk Road initiative, and escalating tensions among large, regional powers in the Middle East. Both speakers will focus on Russia as well, including the role of ongoing cultural relations in a time of strained bilateral ties.

This timely and thought-provoking presentation is recommended for anyone interested in international relations. The

presentation will also address how international developments may affect residents of the North Country.

Hanson's and Tsurikov's visit is being sponsored by Orlyn and Marit Kringstad and Tower Vision 2025.

Their presentations will be held on Monday, March 19, from 6-8 p.m. at the Vermilion Park Inn, located at 30 Center Street, in Soudan. Timberjay Publisher Marshall HelMBERGER will moderate the discussion.

The pair will also present on Tuesday, March 20, from noon-1 p.m., at Grand Ely Lodge in Ely.

POLITICS

## Hainey announces bid for Metsa's House seat

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

PIKE TWP— A rural Virginia resident is the first person to announce his candidacy for the Minnesota House District 6B seat currently held by Jason Metsa, DFL-Virginia. Shaun Hainey, of Pike Township, announced on Monday that he'll seek to replace Metsa, who is running for the Eighth District congressional seat being vacated by Rick Nolan.

"I live in Pike because it's where family is, it's where my wife and I want to raise our children," said Hainey in his announcement. "This is where our kids can play outside without concern, nature is right in our backyard, and whenever we need a break we can just hop on a horse and go for a ride. I am committed to bringing our region's values and work ethic to the capitol to protect this way of life and build a sound economic future for our region."

Hainey currently works



Shaun Hainey

for the St. Louis County Assessor's Office and is a member of the AFSCME union. He is also Vice Chair for Friends of the (Olcott Park)

Greenhouse, is an active Rotarian, and co-teaches Sunday school at United in Christ Lutheran Church. Hainey has served on the Quad-Cities Early Childhood Coalition and Laurentian Chamber of Commerce Legislative Affairs Committee along with charitable boards for Volunteers in Education and the Iron Range Partnership for Sustainability.

Hainey grew up in Pine Springs, a metro area community, and attended the University of Minnesota-Morris, where he earned a degree in political science with minors in economics and psychology. He lives with his wife, Cassandra (Maki) Hainey,

and their four children on an aspiring hobby farm.

"My first priority is education. I want to help prepare our children to thrive in our natural resource-based economy and create opportunities for entrepreneurship — contributing to a more vibrant Iron Range and giving people more reasons to stay or return to the area," he said.

Hainey is also an advocate for increasing local food production, which has been a focus of the Iron Range Partnership for Sustainability.

Hainey will host listening sessions to answer questions and listen to the concerns of voters on Friday, March 9 from 6-8 p.m. at Boomtown in Eveleth and Sunday, March 11, from 1-3 p.m. at the Olcott Park Greenhouse. At the greenhouse, children are welcome to participate in a scavenger hunt and music will be provided by Horse Fzce.

For more information, visit [HaineyForMN.com](http://HaineyForMN.com).

## Rep. Metsa joins crowded field in Eighth District race

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

VIRGINIA— Rep. Jason Metsa has joined four other candidates in the race for the DFL endorsement in the Eighth Congressional District. The Virginia DFLer and three-term state legislator announced last Thursday that that he is running for the seat being vacated by retiring Congressman Rick Nolan.

"I am running for Congress because I know that we only make progress for Northern Minnesota families when we have each others' backs and stand up to fight for each other," said Metsa.

"At the State Capitol, I fought for affordable health care and paid family leave,

protected collective bargaining and access to unemployment benefits, and combated illegal foreign steel dumping and expanded economic opportunities," Metsa said. "I will continue to fight for care families can afford, work that pays what it's worth, and a level playing field for all Minnesota families."

In a statement announcing his bid, Metsa said he believes that government should work for people, especially when they need it most.

Metsa joins former FBI analyst Leah Phifer, former Duluth news anchor Michelle Lee, former state Rep. Joe Radinovich, and North Branch Mayor Kirsten Hagen-Kennedy in the race for the DFL nomination for the Eighth District seat.

A fifth generation Iron Ranger, Metsa lives in Virginia with his wife, Amanda, and their one-year-old son, Josiah.



Jason Metsa

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Featuring *Teresa McCue Thompson* and *Kim Garrett*

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*Kim* will be teaching Ose style of rosemaling which is the double beaded plate. She will teach on Saturday and Sunday, April 7 and 8.

- For those staying at the Inn, plan to arrive Wed., April 4 to check in.
- Bed and breakfast ranges from \$85-\$105 per room plus tax.
- If you aren't staying at the Inn, there will be a \$10 charge for set up.
- If you are staying at the Inn, your daily charge will be \$5, with Continental Breakfast included.
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# OPINION

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The First Amendment of the United States Constitution

e-mail: editor@timberjay.com

## Editorial

### Trump's tariffs

A short-term win for the Iron Range could leave a long-term hangover

While President Trump's recently-announced tariffs on steel and aluminum might seem like good news for the Iron Range at first glance, a closer look suggests that any short-term gains from the further slowing of foreign steel imports could cause significant problems down the road for domestic steel producers and the taconite mines that provide their raw material.

And when viewed from a slightly broader perspective, such as for Minnesota as a whole, the president's move is widely expected to cost jobs and slow the economy as trade partners inevitably implement retaliatory tariffs and duties on other Minnesota products, particularly in the agricultural sector.

In the past, U.S. presidents have typically focused trade sanctions on countries that engage in unfair trade. By announcing across-the-board tariffs, Trump has essentially undermined a longstanding talking point in the U.S. steel industry — namely that our domestic steel producers can compete with any other country in the world, if given a level playing field. They've accused China, in particular, of unfair trade because that country lacks the same labor and environmental standards with which the U.S. industry must comply.

That's true, but it also isn't addressed by Trump's announced tariffs. Chinese steel exports to the U.S. have fallen by two-thirds since President Obama announced a 500-percent tariff on Chinese steel products back in 2016, in response to a finding that Chinese producers were illegally dumping steel. Trump's announcement will have no impact on Chinese steel exports to the U.S.

The biggest losers from Trump's announced tariffs will be Canada and the European Union, particularly Germany, both of which export far more steel to the U.S. than China does in the wake of the Obama tariffs. Yet if Canada and Germany, which maintain higher labor and environmental standards generally than here in the U.S., can export steel to our domestic market and do so more cheaply than our domestic industry, perhaps the problem doesn't lie with the lack of a level playing

field. Maybe other domestic policies, and a lack of needed investment in the U.S. steel industry, are at the root of the problem. And that won't be fixed by a tariff scheme that is purely protectionist, rather than a response to legitimately unfair trade practices.

In the end, Trump's tariffs won't last because they won't work, not even for the steel industry. The vast majority of steel produced in the U.S. goes into our domestic manufacturing sector, and Trump's plan will noticeably increase the cost of steel-intensive U.S. products, from cars, to pipe, to large appliances, and that will give foreign producers of these products a further competitive edge in the global marketplace. As sales of American-made products fall, demand for U.S. steel will fall as well.

If Trump responds with tariffs on foreign cars and other manufactured products, which he has already threatened, it could send the global economy spiraling into a harmful trade war with wide scale economic repercussions — none of which would help the U.S. steel industry. It's for reasons like this that President George W. Bush quickly dropped similar tariffs that his administration had implemented back in 2002 to protect the U.S. steel industry. They found the tariffs did more harm than good.

When Trump tweets that trade wars are "easy to win," he clearly has no idea what he's talking about. Trade wars create major economic dislocations and damage to all involved. Whatever short-term benefit might accrue to the Iron Range as a result of Trump's latest move, could well be overshadowed by the long-term harm.

It's understandable that workers in the U.S. feel threatened by the system of world trade as it exists today, and may celebrate any move that causes disruption in a model that currently rewards those at the top and leaves the rest of us behind. The solution, however, is to adjust our political policies to ensure that the benefits of the current economic system are more widely shared. Simply blowing up the economic system, as Trump now threatens to do, will leave few, if any, winners behind.



## Letters from Readers

### With care we can tap, and protect, our city trees

Spring in Ely can't be too far off when our tree-lined streets are adorned with buckets and plastic jugs awaiting the flow of maple sap. Although tapping trees to convert to syrup is an activity that provides a diversion from our extended winter, the practice can be detrimental to the long-term health of our trees.

Numerous tapping methods have been used on Ely's trees, and there is room for improvement. There are recommended practices for collecting sap while minimizing the potential damage that can occur. These guidelines have been developed over decades of research and observation.

It's worth noting that almost all research and recommendations originate from tapping in natural sugar bushes, not on city streets. In natural forested areas, healthy trees can recover from the stress of tapping. We know that many residents have enjoyed tapping Ely's boulevard maples over the years, but the Tree Board is currently concerned about the effect of that tapping on already stressed boulevard and park trees that are old and in a state of decline, like most of our city's silver maples.

In fact, because of concerns like these, most cities strictly prohibit the tapping of city trees. Ely currently has no restrictions or rules concerning, and does not monitor, tree tapping. However, the Tree Board strongly encourages anyone choosing to continue tapping trees to follow the recommended guidelines below.

- Limit the number of tap holes per tree:
- Less than 10-inch diameter tree – DO NOT TAP
- 10-20-inch diameter tree

- Only ONE tap hole per tree.
- Over 20-inch tree – two tap holes per tree.
- Never more than two tap holes on a single tree.

- Do not add taps to trees that already have active taps.

- Use a new or sharpened drill bit, with wood-clearing capabilities—keep drilling depth to roughly 1.5 inches deep.

- Only use tapping spiles (spouts) that are specifically manufactured for tree tapping.

- Consider using the smaller 5/16 inch spiles.

More specific guidelines may be found at numerous websites on the subject. Guidelines have changed over the years as new research has become available, so slight differences may be found from one site to another. A few online publications worth googling include the UNH Extension site "Maple Sugaring"; the "Fond du Lac Sugar Bush Tapping Guidelines"; and the University of Maine's "How to Tap Maple Trees and Make Maple Syrup."

The Tree Board hopes that tree tappers will help and encourage each other to practice the best techniques this spring.

**Dixon Shelstad  
Mary Groeninger  
Val Nesteruk  
Members  
Ely Tree Board**

### When will we deal with our weapons of mass destruction?

Weapons of mass murder and domestic terror are hiding in plain sight. Why? Because they can! Agents of harm reign free to wreak deadly havoc in church, school, workplace, street and home. Do-nothing politicians captive of the NRA have been allowed to define the problem by attributing cause to killer and

place of victim while ignoring a broader context.

Climate is to weather as culture is to human events. Violence seen separate from culture distorts reality to protect vested interests. Culture as a big picture shows market pandering to a fetish with guns, violence, instant gratification, pleasure and profit. History reveals that frequency of mass violence parallels proliferation of weapons of mass murder.

Willful indifference and inaction by our institutional leaders and easy access to weapons of war by domestic terrorists are among the causes. Scapegoating mental illness as the problem and doing nothing about it only serves to stigmatize people in desperate need of help. The 2nd Amendment is not at issue — it is in the interpretation!

Nearly half of civilian-owned guns in the world are in the U.S. with less than five percent of its population. Gun violence runs rampant in America (90-plus deaths per day), unrivaled by other nations. In a recent decade, 94 Americans died as a result of jihadists while over 300,000 died of civilian gun violence. Our military has spent \$5.6 trillion since the 9/11 attacks in New York with little question or hesitation.

Craven, callous and cowardly politicians corrupted by gun lobbyists must be removed from office to change the political culture. Prayer and quoting scripture may soothe personal anguish, but offers no substitute for mass action. Why not define the problem as domestic terror with weapons of mass murder and muster required resources toward real solutions?

**Harold Honkola  
Tower**

## Latest poll suggests tide is turning on sulfide mining

It appears the tide may have turned on copper-nickel mining in Minnesota, and that's going to have ramifications in both the DFL primary and in the general election this fall. As we reported last week, a new sampling of public opinion by Fabrizio Ward, a GOP-leaning polling firm, has found growing opposition to sulfide-based copper-nickel mining near the Boundary Waters.

The poll was commissioned by the Campaign to Save the Boundary Waters, so some will inevitably dismiss the results — but they do so at the



**MARSHALL  
HELMBERGER**

risk of misunderstanding the very real implications of the latest survey results.

I agree that the way you ask a question can influence an answer, which is why I always take surveys commissioned by any advocacy group with at least a modest grain of salt. The reason this latest poll is important, however, is because the polling firm went back a year later and asked the same key questions to a new random sample of Minnesota residents. And when you see statewide opposition to sulfide mining near the BWCAW (asked

in exactly the same way) jump from 59 percent to 70 percent in a year, it can't be denied that public opinion on this question is changing. We can argue about whether the true opposition is 60 percent or 80 percent, but however you dice it, there's no question that opposition is growing and that it appears a very solid majority of Minnesotans are opposed.

At the same time, the intensity of opposition is growing, from the 39 percent who expressed strong opposition in 2017, to 52 percent today. People who strongly oppose something are the ones who vote based on a candidate's position on that something, so this number matters.

Yet this tells only part of the story. What I found most fascinating was the

partisan breakdown revealed by the poll. Across the state, the survey found that fully 91 percent of self-identified DFLers are opposed to sulfide mines near the Boundary Waters. Even within the Eighth Congressional District, 77 percent of DFLers said they were opposed to sulfide mining near the wilderness, and 61 percent indicated strong opposition.

There are a couple ramifications from this kind of sentiment. Number one, any DFLer who is seen as strongly supporting the Twin Metals project, near Ely, is likely to face an uphill battle in any party endorsement fight over the Eighth District

See POLLING...pg. 5

## Letters from Readers

### NRA and GOP now one and the same

Once upon a time, the NRA was a gun safety organization. That role was cast aside in the 1970s when the NRA and the Republican Party were married, resulting in a tragically solid relationship for America. The NRA/Republican Party uses fear of losing military assault weapons, mega bullet clips, armor-piercing bullets, bump stocks, etc. to solicit millions of dollars.

Now a wave of intelligent young people see through this. The survivors of the latest AR-15 school massacre are taking action. They're in it for the long run. Responsible corporations are already cutting ties to the NRA. We need to support the sporting goods stores that are removing military assault weapons from their shelves. It's about decency.

I believe that it's worthy to ask all political candidates if they belong to the NRA, and if so, why? There currently is no good reason to belong to the NRA. We need to use our votes wisely, support the young people, and realize that the millennials understand that the NRA/Republican Party actually doesn't care how many Americans get shot to pieces with military grade weapons. Responsibility begins with all of our politicians. Check them out. That part is free.

**Lee Peterson  
Lake Vermilion, Tower**

### Join our climate change chapter

Some long stretches of this winter were bitterly cold in northern Minnesota this year. We keep hearing "What about this global warming? We need some now!"

Well, you may not want to think about it, but even our recent cold spell is milder than typical winters of 50 or 100 years ago. Our minimum nighttime winter temperatures are several degrees warmer than they used to be.

Warmer winters fail to kill the bugs that attack our trees, the northern ranges of many

nonnative animals and birds are expanding into our region, and many other aspects of northern life that we value so much are threatened. The further north you go the greater the effects of global warming. The trend is for the warming to continue for many years.

Can we do anything about it? Yes, there is a sensible plan that would help us adjust to producing less carbon dioxide, it is called Carbon Fee and Dividend, but as citizens, to bring this plan into effect we need to take action. Locally we have recently formed a chapter of Citizens' Climate Lobby (CCL) here in Ely to advocate for Fee and Dividend.

Citizens' Climate Lobby is a bipartisan organization with chapters across Minnesota and the country. CCL is working to educate and advocate for Carbon Fee and Dividend. The idea is to collect a fee on carbon (that is oil, coal and gas) as it comes out of the ground. The rate will be set by how much CO2 it will produce. The fee will slowly rise over the years. The cash collected will be returned to each household on a monthly basis to make the scheme revenue neutral. So, for example, gas will increase in price a small amount, but for most people the dividend will cover the cost. Carbon intensive items will increase in price faster than low carbon items.

Most households will actually gain more in the dividend returned than they lose from the increased prices. As the fees rise, the cleaner energy sources will become cheaper relative to coal and oil. The market and our habits will slowly adjust to a greener lifestyle.

Our Ely chapter of CCL is getting involved with this work. We hope to reach business people, students, local politicians, church members, and all our friends and neighbors to support Fee and Dividend. The "Climate Solutions Caucus" in Congress consists of 35 Republicans and 35 Democrats who all support Fee and Dividend. The number of Climate Solutions Caucus members is increasing quickly. CCL members are hoping a bill can be introduced into Congress this year by some of

the Republican caucus members. We want to be ready to provide ground level support for them.

We invite you to join us. CCL provides help to understand the details of Fee and Dividend and good techniques to use when talking about climate issues. We meet on the second Saturday of each month. At last something that may actually work to help keep climate change under control! Upcoming events include a joint CCL meeting of all northern MN chapters at Tettegouche on March 10, and a free screening of a film "Saving Snow" followed by a panel discussion on the impacts of warmer winters on local snowmobiling, skiing, and dog sledding to be held on March 20 at VCC, from 6-9 p.m.

**Barbara Jones  
Ely**

### I would appreciate your support

As the residents and property owners of Greenwood Township are all painfully aware, the township has gone through a rocky but necessary transition over the last few years, eliminating excesses, exposing abuse of power and bringing some transparency to the process. Leading us through that process in a steady and persistent manner have been two people, Supervisor John Bassing and Clerk Sue Drobac.

Despite intense resistance they continued to bring order and fairness to the "goings on" in the township. They've clearly taken their sworn duties seriously by gathering the facts and getting the information out to not only the board members but making it available to the taxpayers as well in the form of a "user friendly" office and far more detailed minutes of township meetings available to them online. They gained support along the way from those of us who followed along and appreciated the effort put forth by these two dedicated individuals. They both clearly understand that the successful operation of the township requires continued and constant attention as issues arise in the day-to-day operation of the township. Given the dedication

to duty and fairness toward us the taxpayers, I would urge my fellow Greenwood Township residents to continue supporting John and Sue and cast your votes for them.

As a regular attendee to town board meetings I've witnessed a return of issues that have the potential to create some serious consequences for us, particularly within the fire department. Instead of facing these issues head on, I've noticed a tendency on the current board to attempt to sidestep these issues for reasons that appear known only to them. Yes, some of the details of these situations require confidentiality, I get that and understand it. But the board has guidelines and the opinion of the township attorney to aid them in the process. To postpone the inevitable serves no one and the folks who have a stake in the well-being of the township, homestead folks as well as seasonal, deserve to know what the health of the township is and a transparent, honest and open discussion will not only make those folks feel they're part of the process, it will help the board gain their support.

As a candidate for Township Supervisor myself, I would appreciate your support and I look forward to having the opportunity to work with John and Sue to help make Greenwood Township the best it can be.

**Robert "Rick" Stoehr  
Lake Vermilion, Tower**

### Please vote on Tuesday, March 13

My choices for township clerk and supervisors are as follows:

Sue Drobac for clerk! Sue won the last election by a landslide, and deservedly so. Sue has transformed the clerk's office into a clean, organized, bright and welcoming space. The shades are open, the sun shines in, and she leaves the door unlocked! Sue has organized township records so everything is easily accessible by the clerk, for township business, or if citizens ask for information. She overcame a difficult transition. The former clerk refused to provide needed keys,

information and guidance. Sue persevered with a smile on her face and got it done.

Supervisors: My vote is for John Bassing. John has put in countless hours of uncompensated time trying to sort out the mess that was Greenwood. He volunteers selflessly to research issues important to the residents and seasonal folks. He does his homework and comes prepared to every meeting. John consults the township attorney only when important questions arise, and not just to get the answer he prefers, as had happened in the past. He has helped reduce our levy to a reasonable level by cutting spending on frivolous things. He got our levy down to \$1 for one year. John forced the board to make the public data public when the comprehensive plan was completed. John was also instrumental in returning Planning and Zoning to the County, where it belongs. We were paying twice for P and Z until that transition occurred. That change saved the township \$30K! He has helped stopped the hostile takeover of Greenwood by the Cook Hospital District, which would have resulted in a permanent property tax levy. He has run 20 consecutive meetings without once threatening to call the Sheriff!! Space is limited so I'll stop now. Anyone following township news in the *Timberjays* knows what a great job John has done.

I'll cast my second supervisor vote for Rick Stoehr. Rick has been going to township meetings regularly for quite a while. Rick is a military veteran and strongly believes in community service. He also believes in following the rules. He is committed to following the Minnesota Association of Township's guidelines. He has already read them entirely, no small task! Rick believes in transparency in all township business, and would follow the open meeting law.

The annual meeting and elections are on March 13.

**Barbara Murray Lofquist  
Lake Vermilion, Tower**

## POLLING...Continued from page 4

seat. There's a reason that Nolan bowed out three days after the precinct caucuses — challenger Leah Phifer had done remarkably well on caucus night, even against a sitting member of Congress. As this latest polling suggests, Nolan's aggressive actions to advance the Twin Metals project had left him far out on a political limb, particularly with his own party's base where opposition to a project like Twin Metals is vehement. Phifer, who hasn't come out in opposition to sulfide mining (at least at this point) mainly faulted Nolan for trying to short-circuit the process.

Even with an expected Democratic surge in this

fall's election, Nolan was in trouble and he almost certainly knew it.

For those who still doubt the changing nature of the sentiment on this issue, consider the caucus results in the gubernatorial race, where Rebecca Otto, the only DFLer in the race to announce her firm opposition to sulfide mining, won handily in the Eighth District. In the Third Senate District, which encompasses Koochiching, northern St. Louis, Lake, and Cook counties, Otto won more votes in the caucus night straw poll than the five other DFL candidates combined.

And before you

dismiss those results as representing just a handful of DFLers, it's worth noting that the DFL saw record caucus turnout across the state, with nearly 4,000 DFLers turning out in the Eighth. Besides, the people who turn out at the caucuses are often the same people who donate money, door knock, and engage in the ground-level grunt work of the campaign. In the DFL, those folks are feeling very passionate in their opposition to sulfide mining right now.

Some folks may not care about any of this, but believe me when I tell you that the politicians do. There's a reason the state's

U.S. Senators have yet to introduce their own versions of some of Nolan's pro-sulfide mining legislation. They can do the math, and they will sit up and take notice of the data included in this poll.

And before you suggest that opposition to sulfide mining near the BW is confined to DFLers, the survey found that 69 percent of independents and even a plurality of 45 percent of Republicans oppose it as well. From a political standpoint, these numbers are toxic.

These results also suggest that the public isn't buying the constant refrain that we hear from supporters of sulfide mining —

namely that opponents reject all forms of mining, even taconite.

Polls released within the last year show continued strong support in Minnesota for the taconite industry — and that's true across the political spectrum. What this shows is that as people learn more about the issue, they are recognizing the higher level of risk posed by sulfide mining, and its potential to impact prized Minnesota resources, like

clean water in the North Country.

Claims that opposition to sulfide mining represents an attack on the Iron Range's way of life are simply hyperbolic. The Iron Range's way of life centers on taconite mining, and support for that industry remains strong in Minnesota.

As for copper-nickel mining, it appears Minnesotans are increasingly skeptical.

## ENERGY...Continued from page 2

in carbon emissions.

Gov. Mark Dayton hailed the report, and said it argues for Minnesota to adopt more ambitious goals than are already in place.

"I urge the Legislature to adopt the '50 by 30' Renewable Energy Standard, which legislators from both parties have championed," Dayton said. That provision would require the state's utilities to generate 50 percent of their electricity from renewable sources by 2030.

"We must do even more to ensure our children and grandchildren inherit a

better future, and a stronger clean energy economy," said Dayton.

The shift to renewable sources of electricity and efforts to boost energy efficiency has had significant impacts on the state's economy. A separate report issued earlier this year concluded that the state's clean energy economy had grown by 48 percent since 2016 and now employs over 57,000 Minnesotans. Those jobs include workers in wind, solar, and energy efficiency.

At the same time, the Bloomberg report did offer one caveat in the

otherwise positive analysis. The study found that the state's retail electrical costs have risen faster than in other Midwestern states. Minnesota has long enjoyed lower than average retail power rates.

That still holds true, the study concluded, but the gap has narrowed. Across all retail power sectors, the study found that power costs had increased by 13 percent since 2013.

### LOST Soc Sec-1099?

Call the Hibbing Social Security Office: 866-964-4320.

For more info log on to ASKJEAN.NET and select the "Hot Topics" link, or call

**PESHEL ACCOUNTING** 218-365-2424  
1704 E Camp St. | PO Box 89 | Ely, MN 55731 | askjean.net



## 2018 STEM \* Workshops

**Saturday, March 24**

**9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.**

Vermilion Community College

**FOR ALL GIRLS IN GRADES 5-8**

**Free Event~Lunch will be provided**

You will have workshops on **Science-Technology-Engineering-Math**

**Opening Activities:**

**Physics Fun** with Sheri Abts  
**Marshallow Catapults** with Rachel Heinrich  
**Computer Programming the Fun Way** with Kris Wilmunen

**What Do Vet Techs Do?**

with Jessica Kainz and Dr. Peter Hughes

**Registration 9:30-10 a.m.**

in VCC Classroom Bldg.

Please let us know if you are attending by Wednesday, March 21. RSVP by email to [elystem@gmail.com](mailto:elystem@gmail.com) or call Jeanne Tomlinson at 218-235-8470.

A signed parent/guardian permission slip is required.

**Science-Technology-Engineering-Math**

Sponsored by AAUW-Ely, Lake Country Power Operation Round-Up and Vermilion Community College

**TSHS Board to meet on Wednesday**

TOWER- The Tower-Soudan Historical Society will hold its regularly scheduled board meeting on Wednesday, March 14 at 10 a.m. at Sulu's. Interested members are welcome to attend.

**Skating parties on March 10 and 11**

SOUDAN- Chimpy is hosting skating parties on Saturday and Sunday, March 10 and 11, from 12 noon – 3 p.m. There will be food and fun. Loaner skates are available, and boot skaters are welcome.

Sponsors this week are Dean Broten and Brianna Hoheisel, and Brewpub Pizza Company.

**Local students named to Vermilion Community College Fall Honors list**

ELY- The following area students were named to the Fall 2017 honors list at Vermilion Community College in Ely. Students named to the list include: Katarina Schmidt, Ely, Honors  
Tayler Banks, Soudan, High Honors  
Alyssa Hujanen, Tower, Honors  
Julius Lopez, Tower, High Honors

**Men's Breakfast on Saturday, March 10**

SOUDAN- The Soudan's Men Breakfast will be held on Saturday, March 10 at 8 a.m. at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Soudan. The guest speaker is Shane Johnson, of Embarrass, who will speak on healthy eating and wellness issues. Shane suffered a life-threatening heart attack, but is now managing his heart disease without any medication.

**Tower Ski Trail Club to meet on Tuesday at Vermilion Park Inn**

SOUDAN- The newly re-formed Howard Wagoner/City of Tower Ski Trails Club will meet on Tuesday, March 13 at 6:30 p.m. at the Vermilion Park Inn in Soudan. This meeting will formally relaunch our club. We hope any and all skiers, hikers, or supporters of the trail can join us for this 'Action' meeting. Please come if you can! Agenda will include taking care of business, reconfirm the Club's constitution and bylaws and elect officers; prioritize actions we can take on trails improvements and promotion; and make a plan to make it all happen (through committees/volunteers). For any questions, or if you are interested in helping out but can't make the meeting, please contact Terry Vagle 218-248-0645 or Mary Shedd 218-830-2457.

**Everybody's Uncle playing at Tower Civic Center on Saturday, March 24; fundraiser for Fourth of July events**

TOWER- The Tower-Soudan-Lake Vermilion Events Board is sponsoring a fundraiser dance on Saturday, March 24 starting at 8 p.m. at the Tower Civic Center. The dance will feature music by "Everybody's Uncle," featuring Jimmy Laine on the drums and Southside Willy on the sax.

Proceeds of the bar will be donated by the Good Ol' Days to the Fourth of July Fund, so please come and support this fun event.

Everyone is invited to stop by, have a fun night, and help raise money for this year's Fourth of July!



**Vermilion Country School Choir members performed at the Boundary Waters Choral Festival in Ely on March 2. The choir is performing at the Minnesota State High School League Choir Contest on Monday, and small group ensembles will also compete. The school choir director is Karin Schmidt. photo by J. Summit**

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT****TEDA discussed funding options for projects**

by JODI SUMMIT  
Tower-Soudan Editor

TOWER- The Tower Economic Development Authority is asking the Tower City Council to move ahead with an updated map for the city-wide redevelopment district to include the city's new industrial park lots. The current map was created back in 1996. The district allows the city to create tax-increment financing (TIF) districts, as well as other more-directed tax-abatement zones, to assist the city in funding future economic development.

Chris Virta, who works for the Fryberger Law Firm in Duluth, attended last Thursday's meeting to discuss how such tax districts could assist in funding. He noted that TIF districts are generally used for larger projects, while tax-abatements can be used for smaller ones. Both allow the city to "capture" the property tax income created by a new development, and use that revenue to pay for infrastructure and construction-related costs, with a few other exceptions. Tax abatement zones can be more flexible, he said, and can be tied to promises of increased employment by a business. There are also programs in place for workforce and affordable housing, he said.

"We have a lot of projects potentially com-

ing to Tower," TEDA Chair Steve Peterson said.

The board discussed several of the planned and potential projects. The work on the new building for Lamppa Manufacturing is coming along well, City Clerk Linda Keith told the board. They expect to have a lease ready for approval next month. She said Lamppa Manufacturing is hoping to move into the new building in September. The construction will be funded by an IRRRB loan.

TEDA discussed a request from a party who is interested in purchasing the former Classy Cars building on Tower's Main Street, who is requesting assistance with the costs associated with removing the gas station-related structures in front of the building. Funding for demolition through an IRRRB matching program is available, but the applications are due at the end of March.

TEDA members wondered if a TIF district would work for the infrastructure work needed for the new townhome development, which is expected to get underway this year.

Virta said they do not recommend that cities bond for such projects, but instead things like a TIF or tax abatement. He said there might be some housing-related funding available also.

"We like to use a pay-as-you-go policy," he said. "This reduces the risk for the community."

The board also discussed a potential business that may be interested in locating in the new

industrial park building.

The city currently has two TIF districts, but the one created for the Powerain building (now the Vermilion Country School) is in the process of being "de-activated." The second was created to assist in the costs of the infrastructure needed for the Golden Horizons assisted living building.

**Wastewater capacity**

Keith said the city has missed the deadline for getting a grant to increase the city's wastewater capacity. The current wastewater treatment ponds are nearing capacity, and between the planned townhome project and the plan to bring wastewater from the campground into the system, the lack of capacity may hinder some future development. Keith noted that a previous application to the grant program is still in the queue, and there might be the option to update that project for the current need.

A staffer from the MPCA came to the wastewater board meeting and discussed some possible options for creating new capacity. "Some are more expensive than others," said Keith.

One option is making the current ponds deeper, something that has been successfully done recently on the Vermilion Reservation. Another would be increasing the ponds rate of discharge, if the discharges.

The wastewater board is considering doing a more formal study, at a cost of \$1,500, to have the MPCA come

and study such potential options.

TEDA members noted that groundwater infiltration is a major issue.

Keith said that the city is paying to treat three gallons of water for every gallon that comes from the well, meaning that the majority of wastewater being treated is simply rainwater that is making its way into city sewer lines.

Some of this inflow can be traced to residents who attach sump pumps to their sewer, which is not allowed. TEDA asked if the city was able to track sewage inflow from certain areas to pinpoint problems.

TEDA member Steve Peterson Jr. asked if the city could get grants for water reduction projects, such as converting residential and business faucets and toilets to more efficient models.

"It would be a good city project," he said, "whoever takes it on." Such a project would lower water usage, which in turn reduces the amount of water going into the sewer system.

TEDA member Marit Kringstad discussed possible plans for summer entertainment. This would not be a TEDA project, but may require some cooperation from the city. Members of the city's Main Street Committee said potential plans include planning a weekend's worth of activities in conjunction with the Lake Vermilion Cultural Center's Midsummer Festival, as well as looking into ideas for a once a week evening outdoor live music or movie.

**Tower-Soudan Women's Bowling**

*Week of Feb. 21*  
Team rankings:  
Vermilion Club (140-52); Broten Construction (120-72); Jeanne's Cards (118-74).

Hi Game- Vermilion Club 722; High Series- Vermilion Club 1,953; Hi Ind. Game- Bev Thomas 173; Hi Ind. Series- Bev Thomas 477.

*Week of Feb. 28*  
Team rankings:  
Vermilion Club (142-58); Broten Construction (128-72); Jeanne's Cards (124-76).

Hi Game- Jeanne's Cards 721; Hi Series- Broten Construction 1,993; Hi Ind. Game- Elaine Nystrom 180; Hi Ind. Series- Elaine Nystrom 451.

**Re-Elect**  
**CHUCK TEKAUTZ**

**Breitung Town Board**

**Tuesday, March 13**

**Polls Open 10 AM-8 PM**

- Strong fiscal management
- Responsive to the needs of residents

*I'd appreciate your vote of support!*

Paid for by the candidate on his own behalf

**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**

**Thank you from the Tower Food Shelf**

*This is a big thank you to the many people who generously contributed to the Tower Area Food Shelf at the February 4 Souper Bowl event, as well as to the young people of St. Martin's whose hard work made the event possible.*

*Each year this project has made a big contribution to the efforts of the food shelf and this year's \$1,725 will go a long way towards helping those in need in our area.*

*Thank you again,  
Marge McPeak and  
Tower Area Food Shelf volunteers*

**VOTE**

**SUE DROBAC**

**Greenwood Township Clerk**

**Vote Tuesday, March 13**

*"I have enjoyed my work as the Greenwood Township Clerk for the last two years! I am totally wanting to continue with this position!"*

Paid for by the candidate on her own behalf.

LOCAL TOWNSHIPS

# Township elections and annual meetings on Tuesday, March 13

**REGIONAL-** Township elections will be held on Tuesday, March 13 in Vermilion Lake, Greenwood, and Breitung townships. In addition, all area townships will be holding their annual meetings that evening. In case of inclement weather, township elections and annual meetings are postponed one week until March 20.

## Vermilion Lake

In Vermilion Lake, incumbent Clerk Fran Silverberg and incumbent Supervisor Bruce Swieringa are both retiring from their positions. Current Supervisor Steve Peterson Jr. has filed for clerk. If elected, according to the Minnesota Association of Townships, he would need to resign his supervisor seat and then the town board would appoint someone to the remaining one year of his term. Robert Pratt and Sarah Schmidt both have filed for the one open supervisor seat.

Polls are open from 1 – 8 p.m. and the annual meeting will begin at 8:15 p.m.

## Breitung

In Breitung, incumbent Supervisor Chuck Tekautz has some competition, with Gavin Bialke in the race. Incumbent clerk Valeda “Polly” McDonald has filed. Breitung has been discussing the idea of moving to a hired (instead of elected) clerk/treasurer position.

Polls are open from 10 a.m. – 8 p.m. The annual meeting will be held following the Board of Canvass (to count the votes), at approximately 8:15 p.m.

## Greenwood

Greenwood has two open supervisor seats (designated seats 3 and 5). Rick Stoehr and Byron Beihoffer have both filed for seat 5, which is currently held by incumbent John Bassing. Two incumbents, Larry Tahija and John Bassing, have filed for seat

3, currently held by Tahija.

Clerk Sue Drobac is also facing a challenger, Belinda Fazio. Both Drobac and Fazio have filed for the clerk seat.

Polls are open from 7 a.m. – 8 p.m. The annual meeting will be held at 8:15 p.m.

## Kugler

Kugler holds elections in November. The annual meeting will be held at 6 p.m. Kugler traditionally opens its annual meeting but then adjourns it until summer.

## Embarrass

Embarrass holds elections in November. The annual meeting will be held at 7 p.m.

## Eagles Nest

Eagles Nest holds elections in November. The annual meeting will be held at 7 p.m.

## 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 March 12

Monday- Chicken Alfredo with a Twist, Bread Stick, Vegetable  
Tuesday- Spaghetti with Meat Sauce, Garlic Bread Stick

Wednesday- Joan’s Chicken Hot Dish, Dinner Roll

Thursday- Tater Tot Hot Dish, Dinner Roll

Friday- Biscuits and Gravy, Tater Tots

### Week of March 19

Monday- Chicken ala King in a Bread Bowl

Tuesday- Italian Meatball Sub Sandwich, Vegetable

Wednesday- Hamburger Gravy over Mashed Potatoes, Dinner Roll, Green Beans

Thursday- Lasagna, Dinner Roll

Friday- Breaded Pollock, Tater Tots, Bread Stick

## Week of March 12

### Monday

TOPS - Immanuel Lutheran Church, Tower, at 9 a.m.

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

Tower City Council- 5:30 p.m. on March 12

### Tuesday

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

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

Township Annual Meeting Day

### Wednesday

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

### Thursday

Vermilion Country School Board- Next meeting is Tuesday, March 20 at 4:45 p.m. Meetings posted online at [vermilioncountry.org](http://vermilioncountry.org).

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

Subscribe to the **TIMBERJAY!** Call 218-753-2950



## BREITUNG

# Interviews underway for new police staff

by SCARLET STONE  
Staff Writer

**SOUDAN-** The Breitung Town Board will be interviewing applicants for the open full-time and part-time police officer this week. At their meeting on Feb. 27, Police Chief Dan Nylund told the board there were 11 applications for the full-time and part-time positions that have been advertised. Interviews will be held March 9 and 10.

Nylund presented a “letter of understanding” regarding the wages for the new full-time office, which calls for \$18 per hour under the new contract. The board approved the wage.

The Breitung Board approved the fire department appointment of officers for 2018: Steve Burgess-Chief, Matt Tichel-Assistant Chief, Trevor Banks-Captain, Brian Zak-Training Officer. The Board also approved the salaries

for 2018. Monthly Salaries: Chief \$425, Assistant Chief \$375, Captain \$250, Training Officers \$300; Annual Salaries: President \$200, Vice President \$100, Secretary \$599, Treasurer \$400. The salaries are the same as 2017.

## Other business

In other business the council:

- Heard Chief Dan Nylund report on attending the Forum on Opioids and Heroin held at Fortune Bay recently. The council approved having Nylund attend the Minnesota Police Chiefs Convention in April for two to three days.
- Decided, upon Nylund’s recommendation to have an auto shop look at the police department’s Dodge Charger to see if it should be repaired or dismissed, as it is unreliable.
- Heard that the progress on McKinley Park bathroom/shower rooms is coming along

well. Kultala Construction is grinding off old paint and replacing tile. The renovations of the showers will begin soon. New LED lights also need to be installed. Supervisor Chuck Tekautz is working with the contractor on other project details.

- Approved the purchase of some new six-foot picnic tables for McKinley Park.
- Discussed the ongoing problems with a water line on Church Street, including issues with a manhole that is heaving up. The township has already invested a lot of repair dollars on the issue. Tekautz wondered if the township should look at replacing the entire water line when the sewer line is replaced in the future.
- Passed a motion to approve the fire de-

partment purchase of a popcorn machine for use by the fire department and township for events. The cost of the machine will be between \$700-\$800.

- Approved changing the time of the Local Board of Appeal and Equalization meeting from April 25, 2018 at 1 p.m. to April 27 at 1p.m.
- Approved the LMCIT Workman’s Comp deductible will remain at \$1,000.
- Approved Agenda items for discussion at the upcoming March Annual Meeting will include: Water Rates, Fire Department Policy Changes, Old Police Building Repurposing, Pension Increase Study, Personnel Policy, Levy Increase.

## St. Martin’s Annual Pasties Sale

**TOWER-** It’s that time of year again – the St. Martin Youth are getting ready for their Annual Pasties Sale. Orders will be taken from now through March 21. You may place your order with any of our high school students, or by calling the rectory at 217-753-4310.

You have the option of having rutabaga in your pasties, if desired. You will need to tell us

at the time of your order. The cost of the pasties is still \$5 and they must be paid at the time of the order. Pasties will be available for delivery on April 14.

Proceeds from this project will go towards the Steubenville Conference trip in July. This year we have nine students attending the conference in St. Louis!

## Bookmobile Schedule

### Wednesday, March 14, April 4, 25, May 16

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

For further information call the Arrowhead Library System at 218-741-3840 or [www.arrowhead.lib.mn.us](http://www.arrowhead.lib.mn.us)

## Transfer station

### Soudan Canister

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

### 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

# ELECT Rick Stoehr

**Transparency and Accountability are my goals.**

I’d appreciate your vote on March 13.

Paid for by the candidate on his own behalf.

## RE-ELECT JOHN BASSING GREENWOOD TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR

TRANSPARENCY ★ CITIZEN INVOLVEMENT ★ LOW TAXES

- ★ VOLUNTEERED AS 911 COORDINATOR. SAVED THE TAXPAYERS THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS
- ★ MADE THE MOTION TO MOVE PLANNING AND ZONING TO THE COUNTY. SAVED THE TAXPAYERS TENS OF THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS.
- ★ LED THE BOARD IN STOPPING THE HOSTILE ANNEXATION OF THE COOK HOSPITAL DISTRICT. SAVED THE TAXPAYERS HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS
- ★ MOTIONED FOR THE ONE DOLLAR LEVY

PAID FOR BY THE CANDIDATE

## the TIMBERJAY

The Tower-Soudan Timberjay and Cook-Orr Timberjay are published weekly on Friday by The Timberjay, Inc. Offices are at 414 Main St., Box 636, Tower, MN 55790 [218-753-2950], and PO Box 718, Ely, MN 55731 [218-365-3114]. Fax number is 218-753-2916. E-mail address is [editor@timberjay.com](mailto:editor@timberjay.com). Visit our website at [www.timberjay.com](http://www.timberjay.com).

Entered as Periodicals at the Post Office in Tower, Minnesota. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: The Timberjay, P.O. Box 636, Tower, MN 55790. Three award-winning community editions are published each week for Tower/Soudan, Cook/Orr, and Ely.

Publisher General Manager Staff Writers  Ely Editor Office Manager Graphics/Ad Sales/ Staff Writer Ad Sales/Sports	Marshall Helmberger Jodi Summit Melissa Roach Stephanie Ukkola Keith Vandervort M. M. White  Scarlet Lynn Stone Jay Greeney
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**Official Newspaper:**  
City of Orr, Townships of Bearville, Breitung, Eagles Nest, Embarrass, Kugler, Vermilion Lake, Greenwood, Field, Morcom, Leiding, ISD 707.

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

**Subscriptions Available:**  
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NOTE: Changes of address must be sent or called in to the Tower office. Out-of-state delivery may take 2-3 weeks. For prompt out-of-state delivery try the First Class Subscription: \$100 year or \$10 per month.  
Read the entire paper on-line every week. On-line subscriptions cost \$27.95/year; details at [www.timberjay.com](http://www.timberjay.com).

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

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

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

**Support groups**

**AA - Alcoholics Anonymous**  
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 encoun-  
ter alcoholism in a  
relative or friend.  
**BABBITT AL-ANON**  
- Thursdays, 7 p.m., at  
Woodland Presbyterian  
Church.  
**CO-DEPENDENTS'**  
12-step support group,  
noon Fridays, St.  
Anthony's Catholic  
Church, Ely.  
**ELY FOOD SHELF -**  
third Wednesday each  
month. 15 W. Conan St..  
**ADULT BASIC**  
**EDUCATION**  
GED Study materials  
and pre-test available.  
Ely Community Center  
Thursday 10 a.m.-4 p.m.;  
Tower by appointment.

**BABBITT FIGURE SKATING CLUB**



**SUMMER FUN 2018**



The Babbitt Figure Skating Club presented "Summer Fun 2018" last weekend at the Ron Castellano Ice Arena. The Low Free group, top, including Avery Buschman, Morgan Bush, Ezra Chamberlin, Rylee Larson, Madelyn Moen and Chelsey Nelmark, presented Long Hot Summer. Danica Sunblad, above left, presented Strawberry Wine. Sadie Theel, above, presented Fishing in the Dark. photos by K. Vandervort



**the TIMBERJAY**

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General Manager	Jodi Summit
Ely Editor	Keith Vandervort
Staff Writer	Stephanie Ukkola
Office Manager	M. M. White
Graphics	Scarlet Lynn Stone
Ad Sales	Jay Greeney

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**Tuesday Group schedule**  
ELY - The upcoming Tuesday Group schedule (subject to change) is listed below. All talks are at 12 noon on Tuesday at Grand Ely Lodge.  
**March 13** – Ely Food Shelf  
**March 20** – Tom Hanson and Vladimir von Tsuvikov

**Breathing Out**  
by Cecilia Rolando © 2018



rain or snow coming ups and downs of a mid-month oh, which boots to wear

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Call 218-753-2950



**News in Brief**

**Ely students participate in speech meet**  
ELY – Ely Memorial students who brought home ribbons in the recent Mesabi East Speech Meet include, Emma Kari, Danielle Krostue, Blaise Lah, Sidney Marshall, Henry Matthys, Cora Olson, Raif Olson, Jasiah Wigdahl, and Shayla Zaverl. The Ely Rotary is a sponsor of the Ely Memorial High School

**Spring sports meeting set for Tuesday**  
ELY - The annual Ely Memorial High School spring sports meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 13, starting at 6 p.m., in the high school gymnasium. The meeting is open to parents and all students in grades 7-12 who plan to participate in baseball, softball, boys or girls track, or boys or girls golf this spring. Coaches will address their players with information about first practices, and registration forms will be available to pick up and complete. Those unable to attend are urged to get in contact with their respective coach to get early-season information.

For more details, contact Athletic Director Tom Coombe at 235-1025 or Tcoombe@ely.k12.mn.us.

**Ely Free Clinic open Mondays**  
ELY - The Ely Community Health Center is Ely's Free Clinic. 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 page.

Donald G. **Gardner Humanities Trust**

**We are now accepting 2018 Arts Grant Applications**

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

Updated grant applications and guidelines are available online at [www.gardnertrust.org](http://www.gardnertrust.org)

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

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

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

OUR COMMUNITY

# Youth grant review deadline extended

ELY – The deadline for youth arts grants, available from the Donald G. Gardner Humanities Trust, has been extended.

Youth interested in applying for grants for arts experiences such as dance workshops, music camps, voice lessons, film/video classes, etc. must schedule a grant review meeting with executive director, Keiko Williams, by Monday, March 12.

“The grant review meeting is meant to help a young person submit the best grant that they are capable of,” said Williams. “We sit down and go over their draft application and I may give them suggestions to make the application better; are they telling us how important their art form is to them, are there



Ely youth dancers participated in the Just For Kix Dance Camp last year in Bemidji. submitted photo

any questions about the cost of the arts experience.”

Youth must call by the end of the day on Monday,

March 12 to schedule their grant review meeting. They will meet with Williams before the deadline for completed applications on

Friday, March 23 at noon. Williams can be contacted at the office at 365-2639 or by email at info@gardner-trust.org.

# Ely Area Food Shelf joins FoodShare campaign

ELY - March is an important month for the Ely Area Food Shelf and all Minnesota food shelves. Minnesota FoodShare’s March Campaign is a state-wide fundraising and food drive to benefit local food shelves.

This is the largest food and fund drive to help restock over 300 Minnesota food shelves, with participation from local community groups, congregations, businesses, schools and individuals like you. All food and funds raised remain in the Ely area, and will receive a proportional grant from MN FoodShare.

Each month the Ely Area Food Shelf serves an average of 216 households or 632 people which includes over 100 children and 64 seniors, and last year distributed over 163,000 pounds of food. These families often have to choose

paying bills or purchasing medication. Our food shelf aims to provide five to seven days’ of food to help them get through the month.

The mission of the Ely Area Food Shelf is to provide a resource for people living in Ely and the surrounding communities who have run out of options to alleviate hunger. Our guiding principles are that no one should go hungry and communities have a responsibility to ensure that their members are not in distress because they lack food.

Watch for opportunities to contribute at area churches and businesses, schools, community groups or as an individual. Mail monetary donations to the Ely Area Food Shelf at PO Box 786, Ely, MN 55731.

Questions? Call 218-235-8527 or go to www.elyareafoodshelf.org or www.mnfoodshare.org.



The Ely Rotary Club presented more than \$5,000 to the Ely Area Food Shelf last week from the summer-long ‘penny jars’ promotion in dozens of area businesses. The penny jars sat on the counters of over 70 area businesses during the summer months and collected change for the Ely Area Food Shelf. With all the coins and bills sorted and counted, the club presented a check for \$5,081.98 to the Food Shelf. It was one of the largest totals in the ten years since the Penny Jar drive began, according to club members. Shown from left are Susan Smith and Liz Langley of the Food Shelf with Penny Jar Chairman Kurt Soderburg. submitted photo

## STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING



Structural engineering topics were explored at a recent Ely Public Library program. Library Director Rachel Heinrich, above, tests the strength of various structures with different books. Elsa Ellerbroek and Tracy Thibadeaux, below left, practice compression force movements, while workshop participants, below right, design their own structures. photos by K. Vandervort



## Yesterday’s news, this week

from the archives of

### THE ELY MINER

Courtesy of the Ely-Winton Historical Society

March 8, 1918

### War activities Plans simplified for fund raising

Mayor Olaf Knutsen, City Clerk Eisenach, City Attorney Merdink, President Brozich of the Commercial Club and Dr. Geo T. Ayres, vice president of the St. Louis County Committee of Public Safety, attended a meeting in Virginia Friday evening of the various range town representatives called by W.I. Prince, director for St. Louis County of the Public Safety Commission for the purpose of discussing matters of interest to the several communities represented.

A food conservation dinner was served by the domestic science department of the Virginia High School to the visitors after which a general discussion followed as to the best manner of conducting the various drives for funds we are continuously being called upon to furnish for the several war activities.

Supt. Of Schools C.L. Newberry of Gilbert presented a plan being followed in that city simplifying the raising of funds for war activities such as Red Cross, Y.M.C.A., K.C. and other funds at present by a few of the men of each community. His plan was patterned after the plans of Wakefield, Mich., where the system has been tried out to the entire satisfaction of the community with the burdens equally divided.

The plan is to secure pledge cards from every wage earner and everybody as to the extent of \$1 per month, the total to be placed in the hands of a bonded treasurer and from the funds thus secured to meet the various calls made on the community. In order to carry this out, every city and town on the range should organize on the same lines on account of the possibility of the men shifting from one town to another where the plan was not in force.

Monday evening at a special meeting of the Ely Commercial Club the plan was outlined by Dr. Ayers, Brozich, and others and it was decided to try and put the plan into working order in this city, Winton and Section 30 at once. Representatives from Winton and Section 30 were present. The committee that attended the Virginia meeting were empowered to meet with the city council and to take such other steps as to perfect the organization.

### Dynamiter to get even

Nick Boskoff, a Bulgarian resident in this city who has been in the limelight of the municipal court on several occasions, is suspected of planting dynamite which partly destroyed the home of Mr. and Mrs. F. Prijatelj at the Savoy location Sunday night

Boskoff, it seems, had been very intimate with a neighbor of the Prijatelj family, and the attention of the husband was called to the affair by Mr. Prijatelj. This set off a squabble that ended in a later explosion. No one was hurt and Mr. Boskoff is set to visit the judge again.

**Correction**

The photos from the Take a Kid Ice Fishing event were taken by North Woods fifth-grade teachers and parents.

**Cook Lions Pancake Breakfast**

COOK- On Sunday, March 18, the Cook Lions Club will be preparing and serving a pancake breakfast in Cook at St. Mary's Catholic Church, 124 5th St. SE, from 9 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. The donated Homestead Mills pancakes will be served with sausage and the butter, juice and syrup donated by McDonalds. All proceeds benefit the Cook Food Shelf.

If you are interested in volunteering or joining the Cook Lions Club, contact Mark Eyre at 666-2758 or Norene and Roger Butalla at 666-2869.

Come and enjoy the community pancake breakfast!

**Kat Perkins, from The Voice, on stage at Backus Community Center on Saturday, March 10**

INT'L FALLS- Backus Community Center is pleased to announce Kat Perkins from Season 6 of The Voice television show, performing Saturday, March 10 at 7 p.m. at Backus Auditorium; doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Tickets are available in advance at City Drug, J&D Foods in Littlefork, Betty's in Fort Frances, Backus or at the door the night of the show. Prices are adult \$12, student \$6, family \$25 (immediate family only please), pre-K free.

Kat Perkins grew up in Scranton, N.D., surrounded by a family of musicians and quickly knew at a young age that performing is what she wanted to make her life career. After seeking as many opportunities as she could, including spending several summers as a main act on the Medora Musical stage, Kat followed her undeniable drive and passion for performing and moved to Minneapolis to pursue music on a more professional scale.

She quickly gained the attention of the local Twin Cities music scene by taking stages in the several projects and bands she formed over the years. The most successful being her rock band, Scarlet Haze, which went on to open for Bon Jovi, in addition to working with some of the music industry's most well-known acts.

After a hiatus from performing due to vocal surgery, Kat made a musical comeback in 2014 by auditioning and appearing on Season 6 of NBC's The Voice. Kat turned three chairs during her blind audition, charted in the top five on iTunes several times with her stand-out performances, and sailed to the finals with help from her coach, Adam Levine.

Being on The Voice brought new platforms of success and opportunities Kat's way. She's since gone on an average of two military tours per year to perform for the troops overseas, sold out venues across America with a variety of themed performances and tours, and began going into schools to speak to students about following their dreams, living a fearless life, and making a positive impact on the world.

The praise Kat received from these presentations even led her to begin a nonprofit foundation, The Rising Star Foundation, providing scholarships and opportunity for aspiring musicians while also giving back to the local community.

For more information, please contact Backus Community Center, 900 5th Street, International Falls, 218-285-7225 or online at [www.backusab.org](http://www.backusab.org).

HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

**True Care Therapy introduces wellness services**

Sponsors talk on "The Power of Food" on Tuesday,

COOK- The health insurance market is becoming more expensive and more uncertain. According to the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation, "The average family premium has increased 55 percent since 2007 and 19 percent since 2012." Congress continues to debate what the future of health care and health insurance will look like. This has led to a greater awareness and desire for prevention and self-care. Ida Haxton, physical therapist, certified holistic nutritionist, and owner of True Care Therapy Center says, "Health and wellness are the keys to living the life you want as well as cutting personal and community costs for medical care. My passion is to promote wellness in our community."

True Care Therapy Center is excited to introduce a new line of wellness services. Some areas of wellness that are going to be available will include nutritional counseling, to help learn the how and why of healthy eating, massage therapy, and myofascial release. Many people are unfamiliar with



Ida Haxton

myofascial release. It is a technique where gentle sustained pressure is applied to tissues to promote relaxation and alleviate stress. Plans are to continue to expand services as more community needs are identified.

To launch their new program, True Care Therapy is offering a

cutting-edge presentation called "The Power of Food." This presentation will go beyond teaching dietary guidelines. You will learn how food can heal or hurt you, explore food-related illnesses, hear real life stories about the power of food, and learn techniques to find a plan that works for you individually. Ida Haxton, PT, CHN will be the presenter. Attendees will leave with two recipe cards, a coffee mug, and will be able to sample a recipe. The presentation will take place at True Care Therapy behind Subway in Cook, on Tuesday, March 13 at 6 p.m. Seating is limited. If interested, call for registration and cost.

Ann Wigmore, a holistic health practitioner and advocate of a raw foods diet, famously stated "The food you eat can be either the safest and most powerful form of medicine or the slowest form of poison." True Care Therapy invites you to come explore the difference.

CRANE LAKE

**Crane Lake News by the Singing Teapot Dames**



**Life in the North Country**

Weather Report: Temperature - 32 degrees with a very brisk wind. The power was out for about two hours yesterday. There is a weather storm warning for the southern part of the county. Mild temperatures will prevail for the remainder of the week. No snow is predicted in our area. Let us hope the weatherman is right!

Health Report: Sue Kaneski had shoulder surgery which did not live up to the promise of painless. The pain block did not work for Sue. She is slowly recovering. Several residents are getting the bug, have it, or are recovering from it. It appears no family has escaped it.

Our great USA curling team won the gold! They are being kept busy appearing at many events. Friday morning they rang the bell to open the New York Stock Exchange, Friday night was the "To-

night Show," Saturday morning was the "Today" program. Word is out that they have obligations to keep them busy until the end of April. A movie has been mentioned, to tell the wonderful story of the miracle.

The past weekend was a huge success for the Crane Lake Snowmobile Challenge. Speeds in the 170's were common. The addition of drag races for Sunday was well attended. This weekend is the 32nd Annual Antique and Classic Snowmobile race at Melgeorge's. The competition is Saturday, March 10 from noon - 5 p.m. Trophies and prizes will be awarded.

Don't forget to mark your calendar for the Crane Lake Annual Town Meeting to be held Tuesday, March 13 at 7:30 p.m. at the Crane Lake Chapel Fellowship Hall. This is an opportunity to voice your concerns or agreements regarding the governance of our town.

Of great interest to all ATV riders is the proposal of Voyageur Country ATV Club's building a bridge over the Vermilion River. The proposed bridge would unite a 500-mile Cabin Road to Kabustasa Trail joining El-ephant and Echo Lakes. There are plans for two scenic overlooks built into the bridge which will be 185 feet long. If you would like more information about this project, contact Bruce Bestie.

Aren't you fascinated by the name of the band

"Forty Below?" A few years ago, the band was performing at Crane Lake and the temperature was forty below.

**Life in the Land of Sun and Sand**

Life in the Land of Sun and Sand included more sun, and the sand is still there. Another week of warm, sunny temps in the 70s and 80s. The beaches are filling up and the area surrounding the pool is also dotted with sun worshipers and swimmers. The older sun goddesses are mostly around the pool, and the youngsters are in the pool. The pool is now a warm 85 degrees, so the swimmers are in for most of the day. It brings back memories of small children and summers past—this Dame can't recall how many years ago, but is amazed to realize her oldest child turns 50 in just a few days, and her "baby" will soon be 43. How has the time flown by so quickly? She remembers a time when she had four young children, all needing something and she had thoughts that they would never grow up. Then suddenly, they were all grown, with kids of their own, and the "mom" in her wonders where her babies went.

Speaking of sand, there is a local gift store that has an exclusive arrangement with a jeweler to make bracelets, earrings, and necklaces with the pearly white sand from the beaches of Destin, marketed as Dunes jewelry. It is very unique and allows one to have a bit of the Emerald Coast, even after returning to homes scattered across the U.S.

The Spring Breakers have descended upon the beaches of Florida. Lots of young people around, more bikinis than one

has seen in a long time, and lots more butts than one is used to seeing anywhere, anytime! Some of the bikinis are little more than threads that cover NOTHING, and unfortunately, leave nothing to be imagined. When one is from the land of snowmobile suits, long johns, mittens, and hats, it seems as though there is just too much skin visible.

It seems as though temps have graduated up to the 30s and even low 40s. It is hoped that no spring snowstorms are hidden in the future forecasts. One of the hardest things about being in the Land of Sun and Sand is returning to snow instead of sand, boots instead of flip flops, shoveling instead of sunshine (even raking would be better), and sweaters and jeans instead of summer tops and shorts!

We are halfway through Lent and Easter is not far away. Does anyone hear chirping baby chicks, see colored Easter grass, and have a sudden urge for jelly beans and hard-boiled eggs? Remember when picking out an Easter bonnet, short white gloves, a new dress, and preparing for an Easter Parade would have been the talk of the day? That was a very long time ago

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

Until next week, the Dames are singing off.

**ELECT Rick Stoehr**

**Transparency and Accountability are my goals.**

I'd appreciate your vote on March 13.

Paid for by the candidate on his own behalf.

**VOTE SUE DROBAC**

**Greenwood Township Clerk**

**Vote Tuesday, March 13**

*"I have enjoyed my work as the Greenwood Township Clerk for the last two years! I am totally wanting to continue with this position!"*

Paid for by the candidate on her own behalf.

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NORTH WOODS GRIZZLIES



# Parents Night

The Grizzlies boys honored their parents at the home game on Friday. The girls team honored parents the week before.

Pictured (from left) are seniors Austin Chaulklin, Tanner Lokken, Tate Olson, Brenden Parson, Isaiah Squires.

Back: Parents Jeff Chaulklin, Tina Chaulklin, Chris Parson, Rick Lokken, Kay Lokken, sisters Coley Olson (Tate) Kylie Parson (Brenden), Kandi Olson, Todd Olson, Dan Squires, and Lisa Squires. photos by B. Smith



Team co-captain Kate Stone with parents Chad and Connie Stone.



Team co-captain Alanna Rutchasky with parents Matt and Kristy Rutchasky.



Team co-captain Bria Chiabotti with parents Bryan and Nichole Chiabotti.

GRIZZLY UPDATES

## Elementary enrichment important part of learning

Academics in school are the primary focus, especially nowadays in the era of accountability. Students still have many wonderful opportunities for enrichment activities and field trips, which often end of being our favorite memories of our school days as a child. I still remember going to the Shrine Circus and travelling to Duluth to the Depot as a child. Elementary students at North Woods have had numerous activities this winter that prove school can still be fun!

This week on March 6, representatives from the Vince Shute Wildlife Sanctuary presented to K-6 in two different groups. Stephanie, the presenter, talked about bear facts, bear myths, and how to respond if you encounter a bear. She answered questions and gave students the opportunity to interact during the presentation. Students were truly enthusiastic about learning more about the bears in our neck of the woods.

On March 1, the Copper Street Brass visited North Woods. The brass group is basically a brass quintet made up of two trumpets, trombone, horn, and tuba with the added facet of percussion, keyboard, and guitar. They performed for our preschool through third-graders and were absolutely marvelous! Picture a live perfor-



**JOHN VUKMANICH**

mance that tells a story through a combination of music, dialogue, imagery, and comedy! Throw in teaching our kids about music and instruments, and you have the Copper Street Brass. I hope to see them again at North Woods!

First, second, and fourth graders went skating at the Doug Johnson in Cook on Feb. 28. Several kids said it was the best field trip they ever took!

On Feb. 23, the elementary had DEAR (Drop Everything And Read) Day. The entire school set aside a common time to read a book.

Grades two and three went snowshoeing on

March 7 outside on campus at North Woods. This is one of the great perks of our location. We are able to access the great outdoors right out our doors!

First Graders have been listening to Mystery Readers. For this activity, "Mystery Readers" who are adults from school and community, read a book to the class. I have been lucky enough to be selected as a Mystery Reader and it is a blast! The first grade also celebrated Valentine's Day, made "oobleck" with Mrs. Lamwer's High School Science class, visited quinzees (winter snow huts) with Mr. Anderson's Outdoor Science class, and had high school National Honor Society students read. Finally,

the first grade read 1,030 books during "I Love to Read" Month and earned a pizza party. Way to go first graders!

Fifth grade went ice fishing on Lake Vermilion. They also snowshoed, roasted marshmallows, and had lunch at The Landing provided by the Lake Vermilion Guide Association. Tuesday, Feb. 27 the fifth grade learned about recycling at the St. Louis County Solid Waste Center and went skiing for the afternoon at Giant's Ridge. With temps in the 40s, the kids had a great day!

As you can see, being a Grizzly is educational.....AND fun!

Best of luck to our Boys Basketball Team as they head into the Region 7A tourney, and congrat-

ulations to our Girls Basketball Team on a great and much improved season!

Have a great week-

end! Go Grizzlies!

**Your Principal,  
John Vukmanich**

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COUNTY SCHOOLS

# Board approves three-year contract with new superintendent

by MELISSA ROACH  
Staff Writer

REGIONAL— The St. Louis County School Board has approved a three-year contract for new superintendent Reggie Engebritson, with a first-year salary of \$140,000, plus benefits. Engebritson's salary rises to \$144,000 in the second year and \$148,000 in the final year of the contract.

Engebritson will not be provided her own vehicle, as the district had done with some previous superintendents, although she will be reimbursed for all expenses while using her own car. Engebritson will receive family medical coverage and individual life and disability coverage as part of the deal.

The board did make one amendment to the proposed contract, removing a sentence that referenced additional compensation in the event of a shared services agreement with another



Supt. Reggie Engebritson

school district. The Mt. Iron-Buhl School District is hoping to utilize Engebritson's services rather than replace their retiring superintendent, but the ISD 2142 board decided to handle any payment to Engebritson for that work in a separate contract.

Some board members sounded reluctant about a sharing arrangement, at least while Engebritson is still learning the

ropes in ISD 2142, and given that her workload is already significant.

The contract, as amended, will still allow for Engebritson to collaborate with other school districts, although a specific contract for a shared service agreement will have to be approved by the board. In the end, the board voted 6-1 to strike the paragraph in question from the contract. Expressing frustration with the discussion, board member Chet Larson voted against the amending motion, although he joined the board in unanimously approving the final contract, even with the amendment.

In other business, Aaron Kreins of ICS Consulting provided updates to the board regarding the ongoing Northeast Range heating project. Kreins, who serves as project manager, said some earlier errors have been fixed, although there is still an issue with the propane. He explained the problem is

between the tank and feed line into the building, with cold weather being a factor in the problem, which Kriens said would be solved with the installation of an additional regulator. Additionally, a damper has been added as part of the control system with the wood boiler allowing for dual fuel and is now "working like a full unit." He also reported they are working to resolve noises from the duct work in the auditorium.

In other action, the board:

- Approved the purchase of four new propane buses at \$391,076.68. The old buses will be put up for auction. Koivisto inquired about driver training for fueling the buses. Kim Johnson said that the drivers were required to have training for fueling, however some filling stations only allow employee service attendants to refill, and do not allow the drivers to fuel.
- Approved a resolution to fully fund Special Education

Services at state and federal levels.

- Hired Gabrielle Christianson as Director of Health Services.

- Hired Joshua Gaskell, Jessica Gaskell, and Rebecca Mariucci.

- Hired Coaching staff: Jeffrey Smerud, Brian Kemp, Aaron Aimonetti, Darrel Bjerklie, Chad Greenly, Dee Ann Sandberg, Daniel Manick, Rebecca Bundy, William Fierke-Kleppe, Kandi Olson, Daniel Squires, Joseph Scherer, Todd Aho, Ronald Marinaro, Kathy Vraa, Jeremy Polson, Robbie Peterson, Ashley Dahlman, Tyler Olin, Christopher Clark, Tony DeLeon, Alizabeth Beseke, and Kyle Young.

- Accepted resignations from: Chantel Reynolds, Lucille Stepec, and Diana Clement.

HEALTHCARE

## Surgeon joins staff at Ely-Bloomenson Hospital

by KEITH VANDERVORT  
Ely Editor

ELY – Meet Dr. Robert Savereide, Ely-Bloomenson Community Hospital's first staff surgeon in a long time.

Savereide, who hails from Iowa, has been a homeowner on nearby Eagles Nest 3 for more than a decade, and moved full-time to the Ely area last fall "to slow down a little bit."

EBCH public relations coordinator Jodi Martin introduced Savereide at a recent Tuesday Group gathering. "He joined our team back in November and we are very excited to talk about new surgical procedures we can offer right here in Ely."

Savereide's familiarity with Ely dates back to when he was in ninth grade and took a canoe trip into the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness with his father. "That started a long lifetime of love of this area," he said. He traveled back to the BWCAW many times with his own son and Boy Scout groups.

He related a couple of stories about his more memorable canoe trips. On



Dr. Robert Savereide recently spoke to the Tuesday Group in Ely. photo by K. Vandervort

a trip with just his son, they forgot to pack the tent. "We stayed anyway and had perfect weather sleeping under the canoe," he said. "I took my wife up for an anniversary cruise. She was worried about bears. I told her I never saw bears in all the trips I made. Of course, we had three bears in camp in 24 hours."

Savereide said his Norwegian heritage is what drew him to the northern Minnesota area. He built a cedar strip canoe with his brother-in-law, and built a cedar strip kayak for his son, a research biologist, and delivered it to him in Alaska.

Savereide grew up in Iowa and went to school at the University of Iowa, and then to medical school at Loyola University in Chicago.

After a long career in the medical field, he said he was looking to slow down at the same time that EBCH was looking for a surgeon. "It made for a good match," he said.

Savereide performs a variety of surgical procedures. EBCH, in an effort to boost its economic bottom line, promotes his services locally. However, Savereide said that a number of factors determine his consideration of going into the operating room. "I pick and choose what I will do, and it is best for the patient to come in for a consultation."

He is employed by EBCH and holds typical hours for a doctor, Monday through Friday during the day shift. "If they need me at night, they call me. If I'm out of town, they can't call me," he said.

Savereide refers to himself as a general surgeon. "We do just about everything," he said. He said he does not perform orthopedic surgeries. Vascular and chest surgeries are not performed in Ely either. He has performed surgical procedures for breast cancer, skin cancer, hernias, bowel obstructions and endoscopies.

"Just because I came to Ely does not mean we can treat everybody here with a surgical problem," he said. "I'm used to being in a setting where the specialties are covered. We don't have that here."

He indicated that EBCH will start offering more procedures in the future. "I can tell you if a surgery should be done or not, but not if (that surgery) can be done here or not," he said. He said he can provide advice about where a patient should go for surgery if it can't be done in Ely.

Savereide has offered his services to the local Veterans Administration Health Clinic, especially for colonoscopy procedures, that are typically done in Duluth.

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**ROCK...**Continued from page 1

thing, has to go through the Clerk-Treasurer."

Clerk-Treasurer Harold Langowski indicated that no representative from the Ely Field Naturalists attended the latest Parks and Rec Board meeting and offered to invite them to the next Park and Rec Board meeting or a future City Council study session.

Novak maintained that the City Council is now clear of the issue. "Any more discussion on this goes to Harold," he said. "We will leave it at that without taking any further action."

Heidi Omerza, the council representative on the Park and Rec Board, justified the board's removal of the Pillow Rock issue from their scope of responsibility by saying the board is too busy. "As you can see by our Park and Rec agendas, we are busy, we are full up busy with what we are doing right

now, so for anything you can take off our plate we will be eternally grateful."

"You ask for it, you got it," Novak said.

**The Pillow Rock Project**

Known locally as the Pillow Rock, this unassuming piece of Ely Greenstone, formed by underwater volcanic activity some 2.7 billion years ago, has been underappreciated for decades. A group of supporters looked to promote the rock as a tourist attraction and almost had the City Council ready to sign an agreement with the North American Bear Center in late 2016 to move the Pillow Rock from a remote part of town to a more visible location.

A public hearing essentially killed the rock-moving proposal. Some 18 months later those who supported keeping the rock where it is—on Main Street

—have not kept their promise to upgrade and promote the geologic formation, until now.

The Ely Field Naturalists, have a new vision for the Pillow Rock: "Developing the Pillow Rock geologic landmark as a state and national destination that expands understanding and enthusiasm for the physical, cultural and economic history of the Vermilion Range and its communities."

The Ely Field Naturalists provide leadership and assistance to its members and the Arrowhead Region in education and interpretation of the area's natural history, according to their values statement. "Pillow Rock stands as a widely known 2.7 billion-year-old landmark valued for its geologic story and over 100 years of personal connections. A visit to the Pillow Rock can create a connection to scientific inquiry, mining

history, life experiences and exploration of Ely and the Vermilion Range."

The Pillow Rock Plan calls for five-year goals:

- Develop a site plan that integrates the vested interests of the city of Ely, local organizations, associated activities and diverse personal interests;

- Enhance site amenities through appearance, safety, access and maintenance;

- Develop sustainable recognition of the site as a link to the human (mining community) history and physical geography (geology) of Ely and the surrounding area.

The five-year plan (2018-2023) calls for the development of a Friends of the Pillow Rock leadership committee, acquiring resources to accomplish objectives and provide for future needs, and developing on-site and off-site personal and non-personal information materials.

For more information on the Pillow Rock Project, call the Ely Clerk-Treasurer's office.

**Other business**

In other business, the Ely City Council took the following action:

- Approved staff to attend 2018 Safety and Loss Control Workshop;

- Approved the recommendation from the Employee Relations Committee on revising the Planning and Zoning job description to a supervisory position;

- OK'd a revised computer use policy that requires all employees to sign;

- Approved a plan to move forward with a Veterans Pavilion project near the Veterans Memorial at the Trezona Trail head;

- Approved moving forward with the pavilion project at Semer's Park;

- OK'd the concept of a Freenote Harmony Park to be erected in

Whiteside Park;

- Approved the purchase of an International tandem axle dump truck for \$164,979 and the purchase of a Dodge Charger Police Department vehicle for \$30,623;

- Approved the Friends of the Library Book Sale to be held at Semer's Park Pavilion on June 21-23;

- Accepted the following committee assignments, Police Commission, Jennifer Cole and Jake Mathers, Park and Rec Board, Todd Crego, Charter Commission, Mark Zupec, and Projects Committee, Larry Polyrner.

- Approved a development agreement with Rural Living Environment for a new facility to be located behind Grahek Apartments and Sibley Manor;

- Approved the request for mountain bike trails at Hidden Valley Recreation Area.

**POLYMET...**Continued from page 1

commissioner can make a decision that protects Minnesotans," stated Kevin Lee, Senior Attorney at MCEA. "As we've examined the record, we've found Minnesota Department of Natural Resources employees and outside experts have raised serious concerns about the safety of PolyMet's mine plans, particularly the mine waste dam."

While not addressing the contested case hearing request directly, PolyMet officials argue that the environmental review and permitting process, which has taken more than a decade, has been remarkably thor-

ough. "The environmental review for the PolyMet NorthMet project was the longest and most comprehensive review ever conducted in Minnesota," said PolyMet spokesperson Bruce Richardson. "The same thoroughness that went into the development of the environmental review was applied in the preparation and drafting of the permits, which also have been open to public review and comment," added Richardson. "It's for these reasons and more that we have every confidence that Minnesota's water and other natural resources will be protect-

ed and the project can deliver on its promise of jobs and economic prosperity for the region."

**Differing views among experts**

Along with the petition for the contested case, the environmental groups submitted six expert reports analyzing the PolyMet draft permit to mine from mine engineers, geochemists, geophysicists, and hydrologists. The petition identifies eight areas where material issues of fact are in dispute and must be resolved prior to a decision on the permit to mine.

Specific examples include questions over dam safety, financial assurance, and the enforceability of the permit due to lack of specific requirements.

Attorney Paula Maccabee, who represents Water Legacy, is equally concerned that the proposed mine permit has failed to address the risks of seepage of contaminated water from the tailings basin into surface streams and wetlands as well as groundwater.

PolyMet proposes to utilize the former LTV tailings basin and Maccabee argues that it has the same potential for seepage as other tailings basins, such as the Minntac basin, which is currently contaminating both surface and groundwater surrounding the basin. According to Maccabee, PolyMet acknowledges that its tailings basin is expected to seep about two billion gallons of water per year, but the company claims that about 99.5 percent of it will be collected and treated. Maccabee said that claim is based on assumptions that don't hold up to expert scrutiny and that this would be one of several issues that a contested case hearing could help resolve.

Maccabee said the contested case process, which is handled by the

Office of Administrative Hearings, has shown itself to be a valuable process. She said the recent decision on the proposed wild rice sulfate standard is a case in point.

"Before the wild rice administrative process, I had been very skeptical that a contested case hearing was worth the effort, but what I saw in the wild rice hearings an ALJ [administrative law judge] who was intelligent and rigorous and who really looked at the information for herself."

Maccabee said a number of experts, including some with the DNR, see problems with the PolyMet proposal, but that the decision-making appears to be driven more by political concerns. She said a contested case would put the emphasis back on the science surrounding the project. "My view is this project will look much different to an independent finder of fact, rather than the DNR, which has been told from the top-down to approve this," she said.

Environmentalists are also seeking a time limit for the permit to mine, since without a time limit, the permit and its conditions would be perpetual. The groups note that under Minnesota law, a permit to mine is irrevocable during its term, so an unlimited

permit to mine could not be revoked. State regulators would have the ability to revoke other permits if the company were in chronic violation, although such a move would be politically fraught once the mine is operational and mining jobs would be at risk.

A contested case hearing is different from the usual public comment period that is a part of most regulatory actions. The hearing is typically more formal, and can be similar to a trial, with witnesses providing testimony under oath, and with the opportunity for cross examination.

The DNR, as the lead regulator, has the right to seek a contested case process on its own, although the agency has not done so to date. The DNR now has the right to deny the contested case requests entirely or limit the inquiry to certain issues. Should the DNR deny the contested case, the environmental groups would have the option to challenge the decision in the state Court of Appeals, which could also order such a process.

The public comment period on the proposed permit to mine ended on Tuesday, March 6. The DNR has given no indication when it might actually issue a permit to mine.

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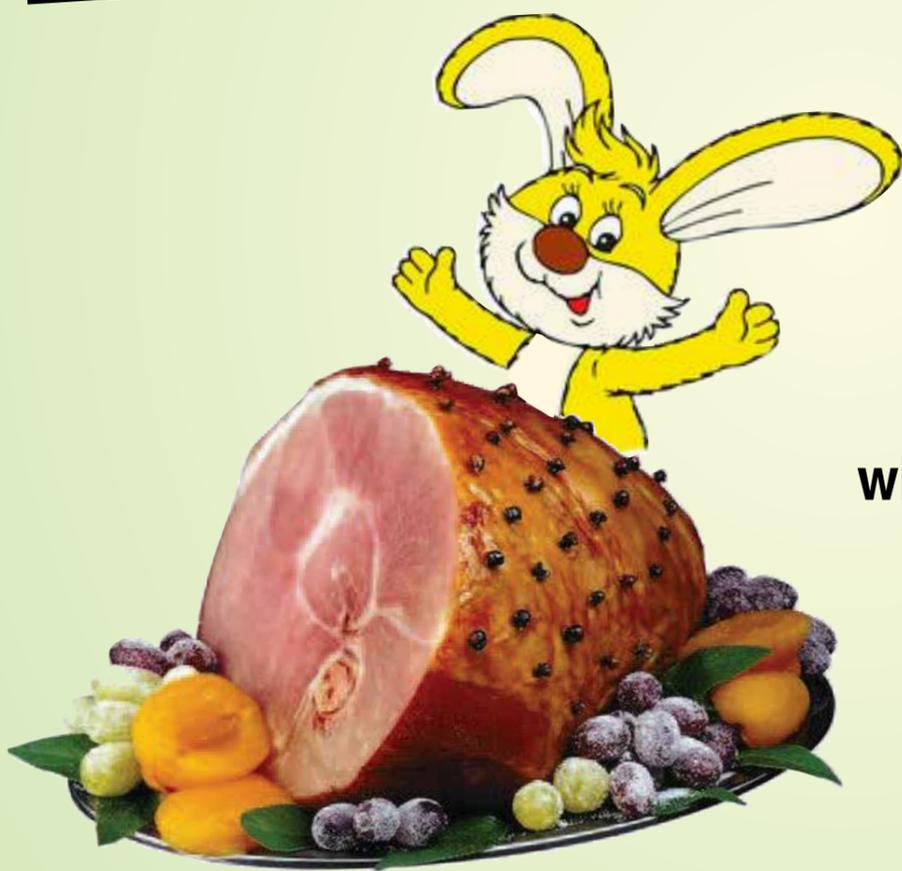
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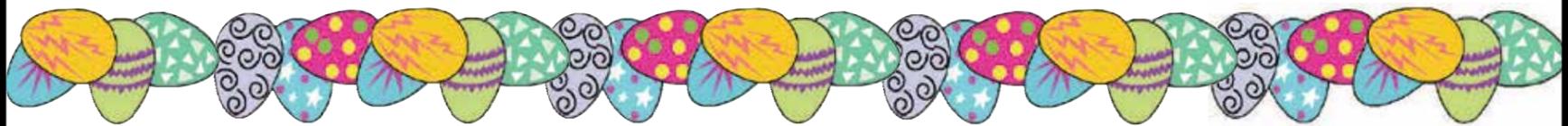
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# CHORAL...Continued from page 1

the University of Minnesota-Duluth.

In addition, the entire group practiced under the direction of guest conductor Dr. Matthew J. Olson, performing three pieces they had been practicing individually with their school choir directors.

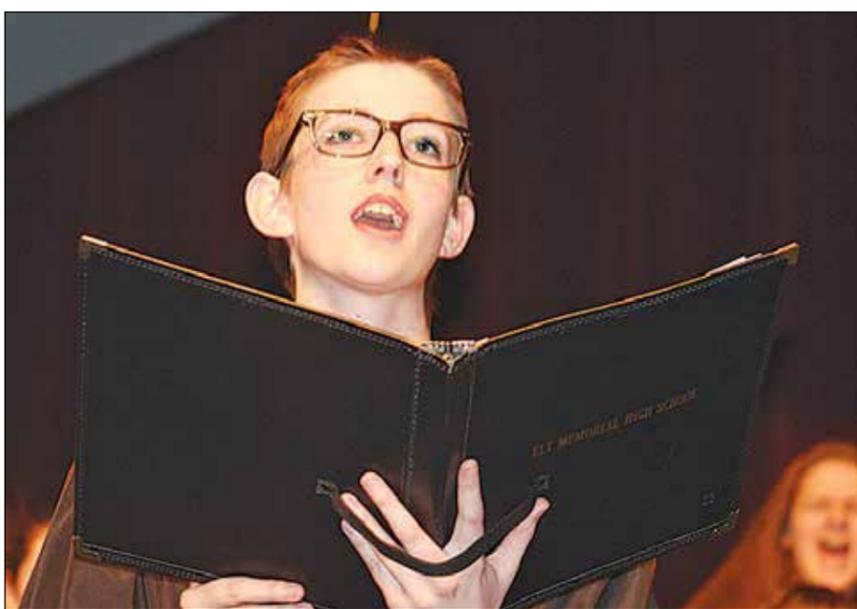
On festival day, the five choirs became one large festival choir, giving these small school choir members to chance to experience singing in a large group.

The group pieces were challenging, and included an original composition by Olson, as well as "Baba Yetu," a Swahili adaptation of The Lord's Prayer by Chris Kiagir.

"I try to choose contrasting pieces," Olson said, "from different time periods and different parts of the world." This year the students got a mix of classical European music, something more modern, and something "that expands our understanding of the world."

Each choir also performed two pieces they prepared for the state choir music contest.

Olson has led choirs, orchestras, and taught courses ranging from music education methods to voice study at Carleton



**Ely Memorial High School choral student Lily Sauls sings a solo at the Boundary Waters Choral Festival concert.** photo by J. Summit

College, The University of Wisconsin – Superior, The University of Minnesota – Twin Cities, Aquinas College in Grand Rapids, Mich., and North Hennepin Community College. He regularly guest conducts high school honors choirs, choral festivals, competitions, and clinics throughout the upper Midwest. He is now a regular at the BW Festival, and said he enjoyed watching the choir students grow from year to year.

"The thing that really strikes me as unique about

this festival," Olson said, "is that so many festivals are considered honors festivals, and only the best singers from a choir can attend. This is just the opposite. It is all the singers, and the room for progress is enormous."

This is Olson's fifth year directing the festival choir, and it's the second year that the faculty from UMD have participated: Rachel Inselman, Elias Mokole, and Alice Pierce.

"They add so much to the day," Olson said. These teachers work with the individual section rehearsals

for the festival choir in the morning, for example, with the soprano leading the rehearsal for the soprano section. In the afternoon they give brief voice lessons for singers who are working on pieces for the state contest.

Olson said the choir directors do a wonderful job of preparing the students beforehand. He noted it is a difficult balancing act because the choirs are also preparing for contest at the same time.

"On festival day we fine tune the music and make some good music by

evening," he said.

A bonus of the day is having the students listen to the faculty perform.

"By evening they haven't heard the faculty perform yet," Olson said.

"And many of these students have never had the chance to hear internationally-acclaimed classical and opera performers."

"The students cheered them on like they were rock stars," Olson said. "It's a style of music they are not often exposed to."

The group performed in concert in Ely's Washington Auditorium that evening. Each school choir came dressed in their own set of robes, and performed their own "contest" pieces, as well as singing part of the group choir.

The concert also included guest performances by the three UMD professors as well as cellist Bryon Klimek, who also played during the group choir's performance of Olson's original composition. Ely's own Irene Hartfield was the festival pianist.

"The goal of the festival is to come together as neighboring communities and make wonderful music," said event organizer Billie Rouse. "We hope to foster a sense of coop-

eration and support. And it is one of our aims to provide a high-quality cultural experience for our students, and a networking opportunity for our teachers."

The festival is made possible by a grant from the Donald G. Gardner Humanities Trust. In addition, local businesses made contributions to the event: Zup's of Ely, Northshore Mining, The Timberjay, WELY, Hand-Done T Shirts, Dairy Queen, ISD 696 Cafeteria and Maintenance staff, Ely Echo, Northern Lakes Arts Association, Ely Northland Market, Wells Fargo Bank, Ely Music Boosters, Front Porch Coffee and Tea, Plum Bun Bakery, Northern Grounds, ShopKo, Adventure Inn, Minnesota Power, and Lake Country Power's Operation Roundup. Individuals who contributed this year included: Crystal Poppler, Kevin Abrahamson, Martha Rouse, Sue and Mark Edginton, the Grotenhuis family, Peter Kess, Billie Rouse, Heide and Helmet Buettner, Megan Anderson, Anne Oelke, Frank Ivancich, and the Ely Class of 2018.

# SISU...Continued from page 1

Johnson said he first became aware of the unique educational model being championed in Finland back in 2011, when he met Pasi Sahlberg, who has now travelled the world educating teachers and politicians on "The Finnish Way" (TFW). In 2013, Finlandia brought young teachers from Finland to spend a few months teaching elementary school in the UP, and in 2014, they took a delegation of area teachers to Finland.

Finland gained international attention about ten years ago when their students jumped to the top of the ranks of students in the PISA test scores, a test given every three years to about a half a million students in 72 countries.

Johnson explained that

Finland had begun a systematic revamp of the country's educational system in 1970, and it took a generation for the results to become apparent to all. And Sahlberg's book "Finnish Lessons," spread the message around the world.

Sahlberg had no intention of convincing audiences that Finland had the best educational system, Johnson noted. "That is very un-Finnish."

He noted that Finland had borrowed much innovation from other countries, but then made it their own.

TFW, Johnson noted, is based on the precept that the goal is to provide a good education for every child, not to create the best school system in the world.

"The educational gap

in Finland is much smaller than in the U.S.," he said. "Finland spends a lot on remedial education."

The major shift in Finland's education program transformed a program that tracked students into college and vocational tracks at an early age to one that provides the same level of education to all students until they are 16, and then provides multiple opportunities to either pursue vocational or higher education, but also offers the opportunity for all students to obtain both college and graduate degrees, with free tuition, until the age of 30.

"Critics worried that expectations would be lowered," he said, "and that lower and higher education students could not be educated together."

Another tenet of the education system is the training given to teachers, who are recruited from the top ten percent of students, and all have masters degrees.

But teachers are not selected just on their academic credentials. Sahlberg writes, "Selection focuses on finding those individuals who have the right personality, advanced interpersonal skills, and the right moral purpose to become lifelong educators."

"Teachers are well valued," he said.

The Finnish system believes that everything is possible for all students.

"There are no limits," he said. "And students in rural areas get the same educational opportunities as larger cities."

St. Louis County Commissioner Tom Rukavina, who attended the talk, noted that in this county, politicians often "beat up" on public employees and teachers.

"They like to stir that pot," he said.

Retired teacher and former ISD 2142 board member Gary Rantala noted that expectations play a large role in education, and that a family's expectation of its next generation is a key to student success.

"Finnish teachers teach less," Johnson noted, "but their students learn more."

Rantala noted that in the U.S. education system, those in charge try to "reinvent the wheel every three to four years."

"We are not trying to find out what different ways children learn," said Rantala.

Johnson noted that there are many good educational models to learn from, but there is not a fix that will work overnight.

"It took Finland a generation to get their system in place," he said.

Johnson said the lessons he would like to see American educators take from the Finnish example are the importance of a personal roadmap for learning, less classroom-based teaching, interpersonal skills and problem-solving, and engagement and creativity as pointers of success.

He noted that the American roadmap to educational improvement involved competition, standardization, test-based accountability, choice and human capital. The Finnish way includes collaboration, personalization, trust-based responsibility, equity, and professional capital.

Another big difference between the two education systems is the emphasis on high-stakes testing.

"The U.S. tests our students to death," Johnson said, with data showing 100 million standardized tests are given each year. In Finland, students take one such test, a matriculation exam, which consists of separate exams in different subjects (which may include Finnish language, foreign languages, math, history, and science), and must be passed to earn their high school certification. Students can take

optional exams in subjects such as philosophy, biology, physics, chemistry, psychology, and ethics. Students can take the exam more than once, if needed, but do need to pass three of the four parts within about a year and a half. Scores on this exam affect university admissions.

Rukavina talked about the changes in Minnesota's tax system, which led to a drastic decrease in state funding for education under Gov. Jesse Ventura.

"We used to value education," he said.

Johnson noted that the Finnish education picture is not all rosy. The country has seen a decline in PISA test scores over the last 10 years. He speculated that the country is afraid to change its current model, and that further adjustments are probably necessary.

"There needs to be some change in the vision," he said. "And a larger focus on social and leadership skills."

Johnson said that, in the internet age, it was important for students to learn to find their talent, in a time when simply finding information is relatively simple.

"Critical thinking skills are also important," he said. "Human beings are analog, not digital."



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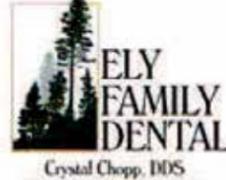


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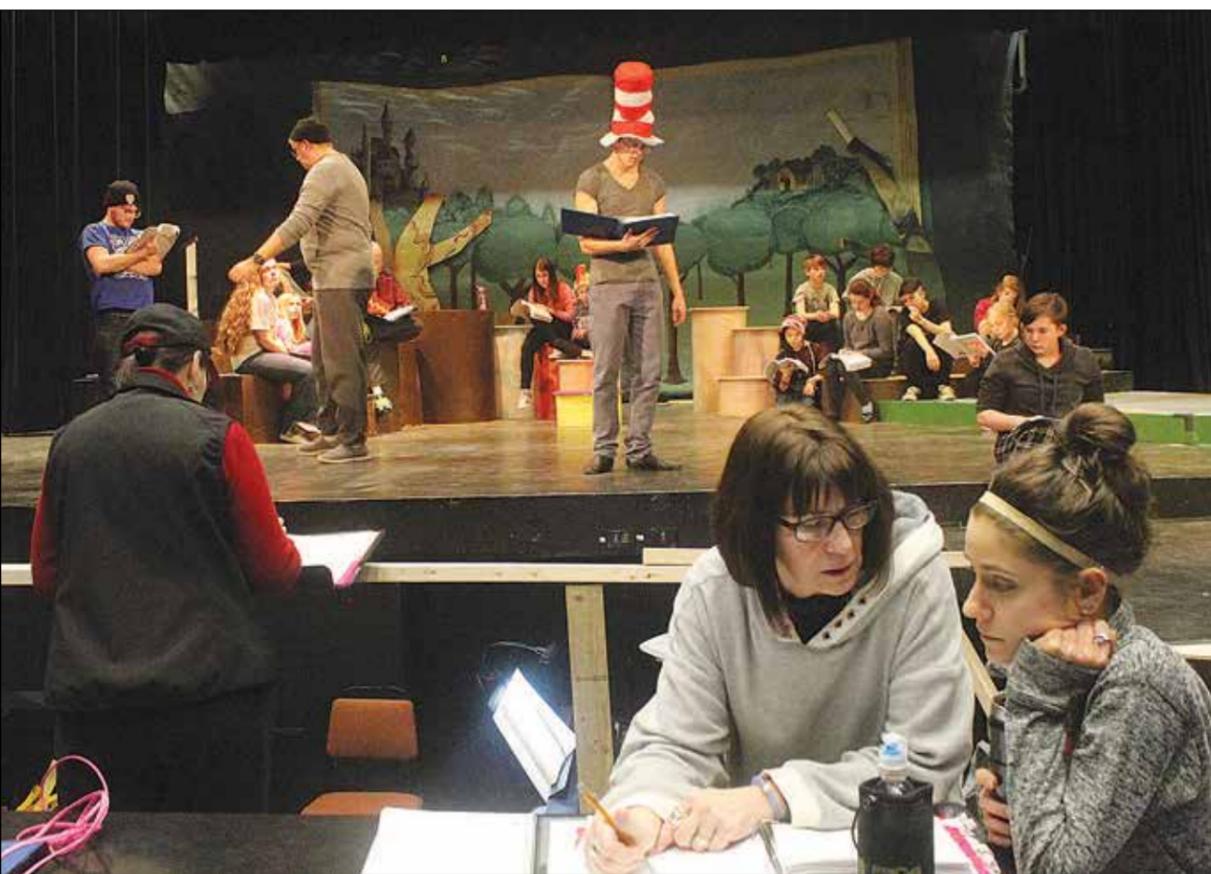
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NORTHERN LAKES ARTS ASSOCIATION

# All things Dr. Seuss



## Ely Community Spring Musical opens March 15

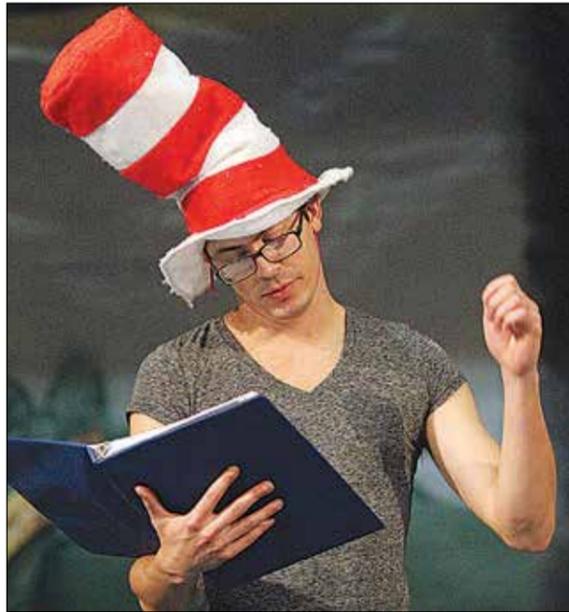
by KEITH VANDERVORT  
Ely Editor

ELY -Now that it's March, Ely will become all things Dr. Seuss! The 2018 Ely Community Spring Musical, an annual collaboration between Northern Lakes Arts Association and Vermilion Community College, will open next week, and many community events are centered around the Dr. Seuss theme

Seussical the Musical will open on Thursday, March 15 and run through March 24 at Vermilion College Fine Arts Theatre.

Seussical the Musical is a family-friendly, heart-warming adventure of some of Dr. Seuss' most beloved characters, including the Cat in the Hat, Horton the Elephant, the Grinch, Cindy Lou and the Whos, the Sour Kangaroo, and multiple jungle creatures.

In addition to the community musical, the Ely



Elementary Schools will host a Dr. Seuss Birthday Party as part of National Read Across America Day; the Ely Public Library will host a family movie showing of Horton Hears a Who! on Thursday, March 15 at 3:30 p.m., and on Friday, March 23, a Dr. Seuss-themed Pinterest craft project. (Popcorn for

the movie and materials for the crafts will be provided.) Call the Ely Public Library at 365-5140 for more information.

"A Celebration of Arts and Music" will begin with the weekend of the Seussical musical on March 23-24, and will run through April 14, including the annual "Murder

**Above left:** Laura Moberly and Amanda Vanderbeek go over rehearsal schedules earlier this week for Seussical the Musical.

**Above right:** Costumer Laurie Kess fits Tom Bennett with his Cat in the Hat hat.

**Right:** The Wickersham Brothers are played by Caleb Rouse-Littler and Jacob Dorman.

**Left:** Bennett reads through his lines at a recent rehearsal. photos by K. Vandervort

Mystery Dinner" on April 5. For a complete listing of activities, visit [elyartsmusic.com](http://elyartsmusic.com) or contact Stone Soup Events at 218-206-4702.

Seussical the Musical performances are Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, March 15- 17 at 7 p.m., Sunday, March 18 at 2 p.m., and Tuesday, March 20 and Thursday, March 22-24 at 7 p.m.

Tickets are available at the door or visit [northernlakesarts.org](http://northernlakesarts.org) to reserve. Tickets are \$5 for students, \$12 for NLAA members and \$15 for non-members. All performances are at the Vermilion College's Fine Arts Theatre.

Seussical the Musical, written by Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty, debuted on Broadway in 2000. The play is an amalgamation of many of Seuss' most famous children's stories, with most of its plot being based on Horton Hears a Who!

The production is under the direction of VCC Humanities faculty

member Sara Skelton as Artistic Director, Marcia Homer as Music Director, Laura Moberly as Choreographer, Peter Kess as Scenic Designer and Laurie Kess as Costumer.

"This year's production is truly community theater, involving cast members including students and teachers from the Ely Elementary School, the Ely Memorial Jr. and Sr. High School, Vermilion Country School, Vermilion College, and the community at large," Skelton said.

The cast features many of our favorite characters, including the Cat in the Hat, who functions as the narrator, and is played by Tom Bennett, returning to the Vermilion stage. Horton the Elephant is played by Greg Mann, and the Whos, including Mr. and Mrs. Mayor Who (Todd Crego and Vermilion student Courtney Brittingham) and their son Jojo (Ely Jr. High student Karissa VanVickle), Cindy Lou Who, (Senja Kess), the Grinch (Vermilion student Ethan Schiffman), and

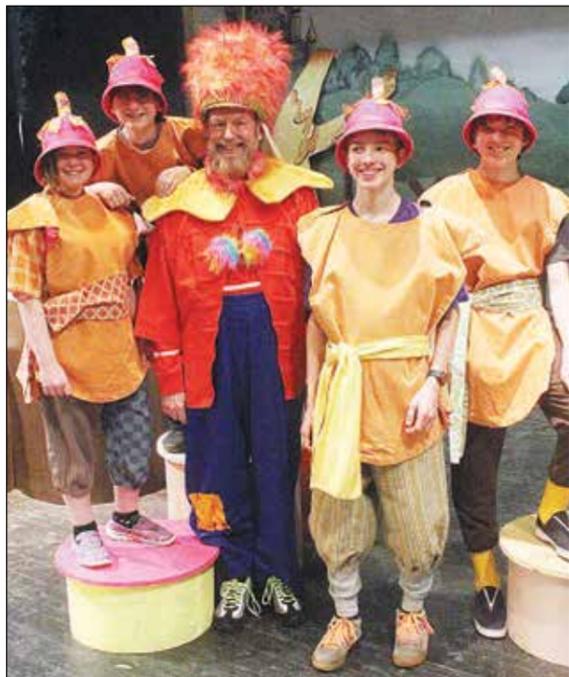


General Schmitz (Vince O'Connor).

Among Dr. Seuss' creatures are the birds Mayzie (Ely schools band teacher Sarah Mason) and Gertrude (Ely High student Danielle Krostue), and the Bird Girls (Ely students Lily Sauls and Vannesa Bravo and Elementary teacher Amanda Vanderbeek), with the naughty Wickersham Brothers (Caleb Rouse-Littler of Babbitt, and Andrew Sauls and Jacob Dorman of the Vermilion Country School) and the colorful Sour Kangaroo (Vermilion Country School teacher Karin Schmidt) and her Baby Kangaroo (Tracy Thibodeaux).

Additional Whos and Jungle Animals include Laurie Bambas, Joe Elliot, Grace Erickson, Shianne Gheen, Kahsha Hyde, Paul and Cameron Kienitz, Hanna and Ronan Rouse-Littler, Gabe Mann, Katie Pickney, Crystal and Alison Poppler and Amelia Pluth, Theo Quick, and Margaret Renner.

This year's Ely Community Spring Musical production is funded in part by the Donald G. Gardner Humanities Trust which has provided money for family ticket packages (two adults and two-plus kids) for \$20 (call the NLAA office at 365-5070 to reserve family packages on a first-come, first-served basis); in addition, Gardner funds are enabling the reduced student ticket rate of \$5, and Safe Ride transportation services for senior adults for rides to the theater (call Safe Ride at 218-380-7433 to reserve).



Vince O'Connor, who plays General Schmitz, is surrounded by his cadets.

Ely Community Spring Musical

Seussical

The Musical

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March

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## HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

# NE Range to suspend varsity football, boys basketball

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

BABBITT — Northeast Range high school won't be fielding varsity squads in football or boys basketball next year, due to low numbers of upperclassmen going out for those sports.

It's been a longstanding problem for the Northeast Range sports programs, which are feeling the effects of declining overall student enrollment and limited student interest in sports. The Northeast Range boys

Lack of student numbers the primary factor; junior varsity play will continue

basketball team, which wrapped up their regular season on Friday, had just seven players on their varsity roster, including three seniors, two freshmen, and two eighth-graders. The low player count forced the team to forfeit a couple of games during the season when illness or other factors kept some players from suiting up.

With the three seniors set to graduate, the basketball team would, in effect, be a junior

high team anyway, according to Athletic Director Mark Fabish, so they'll compete at the junior varsity level for now.

"We just won't have the bodies in the upper two classes," said Fabish, who described the situation as a temporary "dry spell."

Yet the basketball program has been struggling for some time, notes Northeast Range school board representative Chris Koivisto, who worries that

the loss of varsity level programs, even if temporarily, could impact enrollment. "That's why I've been arguing to shore up these programs," he said.

He noted that the school lacks lights on the football field, which keeps many parents from attending games that are, by necessity, held in the afternoon. He said the school also lacks a baseball practice field, which limits the team's time on the field outside of actual games.



The teams also face competition from other student activities, such as hockey (which is combined with Ely) and figure skating, both of which compete for students during the winter months.

## BOYS BASKETBALL

# Ely dominates Northeast Range

Nighthawks' Pecha hits 26 points, proving a bright spot in otherwise disappointing season

by JAY GREENEY  
Sports writer

ELY — Nighthawks senior Quintin Pecha had one of his biggest offensive performances of the season last Friday, but it wasn't enough to lift Northeast Range over Ely in both squads' regular season finale.

The Timberwolves jumped to an early lead and gave the Nighthawks little ground in an 86-39 victory. Ely took a 46-16 lead into the break but, as they have all season, the Nighthawks kept their heads high and played a better second half, even as their effort fell short.

"We played well enough to win," said Ely Head Coach Tom McDonald, assessing the win. "We had a hard time containing Quintin Pecha who played very well and had 26 points."

Pecha, playing in his final regular season game, scored all but 13 of his team's points. He has led the Nighthawks' charge for most



Northeast Range senior Quintin Pecha looks down court as he works the ball inside. Ely's junior center Jasiah Wigdahl tries to defend. photo by J. Greeney

See **PLAYOFFS...**pg. 2B

## GIRLS PLAYOFFS

# North Woods bows out in opening round

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

HIBBING — The Grizzlies girls will be looking to build on this year's successes as they head into the off-season after a 68-43 loss to Cherry in the opening round of the Section 7A girls basketball playoffs.

"The girls played hard all season," said Grizzlies Head Coach Robbie Goggeye. "We had a goal of ten wins. I think we could have done better, but we had a couple games slip away." As it was, the Grizzlies managed to reach their goal with a Feb. 15 cliffhanging victory over Ely, their tenth and final win of the season.

With no seniors and six returning juniors, Goggeye said he's optimistic about next year. "We just have to commit some time to improving our skills. Our biggest downfall was turnovers. They just killed us."

They'll be looking for strong senior performances from Brianna Chiabotti, who led the Grizzlies offensively this season, along with Hanna Sandberg, Regan Ratai, Kate Stone, and Alanna Rutchasky, all

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

## BOYS BASKETBALL

# Olson hits milestone in regular season finale

Reaches 1,000 points as North Woods routs Deer River 87-44

FIELD TWP — The Grizzlies' regular season ended much as it began, with another convincing win for the top-ranked team. Senior Tate Olson provided one of the game's biggest highlights as he scored his 1,000th career point and led the Grizzlies offensively with 22 points as they easily outpaced Deer River 87-44, to improve their record to 25-1 heading into post-season.

North Woods was set to take on Littlefork-Big

Falls in the opening round of the Section 7A playoffs on Wednesday night as the *Timberjay* went to press. Assuming a victory against the 1-24 Vikings, the Grizzlies will move on to play at 7:15 p.m. on Saturday, at Hibbing Memorial where they'll face the winner of Wednesday's matchup between Chisholm and Nashwauk-Keewatin. A victory there would move them to the semi-final round, set for 7:15 p.m. on Thursday, March 15.

Grizzlies fans found plenty to like in their regular season finale. "We played a very good game defensively," said Grizzlies Head Coach Will Kleppe. "That was what we were



looking for at the end of the regular season. It was also parents' night and, of course, Tate hitting his 1,000th career point made it a great night for the Grizzlies."

See **NORTH WOODS...**pg. 2B

Above: Grizzlies senior Tate Olson goes in for a layup during last Friday's game against Deer River. Olson scored his 1,000th point during the match.

photo by B. Smith

# T-Wolves fall to Rangers in second round

by JAY GREENEY  
Sports writer

DULUTH — The Ely girls basketball season came to an end in the second round of the Section 7A playoffs on Saturday, as perennial powerhouse Mt. Iron-Buhl overpowered the Timberwolves 80-44.

The Rangers, ranked third in the state in girls Class A, lived up to their billing as they thoroughly dominated the first half, taking a nearly insurmountable 56-13 lead into the break.

"Playing MIB is always a very difficult task but I thought our girls fought hard, kept their heads up, and played with a lot of heart against an extremely high caliber team," said Ely Head Coach Darren Visser. "The girls were able to hold their heads high knowing they gave everything they had to compete against MIB."

Despite falling so far behind early, the Wolves showed spunk in the second half, actually outscoring the Rangers in the frame.

The Wolves were led by Erika Mattson and Shayla Zaverl who each scored 12 points. Brielle Kallberg added nine points and a

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

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

# VCC goes 1 for 2 in Region 13 tourney

by JAY GREENEY  
Sports writer

COON RAPIDS – The Ironmen went 1-2 in Region 13 tournament action this past weekend to wrap up their basketball season. After edging Riverland in quarter-final round play on Friday, Vermilion lost a heartbreaker to Rochester and lost big to Anoka-Ramsey. In consolation round action on Sunday, Vermilion and Rochester waged a back-and-forth battle that ended with the Yellowjackets on top 99-94. The two teams were knotted 52-52 at the break and Vermilion built an eight-point lead early in the second half. But a late run by

Rochester and a pair of free throws gave them an 87-86 lead. They never trailed again. The Yellowjackets helped themselves by dominating the glass, with 17 offensive rebounds compared to just seven for the Ironmen. Twelve more points from the charity stripe helped make the difference. Deshawn Lawson led the Ironmen with 26 points, followed by Demetrice Mitchell with 21 points. Denario Jackson chipped in 18 to go with a team-high seven assists. Three players shared the rebound lead with six apiece. Vermilion faced Anoka-Ramsey in the semifinals on Saturday after both teams won

their opening round game. The Rams expanded on a 11-point lead in the second half to win 86-69. Both teams played well in the opening eight minutes of the game, until the Ironmen seemed to run out of gas, letting the Rams build a double-digit lead. Vermilion made a quick run to start the second half and cut the lead to eight points, but it was all Rams after that. Neither team shot well for the game as VCC hit just six of 31 shots from three-point range. The Ironmen got a big night from Demetrice Mitchell who led the team in points with 23 and rebounds with eight. Denario Jackson added 14 to go with six

assists while Bradlee Lewis and Devontaye Spates chipped in nine points apiece. Vermilion played Riverland on Friday in the quarter-final round. After trailing by nine at halftime, VCC had a solid second half to edge the Blue Devils, 95-94. If you left at halftime, you missed one of the best games of the tournament. The higher-seeded Ironmen didn't play like the favorite in the first half, but persistence in the second half led VCC to victory. VCC had balanced scoring as four starters reached double figures. Demetrice Mitchell and Denario Jackson led the team with 23 points apiece

while Jackson completed his double-double with a team-high 13 assists. They were followed by Bradlee Lewis and Noel Mshihiri with 19 and 10 points respectively. Mitchell and reserve Devontaye Spates tied for the team lead in rebounds with seven. VCC, 21-10 overall and 11-3 in conference play, had a good all-around season. They'll lose four second-year players who were all starters throughout the season. "We made a good run," said Head Coach Paul McDonald. "Proud of what we accomplished this season and we will reload and make another run at it next year."

## NORTH WOODS...Continued from page 1B

All five of the team's seniors, including Olson, Brendan Parson, Isaiah Squires, Tanner Lokken, and Austin Chauklin were part of the game's starting line-up. "It was

a great night to honor our seniors by giving them some floor time together in their last home game," said Kleppe. Junior guard Cade Goggeley had a strong

night as well, pouring in 19 points, grabbing seven rebounds and notching six assists. Chase Kleppe added 11 points, while Brendan Parson tallied ten. Also scoring for the

Grizzlies were Tanner Lokken, with eight points, Austin Chauklin and Trevor Morrison, with four apiece.

## GRIZZLIES...Continued from page 1B

of whom were regulars on the scoreboard. In their playoff matchup, played in Hibbing, the Grizzlies jumped out to a quick lead, but soon fell victim

to a strong Cherry press and hot shooting by a trio of Tigers. By halftime, the Tigers were up 32-18 and they kept building their momentum after the break.

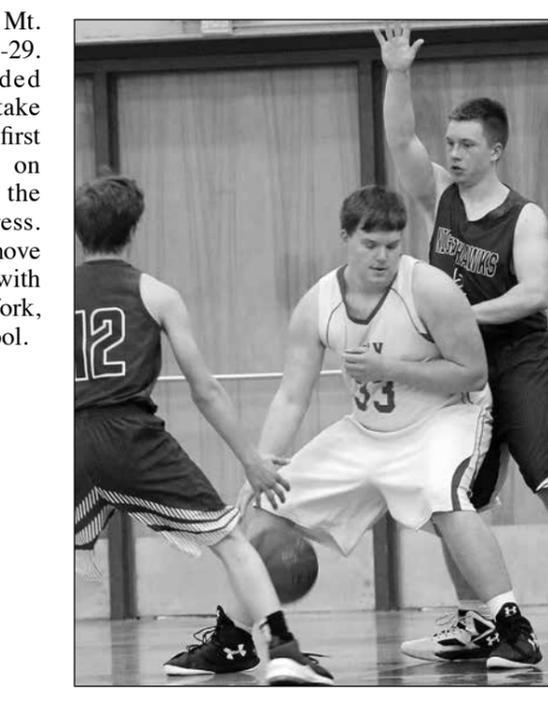
The Grizzlies dominated the boards, but struggled to put the ball in the bucket at times. Kate Stone led the Grizzlies offensively with 11 points, while Bria Chiabotti

was close behind, with ten. Hanna Sandberg added eight points, while Sasha Strong and Alanna Rutchasky added six apiece.

## PLAYOFFS...Continued from page 1B

of the season. Ely was led by Carter Gaulke who just missed out on a triple double as he had 20 points, a career-high 17 assists, and eight rebounds. Pat Vanderbeek was close behind, with 17 points, while Dylan Fenske came off the bench to add 15 and Trevor Mattson chipped in 12. Blaise Lah once again controlled the boards with ten rebounds.

inary round, losing to Mt. Iron Buhl on Monday, 88-29. The second-seeded Wolves were set to take on the Rangers in the first round of the playoffs on Wednesday night, as the Timberjay went to press. With a victory, Ely will move on to a 1 p.m. matchup with either Deer River or Bigfork, at Greenway High School.



**Right: Junior forward Collen Seliskar looks for room while under pressure from two Northeast Range defenders.**

photo by J. Greeney

## GIRLS...Continued from page 1B

team-high six rebounds. The Wolves played Deer River on Feb. 28 to open the playoffs. A strong second half allowed Ely to hold on to an nail-biter victory, 39-37. "Our girls did a great job of battling a very big Deer River team," said Visser. "At halftime we were able to make some adjustments and did a much better job on their post players in the second half." The second half proved to be

the decider as Ely took its time on offense and worked for good shots. "In the second half we were much more patient on offense," said Visser. "We worked hard to find better and more quality shots." Ely was led on offense by Erika Mattson with 23 points while Brielle Kallberg added six to go with ten rebounds. Shayla Zaverl was the team leader in rebounding with 11. As the Wolves head into the

postseason with a 12-10 final record, they're already looking ahead to next year. The Wolves will lose two senior starters in Kalley Fischer and career 1,000-point scorer Shayla Zaverl. They'll return a good nucleus of current juniors and sophomores players who gained lots of experience, several of whom showed real talent this year.

## LOCAL DEMOCRACY

### Township annual meetings, elections set for this Tuesday

REGIONAL - Circle Tuesday, March 13 on your calendars! That's the date of the Annual Town Meeting. Unlike voting, the Annual Town Meeting is a true form of direct democracy - allowing residents of the township to meet, voice their opinions and vote on their tax levy. It is also a good way to gauge the sentiments of township residents - what do they want in their community? As with most American political ideas, town meetings have their roots in colonial America. New England town meetings gave citizens a way to exercise local authority. These meetings were especially important in the development of democracy because they emphasized problem-solving

through group efforts. Thomas Jefferson called the town meeting the "wisest invention ever devised by the wit of man for the perfect exercise of self-government." Many townships hold elections the same day, outside the meeting, for a supervisor, clerk, or treasurer. Remember to vote! Townships are often referred to as "grassroots government." This reference stems from the community-based nature of how town government is structured. Most townships have small populations, but a big sense of community. Be part of the "grassroots" movement and attend your town meeting on Tuesday, March 13 - be a part of direct democracy.

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ARROWHEAD LIBRARY SYSTEM

# New tools to create and share e-books

REGIONAL-In conjunction with other Minnesota libraries, Arrowhead Library System now offers a new suite of resources, collectively called MN Writes MN Reads, to help local authors connect with local readers, and potentially with readers across the country. MN Writes MN Reads consists of three resources that allow authors and readers to create, share, and read e-books. These resources, Pressbooks, SELF-e, and Biblioboard, are free to members of the community via the MN Writes MN Reads website, [www.MNWritesMNReads.org](http://www.MNWritesMNReads.org).

Pressbooks enables writers to convert their manuscripts into a variety of e-book formats, including

ePub, MOBI, and PDF. Pressbooks helps writers format their books with professional design templates and includes tools to assist with book organization. After converting their book into e-book format, authors can distribute their book however they choose. One free option is SELF-e.

SELF-e is a portal for sharing e-books. Titles submitted to SELF-e undergo a basic screening process and then are added to the state-wide MN Writes MN Reads collection. In addition, titles submitted are screened by staff from Library Journal. Library Journal selects a limited number of titles (at this time only fiction) to make available to readers across the

country. Authors retain all rights to books submitted to SELF-e.

BiblioBoard is the place where readers find this content. This easy-to-use platform features work from a wide variety of genres, including comics, history, art, graphic novels, young adult novels, and romance. There are an unlimited number of checkouts, meaning that readers never have to wait for a book to be available. In addition, there are no return periods (and therefore never any late fees).

Funding for these services comes from library systems around the state. As the Arrowhead Library System (ALS) Executive Director Jim Weikum explains, "Minnesota

writers are now able to create content in a variety of e-book formats, and the readers will be able to find that content in a special online collection highlighting those self-published authors."

Libraries are increasingly places of content creation, in addition to content consumption, and MN Writes MN Reads offers tools to help writers create and share their work. Arrowhead Library System is excited to offer MN Writes MN Reads, which will enable the sharing of a wide and diverse array of local stories. These resources will give local writers broader exposure and give readers access to locally-produced content. Visit [MNWritesMNReads.org](http://MNWritesMNReads.org) for more information.

## MN Discovery Center offers free genealogy class on March 10

CHISHOLM- Join us for our next Genealogy Genie class on Saturday, March 10 starting at 10:30 a.m. This class's topic will be the same as our February class, A Bird's Eye View: Using Maps for Family History. The IRRC staff will highlight some map resources that can help you locate built structures—private residences, schools, churches, mining locations, business districts—that were primary locations of daily activity for your ancestors. As always, these classes are free and open to the public.

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## Obituaries and Death Notices



### Susan M. Saari-Karasti

Susan Marie Saari-Karasti, of Winton, died at home on Saturday, March 3, 2018, having just completed her 76th journey around the Sun, after her long struggle with the mental and physical deteriorations caused by dementia. A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. There will be a private scattering of ashes.

Susan was born in Ely on March 3, 1942, where she and

her family lived on "Finn Hill" until they moved to Los Angeles, California, when she was nine years old. They lived in Torrance where Susan most loved spending time on the beach and in the Ocean. Every summer, Susan, her mother and her brother would return to Minnesota for extended visits. Susan graduated from Torrance High School and from Pacific Lutheran University in the state of Washington, after which she taught high school English in the Los Angeles area.

In 1965, Susan answered President Kennedy's call for volunteers and served in the Peace Corps in northern Nigeria. During one break, she went to Europe and then returned to Nigeria by way of joining a truck caravan crossing the Sahara Desert. Later, she traveled more in Europe and lived for a couple of years in Greece where she privately taught English.

After returning to the States, Susan lived in the San Francisco area where she worked at various jobs, and also learned how to weave and spin yarn at Pacific Basin School of Textile Arts. She returned to Ely as often as she could during the summers and would help her cousin, Norman Saari, build his resort on Tofte

Lake. In 1976, Susan packed everything she owned into her Volkswagen Bug – except her loom, which she shipped – and returned to live in Ely. She bought her grandfather's old shoe-repair shop building and turned it into her home and Sisu Designs Weaving and Yarn Shop, which she operated until she sold it in December 2013. Although it started as a weaving shop, it evolved into being primarily a knitting and yarn shop, and an important part of her business included hosting fall and winter knitting retreats, both locally and in New Mexico, for many years. In the early days of developing her weaving business, Susan met Carl Karasti and they married in 1980.

Through all of her years, Susan especially loved to sauna, to swim, and to dance. In 1992, she and Carl joined with several others to create the still-active Thursday Evening Group which is open to teachings of all spiritual paths and dedicated to celebrating and exploring the questions of the Great Mystery of Life. She and Carl have both also been active members of the Inayati Sufi Order and participants in the Dances of Universal Peace, for which Carl

is a certified leader.

Susan is survived by her husband of 38 years, Carl Karasti, daughter, Anna Karasti, and grandson, Jacob Karasti, all of Winton; sister-in-law, Dorothy Saari of Walled Lake, Mich., sister-in-law, Linda Beek of South St. Paul; uncle, Bob Haapala of Ely; and many cousins and wonderful friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Fred and Lillian (Haapala) Saari; and brother, Fred Saari.

### Mildred C. Koskovich

Mildred Clara Iverson Koskovich, 85, of Cook, was called home on Tuesday, Feb. 27, 2018, from the Cook Hospital, surrounded by family. A funeral service was held on Friday, March 2 at Mlaker Funeral Home in Cook. A luncheon in honor of Millie was held at the Cook Community Center following the service.

She is survived by her children, Steven (Brenda) Koskovich of Aurora, James (Brenda) Koskovich of Angora, Michael (Julie) Koskovich of Angora, Patricia Perkio of Angora, Betty Scofield of Chisholm, Diane (Richard) Clement of Brainerd,

Katherine (Joel) Sundstrom of Pengilly and Mary (Jim Hill) Wiita of Kinney; brothers, Ernie (Elsie) Koskovich, Elmer (Betty) Koskovich, John (Loretta) Koskovich and Sam (Pam) Koskovich; 22 grandchildren; 33 great-grandchildren; step-grandchildren and step-great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

### Carl L. Blair

Carl Louis Blair, 85, born on Feb. 21, 1933, to Jess and Mary (Droel) Blair, passed away on Friday, Feb. 23, 2018, at the Boundary Waters Care Center in Ely. A memorial service was held on Saturday, March 3 at Kerntz Funeral Home in Ely.

He is survived by his daughter, Cindy (David) Dahl of Duluth; son, Bryon (Jamie) Blair of Hastings; grandchildren, Miranda, Alexandra and Jacob; brother, Rick (Janet) Blair of Cedar; and several nieces and nephews.

## PUBLIC NOTICES

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
 COUNTY OF ST. LOUIS  
 DISTRICT COURT  
 PROBATE DIVISION  
 SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
 Court File No.  
 69VI-PR-17-168

decendent's heirs, and for the appointment of Jerry D. Kujala, whose address is 4951 Spirit Lake Road, Mt. Iron, MN 55768, as Personal Representative of the Estate of the Decedent in an UNSUPERVISED administration.

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

Notice is also given that (subject to Minn. Stat. 524.3-801) all creditors having claims against the Estate are required to present the claims to the personal representative or to the Court Administrator within four (4)

months after the date of this Notice or the claims will be barred.

Dated: Feb. 14, 2018  
 BY THE COURT  
 HON. GARY PAGLIACCETTI  
 Judge  
 AY TURNQUIST/  
 STEFANIE HIGGINS  
 Deputy Court Administrator

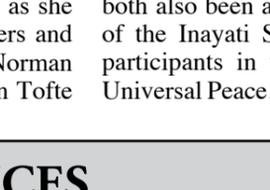
Attorney for Petitioner:  
 Angela E. Sipila

Sipila Law Office, LLC  
 108 South 5<sup>th</sup> Ave., Suite 1  
 Virginia, MN 55792  
 License No. 024501X  
 Phone: 218-741-5000  
 Fax: 866-675-0629

Published in the Timberjay,  
 March 2 & 9, 2018

## FUNERAL SERVICES

### Range Funeral Home



Virginia 741-1481 Hibbing 263-3276  
 "Friends Helping Friends"

### Answers to March 9 puzzle

#### Super Crossword

##### Answers

ABE RABBI LADED TAMED  
 FORGERIES IGOTO ALICE  
 ROGUEMCCLANAHAN RUMOR  
 OBOES KATES GOLDMINE  
 REAM MONSTERS INCOG  
 TOWN BIO IER DNA  
 ALAS ANNALS EEL EERIE  
 OGLEDTHEPACK SUBS ACT  
 SATYR RUBRIC ALSATIA  
 ASTO ATHENA WINS  
 DONTTOUCHTHATDIALOG  
 AERO ONSPEC CARP  
 SLEDDOG RAHRAH APACE  
 HIC IDEE RAISINBROGAN  
 YAKOV DST TMINUS PESO  
 PEP TAD GYM ERAS  
 BOGUSTERMINAL STEP  
 EMILIANO CAMEL SALEM  
 RAVEN OGDENOFINIUITY  
 GHENT LEARN TRUCULENT  
 SANTO ANTSY SATIENA

### Answers to March 2 puzzle

#### Super Crossword

##### Answers

TILDES PABST AIRBASES  
 AVOUCH ISLEY SCARCEST  
 BOUNCEDACHECK HESITATE  
 LINKEDINUTERO NOFEE  
 ERG SLIP SPRINGROLL  
 TEETH ECLAT METO SALE  
 EINE OMAN SOS MAR  
 BOUNDANDDETERMINED  
 RINSED ESS NOIEVADED  
 ALIE IDA METRO ELISE  
 NCO VAULT OF HEAVEN AKA  
 DANTE OSHEA NAG SLID  
 INSANE TIS NED ATHOME  
 JUMPONTHEBANDWAGON  
 BAL SAO EURO ASOF  
 ETAL ILES GOOUT STARS  
 HOPAFLIGHT KNU TAI  
 AMAZE REESE CROSTIE  
 VALIANCE HURDLERACTING  
 ENMESHES ENSUE TRALEE  
 STARTLES ESTES SITARS

# Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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!

# COMMUNITY EVENTS AND NOTICES

## Ely Field Naturalists introduce new Self-Guided Geology Tour

ELY- At the Wednesday, March 14 meeting, Bill Tefft of the Ely Field Naturalists will present A Guide to Ely's Geologic Features at 7 p.m. in Classroom CL104 at Vermilion Community College.

Each geologic site in the guide will be presented along with an accompanying brochure. The idea for this guide was conceived by Calvin Herral as one of the Age to Age projects started last year. This self-guided activity will enable young members of the community to share the geologic sites they pass every day with residents and non-residents of all ages.

Bedrock and glacial deposits lie beneath the snow at this time of year, but within two months, the Ely area will be snow-free and ready for appreciation. Then anyone can pick up this guide and use it to guide others. Walking, biking, skate-boarding or driving will lead to landmarks that tell the story of the town. Maybe after visiting these public places, someone will invite you over to see the bedrock floor in their basement.

## Red Owl Reunion on March 10

VIRGINIA- An informal gathering of Red Owl Store staff and friends will be held on Saturday, March 10 starting at noon. The Virginia Red Owl Store closed about 30 years ago. Please RSVP to Donna at 218-749-5444 or Mary at 218-741-8069.

## Cook Library hosts "Coding Time for Kids" on Thursdays

COOK- The Cook Public Library is hosting "Coding Time for Kids" every Thursday until April 26 at 5 p.m. All students interested in learning about computer coding are invited to stop by. Students will get help from our volunteer coder, Theresa Drift, or can use the space to work on projects of their own. Laptops and public computers are available for student use.

## Spaghetti Showdown at Ledgerock Church on Sunday, March 11

ELY- Join us for the YoungLife Saucy Spaghetti Showdown! Happy Camper vs. Stan the Man will be challenging each other to see who makes the best spaghetti. Enjoy their special creations and vote for the best sauce. The Showdown will be held on Sunday, March 11 from 12 noon - 2 p.m. at Ledgerock Community Church. All proceeds support 19 area youth going on a Young Life mission trip to Puerto Rico. Free will donation at the door.

## Bragg wins Big Hitter Award

REGIONAL- Steve Bragg recently received the Big Hitter Award at the Calhoun Companies Awards breakfast celebration in Minneapolis on Feb. 20. This award was given to the six most productive of 21 Calhoun agents servicing a five-state area. Calhoun Companies has been selling businesses and commercial properties since 1908. Bragg operates the Arrowhead Office, working with clients from Ashland, Wis., to Lake of the Woods.

## Register soon for the watercolor workshop with Mary Beth Downs

COOK- Registration begins now for the April 19 and 20 "Grape Expectations" painting workshop by Mary Beth Downs, hosted by Northwoods Friends of the Arts in Cook. For two days from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the Doug Johnson Recreation Center, Downs will focus on creating textures in different subjects including grapes, along with reusing, rethinking and revamping our old tired paintings. There will be demonstrations to guide students in new approaches. The class is perfect for all levels of painters. The cost is \$60 for members and \$75 for non-members.

Mary Beth Downs is an award-winning artist and art instructor who began studying fine art in 1975. She pursued her Bachelor of Fine Arts degree with a focus in painting and drawing at the University of Minnesota, Duluth and graduated with honors in 1994. She currently teaches six classes per week at her studio in Duluth, The Art Cellar, and often gives presentations to local organizations and conducts workshops. For more information, visit [www.artcellarduluth.com](http://www.artcellarduluth.com).

Registration is open until March 15. To register, call Alberta Whitenack at 218-666-2153 or e-mail [nwfamn.org@gmail.com](mailto:nwfamn.org@gmail.com). NWFA is a nonprofit membership organization established to encourage artists and the arts in all forms by presenting finished art, classes, contests and performances. The NWFA Gallery in Cook at 210 S River St. is open Thursdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

## TECH LEARNING

# Ely AAUW hosts STEM workshop for girls

ELY- Girls in grades five through eight from the Tower, Ely, and Babbitt areas are invited to participate in an upcoming STEM workshop. The workshop, sponsored by the Ely Branch of the American Association of University Women is scheduled for Saturday, March 24, from 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. at Vermilion Community College in Ely. The event includes lunch and is free to participants.

The STEM workshop provides an opportunity for middle school girls to explore Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math in a fun and interactive environment. Students will make marshmallow catapults, learn about veterinary technology opportunities, explore computer programming and have fun with physics.

According to the most recent statistics, women make up 47 percent of the



Participants learned about circuits during last year's event. file photo

workforce and only 24 percent of all STEM jobs. STEM fields pay better wages than many other fields. The workshop is an opportunity for girls to have fun with activities in these areas so they start to think seriously about careers in these fields.

For more information or to register for the work-

shop, call or text Jeanne Tomlinson at 218-235-8470 or e-mail [elystem@gmail.com](mailto:elystem@gmail.com) to receive registration and permission forms. Registration must be completed by March 21.

Check-in will be in the VCC Classroom Building from 9:30 to 10 a.m. on March 24. The parent or guardian must accompa-

ny the participant to the workshop if the permission form is not completed in advance.

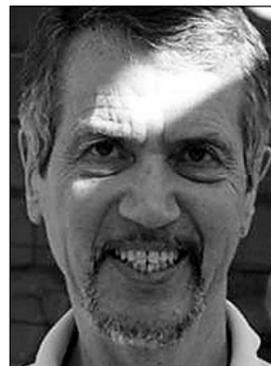
The workshop is made possible by a collaboration between Vermilion Community College and AAUW with a grant from Lake Country Power Operation Round-Up.

## TOWER

# Norwegian pastor to speak at Immanuel Lutheran Church on Thursday at 12 noon

TOWER- Norwegian Pastor Gunnar Kristiansen, founder of IHELPFRIENDSHIP located in Bohol, Philippines, will speak at Immanuel Lutheran Church on Thursday, March 15 at noon. The hour-long program will include a light lunch and Norwegian dessert waffles. Everyone is welcome to attend. A free will offering will be taken.

Pastor Kristiansen, former pastor of the Norwegian Lutheran Church in Minneapolis will present a program about two Norwegian pastors, hymn writer Petter Dass (C. 1647-1707) and



Gunnar Kristiansen

Lutheran pastor and poet Elias Blix (C. 1836-1902).

"It's a combined PowerPoint presentation and song program about these magnificent pastors who lived in the 17th

century," Kristiansen said. "I will tell about their lives and their preaching among fisherman and all kinds of people. I will have English summaries of the songs that I will sing. These melodies are from the Baroque period. I will accompany myself on the guitar."

"This is Gunnar's second trip to Tower," said Marit Kringstad. "He is the founder of IHELPFRIENDSHIP in Bohol, Philippines. Pastor Gunnar was here last year to accept offerings/donations from the World Day of Prayer 2017 held at Immanuel Lutheran Church as the Philippines was the country of focus."

"Community members made donations which paid for surgery for baby Grace, who needed a very specialized surgery in Manila. Gunnar will give us an update on Grace's progress," said Kringstad.

IHELPFRIENDSHIP is a charity that provides support to marginalized people in Bohol and the surrounding area. Aid includes medical and mental health care as well as educational scholarships for high school students. More information is available online at [www.ihelpfriendship.org](http://www.ihelpfriendship.org).

# Raven Books sells book publishing business to Legacy Toys; New business to focus on publication of children's titles

ELY- Raven Productions, Inc is excited to announce that Legacy Toys has purchased the book publishing piece of the business to transform into a new children's publishing company. Curious Cat Books will officially launch on April 10, with a new location above the Legacy Toys store in Ely.

For the past 24 years, Raven Productions, Inc. has published children's books, non-fiction adult titles, blank journals, notecards, BWCA calendars, and the Ely Summer and Winter Times.

Many of the books have won prestigious awards in the publishing industry. Owner Johnna Hyde had this to say about the transition:

"It's been an honor to collaborate with all the authors and artists who entrusted Raven Productions with their work, and now it's exciting to turn it over to a local entrepreneurial company that's young, energetic, and in line with our values of making kids curious about nature, eager to spend time outdoors, and creative in their play."

Legacy Toys was founded in 2012 with a mission of encouraging children to choose physical activity and imaginative play over electronic forms of entertainment, as well as promoting family time. Owner Brad Rhuho explains, "The acquisition of the book portion of Raven Productions allows Legacy Toys to

expand their vision by producing books and other media that will allow them to continue to encourage the next generation of leaders and thinkers to stand out from the crowd and use their imagination to open up new opportunities and new ideas."

Raven Productions, Inc. will continue to produce the Ely Summer and Winter Times, as well as the Boundary Waters and Quetico calendar. These can still be ordered at [ravenwords.net](http://ravenwords.net) or at 218-365-3375. To submit a manuscript or to get more information, contact Taylor Okeson at [taylor@curiouscatbooks.com](mailto:taylor@curiouscatbooks.com) or visit [curiouscatbooks.com](http://curiouscatbooks.com).

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Call 1-844-866-9047  
or Visit [ChallahConnection.com/welcome30](http://ChallahConnection.com/welcome30)

Offer ends March 30, 2018 or until supplies last. Creating kvells since 2002. Norwalk, CT 06855

## Affordable homeownership with Habitat for Humanity

REGIONAL- Are you tired of renting, overcrowded conditions, and paying too much for housing? North St. Louis County Habitat for Humanity is now accepting applications for their affordable homeownership program.

Habitat selects individuals and families based on their need for housing, willingness to partner in the building of their home, and their ability to make affordable mortgage payments. Do you need a home, are you willing to partner, do you have a stable income?

Income guidelines have recently been updated. You may qualify. For example, a family of three, making between \$20,000 and \$36,300 annually, should be able to afford a Habitat Home. For more information about the application process and qualifications, please call Marnie at 218-749-8910 or email her at [marnie@nslchfh.org](mailto:marnie@nslchfh.org).

Please help us get the word out by sharing this information with friends and family.

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# COMMUNITY EVENTS AND NOTICES

LEARN A NEW SKILL

## Ely Folk School focusing on bees and honey production this weekend

ELY- The Ely Folk School is sponsoring an event-filled weekend from Friday, March 9 to Sunday, March 11 for the public to learn more about beekeeping, honey, pollinating, and how incredibly important bees are for us and the environment. Did you know there are as many flavors of honey as there are plants that the bees pollinate? That some bees are solitary and don't live in hives? Are you aware that many of the foods you eat are dependent on pollination by bees?

Whether you're interested in learning beekeeping, attracting solitary bees, building a hive, planting a pollinator garden to attract bees, macrophotography, making mead or walnut potica, tasting honey, creating lotions and lip butter from beeswax, or just getting better informed on the subject, there are classes and demonstrations that you will find fascinating, entertaining and educational. Tuition and materials fees apply for some classes and activities; others are free with a request for a free-will donation. Please find details and registration online at [www.ely-folkschool.org](http://www.ely-folkschool.org) or call 218-235-1038.

### Weekend schedule

#### Friday, March 9

Bee Film "Vanishing Bees" 7-9 p.m. - Minnesota Honey Queen, Sarah Doroff, will introduce the film. Sarah is a beekeeper with four hives and has taught beginning beekeeping. She recently graduated from UW Eau Claire and is working with AmeriCorps at the College of St. Benedict/St. John's in St. Cloud.

#### Saturday, March 10

Macrophotography 9 - 10 a.m. - Learn techniques, tips, and homemade equipment for better macro photography and how your photos might help scientists track the range and health of insect populations.

#### Honey Mead Demo 10 a.m. - noon

- Learn how to make and sample a taste of possibly the oldest alcoholic beverage in history.

#### Langstroth Hive Demo 12 - 1 p.m.

- Learn how to build your own hive.

#### Honey Tasting 2 - 3:30 p.m.

- Learn about how honeybees make honey, the different grades of honey, what foods are perfect companions with honey, and taste many flavors of honey.

#### Lotions and Lip Butter from Beeswax 1 - 3 p.m.

- You will make a wonderful moisture cream for your face and a treat for your lips to take home.

#### Honey Walnut Potica 1 - 5 p.m.

- Learn how to make this delicious Slovenian specialty and take home some to enjoy.

#### Harvesting Honey 3 - 4 p.m.

- How to extract honey from the



honeycomb.

Pollinator Jugs 4 - 5 p.m. - Help provide food for pollinators by making a planter filled with seeds that you can plant in the ground in the spring.

#### Sunday, March 11

Mason Bee Hive Making- 9 - 11 a.m. - Learn how to make a Mason hive to support solitary bees in your area.

Children's Book Reading and Activity 10 - 11 a.m. - Along with hands-on activities, well-known author Phyllis Root will be reading her book Plant a Pocket of Prairie, taking young readers on a trip to one of Minnesota's important ecosystem and teaching children how changes to one part of the system affect everything else.

Integrated Pest Management 11 a.m. - noon - You will learn how to easily create a landscape that is a safe, chemical-free beacon for bees and pollinators, while protecting people, property, pets, pollinators, and the environment from exposure to chemical insecticides.

Beekeepers' Tasks and Responsibilities 1 - 2 p.m. - Learn about the basics of bee biology, identifying honeybees, responsible

beekeeping monitoring, maintaining hive health, record keeping and bee diseases.

### St. Paddy's Dance on March 16

ELY- Back by popular demand, there will be a St. Paddy's Day Dance on Friday, March 16 at 7 p.m. at the Ely Folk School. Join Jim Ganahl and Carol Booth from "Friends on The Range" for another Great St. Patrick's Day Celebration. Get ready for live music and dance instructions from this experienced pair of instructors. Jim and Carol have been doing community dances throughout northern Minnesota from Duluth to International Falls. They teach the dances and play the music with Carol on piano and Jim on accordion. The dances range from Irish Ceili dancing and New England Contra dance to waltz, polka, and tango. Carol and Jim make their home in a little house called The Music Box at the western end of Lake Vermillion. The cost for the event is \$10 for adults, and children accompanied by an adult are free. Wear comfortable shoes and lots of green!

### Writers group meets in Cook

COOK- Ellie Larmouth will lead the Northwoods Friends of the Arts Winter Writers Group from 1 - 3 p.m. in Cook at The Gallery on Saturday, March 10, always on the second Saturday each month. The NWFA Gallery is in Cook at 210 S River St.

The group of diverse writers of all ages spends two hours discussing writing and sharing, as well as writing together with prompts given by Ellie. Welcome to all those interested in writing.

### Cook Thrift Shop returns to regular hours

COOK- The Thrift Shop in Cook has resumed their regular hours. The shop will be open Thursdays, Fridays, and the second and fourth Saturdays of the month, from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. The donation bin will once again be open 24/7.

After many hours of hard work by volunteers, the shop was transformed over the winter to provide more open space and make use of wall space for shelving. As a result, there is now room to accommodate donations of small furniture items such as side tables and chairs. No large couches or bulky furniture items. As in the past, the shop does not accept mattresses or electronics.

The auxiliary is always looking for volunteers. Work days are Mondays and Wednesdays starting at 8 a.m. If you would like to be a volunteer or have questions about the shop or donations, call 218-666-2905 during business or working hours.

### Services at Mesabi Unitarian Universalist on March 11

VIRGINIA- On Sunday, March 11, Reverend Eric Northard will present the special sermon, "The Ins and the Outs."

Who are we as a people in the 21st century and with whom do we stand? Power and privilege in American society is often a contentious topic. Where do we fit in? Are we the "Ins" or the "Outs" or somewhere in between? Must we side with one or the other? Or can we be bridge-builders bringing people together?

Mesabi Unitarian Universalist Church is located at 237 St. S in Virginia. Usual services are Sundays at 10:30 a.m. For more information, visit [www.mesabiuu.org](http://www.mesabiuu.org). A parent/infant area is provided, as is toddler care, and religious education is provided for the over fives. All are welcome and we are handicap accessible.

### Little Church to hold annual meeting on March 10

VERMILION LAKE TWP- The Little Church of Vermilion Lake Township is holding their annual meeting on Saturday, March 10 at 9 a.m. Anyone interested in welcome to attend. The Little Church is located on Hwy. 26/Wahlsten Rd.

### Rangoli Sand Art with Shakun Maheshwari in Babbitt and Cook

REGIONAL- The Arrowhead Library System is pleased to present Shakun Maheshwari's Rangoli Sand Art, a free program being offered for ages six and up on Tuesday, March 13 at 1 p.m. at the Babbitt Public Library and on Friday, March 16 at 6 p.m. at the Cook Community Center, 510 Gopher Dr.

Learn about Indian culture, history, and celebrations through art. Explore the use of art made from chalk, sand, or rice flour. Wrangle designs are a temporary floor art that people create and redo on a daily basis in India, in order to bring good luck and happiness to the home. Create stylized wrangle designs with flour or colored sand.

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



### North Woods Empty Bowl Fundraiser



North Woods students raised over \$1,700 for area food shelves during their Empty Bowl Fundraiser last Friday. Miss Minnesota 2017 Brianna Drevlow performed at the piano. Veterans were special guests at the event this year. photos by M. Roach



## NORTHWOODS DECORATING

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# Outdoors

Our lives in the  
Northwoods

## FOREST MANAGEMENT

# DNR plans increase in timber harvest goal

To increase from 800,000 cords per year to close to 900,000 cords through 2028

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

REGIONAL — Timber harvest levels will rise slightly over previous state goals in Minnesota following more than a year of analysis and stakeholder discussions by the Department of Natural Resources. The decision, announced last Thursday by DNR Commissioner Tom Landwehr, would set the new annual timber harvest goal at 870,000 cords. That's equal to about 87,000 semi-trailer loads, according to Landwehr.

The new goal represents a modest increase from the current DNR goal of 800,000 cords per year, but it falls well short of the wishes of the state's wood products industry, which had pushed to increase the level of logging to one million cords per year. Gov. Dayton had asked the DNR to study harvest levels to see if one million cords was sustainable.

A consultant hired by the DNR concluded that the forest could sustain a harvest level of one million cords per year, but not without some negative consequences for wildlife habitat and

other uses and values of the forest. The DNR set up a stakeholders group to weigh in on the subject and Landwehr said the new goal represents an attempt to balance the differing views expressed.

"It's really not what we expected," said Wayne Brandt, executive director of Minnesota Forest Industries, a wood products lobbying organization based in Duluth. "The DNR has ignored most of the work of their consultants and has come up with a highly political number," Brandt said.

See **HARVEST...**pg. 7B



The Department of Natural Resources is proposing to increase timber harvest on state-managed lands in northern Minnesota. file photo



## ADAPTING TO THE SEASONS

# Ruffed grouse in winter

Adaptations make this species well-equipped for the North Country

Winter presents a wide range of challenges to the wild creatures that spend the cold season here in the North Country, and virtually every one has a few adaptations that allow them to survive. The ruffed grouse has more than most, and that's one reason that it has been so successful in our region over the years.

Among the two biggest challenges that wild creatures face here in winter are access to food, and avoiding freezing to death, particularly when the thermometer drops well below zero, which is commonplace. The ruffed grouse has made both physical and behavioral adaptations that address both of these major challenges.

Perhaps the most dramatic are the physical changes, even though they might not be all that evident at first glance. Like most birds, of course, ruffed grouse add more downy feathers in winter, which help them retain body heat. They also grow feathers around their nostrils, which presumably help to temper the air that they breathe, preventing the internal chill

that can come from breathing intensely cold air.

The most significant change is an expansion of an offshoot of their intestines, that acts in much the same way as the rumen in herbivorous mammals. The

so-called caeca enlarges in winter and stores bacteria that produce enzymes that help the ruffed grouse digest their winter diet, which is dominated by aspen buds and the catkins of birch and alder. Such foods are made up mostly of cellulose, which is indigestible in the absence of these helpful bacteria and the cellulose-digesting enzymes they produce.

Outside of winter, grouse enjoy a somewhat more digestible diet, that includes insects, berries, seeds, and some favored vegetation, like clover. During warmer periods, the grouse's caeca diminishes in size and importance, only to expand when winter rolls around again.

Grouse also grow tiny comb-like appendages on their feet, which researchers can only speculate about. Some have suggested the appendages, known as pectinations, serve the

**Above: A ruffed grouse, crest raised, stares alertly in the snow.**

**Below: The telltale sign of a grouse having emerged from its bed under the snow.**

photos by M. Helmberger



same purpose as snowshoes by giving their feet more surface area on the snow. Others have speculated that they help grouse better grip icy branches as they feed at the tips of branches in winter. These pectinations develop in the fall, and most grouse hunters are familiar with these comb-like structures that grow on either side of a grouse's three front toes. They fall off by late winter or spring, only to grow again, usually starting in September.

One of the more unique

behavioral changes that we recognize in ruffed grouse is their habit of plunging head first into the snow to roost. Grouse invariably do this from the air, so their tracks don't attract hungry predators. By roosting in such a way, the grouse take advantage of the incredible insulating quality of snow. Within their own snow cave, the temperature rarely dips below 20 degrees, even when the outside air temperature is

See **GROUSE...**pg. 7B

## Outdoors briefly

### WSI numbers creeping up



by MARSHALL HELMBERGER  
Managing Editor

REGIONAL — Recent significant snowfalls have increased the winter stress on whitetail deer in the North Country, although the year still looks likely to end in mild-to-moderate range for most of the region.

As of Feb. 28, the Department of Natural Resources' Winter Severity Index, or WSI, for whitetail deer ranged from 57 to 96 across the region, according to Tower Area DNR Wildlife Manager Tom Rusch.

A final index number of 100 or below for the winter season ranks as mild here in far northern Minnesota. A reading of 120 is considered average, while a reading of 180 or more is considered severe. The index adds one point for every day with a temperature reading below zero and one for each day with 15 inches or more of snow on the ground.

"Snow depth, and the duration of deep snow cover are the most important factors in deer winter survival in northern Minnesota," said Rusch.

While dry conditions had limited snowcover for much of the winter, a series of snowstorms beginning on Feb. 17 added nearly two feet of snow to the region's snowpack and put significant additional stress on the deer population.

That has kept the index moving higher even with the return of milder weather, which has limited below zero temperatures. The region has added a point for snow depth each day since Feb. 28, which would put the WSI readings as of March 9 at 66 to 105 around the region. In the Tower DNR work area, index readings are highest near the border and the lowest in central St. Louis County, around the Mesabi Iron Range. "Snow is deepest, more than 24 inches, north of the Iron Range and east of Cook and Orr in northern St. Louis and all of Lake County," said Rusch.

FISHING



New northern pike regulations will take effect for 2018 opener

REGIONAL — If you're planning to fish for northern pike in Minnesota, you'll need to pay attention to new regulations that take effect with this year's fishing opener — and you'll need to bring a ruler.

"Anyone who wants to keep pike in Minnesota's inland waters needs to take a close look at these regulations and be prepared to measure the pike they want to keep," said Al Stevens, fisheries program consultant with the Department of Natural Resources.

The new fishing regulations have three distinct zones to address the different characteristics of pike populations in Minnesota. The new regulations are meant to restore pike populations for better harvest opportunities across the state for sizes that make good table fare, up to around 28 inches or so.

The move toward new regulations was a response to anglers' concerns about the over-abundance of small pike in much of central to north-central Minnesota; the low numbers of pike present

in southern waters; and a desire to protect large pike in the northeastern part of the state.

The new pike harvest regulations include:

► North-central: Limit of 10 northern pike, but not more than two pike longer than 26 inches; all from 22 to 26 inches must be released.

► Northeast: Two pike; anglers must release all from 30 to 40 inches, with only one over 40 inches allowed in possession.

► South: Two fish; minimum size 24 inches.

Darkhouse spearing regulations for pike change slightly and those regulations are listed in the spearing section of the regulations booklet.

Meanwhile, the new pike regulations do not affect border waters fishing regulations and special regulations that cover individual lakes, rivers and streams.

For more information on the new zone regulations, visit [mndnr.gov/pike](http://mndnr.gov/pike) or contact a local area fisheries office.

LAKE COUNTRY FORECAST from NOAA weather

Friday					Saturday					Sunday					Monday					Tuesday					
32 9					35 16					38 17					38 14					38 15					
Ely	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Emb.	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Cook	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Orr	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	Tower	Hi	Lo	Prec.	Sn.	
02/26	27	15	0.00		02/26	25	-22	0.00		02/26	27	12	0.01	0.1"	02/26	45	12	0.00		02/26	26	11	0.00		
02/27	43	13	0.00		02/27	22	16	0.00		02/27	42	10	0.00		02/27	39	19	0.00		02/27	44	11	0.00		
02/28	42	8	0.00		02/28	40	5	0.00		02/28	39	2	0.00		02/28	43	3	0.00		02/28	41	-1	0.00		
03/01	43	6	0.00		03/01	34	-6	0.00		03/01	40	2	0.00		03/01	39	14	0.00		03/01	44	0	0.00		
03/02	42	3	0.00		03/02	35	-6	0.00		03/02	39	1	0.00		03/02	43	0	0.00		03/02	41	-5	0.00		
03/03	44	2	0.00		03/03	40	-8	0.00		03/03	41	-1	0.00		03/03	46	23	0.00		03/03	43	-4	0.00		
03/04	45	17	0.00		03/04	43	17	0.00		03/04	45	19	0.00		03/04	39	30	0.00		03/04	46	31	0.00		
Totals			1.54	63.7"	Totals			1.85	63.4"	Totals			1.95	68.4"	Totals			NA	NA	Totals				2.04	60.8"

HARVEST...Continued from page 6B

Brandt said the number actually represents a decline from the DNR's harvest levels of recent years, which he said have averaged closer to 900,000 cords. Brandt took particular umbrage at the DNR's proposal to slightly decrease the aspen harvest over the next several years. DNR officials say that aspen harvests have been elevated for the past couple decades, as the agency has sought to reduce an oversupply of older-aged aspen on DNR-managed lands. DNR officials say that oversupply has been largely eliminated and that future aspen harvest levels will gradually decrease from 400,000 cords annually to 360,000 cords. However, they note, harvest of some other species will increase.

Brandt argued that the state's aspen forests could generate more cordage if they were managed closer to a 40-year rotation age. He said the modeling done by the state's consultant was too conservative on the amount of annual growth in the timber stock.

But Don Arnosti, conservation director with the Minnesota Izaak

Walton League, sees it differently. "We feel the analysis fell short due to failure to analyze impact of climate change," said Arnosti. "As a result, we feel it has actually overstated the forest growth."

Arnosti said climate change may not only impact the rate of tree growth, but will likely limit the acres of forest that will be economically accessible in the future. He said warmer winters and a shorter frost season will make it increasingly difficult to access timber in or near wetland areas, which is likely to increase the pressure on other lands. "What they have done is certainly defensible, but it's not as conservative as I would have gone," he said. "Eight hundred thousand is a better number."

Whether the new plan increases timber harvests substantially or not remains to be seen, but Arnosti says that likely wasn't the primary goal. "This is all about price manipulation in my opinion," he said. Increasing the supply of timber, said Arnosti, is likely to reduce the average stumpage price, at least barring an increase in demand. "I'm not dismissive

of the need for the industry to be competitive," Arnosti added, "but it's a way to subsidize the industry without writing them a check."

In addition to the goal of 870,000 cords, the DNR will also launch a special five-year initiative that could offer up to 30,000 additional cords of ash and tamarack in response to the threat posed by emerald ash borer and eastern larch beetle, two invasive species that kill ash and tamarack trees. That could push the total state harvest up to 900,000 cords, said Landwehr.

The DNR manages 5 million acres of forest lands — 29 percent of the state's total forest lands. Timber harvesting occurs on 2.75 million acres of DNR-managed lands that are in state forests, wildlife management areas, and school and university trust lands. These lands provide about 30 percent of the state's wood supply for a forest products industry that employs 64,000 people and has a \$17.1 billion annual economic impact.

GROUSE...Continued from page 6B

as much as 40 below. Of course, the ruffed grouse can only take advantage of this practice when the snow is powdery, and at least a foot deep.

With our increasingly erratic winters, our periods with deep powder snow seem to be diminishing and that could reduce the number of winter nights that grouse can benefit from this behavior.

It's one behavior that many of us who spend time in the winter woods have experienced close-up, when we're snowshoeing or skiing along and sud-

denly the snow explodes near the trail as a grouse emerges in a panic. That's guaranteed to give anyone a fright!

The ruffed grouse has historically done well here in the North Country, thanks to these adaptations, which allow these birds to thrive from the Upper Midwest all the way up into the interior of Alaska. This is a cold weather species, that thrives in the kind of conditions that send most other birds far to our south when winter arrives.

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This film documents economic and culture changes to our northern winters with chronicles from the American Birkebeiner.

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[www.adaptationnow.com/saving-snow](http://www.adaptationnow.com/saving-snow)

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\*Based on total aggregate recognized industry awards and retail share gains, 2014-2017. †Excludes L models. Must show proof of ownership or lease of a 1999 model year or newer Durango, Daihatsu, Honda, Hyundai, Isuzu, Kia, Mazda, Mitsubishi, Nissan, Scion, Subaru, Suzuki or Toyota vehicle. Customer remains responsible for current lease payments. Not available with special financing, lease and some other offers. Residual/restrictions apply. Take new retail delivery by 4/30/18. See participating dealer for details. ‡Excludes L models. Must show proof of ownership of a 1999 model year or newer non-DH vehicle. Must finance with GM Financial. Some customers may not qualify. Not available with lease and some other offers. Take new retail delivery by 4/30/18. See participating dealer for details. §Must show proof of ownership of a 1999 model year or newer non-DH vehicle. Total value based on an MSRP of \$20,000. Must finance with GM Financial. Some customers will not qualify. Not available with special financing, lease and some other offers. Take new retail delivery by 4/30/18. See participating dealer for details. ©2018 General Motors.

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2015 Chevrolet Silverado LT - Dbl. Cab, Only 25K Miles, #R11377	\$29,990
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# PUBLIC NOTICES

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

In Re: ESTATE OF  
MICHAEL J. SELSLEY  
Decedent

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

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on March 14, 2018, at 9:30 a.m. a hearing will be held in this Court in Virginia, Minnesota, on a petition for the adjudication of intestacy and determination of decedent's heirs, and for the appointment of WILLIAM A. GOOD, whose address is 870 High Street, Suite 17, Worthington, Ohio, 43085, as Personal Representative of the Estate of the Decedent in an unsupervised administration.

Any objections to the petition must be filed with the Court prior to or raised at the hearing. If proper and if no objections are filed or raised, the

Personal Representative will be appointed with full power to administer the Estate, including the power to collect all assets, pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, to sell real and personal property, and do all necessary acts for the decedent's estate.

Notice is also given that (subject to Minn. Stat. 524.3-801) all creditors having claims against the Estate are required to present the claims to the personal representative or to the Court Administrator within four (4) months after the date of this Notice or the claims will be barred.

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

Attorney for Petitioner:  
DEFENBAUGH LAW OFFICE  
Rae R. Bentz  
MN# 0218376  
107 E. Camp St., Ely, MN  
55731  
Telephone: 218-365-4977  
Facsimile: 218-365-6164  
Email: rae@defenbaughlaw.com

*Published in the Timberjay,  
March 2 & 9, 2018*

**CERTIFICATE OF  
ASSUMED NAME**

Certificate of Assumed Name Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 333. The filing of an assumed name does not provide a user with exclusive rights to that name. The filing is required for consumer protection in order to enable customers to be able to identify the true owner of a business.

Assumed Name: Majestic Muse Farm  
PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS: 1831 Vermilion Drive, Cook, MN 55723  
NAMEHOLDER(S):

James R. Adamczyk and Lauren B. Adamczyk, 1831 Vermilion Drive, Cook, MN 55723

By typing my name, I, the undersigned, certify that I am signing this document as the person whose signature is required, or as agent of the person(s) whose signature would be required who has authorized me to sign this document on his/her behalf, or in both capacities. I further certify that I have completed all required fields, and that the information in this document is true and correct and

in compliance with the applicable chapter of Minnesota Statutes. I understand that by signing this document I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Section 609.48 as if I had signed this document under oath.

Dated: February 17, 2018  
SIGNED BY: James R. Adamczyk and Lauren B. Adamczyk, 1831 Vermilion Drive, Cook, MN 55723

*Published in the Timberjay,  
March 2 & 9, 2018*

**GREENWOOD TOWNSHIP  
NOTICE OF ELECTION**

The Greenwood Township Annual Election will be held on March 13, 2018. Polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Greenwood Town Hall.

Offices to be elected:  
Supervisor Position 3: 3-Year Term  
Supervisor Position 5: 3-Year Term  
Clerk Position: 2-Year Term

**The Greenwood Township  
Annual Meeting will be held on  
Tuesday, March 13, 2018, at the  
Greenwood Township Hall at 8:15 p.m.**

The Greenwood Town Board will meet immediately following adjournment of the Annual Meeting to pay bills and Canvass Election Results.

In the event of inclement weather, the election and meetings will be held the following Tuesday, March 20, 2018, at the same times listed.

Sue Drobac, Greenwood Town Clerk

*Published in the Timberjay, March 9, 2018*

**MORCOM TOWNSHIP  
NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING  
AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Notice is hereby given to the qualified voters of Morcom Township, County of St. Louis, and State of Minnesota, that the Annual Election of Town Officers and Annual Town Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 13, 2018.

In case of inclement weather, the election and meeting will be postponed until Tuesday, March 20, 2018.

The election poll hours will be from 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at which time the voters will elect by ballot:

- One Supervisor for a term of 3 years
- One Supervisor for a term of 3 years
- One Clerk for a term of 2 years
- One Treasurer for a term of 1 year

**The Annual Election will be held at Bear River School.**

The Board of Canvass will meet following the Election.

The Annual Meeting will commence at 8:30 p.m. to conduct all necessary business prescribed by law.

The Regular Town Board Meeting will follow the Annual Meeting.

**The Annual Meeting will be held at Bear River School.**

Sasha Lehto, Town Clerk, Morcom Township

*Published in the Timberjay, March 2 & 9, 2018*

**KUGLER TOWNSHIP  
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING  
TUESDAY, MARCH 13, 2018**

The Opening of the Annual Town Meeting for Kugler Township will be held on Tuesday, March 13, 2018, beginning at 6:00 p.m. at the Kugler Town Hall, to set the levies and to conduct any and all other business proper to be conducted when the Annual Town Meeting is convened. The Reorganizational Meeting will be held immediately afterwards with the Regular Monthly Meeting to follow.

In case of inclement weather, the Annual Town Meeting will be held one week later, Tuesday, March 20, 2018, at the same time and place stated.

Julie Suihkonen, Town Clerk

*Published in the Timberjay, March 2 & 9, 2018*

**BREITUNG TOWNSHIP  
ABSENTEE VOTING**

The Breitung Township Office will be open on Saturday, March 10, 2018, from 10 a.m. - 12 noon for absentee voting.

**Annual Township Election**  
Tuesday, March 13  
Polls open 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

**Annual Township Meeting**  
Tuesday, March 13  
After the close of polls, approx. 8:15 p.m.  
Valeda McDonald, Town Clerk

*Published in the Timberjay, March 9, 2018*

# EMPLOYMENT



**Executive Director  
Full Time Position Available  
Ely Chamber of Commerce**

Seeking an energetic, experienced professional to promote the needs and interests of Ely. Full job description and application details are available at [www.ely.org/jobs](http://www.ely.org/jobs).

**Application Deadline: April 2nd, 2018**

3/23

**Vermilion Country School  
Special Education  
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](http://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).

**Position 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](mailto:kfitton@vermilioncountry.org)  
[www.vermilioncountry.org](http://www.vermilioncountry.org)

*VCS is an Equal Opportunity Employer*



**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES!**

Scenic Rivers Health Services is currently seeking applicants for the following full time openings at our

**Cook Medical and Dental clinics.**

- RN Care Coordinator
- Licensed Dental Assistant
- Licensed Dental Hygienist

Enjoy a daytime only practice providing primary care services to patients in your local community. Join our team and make a difference in patient care! Scenic Rivers offers competitive wages and benefits package.

Visit [www.scenicrivershealth.org/jobs](http://www.scenicrivershealth.org/jobs) for full job descriptions.

Send resume to [hr@scenicrivershealth.org](mailto:hr@scenicrivershealth.org) or call Human Resources at (218) 361-3128.

*EOE/Vets/Disability*

**Well Being Development  
BHN Administrative Assistant**

**Job Summary**

Our 501(c)3 nonprofit is seeking a half-time Administrative Assistant for the Ely Behavioral Health Network (BHN). The Assistant will work with the BHN Network Director and Project Director to fulfill network goals under a Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Development grant for a period of 1 to 2 years.

**Responsibilities and Duties**

- Manage phone and email communications with BHN Board members, community members, and contractors
- Create spreadsheets and presentations for board meetings, Community Care Team (CCT) and BHN project presentations, and community presentations
- Data entry and report creation for performance management processes, board meetings, CCT and BHN project and community presentations
- Manage inventory
- Maintain workflow by studying methods and implementing revisions

**Qualifications and Skills**

- Baccalaureate or Associates degree, or commensurate work experience
- Proficiency in all Microsoft Office products.
- Strong communication skills

**Details**

This is a half-time position starting at a wage of \$15.00 per hour with paid time off. To apply, send resume to Jenny Uhrich, WBD Executive Director, at [jennyu@elynlc.org](mailto:jennyu@elynlc.org). Email or call 218-576-5756 with any questions.



**Engineering Technician (Range)**

Apply by 3/13/18

**Financial Worker- Apply by 3/21/18**

**Intern Trainee- (4) Children & Family Services North  
Division Public Health & Human Services- Apply by 3/15/18**

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

*Equal Opportunity and Veteran-Friendly Employer 3/9*

**Well Being Development –  
Hiring Care Facilitator**

**Job Summary**

Our 501(c)3 nonprofit is seeking a half-time Care Facilitator to provide coordinated care to individuals with behavioral health and psychosocial challenges through outreach, assessment, care planning, referral and follow up.

**Responsibilities**

- Conduct outreach activities.
- Assess client, implement Care Plan/Interventions.
- Follow Up to insure plan/intervention success.
- Fulfill hub and spoke model communication and collaboration requirements.
- Participate in care facilitation huddles.
- Participate in the Care Facilitation Learning Collaborative.

**Qualifications**

- CHW certification preferred but not required.
- Baccalaureate or Associates degree, or commensurate work experience.
- Interpersonal and relationship-building skills.
- Critical thinking, problem-solving.

**Details**

This is a half-time position starting at a wage of \$15.00 per hour with paid time off. To apply, send resume to Jenny Uhrich, WBD Executive Director, email at [jennys@elybhn.org](mailto:jennys@elybhn.org) or call 218-576-5756 with any questions.

**Hiring - Executive Director  
Well Being Development**

Well Being Development (WBD) is a 501(c)3 non-profit with the mission to inspire and foster activities that develop and enhance the mental well-being of residents in and around the rural NE Minnesota communities of Babbitt, Ely, Embarrass, Soudan, Tower, and Winton.

This is an exciting opportunity for an individual seeking a challenging and rewarding career working in a non-clinical Clubhouse community and with an innovative Behavioral Health Network. The Executive Director will work under the direction of the WBD Board of Directors to implement a Clubhouse program following the standards of Clubhouse International and to oversee Ely's Behavioral Health Network.

**Preferred experience and qualifications**

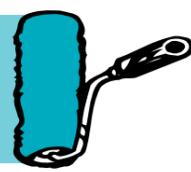
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