



The TIMBERJAY



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VOL. 29, ISSUE 2 January 19, 2018

POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY

Judge tosses proposed sulfate rules

Environmentalists, mining industry pleased by ruling

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

REGIONAL — An administrative law judge has thrown out as unjustified a set of proposed new rules by the state's Pollution Control Agency that would have likely allowed mining companies to discharge more sulfate into Iron Range waters than under current rules.

The decision thrilled envi-

ronmental groups, which had opposed the change as a significant weakening of the existing standard.

Yet the decision also won support from the Iron Mining Association and others on the Iron Range, who had feared the proposed new rule was still too strict and would have cost the industry and local municipalities millions of dollars to come into compliance. "The IMA

Proposed changes to the state standards would have allowed mining companies to discharge more sulfates into Iron Range lakes and streams.
file photo

and our supporters are pleased that the Administrative Law Judge heard our message and understood that the MPCA's

See...MPCA pg. 9



ELY DARK SKY



Don't be afraid of the dark

by KEITH VANDERVORT
Ely Editor

ELY — The Ely Winterfest and Dark Sky Ely are presenting five entertaining and educational dark sky events next month during the annual winter festival.

"As part of an international effort to become more sky aware, our group is exploring 'astro-tourism' possibilities as a way to expand our tourism base, as well as methods to control the spread of intrusive lighting, light pollution and the wasted energy costs in town and on our own rural properties in the Ely area," said Roy Misonznick, of the Ely Photographic

See... NIGHT SKY pg. 9

Dark Sky initiative debuts at Ely Winter Fest



Above: A time-lapse photograph shows star trails orbiting the North Star.

Left: Educator Mike Lynch will be featured at a lecture on Feb. 3, at the North American Bear Center. submitted photos

EMERGENCY

Charting the future

Ambulance services look to paid on-call staffing to address volunteer shortage

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

REGIONAL — North Country residents expect that when an accident happens or an illness strikes, they can rely on emergency services, like a local ambulance, to provide life-saving assistance.

But making sure there's someone trained and available to respond when that 911 call goes out, has become a bigger challenge for many communities, according to emergency medical officials interviewed by the *Timberjay*.

"Volunteerism is dead," is how one local ambulance director sized up the situation. With young people and parents increasingly forced to work longer hours to makes ends meet, and with a greater focus on family life, fewer potential recruits are available to staff volunteer emergency services, like fire and ambulance.

See...AMBULANCE pg. 10

Editorial

More work needed as the Tower ambulance service plans for the future.
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ELECTION 2018

State Gubernatorial Candidate Rep. Tim Walz to speak in Cook

by LEAH ROGNE
Contributing Writer

Event set for Tuesday, Jan. 23 at Crescent Bar & Grill

COOK — Tim Walz, candidate for Minnesota governor, will appear in Cook as part of Northern Progressives' "Why Am I Running?" series.

The presentation and question and answer session, open to the public, will take

place on Tuesday, Jan. 23, at 6:30 p.m. at the Crescent Bar & Grill, just north of Cook.

Rep. Walz, from Mankato, is currently serving his sixth term as U.S. Congressman from Minnesota's First

Congressional District, in the southern part of the state, which spans from the South Dakota border to the Wisconsin border south of the Twin Cities.

A former high school teacher, Rep. Walz serves on the Agriculture Committee

and the Veterans Affairs Committee, where he is the ranking Democrat. He is the highest ranking enlisted person in Congress, having enlisted in the National Guard when he was 17 years old and retiring 24 years later as a Command Sergeant

Major.

On his campaign website, Rep. Walz tells the story of what made him get involved in electoral politics:

"To be honest, I did not pay a lot of attention to politics. Things changed in 2004. Former President

See.. WALZ pg. 10



Rep. Tim Walz



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WILDLAND FIREFIGHTING

Will air tankers be based out of Ely?

Forest Service offers conflicting information about whether agency will discontinue use of the Ely Airport

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

REGIONAL — U.S. Forest Service officials have offered differing explanations on the future of firefighting air resources at the Ely Airport — and aren't sure of the origins of a rumor that the agency will no longer be stationing large firefighting tankers out of the facility.

The Forest Service is currently undertaking a national review of its use of aerial resources for fighting wildland fires, and that review includes examining where the federal agency can safely station some of its larger aircraft, such as C-130 tankers.

The C-130 Hercules, produced by Lockheed, is a four-engine turboprop transport plane commonly used by the U.S. military. Many older versions of the plane have been retrofitted over the years for wildland fire control, although the older craft have had a spotty safety record.

The large aircraft do require a longer runway for takeoffs and landings, and that's prompted the Forest Service to review the current list of airports where it will station the planes in the future. Yet the runway at the Ely airport was recently extended specifically to accommodate the needs of the C-130 aircraft. That renovation, which tapped millions in federal, state, and local dollars, included input from the Forest Service to ensure the project met the agency's requirements.

"We put a lot of money into that project," said Ely Mayor Chuck Novak, "including FAA money and city money." Novak

said city officials are still trying to understand exactly what the Forest Service intends to do, but have gotten conflicting information to date.

They aren't the only ones. Even many Forest Service officials aren't sure what's happening with the review or how word spread that both C-130s may no longer be stationed at either Ely or Hibbing. Superior National Forest spokesperson Kris Reichenbach said the review is still underway and no decisions have been made about the future use of the Ely airport. Yet an email obtained by the *Timberjay* suggests otherwise. In December, Rob Heavirland, forest aviation officer for the Chippewa and Superior national forests, wrote: "I just got word through our regional and national office that large air tankers will no longer work out of Ely due to concerns over runway length. C-130s can still operate out of Brainerd and Bemidji but Ely and Hibbing can no longer be used."

While Forest Service officials acknowledge that Heavirland's email was sent last month, they say they've yet to find the source for his claim regarding the northeastern Minnesota airports. "Nobody knows if the source of the information is even credible," said Kawishiwi District Ranger Gus Smith, who described any plan to discontinue use of the Ely airport for tanker deployment as "crazy."

Smith said the Ely airport is not only an inexpensive airport at which to stage, but also offers an ideal location to provide quick response along the southern edge of the boreal forest, where spring



Contracted C-130 air tankers have been regularly stationed at the Ely Airport during fire seasons in the past. That may change based on an ongoing review of federal aerial resources. file photo

fire and even late summer fire conditions can be extreme. Indeed, the region has seen some of the Midwest's largest wildfires in modern history in just the past dozen years, including the 2011 Pagami Creek fire, near Ely, that burned almost 93,000 acres within the Superior National Forest. Two other recent fires on the forest include the Ham Lake fire, which burned 75,000 acres in 2007, and the 2006 Cavity Lake fire, which burned almost 32,000 acres.

The Ely Airport was the closest major airport, capable of handling C-130s, to all three of those fires.

That's one reason why Smith thinks the rumor regarding the Ely Airport is based on bad information. "If I'm wrong, it's hor-

rible," Smith said. "But I really think someone just made a mistake and this will blow over," he said.

Even so, the Forest Service is facing political pushback on the issue. When large tankers are stationed in communities, it provides an economic benefit as crews typically fill hotel rooms and frequent local restaurants and shops in their off hours. The planes can also purchase significant amounts of fuel from the airports where they operate.

In a letter this past week to the new Forest Service Chief Tony Tooke, Eighth District Congressman Rick Nolan said the change would also limit the Forest Service's ability to fight wildland fires in a portion of the state that is increasingly prone

to large and devastating wildfires.

"In my view, it would be shortsighted to decrease the ability of the USFS to quickly respond to forest fires in the region by limiting the number of firefighting aircraft which utilize the Ely Municipal Airport," stated Nolan in his Jan. 11 letter.

The *Timberjay* sought comment from aviation officer Heavirland for this story, but he did not respond to phone messages.

At this point, city officials in Ely haven't waded too far into the issue, but are waiting to get a clearer picture of exactly what the Forest Service might be thinking. "At this point, we still don't have a straight answer," said Novak.

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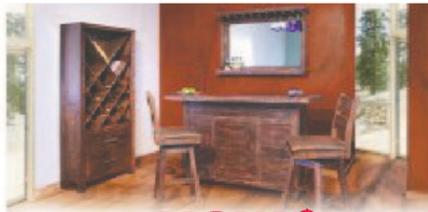
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CITY OF ELY

Ely council bones up on 'dogs in park' issue

by KEITH VANDERVORT
Ely Editor

ELY – City Council members here almost opened up a big can of worms Tuesday night when considering, and ultimately granting, a request by the Harvest Moon Festival organizers to host a special stunt dog show.

The wording of the request was for allowing “dogs in the park” on Sept. 7-9.

The enforcement of the “no dogs in the parks” ordinance may lack teeth, but Council member Al Forsman wasn’t about to allow the wording of the request to go unnoticed.

The request under the new business portion of the agenda read, “Request from the Ely Chamber of Commerce to allow the Stunt Dog Productions to perform in Whiteside Park over Harvest Moon Sept. 7-9, 2018 and to allow dogs in the park on these days.”

The motion to grant the request was made by Jerome Debeltz and supported by Dan Forsman.

“Is this to allow dogs within the entire park on these days?” asked Al Forsman,

Clerk-Treasurer Harold Langowski quickly added, “I think this is just for dogs that are performing.”

Mayor Chuck Novak picked up on Forsman’s concern and noted that the request was not stated to allow just the performing dog show. “It says, to allow stunt dog performers and to allow dogs in the park.”

Langowski maintained that the request from Ellen Cashman was for the event itself for permission to just have the performance dogs in the park. “This does bring up a bigger question on allowing dogs in the park, as Mr. Forsman pointed out last week, during the Farmers Markets we have had the same

question come up,” he said.

According to Langowski, one area of the park was designated during the Farmers Markets events on Tuesday evenings to allow people to bring their dogs so somebody could watch them during the event. “They are still testing the waters with that,” he said.

Council member Heidi Omerza, who serves on the Parks and Recreation Committee, said the committee will be reviewing the Farmers Market dog policy in the next couple of months. “We are looking at all aspects of the Farmers Market,” she said. “It has been a very good relationship. Dogs in the park has been something they have struggled with. They know it is an issue and they want to solve it.”

Omerza maintained that she is not in favor of allowing dogs in the park.

“Unless I misunderstood, the (Harvest Moon) request is



Jodi Martin receives a Key to the City from Mayor Chuck Novak for her 20-plus years of service to the city of Ely, organizing the annual Fourth of July parade.

photo by K. Vandervort

just for the stunt dog shows,” Langowski said.

Al Forsman was agreeable to amending the original motion to just allow the stunt dogs in the

park during the fall festival. The motion carried unanimously with the members present.

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TOURISM

Henry shares insights on tourism's value

by KEITH VANDERVORT
Ely Editor

ELY - Tourism isn't just vital to local economies, it's a major driver of economic development. That's according to Joe Henry, executive director of Lake of Woods Tourism and the 2018 Chair of the Minnesota Association of Convention and Visitors Bureaus, who shared his insight at this week's Tuesday Group.

“I met Joe at a meeting and was impressed with his thought-

fulness on the importance of tourism on all aspects of a region's economy,” said Steve Piragis, co-founder of Tuesday Group. “I believe we all can gain from his perspective and bring away from it new mindsets relative to the future prosperity of Ely. His familiarity with a community-marketing concept called the ‘Halo Effect’ should spark some conversation in Ely. The effect has been proven to produce great results for other regions of the U.S.”

“Sometimes, when you live

in a community, your perception of what the community is, can be vastly different than someone who visits,” Henry said. “Ely to me is nature, the north woods, canoeing, pristine, organic, and especially creative marketing.”

He went on to describe the rich tradition of marketing that Ely accomplishes. “Among the tourism ranks, we talk about the crazy, good things that Ely has done over the years,” he said.

Referring to the traditional April Fools marketing gimmick promoted in the Twin Cities to

kick off the summer tourist season, he said, “I remember hearing stories about a walleye walking around the cities on that day. Some of the things you have pulled off have been really creative.”

Rather than as competitors, Henry views Ely and the Lake of the Woods area in the northwest part of the state as “partners in success.” Both communities look to market nature and tourism. “There are some similarities but

See TOURISM...pg. 5



Joe Henry

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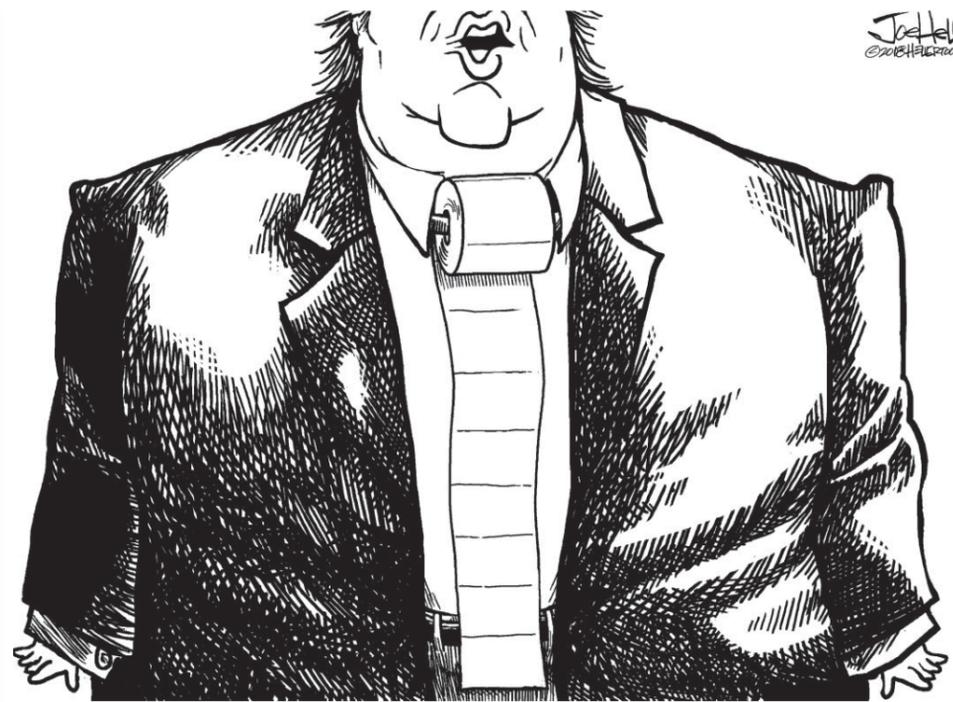
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OPINION

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The First Amendment of the United States Constitution

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Editorial

Tower's ambulance

More work needed as the service seeks to chart a course for the future

The city of Tower's ambulance service should move cautiously and focus on mission as it implements a paid on-call service in an effort to improve response time and generate more revenue.

There's little question that some paid on-call staffing may make sense for the service. Call volume has been increasing and that's put more demand on a limited number of volunteers. But based on our interviews with ambulance directors from other area services, all have taken a gradual and cautious approach to adding paid staffing.

In Tower's case, the city council approved the plan after a 15-minute presentation by the city's ambulance director that failed to account for tens of thousands of dollars in costs associated with the plan. It made assumptions that are unrealistic regarding potential new revenue from inter-hospital transfers and assumed (we believe, incorrectly) that the new hires the city plans to work for 60-hour shifts would not be subject to overtime rules. Most other ambulance directors have established staffing systems that avoid overtime to minimize this added cost.

Other services took pains to structure their paid on-call systems to benefit their volunteers. Yet the system proposed by Tower fails to do that. Indeed, none of the system's volunteers applied for the 60-hour-long shifts when the positions were first advertised last May. No one with a family or a regular job could possibly work such a shift into their schedule. In Cook, volunteers are allowed to select any convenient time or length of shift that works for them and is consistent with the service's staffing needs. Hoyt Lakes, after working with a consultant, went with four-hour shifts, which make it far easier for volunteers with a family or a regular job to fit in a shift or two on evenings or weekends—providing a nice supplement to their incomes. These volunteers are the lifeblood of any small ambulance service, and they should absolutely be considered in designing any paid on-call system.

At the same time, too many questions remain about how the city's ambulance service can pay for its plan, which will cost at least \$165,000 a year, including base pay, payroll taxes and other fringe benefits, and the cost to rent quarters for the workers. If the workers qualify for overtime, as is likely, that would push the cost to at least \$190,000 a year.

While the city's ambulance director contends that the city can generate that much additional

revenue by accepting more transfers, the service only nets about \$1,000 per run. And it already accepts 30 percent of the transfer requests it receives. Even if it took 100 percent of the remaining requests, it would have only generated about \$160,000 in additional revenue this year. Yet no one we spoke with believes the service could responsibly accept anywhere near 100 percent of transfer requests. Ely's ambulance only accepts about 40 percent of transfer requests it receives even with paid on-call staffing 24/7. Indeed, none of the departments we spoke to is willing to accept a transfer unless they know they have a back-up team ready to fill in. Bob Norlen, state EMS coordinator for north-eastern Minnesota noted that a service's first priority is to respond to emergency calls.

As he noted, there would be a lot of explaining to do if an ambulance and its responders were unavailable for an emergency because they were providing what is essentially glorified taxi service.

And that gets to mission, which is to respond to medical emergencies. Ambulance officials complain that increasing call volume is putting too much demand on its volunteers. Yet transfers comprised more than 20 percent of Tower ambulance runs that actually involved a transport in 2017. If the service is looking to relieve its volunteers, officials should consider reducing the number of transfers they accept and using its volunteers' time for the purposes for which they are trained. At an average of six hours per transfer, the service demanded 864 hours of volunteer time just for transfers last year. Under the latest plan proposed by the ambulance director, the service would expend more than 2,700 staff hours on transfers.

Finally, rather than a focus on increasing transfers to generate revenue, the ambulance service should be exploring how it can up its game by transitioning over time to an advanced life support service, through the use of more paramedics. ALS services receive a higher level of reimbursement for emergency calls and provide a higher level of patient care.

But before doing anything, the city needs to fully understand the implications to mission, costs, and sources of revenue. This is too important to leave to back-of-the-napkin figuring. The city should rethink the current plan and design one that meets the needs of both residents and the service's own volunteers.

Letters from Readers

Neither rain nor snow kept our postal carriers from their rounds

Much appreciation from us to the local mail carriers who have braved the elements to keep the mail coming every day without fail. For sure it has been a difficult winter in many ways. Thanks for your diligence!

David Kess
and Sally Koski
Ely

Your stories are wanted

Most people have a story to tell. Stories can entertain, teach, or reveal something surprising about someone's life. You can learn a lot by listening to other people's stories. You get a glimpse of what a "mile in their shoes" might feel like. Plus, stories can be fun to tell and hilarious to listen to! We are hosting an open mic storytelling event in Ely the last four Thursdays of winter called "True Stories from the Edge", from 6-8 p.m. at the Ely Senior Center.

(Cookies and coffee provided). The theme for Jan. 25 is "Lessons Learned". We'll have a few storytellers lined up, but we encourage you to drop your name in the hat, and if chosen, you can tell us a six-minute true story that happened to you. Other dates are Thursday, Feb. 22, with the theme of "Eye Openers"; March 22 for "Living History: The Past Lives On" and April 26, "Animal Encounters". Please come to listen or tell your story.

Terry Cooper
and Julie Nester
Ely

COMMENTARY

Taking stock as we start a new year

This may seem odd, but as I look ahead to a year we all know will be momentous, you want to know what I feel most strongly? Gratitude.

I'll tell you in a moment how much work we have ahead of us to strengthen our country. But I'm mindful of just how strong we already are. A resilient economy has been performing well for several years now, avoiding both rampant inflation and recession. Despite its flaws, we have a remarkable education system that has allowed more people to enroll in college, make dramatic gains in lifelong learning and — especially in the case of racial minorities — get an education that a generation ago would have been much harder to secure.

We have a more diverse,

educated workforce than ever before, and we're making progress on issues from climate change to social equality. We remain wealthy, powerful, and blessed with perhaps the strongest governing institutions of any country in the world — despite the challenges of the moment.

We possess an immense, deep pool of talented people, who have made us a leading example of unity out of diversity, or as our motto has it, "out of many, one."

However, we have to work to retain and buttress our strengths. And as I suggested, we have our work cut out for us.

For one thing, we've always been an open country, welcoming a great diversity of people and remaining open to their aspirations and ideas. But we've been losing this.

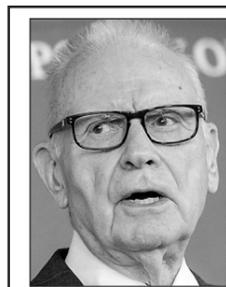
Immigration has been cut back sharply. A large and vocal group of Americans want to "take back America" to some more homogenous ideal that never actually existed.

At the same time, too many Americans also feel excluded and alienated from economic opportunity and what should be shared institutions. There are fewer places where different classes of people can mix and where our institutions can become more heterogeneous. We tend to associate with our own, which is natural and not to be criticized, but it carries costs in reinforcing our own biases.

And as economic inequality rises, smaller and smaller groups of people corner an ever larger share of wealth, political power, and communal influence.

All of this has been straining our politics. We are more polarized and politically divided than I've seen in my lifetime. Excessive partisan-

See **NEW YEAR...** page 5



LEE
HAMILTON

Take the plunge into winter... and enjoy the festivities

We are about to partake in some events that lie at the heart of our heartland. Up here in the frigid North, where Mother Nature seems determined to prove that we are as tough as we claim, we could just hunker down inside, turn up the furnace, and curl up with our favorite comfort food to watch a good movie... and who could dare criticize? Certainly not those folks with snow phobia who duck out before winter descends or who live with palm trees swaying all year round. But, no, we put



BETTY
FIRTH

on our layers and head outdoors to make sculptures and ice candles, go ice fishing, skiing or snowshoeing. During the Ely Winter Festival (Feb. 1-11), you can enjoy the expanded Beardfest contest where even the shy Finns will show off their facial shrubbery, take in the Art Walk with over 200 pieces displayed in store windows, pour admiration on those sculptors creating a winter wonderland out of frozen water, and play games in the park, including Kubb, which moves so slowly the players are in danger of

freezing in place. The large wooden cube packed with snow in front of the Front Porch, destined to be a giant, cold replica of this year's Winter Festival pin, carved by Nancy Scheibe, is the forerunner of many more oversized packing crates of snow in Whiteside Park waiting for their sculptors to give them definition. You can come in out of the cold and choose from 25 classes offered at the Ely Folk School. Learn to make zlikrofi, spaghetti sauce or potica; sew beaver hides into clothing to keep the frostbite at bay; brew root beer; design intricate eggs with pisanki or scratched egg techniques; or find out more about living sustainably. On Feb. 2, the Twins of Franklin will

double your pleasure with their debut Ely concert and their upbeat original songs.

Ely is not the only community to dive into this creative craziness in the depth of winter. On Leech Lake in Walker thousands of anglers compete for prizes for the most lavish ice house or the eelpout catch at the International Eelpout Festival, set for Feb. 23-26. Icebox Days, which runs Jan. 19-23 in International Falls features fireworks and moonlit skiing along with competitions in frozen turkey bowling, can crushing and toilet seat tossing. Breezy Point hosts Ice Fest Jan. 6-9, with horse-drawn trolley rides,

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WINTER...Continued from page 4

pond hockey tournament, sled dog rides, and snow golf. Rochester's Winter Fest offers a polar plunge, figure skating and plenty of food to raise aware and funds for community activities. At Sandstone's Ice Festival, held Jan. 6-8, climbers gather each year to climb the sheet of ice covering the tall sandstone cliffs in Robinson Park. You can take a lesson in ice climbing or winter camping or just enjoy the chili cook-off.

Wabasha offers the unique Grumpy Old Men Festival on Feb. 25, with a poker tournament, hot dish luncheon and an ice fishing contest, topped by the Grumpy Plunge where participants dress up as the movie characters before jumping into the icy water.

New Ulm throws the Bock Fest at the Schell's Brewery with beer, brats,

bonfires, live music and dancing.

The Twin Cities does it up in grand style with the Minneapolis Holidazzle parade (Nov. 25-Dec. 23) and the St. Paul Winter Carnival (Jan. 26-Feb. 6) with the ice castle, Torchlight Parade, snow-plow races, a cat show, ice cross downhill skating, the Vulcan Victory Dance, and a \$10,000 reward for whoever finds the medalion. Some Eastern newspaper correspondents actually sparked the initiative for the first Winter Carnival when they visited St. Paul in 1885 and reported that Minnesota was another Siberia, unfit for human consumption. A group of business owners retaliated by creating a festival that would showcase all the beauty of Minnesota winters, engaging the services of Montreal winter

festival planner Alexander Hutchinson to design the first ice castle, which cost \$5,210 at a height of 106 feet. There are no records to show the Easterners were convinced, but the ice castle tradition took hold. In 1992, the Pepsi Palace cost \$1,500,000, rising to 165 feet, a Guinness record. With financial constraints, more recent ice castles have been less ostentatious.

None of these events would happen without the whimsical imaginations and hard work of hundreds of people who love their communities and want to show residents and visitors alike a good time. During this merry-making, another type of community action will be happening when people gather for their political caucuses on Tuesday, Feb. 6. All who are eligible to vote in November's elections may attend the caucus

of their choice, where they can vote for the candidates they support, propose resolutions about issues they want carried forward for incorporation in their party's platform, and run to be a delegate to upcoming conventions at the county, state and national level. The caucuses are grassroots activities, run by citizens and paid for by the political parties, not by the government. They are an opportunity to gather with neighbors, voice points of view and get involved with important issues on a very local level. Only twelve other states (Alaska, Colorado, Florida, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Nevada, North Dakota and Washington) and two U.S. territories (American Samoa and the U.S. Virgin Islands) use caucuses. All the other states use pri-

maries to choose the candidates who will run in the general election, as Minnesota will be doing in 2020. There was quite a bit of frustration with the caucus system in 2016, especially from voters who were experiencing it for the first time. Large turnouts in the hotly-contested presidential race resulted in overflow crowds in parking areas and meeting rooms. Legislators in both parties agreed a primary system will be more accessible to serve the public better: the polls will be open all day and people can vote absentee, as in regular elections. It is projected that more people will participate. Political parties can still choose to caucus before the primary elections to drum up support for their candidates, formulate resolutions and elect dele-

gates.

From the Revolutionary War on, hundreds of thousands of people have fought for the rights of government of the people, by the people and for the people. I encourage you to foray out into the cold and take the plunge to experience your politics up close and personal. The actions of the Trump administration, trouncing willy-nilly on long-established policies and values with a president tweeting like an irresponsible teenager, claiming to be a very smart and stable genius (as compared to those dumb geniuses out there) have motivated many people to get involved. The passion, long missing, may be returning to politics, and you might just enjoy the heat.

NEW YEAR...Continued from page 4

ship, the permanent political campaign that marks policy-making at the federal level, the strength of narrow interest groups, the outsized role of money in politics, the decline in the quality of public debate — all are cause for great concern.

I hope 2018 sees a turn toward addressing the defects in our political institutions and political culture — a shift in political life toward seeking the

common good and focusing on the national interest.

This would allow us to re-focus on one of the defining features of our country's history: that what we're about as a nation is providing opportunity for all. That everyone has a role to play in contributing positively to a better neighborhood, a better community, a better state and nation, a better world. That as Americans, we devote

ourselves to something larger than ourselves.

This sense of beckoning opportunity has been waning. We're not investing in our future as we used to, in basic infrastructure like roads and bridges, in social infrastructure like schools, health clinics and libraries, or in the research and development that are crucial to a next-generation economy. Our optimism as a country — so characteristic of our past — seems

hard to locate these days. Americans are troubled, uneasy, and alarmed by everything from the quality of presidential leadership to Russian meddling to the rise of income inequality to the decline of traditional families.

Yet here's the thing. While I understand our problems, I utterly reject the idea that we can give into them. From its start, this nation has been about resolving problems. We

did so by embracing our simple, core virtues: humility, hard work, a welcoming attitude, inclusivity, neighborliness, consensus-building, and above all, a recognition that freedom has been given to us and we have an obligation to lead constructive lives.

That's what we're about as a country. Not decline, or division, or insurmountable obstacles. Let's remember that in 2018.

Lee Hamilton is a Senior Advisor for the Indiana University Center on Representative Government; a Distinguished Scholar, IU School of Global and International Studies; and a Professor of Practice, IU School of Public and Environmental Affairs. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 34 years.

COUNCIL...Continued from page 3

Other business

In other business, the city council took the following action:

► Presented a Key to the City to Jodi Martin for her 20-plus years of serving as organizer for the city's annual Fourth of July

parade;

► Approved a request from the Police Chief to attend the Police Chiefs Conference in Duluth, April 22-25;

► OK'd a recommendation from the Telecommunications

Advisory Board to purchase a hard drive and wireless microphone for the new hand-held camera for an amount not to exceed \$3,000;

► Approved a grant application to IRRRB for \$450,000 for 17th Avenue

work, and \$170,000 for infrastructure and survey work for the Rural Living development;

► Rescheduled meetings next month because of the state caucuses being held on Tuesday, Feb. 6. City Council regular

meeting will be held at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 7, to be preceded by a EUC rate schedule public hearing at 5 p.m. and a Jake Forsman Burnout event public hearing at 5:30 p.m.;

► Approved a request

for in-kind services for the Ely Winter Festival;

► Approved the lone 2018 legal newspaper bid to the *Ely Echo*.

TOURISM...Continued from page 3

many differences," he said.

Henry talked about the impact of tourism on the economy of his backyard at Lake of the Woods, and the state of Minnesota in general.

Like Ely with their "end of the road" slogan, the marketing gimmick for Lake of the Woods is "Walleye Capital of the World." There is much more to his tourism message, but he said, "We have heated ice houses to catch walleye in the winter and charter boats to catch them in the summer."

Henry referred to "destination marketing" in

describing his organization's sophisticated marketing program. "We have earned media, or attention that you earn, from an outdoors writers spending time here, to television, radio and the press," he said. "But our biggest piece of the pie is by far digital media."

The Lake of the Woods Tourism web page is where most people go for initial information, according to Henry. "Social media is growing much more. We built our Facebook page from 1,250 to 123,000 followers in just six years. "On purpose and by design

we use Facebook as an advertising medium," he said.

Twitter, Instagram and YouTube are also used, he said. "They are all good forms of social media, but we get our best return on investment from Facebook."

Other forms of advertising used by Lake of the Woods Tourism center around getting people excited. "When people get excited they take action," he said. He showed a short video clip of a walleye fisherman landing a 30-plus lunker. "That is exciting to see, and they want

to come here and catch one like that."

Henry talked about communities in Minnesota that invest in tourism. "For every dollar invested, there is \$75 dollars spent by travelers, and \$7 going to state and local taxes," he said. "There is a five- to seven-time return on every dollar we spend coming back to the community. That's not just more heads in beds, that's real money."

He quoted state figures touting leisure and hospitality jobs in northern Minnesota and the economic impact they are responsible for. "Sales of

\$14.4 billion in gross sales, almost \$40 million each day, come from tourism," he said. "Tourism jobs account for some 11 percent of the total private sector employment. That is \$5.1 billion in wages. Tourism generates 17 percent of the state's sales taxes collected."

"Without tourism, what would we have?" he asked.

He touched on a study called the "Halo Effect." "When all was said and done, they concluded that the absolute number one driver of economic development in any community,

whether a state or a city, is tourism. The reason for that is tourism creates the image of who you are as a community. What I know about Ely is based on what I see in the media."

His closing message stressed how tourism helps build the total community. "Exploit what you have," he said.

The Ely Economic Development Authority was specifically invited to the session by Piragis. No members attended.



Grand Opening

Orr Center Market and Thrift

Saturday, January 27 • 10 AM to 6 PM

FREE Coffee Buy One Get One FREE on ALL adult sweaters and slacks! **Door Prizes**

(equal to or less in value, some limitations may apply)

Silent Auction Fundraiser • 2-6 PM
Includes items like Ducks Unlimited Prints, Trolling Motor, Depression Glass Dishes, collectibles and much more.

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Publishers Clearinghouse scam warning

REGIONAL- Embarrass-Vermillion FCU President Roxi Jensen is warning area residents that people are getting calls supposedly from Publishers Clearinghouse telling them they won a prize but need to send a check to cover taxes. "We have had several calls," she said. "Embarrass Vermillion FCU monitors scams locally and we try to keep our communities informed."

Jensen reminds everyone to never give account information or personal information over the phone. Real winners never have to write a personal check to receive a prize, she said.

Check the website at evfcu.org for alerts, or contact your financial institution if you think you're being scammed.

Clarification

BREITUNG TWP- The new blade for the John Deere loader is just a replacement blade. The new blade will direct the snow better to the wing, according to Maintenance Supervisor Dale Swanson. The blade won't necessarily save any plowing time, but will make the plowing process more efficient, he told the *Timberjay*. The comments the town board made about shortened plowing time were in regard to the new loader itself, not the blade.

Rebecca Nelmark named to MSU Moorhead Dean's List

REGIONAL- Rebecca Nelmark, of Embarrass, has been named to the Minnesota State University Moorhead dean's list in recognition of academic achievement fall semester 2017. Students must be in degree-seeking status and maintain a 3.25 or higher grade point average while completing a minimum of 12 graded credits to qualify for the honor.

MSU Moorhead, with an enrollment of approximately 6,000 students, is a comprehensive university offering 151 majors, emphases and options, 11 pre-professional studies programs, and 15 graduate programs. MSUM is a member of the Minnesota State system.

Competitive races in all local township elections

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 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.

In Breitung, incumbent Supervisor Chuck Tekautz has some competition, with Gavin Bialke also 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.

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.

Tower-Soudan Joint Powers Rec Board to meet

TOWER- The Tower-Soudan Joint Powers Recreation Board will meet on Friday, Jan. 19 at 8:30 a.m. at Good Ol' Days. Requests for funding must be made in writing prior to the meeting; contact Julie Suihkonen for details, 218-753-3314.

WINTER FUN



Let's skate!



Clockwise from top: Ben Westby shows off his hockey moves. Ava warms up with some pizza after time on the ice. Cooper, first-time ever skater, makes some rounds out on the ice. Elsie, Julia, and Sophia show off their rosy cheeks. Rolando Noyes filled in for Chimpy in the warming shack, serving up hot dogs, burgers, pizza, and snacks. photos by J. Summit



Chimpy Skating Parties this weekend,

SOUDAN- Chimpy's Skating Parties are now underway. These are family-friendly events for all ages, held at the Soudan Skating Rink. Loaner skates are available in the warming shack, and boot skaters are also welcome.

Skating parties will be held Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 20 and 21 from 12 noon - 3 p.m.

Parties include plenty of food and treats served inside the warming shack, as well as fun and games with Chimpy. The parties are made possible by generous grants from area businesses and individuals. This week's parties are sponsored by Tower-Soudan Joint Powers Recreation Board, and Karl and Kristine Jonas.



BREITUNG POLICE DEPARTMENT

November 2017

Calls: 68
Assist other agencies: 12
Traffic stops: 24
Arrests: 2
Citations/Formal charges: 9
Warnings: 20
Monthly mileage: 1,802 (gold Tahoe 840, Charger 0, Explorer 962, Snowmobile 0)

Additional shifts

During the month of November the Breitung Police Department worked 16 hours of extra DWI enforcement through the Toward Zero Deaths (TZD) grant.

Training

During the month of October we attended the Toward Zero Deaths (TZD) Conference at the St. Paul RiverCentre. Chief Anderson spoke at the TZD Law Enforcement Grantee Session on enforcement strategies in greater Minnesota to maximize an impact with a smaller budget and fewer resources.



November Police Report

Breitung Police Chief Jesse Anderson

Squads

We did not have any mechanical issues with our squads during the month of November. A new squad camera purchased with DWI forfeiture funds was installed in our Chevy Tahoe to match the squad camera installed in our Ford Explorer.

Current end of the month mileage for the Gold 2012 Chevy Tahoe (Tower) is 59,950. Current end of the month mileage for the Blue 2008 Dodge Charger is 89,000. Current end of the month mileage for the Black 2017 Ford Explorer is 6017.

Miscellaneous

In an emergency, dialing 911 is a call for help. But people with hearing loss or those who must remain quiet in a dangerous situation aren't able to

place a call safely or at all. That changed Tuesday, Dec. 5 when the Emergency Communication Networks division deployed Text-to-911 throughout the state.

Texting should only be used when someone can't make a voice call. And speaking with a dispatcher is still the fastest way to get help, so people should remember to: "Call if you can, text if you can't."

Text-to-911 will be a first contact option for the 20 percent of Minnesotans with some form of hearing loss. Everyone else should call 911, unless they cannot speak during an emergency, such as a home invasion or domestic violence situation.

Call summary

Citations/Formal charges/Arrests: (1) (GM) 3rd Degree DWI (.17)-Charges Requested/ROR; (1) (M) Isanti County

Warrant (Probation Violation)- Jailed; (1) (M) Anoka County Warrant (Theft)- Jailed; (1) (M) Possess Marijuana in a Motor Vehicle- Cited/ROR; (2) (M) Possess Drug Paraphernalia- Cited/ROR; (1) (PM) Possess Small Amount of Marijuana- Cited/ROR; (1) No Minnesota Driver's License- Cited/ROR; (2) No Proof of Insurance- Cited/ROR; (1) Driving After Suspension- Cited/ROR

Assist other agencies: (6) St. Louis County Sheriff's Office; (4) Tower Ambulance; (1) Bois Forte Police Department; (1) Minneapolis Police Department

Call categories: (24) Traffic Stops; (12) Agency Assists; (6) Paper Service; (4) Alarm; (3) Community Engagement; (2) Public Assist; (2) Theft; (2) Found Property; (2) Disturbance; (2) Callback; (1) Check Residence; (1) Check Business; (1) Property Damage Accident; (1) Unwanted Person; (1) Open Door; (1) Lock-out; (1) Trouble Unknown; (1) Suicide Threat; (1) Warrant

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Sunday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

For info: 1-800-450-9278

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

INFRASTRUCTURE



Pictured (from left): Tower City Clerk Linda Keith, Rep. Erin Murphy, Itasca County Commissioner Ben Denucci, Dan Snidarich, Rep. Julie Sandstede, Rep. Jason Metsa, Hibbing Mayor Rick Cannata. submitted photo

Rep. Murphy holds infrastructure/jobs round table

HIBBING—Rep. Erin Murphy (DFL-64A), former Majority Leader in the Minnesota House of Representatives and DFL candidate for governor, was in Hibbing earlier this month to hold a roundtable discussion about aging waste and drinking water infrastructure and its effects on the region. The roundtable included local leaders to discuss how state bonding investments can begin the work of updating our water infrastructure, ease budget constraints on local units of governments, ensure consumers have access to safe, affordable drinking water,

and create thousands of jobs for Minnesotans in communities all over the state.

“Too many communities in Minnesota are stuck with outdated or failing water infrastructure. It’s unacceptable,” said Rep. Erin Murphy. “When the state doesn’t do enough to help, local taxpayers are left to shoulder the burden of huge costs and Minnesotans are stuck with compromised water and rising utility bills. Investments in infrastructure are important for our future and as governor, I would set aside \$500 million in additional bonding capac-

ity each year to help communities rebuild and expand their water infrastructure. When we invest in our infrastructure it means that Minnesotans across the state have access to skilled jobs that pay well. It’s a good deal for Minnesota and one I will fight for every day as governor.”

Minnesota is facing a statewide need of nearly \$11 billion in updates and replacements of local water infrastructure and failure to make those updates could have severe impacts on local economies and consumers.

Grief support group in Tower starts in February

TOWER- Experiencing the death of a loved one can be a very difficult experience. Learning about the grief process and having support from others can help a great deal. Please consider reserving your spot to participate in this new monthly grief support group in Tower. The group is open to anyone in our area who has experienced the death of a loved one.

The Monthly Grief Education and Support Group meets from 2 – 4 p.m. on the first Thursday of the month, beginning Feb. 1 at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 304 Spruce St. There is no cost for this group

The group will be led by Catherine Burt, East Range Hospice Family Grief Support staff. Please call to register, 1-877-851-2213 or 218-749-7975. The group is being sponsored by Essentia Health St. Mary’s East Range Hospice.

Minnesota Twins Tour to visit Ely

ELY - The Minnesota Twins Major League Baseball team will make a stop in Ely on their annual Winter Caravan Tour on Thursday, Jan. 25.

Ely fans can expect to see pitcher Jose Berrios, outfielder Eddie Rosario, broadcaster Dick Bremer and the Twins mascot, TC, at the International Wolf Center begin-

ning at 1 p.m.

Typically, at the stops, Twins players and representatives each speak for a few minutes about the upcoming season. There’s usually time for questions from the audience, too. It’s expected that the stop will last about 60 minutes.

Doors open at 12:30 p.m. on Jan. 25. There will be no fee for admission. The Wolf Center will close at about 4 p.m. The capacity of the Wolf Center’s auditorium is approximately 150 people. Seating is not guaranteed.

Later that day, the Twins players will help kick off the Northland 300 snowmobile rally at the Grand Ely Lodge.

THE NEWS OF THE WEEK FROM MS. VERA MILION



Dear Hearts,

First of all, I would like to apologize to the gentleman that I clubbed with the Genoa salami in Zup’s.

I realize now that he was just being friendly when he asked, “Cold enough for you?”

I had heard it so many times that day I just lost my lady-like demeanor and backed him into the soup aisle and started wailing on his head as if there was no tomorrow. Thanks to the checkout staff, the carry-out boy, and most especially to the person I attacked for not pressing charges.

It would probably be warmer in jail but still... a police record at my age?

We have therefore chosen to stay in and make the most of the enforced hibernation.

We are doing this sans TV! Hilda kicked the screen during one of those local weathercasts with those cheerful teenaged forecasters. “Hey, it’s cold out. So, get those long johns on, it’s winter in Minnesota! Start up your snowmobiles; enjoy the

scenic wonders of our area. Remember dress warm with this temperature or your nose can freeze! You wanna know how cold...”

And that is when we lost TV reception here on frigid Lake V!

Generally, we have time before national disasters to get a few books in the house.

We are however still a bit numb from the recent political events so we tend to stay home and out of public places like libraries!

We read an announcement in the local paper and cheered for joy—the little red Bookmobile would be our source of relaxation and literary nourishment.

However, we have been banned from the Bookmobile.

It was a darling idea, but with Hilda and me in the mobile library it tends to be a little rocky.

Well, it sways like a hammock in a hurricane. Sometimes, if we are in a bit too long, we get a little seasick. As we ‘read the shelves,’ we begin to feel as if we were in a canoe on Lake Vermilion during a powerful windstorm. Our last day on the literary trolley it was more windy than usual.

The tin Bookmobile was rocking and rolling in the breeze, like Elvis at the peak of his career!

I was in heaven!

“Look,” I said to Hilda, quite loudly. “Here is a book that will bring back memories for you, Survived the Sinking of the Titanic! It sank in 1912...weren’t you...?”

Hilda leapt across the aisle at me and we both hit the wall before I could finish the sentence.

Hilda’s dive, which knocked me to the floor, created even greater seas than the usual gentle sways of the Bookmobile with its faulty suspension system.

It must have been the mention of the Titanic that caused what happened next.

“The Titanic! We’re going down boys!” an elderly man yelled.

“We must have been hit by a U- boat! Get your Mae Wests on boys, we’re sinking. Head for the lifeboats! It’s every man...”

He never got to finish his sentence because the Bookmobile tipped over.

We weren’t drowned by the raging Atlantic but deluged by torrents and whirlpools of books. The two young gentlemen who man the Bookmobile

demanded our names and library cards! They radioed library headquarters. We couldn’t hear what was being said, but the man was smiling when he hit the off button.

He mumbled something to as assistant who gleefully leapt into the battered Bookmobile. He returned, triumphant, with a scissors, and they cut our cards in two.

So, we returned to the house un-booked as it were.

We parked in the car and sat for a minute or two—to face life without books—it was too much of a burden to consider.

Hilda slapped her forehead, screamed and flung open the car door, “O my heavens.” She ran to a stack of cardboard boxes and ripped the top one open, “We are saved.”

And we were, by five cartons of Reader’s Digest Condensed Books, just the good parts!

Ta ta loves, let the snows of winter come, we HAVE reading material!

Ms. Vera Milion

Bookmobile Schedule

Wednesday, Jan. 31; Feb. 21; March 14

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

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

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 Jan. 22

Monday- Chicken Noodle Soup, Cheesy Bread Sticks with Marinara

Tuesday- Italian Meatball Sub, Vegetable

Wednesday- Taco Soup, Tortilla Chips, Corn Muffin

Thursday- Pizza, Fruit Salad

Friday- No School

Week of Jan. 29

Monday- Grilled Cheese, Tomato Soup

Tuesday- Chicken Chop Suey over Brown Rice, Chow Mein Noodles

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

Thursday- Lasagna, Dinner Roll

Friday- Pigs in a Blanket, Baked Beans.

Week of Jan. 22

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

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

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

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

Breitung Town Board- 6 p.m. on Jan. 23.

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

Thursday
Vermilion Country School Board- Fourth Thursday (except near holidays). Meetings posted online at vermillioncountry.org. Next meeting is Thursday, Feb. 22 at 5 p.m. (third Thursday).

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

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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. Visit our website at 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	Marshall Helmberger
General Manager	Jodi Summit
Staff Writers	Melissa Rocco Stephanie Kuchola Keith Vandervort M. M. White
Ely Editor	Scarlet Lynn Stone
Office Manager	Jay Greeney
Graphics/Ad Sales/Staff Writer	
Ad Sales/Sports	

Official Newspaper:
City of Tower, Orr, Townships of Bearville, Breitung, Crane Lake, 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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BUSINESS NEWS

Artist using 3D printing to expand business

Ben's Baby Canoe Works showing huge growth

by KEITH VANDERVORT
Ely Editor

ELY – Ben Weller, an avid canoeing enthusiast in Ely who took his passion to a scale-model hobby about a year ago, has seen his fledging business take off in a grand scale. Ben Weller made use of his spare time last winter to create his own canoe livery - in miniature – complete with a variety of canoe paddles, packs, personal flotation devices, and other canoe trip gear.

“This past year has gone by ridiculously fast,” Weller said. In addition to building custom canoes, he is mass-producing three-dimensionally printed canoes made out of a biodegradable PLA plastic, made out of corn. “I realized I was getting more and more orders, and the money wasn’t there unless I was able to mass produce them, but that takes the fun out of building custom canoes.”

Weller also moved his Ben’s Baby Canoe Works business out of his house and partnered with David Schmidt of Wolfland Computers, 423 E. Sheridan St. to allow the business to grow.

At the beginning, Weller called the endeavor his new art project. A year later, he’s calling it “artists at work.” He explained that he is taking technology to use it to produce art. “In doing so, we have created an entire line of PLA- printed plastic canoes,” he said. “We have key chains, magnets, night-lights, Christmas orna-



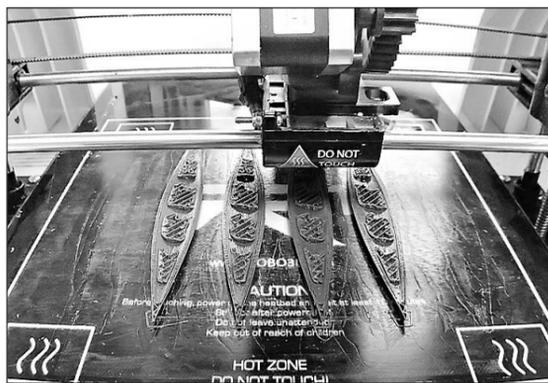
David Schmidt, above left, of Wolfland Computers, and Ben Weller, right, have teamed up to expand Ben’s business, Ben’s Baby Canoe Works. The shop is located at 423 E. Sheridan Street. A 3D printer and display of canoe art are shown below. photos by K. Vandervort

ments, lamps and other miscellaneous products,” he said.

He split the wooden, custom-made canoe portion of the company from the PLA plastic canoe portion. A workshop and retail display space are now available in the Wolfland Computers store.

“We can make canoes from four inches to three feet long. We have a whole series of standard canoes, with generic words like ‘Ely, Minn.,’ ‘BWCA,’ etc., available in a rainbow of colors. We also make limited edition, collector canoes, purple and yellow, with a familiar word on it, that is numbered and signed and packaged in a gift box,” he said. “We are definitely cognizant of the trademark and copyright laws.”

Three printers are working 12 hours a day, seven days a week to keep up with demand. It takes about two hours to make one canoe on the 3D printer. “My vision is to have a full-operating factory, manufacturing American-made, earth-friendly products right here in Ely,” he said. “Dave and I are coordinating his shop and my shop with the idea of having a 3D printing shop where people can



come with their ideas and get things made. We have a competitive pricing structure while maintaining a unique product.”

In the last four months, Weller estimated he has manufactured as many as 600 key chains and refrigerator magnets. “That number could easily quadruple in the next three months,” he said.

Weller’s distribution list continues to grow. “Piragis Northwoods Company was my first

client, and they wanted Christmas ornaments,” Weller said. “They sold really well and actually made another order right after Christmas.” They now also carry his refrigerator magnets.

He said his list of clients is growing at a great rate. Recently, Ben’s Baby Canoe Works has added the North American Bear Center, Ely Outfitters, Canadian Waters, Kawishiwi Lodge, Northern Tier Boy Scout

Camp, Vermilion Community College Bookstore and other nearby retail outlets.

He is also waiting to hear from the Lake Superior Trading Post in Grand Marais. He is also investigating getting a foot in the door to a national outdoors gear retail chain.

“I’m doing what I call guerilla marketing,” Weller said. “I’m letting things happen naturally, but I’m learning how to sell this stuff by walking in with it and finding out that it sells itself.”

Look for Ben’s Baby Canoe Works to have a display in the Ely Old Fashioned Candy window for the Ely Art Walk during the 25th annual Ely Winterfest. “I am paired up with another artist and I will display an entire camping and canoeing diorama,” Weller said. I may even use some of my bonsai trees.”

He is already looking ahead to how he will be growing in two years, contemplating having a water track for canoe-racing events. “The sky is the limit,” he said.

“I would like to make my dreams come true and be 100-percent self employed,” he said. “When I started building these canoes, I stumbled across the idea accidentally while working on another project. It started out as just a simple carved canoe, then I made gear, and then well, Ben’s big brain exploded and Ben’s Baby Canoe Works was born. This accident has turned into a full-time job.”

Weller continues to sell his art on Facebook (bensbabycanoeworks).

“Maybe I can make model kits for purchase so someone can build their own baby canoe,” he said. “So many things can be done here, and I’m always open to suggestions. I am excited to have stumbled across such an amazing idea, and want to share it with the world,” Weller said. “I love trying new things and I may one day make a living at this.”

Contact Weller at 952-451-0217, or email him at benweller88@gmail.com.

Libraries

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

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

Support groups

AA - Alcoholics Anonymous
AA - 7 p.m. Mondays, First Lutheran Church, 915 E. Camp St.
WOMEN'S AA - Noon Mondays, Ledgerock Community Church, Ely - use 15th Street entrance
BABBITT AA - 7 p.m. Tuesdays, Woodland Presbyterian Church.
AL-ANON - Sundays 8-9 p.m. at St. Anthony's Catholic Church in Ely. For persons who encounter alcoholism in a relative or friend.
BABBITT AL-ANON - Thursdays, 7 p.m., at Woodland Presbyterian Church.
CO-DEPENDENTS' 12-step support group, noon Fridays, St. Anthony's Catholic Church, Ely.
ELY AREA 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. Call 365-3359, 827-3232, or 1-800-662-5711.
CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUPS: Babbitt: 3rd Monday of Month: 6-7:30 p.m. at Carefree Living
Ely: 4th Monday of Month: 10-11:30 a.m. at Ely-Bloomenson Hospital Conference Room B

the TIMBERJAY

The Ely Timberjay is published weekly on Friday by The Timberjay, Inc. Offices are at 414 Main St., P.O. 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. Visit our website: 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	Marshall Helmsberger
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

Official Newspaper:
City of Tower, City of Orr, Townships of Bearville, Breitung, Crane Lake, Eagles Nest, Embarrass, Kugler, Vermilion Lake, Field, Morcom, Leiding, ISD 707.

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

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

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

Read the entire paper on-line every week. On-line subscriptions cost \$27.95/year; details at www.timberjay.com.

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

Tuesday Group

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

Jan. 23 – Tim Stouffer and Joey Koenig – A multimedia presentation

Jan. 30 – Meet new Elyites

Breathing Out

by Cecilia Rolando © 2018



on the frozen lakes dozens of mini houses up to seek out fish

NORDIC RETRO WEAR



Chase Eilrich and Julia Schwinghamer both wearing “retro” ski racing suits belonging to Ely native and once-Olympic hopeful Roger Pekuri. It’s fun to imagine Roger training and racing in these suits so many years ago. Julia was awarded third place for “best retro ski suit” at the awards ceremony at the Korkki Nordic Ski Race in Two Harbors on Jan. 9. submitted photo

YOUTH SNOWMOBILE RACES



Area youngsters tear around the track recently on Fall Lake in Winton during the KCPRO racing circuit featuring Kitty Cat and 120 cc snow machines. photos by K. Vandervort



WINTER FEST 2018

Northwoods Medallion Hunt returns for Winter Fest

ELY - As part of the 2018 Ely Winter Festival, the Ely Chamber of Commerce Merchant Committee will host the second annual Ely Northwoods Medallion Hunt. This is an annual event with a different Northwoods theme each year, and 2018 is the Year of the Bear.

There will be a total of ten clues released at 10 a.m. each day starting Thursday, Feb. 1, with the final clue posted on Feb. 10, to lead hunters to the medallion. The clues will be posted at the Chamber of Commerce building at 1600 E. Sheridan St., on the website page at



www.ely.org/medallion-hunt, on the Ely MN Events Facebook page, and at participating Ely merchants.

The first one to find the medallion will win \$250 in Chamber Bucks.

There are more chances to win with the Commemorative Wooden Nickels Drawings. Each participating Ely

merchant will also have Northwoods Medallion Hunt commemorative woodennickels. For every ten wooden nickels turned in at the Chamber of Commerce, participants will receive an entry form for a drawing for four prizes: first place - \$100 Chamber Bucks, second place - \$75 Chamber Bucks, third place - \$50 Chamber Bucks and fourth place - \$25 Chamber Bucks.

No purchase necessary. Visit participating merchants often to collect a coin—one coin per person at each store per day. There is no limit to the number of days you can visit each

store, so you can collect wooden nickels galore to turn in for an entry form for the drawings. (Remember it takes ten wooden nickels to get an entry for the drawing.)

The first medallion and commemorative wooden nickels will be etched with the likeness of Ely's furry wilderness neighbors. Why not collect eleven wooden nickels, keep one for the start of your collection and turn in the other ten for an entry into the drawing?

For more information about this event, please visit www.ely.org/medallionhunt.

AROUND TOWN

Minnesota Twins Tour to visit Ely

ELY - The Minnesota Twins Major League Baseball team will make a stop in Ely on their annual Winter Caravan Tour on Thursday, Jan. 25.

Ely fans can expect to see pitcher Jose Berrios, outfielder Eddie Rosario, broadcaster Dick Bremer and the Twins mascot, TC, at the International Wolf Center beginning at 1 p.m.

Doors open at 12:30 p.m. on Jan. 25. There will be no fee for admission. The Wolf Center will close at about 4 p.m. The capacity of the Wolf Center's auditorium is approximately 150 people.



Vermilion Community College and the VCC Art department will host "Digital Pow Wow: New Art by Shaun Chosa" Wednesday, Jan. 24 in CL 104, beginning at 6 p.m. Shaun will give a lecture on his recent work to art students earlier in the day and a public presentation and discussion from 6-8 p.m. A second public discussion is scheduled for Friday, Jan. 26, at the Ely Public Library from 4-6 p.m. submitted photo

News In Brief

Defensive driving course offered

ELY- The Ely Community Education eight-hour Defensive Driving Course qualifies participants age 55 and older to receive a reduction in their automobile insurance.

The class will meet on Tuesday, Feb. 13 and Wednesday, Feb. 14 from noon to 4 p.m. in the Community Conference room at Ely-Bloomenson Community Hospital. The fee is \$18. For more information, go to www.elyclasses.com.

As required by state law, the class is divided into two four-hour sessions. The Defensive Driving Course is approved by the Minnesota Commissioner of Public Safety and meets all requirements of Minnesota Statutes, Section 65B.28 for an appropriate automobile insurance reduction. Range Driver Training provides all materials for the course.

Camp set for softball, baseball skills

ELY - The Ely Community Education Softball and Baseball Skills Development Camp begins Sunday, Feb. 25 and will meet once a week for two hours through April 8. The Skills Development Camp is designed to increase both the mental and physical skills of baseball/softball players.

Each weekly session will focus on a different developmental skill. Camp session instruction is designed to keep participants engaged in learning and improving skills: reinforcement of skills; lectures, demonstrations, and video review of new skills; hands on work and development of skills at various skills stations.

Topics will include: Arm Care and Conditioning, Throwing Mechanics, Hitting Mechanics, Pitching Mechanics, Base Running, Infield Defense, Outfield Defense, Catcher/Pitcher Defense, and other skill development.

Age Group: 10 to 18 years of age (may be divided into smaller age groups).

Instructor Paul Kienitz has coached and managed youth baseball teams for several years from ages 7 - 18 years old, including being a volunteer assistant coach on Ely's high school team last season. He has also been the hitting and pitching instructor for various youth baseball teams. Paul is a lifetime baseball player. He played high school baseball and played softball for decades. He brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to his coaching. His camp is designed to teach skills in a positive and creative way.

WHEN: Sundays, Feb. 25, Mar. 4, 11, 18, 25, April 1 (no class - Easter) April 8 (last class)

TIME: 3-5 p.m.

WHERE: Ely Memorial Gym

FEE: \$35 per student, \$60 max per family.

AGES: 10 to 18 years of age. (may be divided into smaller age groups).

Celebrate music and the arts in Ely

ELY - The third annual Celebration of Art and Music is now in the works. Stone Soup Events is looking for artists, teachers, musicians and anyone wanting to share their talents. Host an art show or concert, teach a class, read poetry, sell your wares - the sky is the limit.

Spend two weeks celebrating the amazing talent that Ely has to offer. The Celebration will run from March 23-April 14. Your event may take place any time within that time period.

There is no cost for you to participate. Stone Soup Events will advertise and help to coordinate dates, space and anything else you may need.

Contact elystonesoup@gmail.com or call 218-206-4702 by March 1.

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.

SAINT LOUIS COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
BETTER WASTE SOLUTIONS

Area Solid Waste Facility site hours

<p>Northwoods Transfer Station 9384 Hwy 21 N. Ely/Babbitt Winter Hours Mon, Thu, Fri, Sat: 8am-3pm Tue: 9:30am-3pm Wed: 11am-5pm</p>	<p>Aurora Transfer Station 5910 Hwy 135 N., Aurora Hours Mon, Thurs, Fri: 8am-4pm Tue, Wed: 10am-4pm Sat: 8am-noon</p>
<p>Embarrass Canister Site 7530 Koski Rd., Embarrass Hours Sat: 12:30-4:30pm Thu: 10am-5pm</p>	<p>Soudan Canister Site 5160 Hwy 169, Soudan Hours Mon, Wed, Sat, Sun: 8am-5pm</p>
<p>Household Hazardous Waste Facility 5345 Regional Landfill Rd, Virginia Hours Tues and Sat: 8am-1pm</p>	<p>Regional Landfill 5341 Regional Landfill Rd, Virginia Hours Mon-Fri: 8am-4:30pm Sat: 8am-3:30pm</p>

Winter hours effective October 1st through April 14th

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

ORR

Orr Council expresses support for Voyager ATV Club activities

by MELISSA ROACH

Staff Writer

ORR- The Orr City Council started the year off on an efficient note, working quickly through their first meeting of 2018.

The city reorganization was on the agenda. The council designated Sterle and Company as auditors, *Timberjay Newspaper* for official publications, Cope and Peterson as attorneys, Benchmark Engineering, and American Bank of the North and RBC Investments as financial institutions.

Councilor Bruce Black spoke in support of the Voyager ATV Club, telling the council he attended the public input meeting that the club recently held at the Orr American Legion. "They really do a good job and we should really help push them

along and help them how we can." Mayor Astleford agreed, and listed off the economic benefits of the ATV trail to the city, with trail users lodging within the city or stopping through for gas and food purchases.

Liquor store department head Charles Neiman reported that although sales were down from last year for the month of December, overall 2017 was a good year for the liquor store. He said the yearly audit was the "best it ever had been." He also told the council that he had been trying to do more advertising and promotions on social media. Paul Koch told the council that everything is good in the water and sewer department. Rocky Hoffman reported the city's plow truck was repaired at a cost of \$2,143. The ambulance report noted the election of officers at the Dec. 21 meeting. Cheri Carter

said there is little traffic reported at the Tourist Information Center and the library is closed until spring.

In other business, the council:

► Approved 2018 IRS mileage reimbursement rate of 54.5 cents of every mile for business travel.

► Approved 2018 committee appointments, with no changes from last year's assignments.

► Designated of Councilor Bruce Black as Acting Mayor in the event of the absence of the mayor.

► Approved the appointment of three city officials to be authorized for pledged security at American Bank.

► Approved purchase of canvas doors for fire department ATV for \$1,650.

CRANE LAKE

Crane Lake News by the Singing Teapot Dames



That's a cold story!

The SOS "girls" of the North are on their annual outing this weekend. There seem to be less hearty souls who make the trip. Fishing and card playing have taken over snowmobiling. But as usual, camaraderie is number one!

Are you aware of the scare the residents of Hawaii experienced this week? The news even reached Crane Lake for some anxious moments. All the people on the islands received a warning message that a launched missile was headed to Hawaii. The son of Bonnie Beitz lives in Hawaii. He texted his mother with the news. Bonnie lives in Parkers Prairie. She called her friend, Ruth Carlson, at Crane Lake. There were many phone calls and anxious moments, but fortunately after 38 minutes it was deemed an error in "pushing the wrong button." All was clear.

The hard-working volunteer firefighters and first responders of Crane Lake enjoyed their annual Christmas party recently. The entire community thanks these dedicated people. They are all our friends and neighbors. When you see them, give them a pat on the back, a hearty handshake and a hug.

How about those Vikings! To get in the playoffs with a backup quarterback and having lost your star running back is outstanding. But the finish to the game against New Orleans was unbelievable. The last touchdown play was a true Hail Mary!

Life in the Land of Sun and Sand:

It is an event at a "home away from home"; one meets people and some return year after year and

become a circle of friends.

A gathering of repeating snowbirds was held last week to share occurrences of the past year with a cocktail or two and a small dinner at Ruth's Chris Steakhouse, which is right on the grounds of the condo complex. After having to drive miles to get anywhere, it was quite pleasant to walk across the tennis courts to enjoy an evening out. Many of the returning snowbirds come from Minnesota, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin, Illinois, and Iowa, so of course a topic of conversation is always how cold it is "at home". There is even a smattering of Canadians, so they can join in on the conversation as well. However, it is agreed upon by everyone that we are all glad to be here.

Weather this year in Florida has been on the coolish side, with daytime temps in the 60s and 70s, with several days only in the 50s. That's considered cold, and when nighttime temps get anywhere near freezing, the locals become unglued. A common sound in the morning is the wail of sirens from ambulances—when as many elderly reside in one area, there are bound to be health issues or falls that occur, needing medical attention. Sights include palm trees, sandy beaches, and a wide expanse of the Gulf waters. Planes often fly over the condo complex as there is an airport only a few miles away and also an Air Force base. When walking on the beach, one finds they share the sand with birds of different feathers—no ducks or loons, but seagulls and terns that scurry across the sand looking for bugs in the sand or fish in the ocean. If one is lucky, one may see schools of porpoises or dolphins out in the deeper waters.

As previously mentioned, there are a ton of restaurants here. There are also a ton of nail salons, with at least one on every block, it seems. Amazing that they all stay open—the tourists must keep them busy, no matter the season. Another "ton" of businesses are gas stations—there is a gas station on each and every corner. It is a marvel to us that THEY all stay open, as well; as one station will have gas for \$2.42/gallon, and right across the street, another station proclaims it has gas for \$2.62/gallon. Why would anyone, even a tourist or snowbird, pay 20 cents more for each gallon of gas when they could pay less? It is amazing.

This Dame is now ready to go for a three-mile walk on the beach. Can't forget my sunglasses, as the sun is shining brightly. Will need a long-sleeved shirt as it has not warmed up yet.

Let us hear from you. If you are a snow bird tell us what life is like in your area. Snowbirds like to hear the news of what is going on at Crane Lake; we like to know about you. Send news by e-mail to info@thelakecountry.com, by fax at 218-757-3533 or by phone to Sandy at 218-757-3233 and it will be added. So, fire away with your news. Remember any funds received for this column are added to the Crane Lake Scholarship Fund. This scholarship is given to our local students who graduate and will receive further education. The committee for the Scholarship Fund is Sandra Bodkin, Linda Lang and Tracey Francke. Contact any member of the committee should you wish to make a donation.

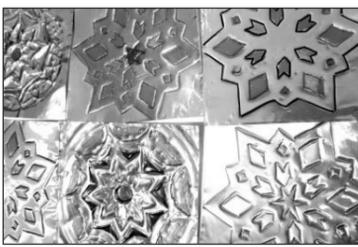
Until next week, the Dames are singing off.

ARROWHEAD LIBRARIES

Metal tooling class offered at Cook Library on Jan. 26

REGIONAL- The Arrowhead Library System is pleased to present Duluth Art Institute's Metal Tooling, a free interactive program being offered for ages 10 to adult at the Cook Library on Friday, Jan. 26 at 3:30 p.m.. The program is also being offered Tuesday, Jan. 23, 12 noon, Babbitt Public Library; and Tuesday, Jan. 23, 3 p.m., Ely Public Library.

Create a unique, colorful and textured artwork by tracing designs onto thin metal sheeting before col-



oring with permanent markers. Watch your design emerge through your inner artist.

This program, sponsored by

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

Voyageurs National Park announces "Winter at Voyageurs Event Series"

INT'L FALLS- Voyageurs National Park's staff is proud to announce the 2018 Winter at Voyageurs Event Series. The events will be held Jan. 19 through March 25. Most programs are held at the Rainy Lake Visitor Center unless otherwise noted.

The 2018 Winter at Voyageurs Event Series offers something for everyone. From painting on canvas to bird watching, sledding to storytelling, most events are designed for all ages and skill levels. Everyone is welcome to come to the park and explore something new—or something already known and loved—this winter. For more information, please visit Voyageurs.org/calendar or www.nps.gov/voya.

"Part of Voyageurs National Park Association's mission is to connect people to Voyageurs National Park. We're proud to co-sponsor this series helping people of all ages embrace the winter, play, and learn in their park," said Christina Hausman, VNP Executive Director.

Minnesota Twins Tour to visit Ely

ELY - The Minnesota Twins Major League Baseball team will make a stop in Ely on their annual Winter Caravan Tour on Thursday, Jan. 25.

Ely fans can expect to see pitcher Jose Berrios, outfielder Eddie Rosario, broadcaster Dick Bremer and the Twins mascot, TC, at the International Wolf Center beginning at 1 p.m.

Typically, at the stops, Twins players and representatives each speak for a few minutes about the upcoming season. There's usually time for questions from the audience, too. It's expected that the stop will last about 60 minutes.

Doors open at 12:30 p.m. on Jan. 25. There will be no fee for admission. The Wolf Center will close at about 4 p.m. The capacity of the Wolf Center's auditorium is approximately 150 people. Seating is not guaranteed.

Later that day, the Twins players will help kick off the Northland 300 snowmobile rally at the Grand Ely Lodge.

Kendra Johnson named to Dean's List at Minnesota State- Moorhead

REGIONAL- Kendra Johnson, of Cook, has been named to the Minnesota State University-Moorhead dean's list in recognition of academic achievement fall semester 2017. Students must be in degree-seeking status and maintain a 3.25 or higher grade point average while completing a minimum of 12 graded credits to qualify for the honor.

MSU Moorhead, with an enrollment of approximately 6,000 students, is a comprehensive university offering 151 majors, emphases and options, 11 pre-professional studies programs, and 15 graduate programs.

Artists come together at NFWA

COOK- Artists will be meeting in Cook at Northwoods Friends of the Arts on the third Saturdays each month; the next meeting will be on Saturday, Jan. 20. Conspiring artists will meet to work and discuss their own particular projects from 12 noon until 3 p.m. at 210 S River St. next to Dream Weaver Spa and Salon. Carvers, painters, sculptors, photographers, writers, weavers, musicians, and others, it's open season for "Open Art" at NFWA Gallery.

Since 2010, NFWA has organized artists and their works of art at the NFWA Gallery as a non-profit membership organization. Membership is only \$15 and the website is nwfamn.org.

New book for Readers and Rappers

COOK- The book selection for Feb. 13 meeting has been changed to "Whiskey and Charlie" by Author Annabel Smith.

Alberta Whitenack will be the moderator

Cook Library offering story time on Fridays

COOK- The Cook Public Library is offering winter story times on Fridays at 10:30 a.m. Themes this month are animals on Jan. 19, and fire safety on Jan. 26.

Bookmobile schedule

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

Thursday, Feb. 8; March 1, 22.

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

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

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

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

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



Online at
www.timberjay.com

Subscribe Today (218) 753-2950

ELEPHANT LAKE

Fishing fun

ELEPHANT LAKE- There was great ice, plus some great fishing, for this year's "Wanna Catch a Lunker" ice fishing contest sponsored by Melgeorge's Elephant Lake Resort on Jan. 13.

Travis Mahn of International Falls won the drawing for the Calm Nanook Ice Shelter.

Special thanks to sponsors: Clam, Fastenal of Virginia, Zups of Cook, Cooks Country Store, Auto Value of Cook, Ely Beard Fest, Sallie and Jim Lindstrom (Melgeorge's Cedar and Cozy Cabin Owners), Dale and Terri Anderson (Melgeorge's Birch Cabin owners), Coca Cola Distributing I-Falls, Fraboni's of Hibbing, Phillips Liquor Distrib. Mpls., L&M Supply Virginia, Jay Brunner plaque maker and Kay Cornelius- (registration).



Some nice-sized crappies won prizes in this year's contest, but even those with tiny fish had big smiles. Everyone enjoyed a fish fry at the lodge after fishing was over. submitted photos

Results

Crappie
1st -1.67 lbs, Richard Marohn Sr., Grasston
2nd -1.44 lbs, Jeff Olesch, St. Cloud
3rd - 1.40 lbs, Richard Marohn Jr., Grasston

Bluegill
1st - .78 lbs, Jeff Olesch, St. Cloud
2nd - .56 lbs, Austin Olson, Ramsey
3rd - .46 lbs, Shelly Sumerland, Orr

Perch
1st - .82 lbs, Richard Marohn Sr., Grasston
2nd - .75 lbs, Richard Marohn Jr., Grasston
3rd - .71 lbs, Jeff Olesch, St. Cloud

Walleye
1st, 2nd and 3rd! - .81 lb (only one walleye caught!) Richard Marohn Sr., Grasston.



GRIZZLY UPDATES

It takes a village to create a school sign...

Hello Grizzly Families,

When I started as principal at North Woods last year, I was asked this question by a few folks: "Why isn't there a sign on the road by North Woods showing where to turn to get to the school?"

I gave this question a great deal of thought, and after much deliberation, I came up with the most scientific answer a new principal could come up with.

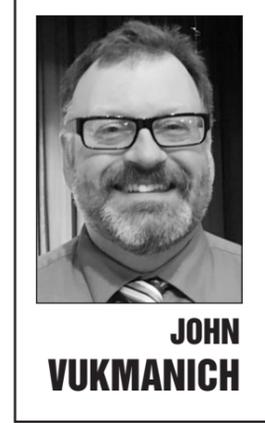
"I don't know," was my response.

I had heard stories of people missing the turn and ending up behind the school. Thank goodness for our water tower to serve as a beacon!

After looking into it more deeply, I received answers anywhere from issues with St. Louis County signage ordinances to property line concerns, but no one really seemed sure about it.

I decided that nobody would likely end up in jail if we installed a small sign on the corner near the school entrance, and began my quest to secure a sign.

All veteran school staff know that if you need information or want something done, you go straight to the secretary. North Woods is blessed to have three excel-



JOHN VUKMANICH

lent ladies in the office, Karen Shermer, Carol Erickson, and Connie Harju. These three ladies can answer a phone while typing an email and talking to an upset student at the counter, all at the same time without losing their cool. Most schools would fold up like a paperback novel without their secretaries, and North Woods is no exception.

Karen Shermer has lived in the area for a long time, and seems to know everyone from Nett Lake to Crane Lake to Cook to Virginia and beyond. We talked about getting a sign, and I could see a light bulb turn on in her head. I knew she had an idea!

This is where the story of our sign gets more interesting.

Harris Youngquist



grew up in Kiron, Iowa, and attended Bethel College and Seminary in St. Paul.

There, he met Judy Kronholm and fell in love. Judy's roots were right here in Cook. In 1945, they were married. Harris served as a Baptist minister at two small churches in Northwest Minnesota, the Wanger and Alma Baptist Churches near Argyle. His starting wages consisted of \$5 per week and "food gifts!" He and Judy travelled to post-war Japan in 1949 as missionaries under the Baptist General Conference. They raised four children, Jim, Joan, Tom, and Mary Lou while they ministered throughout various communities in Japan over the next forty years.

In 1962, they were for-



Harris and Judy Youngquist. The couple created the new sign for the North Woods School.

tunate enough to purchase a cabin on Lake Vermilion. This cabin became their home when they retired from missionary work in

1989. Harris did not retire, though, and continued on in the Ministry serving as pastor at the Babbitt Baptist Church until 2009.

Harris had a passion for woodcarving. During this time, he was able to share his interests through community education classes in Cook. Men of all ages were infused with a passion for this art form.

Harris has a shop in his basement and at age 94 he continues to carve. He has carved many one-of-a-kind signs that adorn driveways, homes, and cabins. He also carves pictures, boxes, clocks, nameplates, and the list goes on. Harris and Mary Lou collaborate on

many carvings, with Mary Lou adding her flair as a painter to his carvings. Harris feels very fortunate to share his love of carving with those he cares about.

So, as Paul Harvey stated, "Now you know the rest of the story!" Our custom "hand-carved by Harris" sign ushers guests in the proper direction, and adds a real "northern touch" to our school. Thank you, Harris, for adding your one-of-a-kind artistic flair to North Woods School.

Have a great weekend!
**Your principal,
John Vukmanich**

Mission to Cambodia at Bear River Lutheran on Sunday

BEAR RIVER- The public is invited to hear college student Laura Salmela speak about her mission experience in Cambodia on Sunday, Jan. 21 following the 10 a.m. service at Bear River Church.

It's a big, wide world out there, and God is working! God uses the hearts, hands, and voices of people as they go out into places throughout the world to share His love and grace. Last summer, through the ministry of Youth With a Mission (YWAM) Laura Salmela of Bear River was a part of a team that went to Cambodia to do just that. Laura is a student at North Dakota State University in Fargo right now and as part of "100 Fold's Summer Studio" Bear River Church is she was able to simultaneously study architecture and grow in her faith as part of a team that collabora-

tively designed and built two outdoor meeting pavilions for the YWAM Campus in Battambang. "100 Fold's Summer Studio" is an architecture firm that trains, equips and sends young architects to demonstrate the love of Jesus by designing buildings that are safe, efficient and inspiring.

We'd love to have you join us as Laura shares her experiences as part of that team. Her stories and photos will inspire you as you hear of how Youth With a Mission, working with 100 Fold Studio, is reaching out with the Gospel of Jesus to the people of Cambodia. Laura's presentation - along with a pot-luck dinner - will follow our 10 a.m. worship. Bear River Church is located at 11141 Hwy. 22 west of the intersection of Hwy. 5 and Hwy. 22 or 4

miles east of Hwy. 65. If you have any questions, please contact Carol at 218-376-4534.



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

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Official Newspaper:
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COMMUNITY EVENTS AND NOTICES

Community forum on Heroin and Opiates set for Tuesday, Jan. 30 at Fortune Bay

VERMILION RESERVATION- Bois Forte is sponsoring a community forum on Heroin and Opiates on Tuesday, Jan. 30 at the Woodlands Ballroom at Fortune Bay.

A resource fair begins at 5 p.m., followed by a welcome by Tribal Chairwoman Cathy Chavers at 5:10 p.m., an opening prayer by Virgil Sohm at 5:15 p.m., and then a free community dinner from 5:30 - 6:15 p.m. A presentation on the topic, along with naloxone training will begin at 6:15 p.m. Speakers will include James Cross, from Natives Against Heroin.

Free childcare will be available; please contact Pam Hughes at 218-753-2347 to arrange for child care.

Vermilion Penguins plan group rides

REGIONAL- The Vermilion Penguins Snowmobile Club hosts regular rides for members and other interested snowmobilers. On Saturday, Jan. 20, the club will ride to End of the Trail Lodge on Echo Lake. Meet at the Vermilion Club at 10 a.m.

On Thursday, Jan. 25, the "lunch bunch" will ride to Giants Ridge. Meet at the Vermilion Club at 10 a.m.

On Saturday, Jan. 27, everyone is invited to participate in this year's Fun Run. You can participate by sled or by car. All proceeds go to support trails in the Tower, Babbitt, and Ely areas.

Finnlander Bocce Ball Tournament set for Saturday, Jan. 20 in Tower

TOWER- Get ready for some winter fun in Tower-Soudan. The Tower-Soudan Lake Vermilion Area Events Board will host a "Finnlander Bocce Ball" Tournament on Saturday, Jan. 20. The tournament will begin at 9 a.m. at the Tower Harbor and last until a double-elimination winner takes the victory. Want to know the best part? This low-cost event is not-for-profit, so there is a 100-percent payout for places first through fourth.

The board is asking anyone who is interested in participating to sign up at Good Ol' Days, D'Erick's, or Benchwarmer's, or you can also sign up on our Facebook page at fb.me/tseventsboard. Teams must be four people and consist of two females and two males; cost is only \$40/team. All entry fees must be paid up front. The board would also love to see the whole community out there - whether playing or cheering on the participants. Feel free to bring a cooler, some concessions may also be available, and a bonfire is planned as well.

I-FALLS

Freeze Yer Gizzard Blizzard Run and Icebox Days this weekend in I-Falls, Jan. 17-21

INT'L FALLS- The Icebox of the Nation is gearing up once again to celebrate winter during the 38th Annual Icebox Days Festival held in International Falls, Jan. 17 - 21. With over 30 events on the schedule, the International Falls Area Chamber of Commerce along with event coordinators and hosts are in the final stages of preparations to bring you another fabulous festival.

"This year's five-day festival has events for all ages and with the blessing of Mother Nature will provide the perfect opportunity for individuals and families alike to get outdoors and experience the fun of winter," said Tricia Heibel, Chamber President. Icebox Days XXXVIII includes long-time festival favorites such as frozen turkey bowling, smooch races, a chili contest, and winter fireworks at Smokey Bear Park, along with popular events like the boot hockey tournament and nine-hole frozen golf open on Rainy Lake. With 10 new events in this year's schedule, there will be no shortage on fun in International Falls this weekend.

The Chamber of Commerce originally developed Icebox Days in 1980 with two goals in mind. First, provide something recreational for

locals and tourists to do during the winter; and second, provide the community with an economic boost during a traditionally slow winter month.

Starting in the 1950s, International Falls was known first as the "coldest town in America" which eventually turned into the moniker "Icebox of the Nation", which the festival was named after. The Freeze Yer Gizzard Blizzard Run, on the other hand might not be so clear. This anchor festival event was named by a local citizen in 1980 and the name has stuck. Today, both names are officially trademarked by the City of International Falls.

"We are proud of the diversity of events in this year's festival, which is inclusive of all ages," said Heibel. "This mix not only encourages local citizens to come out and play, it is also what attracts people to the Falls to earn their bragging rights for being a part of our crazy winter fun!" A lot of time and effort has gone into the planning and coordination of the 2018 schedule of events, and with the weekend weather looking good, festival organizers hope people get out and enjoy themselves - taking in as many events as they can.

Over the years this unique outdoor festival has brought a blizzard of media to the area - Good Morning America, CBS, Lifetime Television, The Weather Channel, The Travel Channel, European journalists, regional media and a host of others - to witness the eccentricity of the FYG Blizzard Run and other unique Icebox Days events. "As residents of Northern Minnesota, our community doesn't shy away from a little cold, especially since we know how to bundle up for it," said Heibel. "So, grab your favorite hat-mitten-scarf set and come out and join us at Icebox Days!"

Icebox Days is truly a community effort and the Chamber is grateful for their partnership with the City of International Falls and support from the over 40 Chamber Member Businesses who so generously provide time, services and funding to bring Icebox Days to life.

For more information on Icebox Days, a complete schedule of events, or to register for the FYGBR, go to www.iceboxdays.com or contact the Chamber at 218-283-9400 or 800-325-5766.

LAKE VERMLION CULTURAL CENTER

Local chef, storytelling highlights of LVCC fundraiser

SOUDAN- Over the holidays, 45 dinner-theater guests at the Vermilion Park Inn were treated to a reading of Dylan Thomas' A Child's Christmas in Wales, presented by Hamline University Professor Emeritus William Kimes.

The event was a

benefit for the Lake Vermilion Cultural Center and the traditional Welsh lamb dinner was prepared by chef Bryan Morcom and his staff of volunteers. Rave reviews followed the dinner show and diners were especially delighted by the flaming figgy pudding dessert.

The 25-below temperature discouraged some attendees, but a waiting list filled their spots. All servers and staff were volunteers and thanks go to the Vermilion Park Inn for the lovely table settings and decorations. Especially popular was the elaborate Dickens Village set up by Tom Burns, one of the VPI owners who came from Arizona for a week to build



Chef Bryan Morcom with LVCC Chair Mary Batinich.



Tom Burns' Christmas Village will remain on display at Vermilion Park Inn. submitted photos

the display. So many people remarked about its beauty that a decision has been made to keep it on permanent display.

LVCC Board member and Secretary Elaine McGillivray welcomed guests and remarked that the restoration of the Cultural Center is contin-

uing inside and out as a result of recent engineering and architectural reviews. Fundraising is going forward with several private and government grant applications underway to secure funding to complete the project.

Ruby's Pantry in Babbitt on Jan. 27

BABBITT- Ruby's Pantry will be distributing food at the Babbitt Municipal Center (71 South Drive) on Saturday, Jan. 27 (always on the fourth Saturday of each month) from 10 - 11:30 a.m. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. A \$20 cash (no checks) donation buys an abundance of food. No income or residency guidelines. Bring two large boxes or baskets. Sponsored by St. Pius X Catholic Church. Volunteers always welcome. Young children must be supervised by an adult.

New storytelling event in Ely on Thursday, Jan. 25

ELY- You are invited to come and listen, applaud, cheer, whistle and shout out encouragement! Or tell us a story. No experience needed. Anyone can put their name in the hat to tell a six-minute story. We'll draw eight to ten names from the hat each night. Stories

must be true and experienced by the storyteller. Each evening will have a theme. Our theme for January is "Lessons Learned".

Storytelling takes place at the Ely Senior Center on the last Thursday of the winter months: Jan. 25, Feb. 22, Mar. 22 and Apr. 26, from 6 - 8 p.m. We'll have coffee, tea and cookies. Storytellers have a maximum of six minutes to tell their story. For the January event we'll have some storytellers lined up in advance, but after that, it's on you to put your name in the hat. We admit we are inspired by the Moth Radio Hour, but not affiliated. Check out www.themoth.org to see what storytelling is all about.

For more information, contact Terry Cooper at tcooper@umn.edu. Please come. Listen to stories by others and then drop your name in the hat to tell your story!

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Thank You

The family of the late Rod Huismann wishes to extend a thank you to all who have expressed their condolences and assisted us in supporting Rod during his final days and funeral. A special thank you to Pastor Jeff Schirle, Mlaker Funeral Home, Cook VFW Post 1757 Honor Guard, Orr Legion Post 480 Honor Guard and the ladies of the VFW who served the luncheon.

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NIGHT SKY...Continued from page 1

Collaborative
 “Look Up UR In Ely” is the event name of the dark sky initiative of ElyDarkSky LLC. EDS is a local Ely chapter of The International DarkSky Association, he said.
 The events, scheduled for Feb. 3 and Feb. 10 at various venues around town are sponsored by: Ely Winter Festival, International DarkSky Association, Grand Ely Lodge, Adventure Inn, North American Bear Center, and the Ely P h o t o g r a p h i c Collaborative.
 Ely Dark Sky’s goals include:
 ▶ Offer research and education about light pollution to area businesses and residents.
 ▶ Offer assistance to local businesses desiring to expand into the “astro-tourism” market by evaluating their exterior

lighting needs and practices and advising ways of decreasing energy costs and if needed, decreasing localized light pollution by making changes to the exterior lighting of their properties.
 ▶ Offer assistance to local business and government agencies in their marketing efforts directed at dark sky enthusiasts.
 “Dark Sky Awareness programs are popping up all over the world as more people realize that light pollution is expanding into historically dark areas preventing skies dark enough to view the wonders of the night sky,” Misonznick said.
 “Eighty percent of Americans cannot see the night sky any longer, mostly due to light pollution. They can’t see the Milky Way, the Northern Lights, the International Space Station, satellites

zipping by, or even the stars,” he said. “We are fortunate way up here in Ely. We already have lots of dark sky. On a clear night billions and billions of stars are visible, even from town.”
 The Dark Sky Ely programs offered include:
 ▶ “Jim Rock’s Native American Star Stories and Planetarium,” Saturday, Feb. 3, 10 a.m. to noon, Vermilion Community College gymnasium. UMD’s GeoDome Theater inspires minds of all ages using the latest in display technology. Real, dynamic earth and space data comes to life. Through guided inquiry led by James Rock, program director of Allworth Planetarium of UMD, the audience embarks on a mindful voyage from the surface of the Earth all the way to the edge of the known universe.

▶ “Mike Lynch and The Stars,” Saturday, Feb. 3, 7-9 p.m., North American Bear Center, indoors and outdoors. For more than 40 years, Mike has been teaching classes and putting on star parties through community education, nature centers, and other entities throughout Minnesota and western Wisconsin. His goal is to help people make the stars their old friends. Powerpoint program followed by outdoor star viewing (dress warm).
 ▶ “Aurora Borealis Photography 101,” with Roy Misonznick of the Ely Photographic Collaborative, Saturday, Feb. 10, 9:30-11 a.m., Grand Ely Lodge. Roy will explain basic techniques and equipment needed to make basic photos of the Northern Lights and the night sky. Tableside food service available from

Evergreen Restaurant.
 ▶ “Star Trail Photography 101” with Les Conrad of the Ely P h o t o g r a p h i c Collaborative, Saturday, Feb. 10, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Grand Ely Lodge. Les will explain and demonstrate techniques he uses to make phenomenal star trail photographs. Table side food service available from Evergreen Restaurant.
 ▶ “Night Sky With The Naked Eye” by Bob King, Saturday, Feb. 10, 1:30-3 p.m., Grand Ely Lodge. Bob presents an entertaining, passionate and informative one-hour program. He works at the Duluth News Tribune as a photographer and photo editor. He’s also an amateur astronomer and has been keen on the sky since age 11. Bob’s modest credentials include membership in the American Association of Variable

Star Observers (AAVSO) where he is a regular contributor, International Meteorite Collectors Assn. and Arrowhead Astronomical Society. He also teaches community education astronomy classes at UMD’s Allworth Planetarium and recently had his first book published, “Night Sky with the Naked Eye,” about all the wonderful things to see at night with just your bare eyeballs. Tableside food service available from Evergreen Restaurant.
 For more information on these or future events by Ely Dark Sky contact Roy Misonznick at roy@ElyDarkSky.org or call 218-235-9999 or on facebook at ElyDarkSky or on the web at www.ElyDarkSky.org.

MPCA...Continued from page 1

proposed rule is flawed and would result in dire consequences for the iron mining industry and Minnesota communities,” said the organization’s President Kelsey Johnson.
 The decision leaves the current strict standard of 10 milligrams per liter, in place, at least for now.
 “This is a really strong victory for clean water and the rule of law,” said attorney Paula Maccabee of Duluth-based Water Legacy, who had submitted over 1,400 pages of expert testimony and comments in the case, some of which proved critical to the judge’s decision.
 But the ruling sets up what is likely to be an extended political and legal battle between Indian tribes and environmentalists, who support the current standard, and the mining industry and its legislative backers who have pushed for years to weaken the state’s sulfate rule.

Among her many findings, Schlatter concluded that the MPCA had failed to make its case that the proposed new rules were needed or adequately based in science. Schlatter noted the large volume of public comments that the MPCA had received, including from large numbers of Native Americans, who did not believe the new rule would protect wild rice and that it could increase mercury methylation as well. “The MPCA has failed to make an affirmative presentation of facts which demonstrate that, in establishing standards which would allow increased levels of sulfate in wild rice waters... it is ensuring that the proposed water quality standards provide for the attainment and maintenance of the water quality standards of downstream waters, as required by federal and state law,” wrote Schlatter.
 The proposed standard would have allowed more sulfate discharge on the Range.
 While MPCA officials insist that their proposed flexible standard would be more protective of wild rice than the current standard of 10 mg/l, the agency’s own data suggests it would have been much more permissive of

sulfate discharges into many Iron Range lakes and streams. That’s because the MPCA’s so-called “equation-based standard” would have considered other factors, such as iron content in receiving waters and sediments, in determining what kind of standard to apply. The MPCA argues based on research findings that the presence of iron helps to mitigate the effects of higher sulfate levels.
 Complicating the issue is the fact that sulfate, by itself, does not appear to harm wild rice.
 Instead, microbes in aquatic sediments convert the sulfate to sulfide, a foul-smelling chemical that is toxic to almost all life. But oxidized iron in the water can render some or most of the sulfide harmless, by combining chemically with the sulfide and precipitating it out of the water.
 Citing that research, MPCA officials had proposed to use a mathematical formula to determine safe sulfate discharge levels on a case-by-case basis, rather than using the current numerical standard. Under the MPCA’s proposed formula, dischargers into many Iron Range lakes and streams would have theoretically been able to increase their sulfate discharges rather than clean them up.
 The Pike River, for example, currently averages about 10 mg/l of sulfate in its water, a level that’s likely elevated to

some degree from seepage from the Minntac tailings basin. But, according to the MPCA’s proposed new equation-based standard, the river’s sulfate level could increase to more than 40 mg/l without harming wild rice. Portions of the Partridge River, near Hoyt Lakes, could see sulfate levels ranging from a low of 77 mg/l to as high as 571 mg/l under the MPCA proposal. Currently, sulfate levels in the river range from about 10 mg/l to as much as 54 mg/l. Portions of the Embarrass River could receive sulfate levels of more than 800 mg/l under the MPCA’s proposal.
 The Dark River would still require some mitigation under the proposed rule, but not as much as would have been needed under the existing standard. Sulfate levels in the Dark River are very high, at approximately 175 mg/l due to heavy discharge from the Minntac tailings basin. But Minntac could have proposed to increase its tailings discharges to the Pike River watershed in order to reduce its flow to the Dark River and lower sulfate levels there. The Pike River is the largest tributary to Lake Vermilion.
 Judge Schlatter, in her ruling, took issue with the agency’s proposed standard, noting that it was, by its very nature, vague and uncertain since it lists no actual standards. “Therefore, if the rule is enacted as proposed, there

will be no standards when the rule becomes effective,” she wrote.
 The judge also noted the high degree of uncertainty the proposed rule would create for discharges such as municipal treatment plants. “Regulated parties will not know what standards will apply to them, or even whether any sulfate standard applies to them,” Schlatter wrote.
Implications of the ruling
 The fallout from the Jan. 11 decision is uncertain. MPCA officials said they’re still evaluating the ruling and aren’t sure about their next steps. “We will need to read and evaluate what the ruling says before offering any public comment,” said MPCA spokesperson Dave Verhasselt.
 The agency does have the option to correct the flaws in its proposal to address the judge’s findings, but that would entail retaining the current strict standard.
 Water Legacy’s Maccabee said that’s the best part about the latest decision. “The existing standard is a whole lot more protective of wild rice in the case of mining pollution than what the MPCA would have given to them [the industry],” she said.
 Yet it was the prospect of enforcement of the 10 mg/l standard that prompted the mining industry to

push for legislative changes in the law in the first place. Those efforts led the Legislature to direct the MPCA to adopt a new sulfate standard based on the scientific record, and it even provided funding for additional scientific research that lawmakers had hoped would undermine the current standard.
 That research, instead, led the MPCA to conclude that the 10 mg/l was scientifically justified. It later reversed itself and proposed its equation-based standard after political pushback from the mining industry and Iron Range lawmakers.
 IMA’s Johnson said her organization has already heard from some legislators who are interested in changing the 10 mg/l standard. “I’m not sure what we’ll go after,” said Johnson. “All things are on the table.”
 Johnson said her organization supports protecting wild rice but that any new rule should encompass the full range of threats to the resource, including issues like water depth, invasive species, pH, and water temperature. “All of these are factors that affect wild rice’s ability to grow,” she said.
 While the Legislature could opt to change the standard or eliminate it altogether, such an effort would likely face a strong legal challenge, said Water Legacy’s Maccabee. “If the Legislature decides to get rid of the [existing] standard, we now have a detailed hearing record and an 82-page decision saying that the standard is needed to protect wild rice,” she said. “We’d have a pretty decent record to challenge such an action by the Legislature. What this careful and rigorous opinion says above all is that the law matters.”

Judge’s findings

The latest decision came in a 82-page ruling issued Jan. 11 by ALJ Laura Sue Schlatter, who had presided over the contested case hearing that was part of the MPCA’s rulemaking process.

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AMBULANCE...Continued from page 1

lance. And that puts more pressure on those who do respond when the call goes out.

For some services, switching from a traditional volunteer system to paid staffing is one solution to the problem, and most area services are proceeding with caution as they design new approaches to fit their needs. The Cook, Ely, and Hoyt Lakes ambulance services have all expanded their paid staffing in the past year in various ways, typically through adopting on-call systems that provide more compensation for their local volunteers, in order to improve response time for emergencies. Some are looking at upgrading their services to advanced life support, which requires the use of paramedics. That switch can improve patient care and provide higher levels of reimbursement for the services that make the switch.

The city of Tower's ambulance service is taking a somewhat different approach in its plan to shift to a paid on-call service five days a week sometime this spring, and the plan, as currently envisioned, will mean a significant increase in the personnel costs for the city's ambulance service, of anywhere from \$165,000- \$200,000 depending on a number of factors.

While smaller services, like Cook's ambulance, pay relatively modest stipends for volunteers on-call (\$3-\$4 per hour depending on training in the case of Cook), the Tower City Council has already approved hourly pay ranging from \$9 per hour for emergency medical responders (who have limited training) to \$13 per hour for emergency

medical technicians. And unlike most other departments, which maintain worker shifts ranging from four-to-twelve hours in length, Tower's ambulance service is proposing to operate two 60-hour shifts, providing coverage by a two-person team from Monday through Friday. That's likely to prevent local volunteers from serving in those roles. Indeed, the city had to delay implementation of its plan last year after none of the service's current workforce expressed interest in the lengthy shifts. While some out-of-town residents expressed interest in the positions, according to Ambulance Director Steve Altenburg, none of them could meet the minimum response time of five minutes.

The city council, in response, recently approved a request by Altenburg to rent a house in town to provide quarters for the prospective new out-of-town hires, at an additional cost of \$8,000-\$10,000.

For Tower's ambulance service, the change will potentially triple its current payroll, from about \$86,000 last year, to more than \$250,000. Last May, when Altenburg first presented his plan to the city council, he argued that inter-hospital patient transfers would pay the cost of the expanded payroll and other expenses. The ambulance service's 2017 annual report notes that the service received 229 requests for transfers from one hospital to another and was able to accept 72, or just over 30 percent.

The increase in transfers between hospitals is significant and a widespread issue. EMS and hospital officials in the region

all agree that demand for patient transfers—typically from primary care facilities like Ely-Bloomenson and the Cook Hospital to regional care centers in Duluth or elsewhere—has risen significantly in recent years. The availability of new ambulances to handle that demand has not grown as quickly, and that's led to increasing wait times for patients needing transfer. Nicole Chiabotti, with the Cook Hospital, recently broke the numbers down from this past July 1-Nov. 22. "We had 99 patients who needed transfer from our emergency room during that time, and 33 percent were delayed because we couldn't find an ambulance right away."

Some of the delay could be a result of a new policy from St. Louis County dispatch, which now allows hospitals just one dispatched request for service, which goes to the hospital's primary provider. According to Chiabotti, county officials made the change after calls for transfers (which are not considered emergencies in most cases) increasingly overloaded the county communications.

If county dispatchers don't get a response from the local ambulance, hospital staff has to get on the phone to find an ambulance from somewhere else. "We go by distance," said Chiabotti, first we call Orr, then we call Tower."

Despite the higher demand for transfers, area ambulance directors all urged caution in assuming that a shift to a paid on-call system will significantly increase the number of transfers that an ambulance service can accept. They note that the first responsibility of any ambulance service is to provide

emergency response within their coverage area.

While the Ely Ambulance maintains paid on-call staff 24 hours a day, seven days a week, Director Geoff Galaski estimates that his service accommodated only about 40 percent of the 144 transfer requests they received this year. "The biggest thing is timing," he said. "If we get called for a psych transport at 1 a.m., it's hard to find staff to fill in."

"That's the major piece of it," said Bob Norlen, field services supervisor for the state of Minnesota's Northeast EMS region. "You can do the transfer, but you always have to have a crew available to respond to an emergency. It would be tough to explain if someone died of a cardiac arrest while you were on a transfer."

That's one reason why the Cook City Council had, for years, prohibited transfers by the Cook Ambulance Service. They've only recently allowed the ambulance service to accept transfers, but only when they can confirm a back-up team is in place in the event of emergency.

Yet Tower's plan would require its on-call personnel to accept virtually every transfer request to sustain the additional payroll and related costs from the proposed shift to paid on-call. City Clerk-Treasurer Linda Keith told the Tower City Council in December that the ambulance service nets about \$1,000 on an average transfer, which means the service would need to take on an additional 170 trans-

fers, (or about 100 percent of requests) to have any hope of covering its added costs. But the current plan only calls for paid staffing Monday through Friday, so the plan would only have the potential to increase transfer acceptance during those five days. Even if the ambulance service were able to accept 80 percent of the transfer requests (and no ambulance directed contacted for this story believed that was possible) during those days, and maintain its current acceptance level on the weekends, it would only increase the number of accepted transfers by 78. That would cover less than half of the payroll-related costs from the proposed paid on-call system.

Making the wrong decision can be costly for ambulance services, which is why most have exercised caution in moving forward with changes. Hoyt Lakes, for example, initially asked the state's EMS regulatory board to do a study of their service and offer recommendations. When that study suggested a move toward a paid on-call system, the service hired a consultant to further develop the business model. "Only after that was the new system put in place," said Hoyt Lake Ambulance director Jim Theodore.

The level of due diligence in the case of Tower is unclear. The city council approved the plan last May after a 15-minute presentation from Altenburg, a presentation that did not include all of the costs related to the program, such as payroll taxes and

other fringe benefits, possible overtime costs, and the cost of rental and maintenance of living quarters for the staff.

Altenburg recently told the city council that the new system would likely provide some savings on existing payroll, since the new on-call staff could perform some functions currently done by existing staff, although he provided no specific numbers.

The ambulance department does potentially have room to absorb some additional costs even without corresponding income. The department showed \$342,000 in revenue last year, with only \$203,000 in expenditures. But the department's city-approved budget for 2018 shows estimated expenditures of \$331,000, (with projected revenue of \$331,000) without including the cost of hiring on-call staffing or potential new revenue from additional transfers.

As it stands, the Tower Ambulance service has been effective for years in meeting the emergency needs of residents in its primary service territory, having been forced to request mutual aid only a handful of times in the past year. And it's been able to take on at least as many transfers as most services with paid on-call staff, although it's done so by overextending some of its volunteers. At least three members of the ambulance staff, including Altenburg, responded to more than 100 ambulance calls during 2017.

WALZ...Continued from page 1

George Bush came to speak in a Mankato quarry. I accompanied two students who wanted to hear the speech. When we arrived, one of my students was turned away because of a John Kerry sticker on his wallet. We were ordered to board a bus to take us away from the quarry. Though I was allowed to stay—after offensive questioning by a campaigner—the boys were told to leave. This was a teachable moment for them

and for me. I decided that, if a command sergeant major could be harassed for wishing to hear his commander-in-chief, the political process was deeply broken. That night, I became committed to working to help repair our nation's political system."

Part of Northern Progressives' mission is to provide civic education and encourage participation in the political process. The group sponsored a visit by

gubernatorial candidate Erin Murphy in November and is working to bring other candidates including Rebecca Otto, Tina Lieblich, Paul Thissen, and Chris Coleman.

Those attending the Walz event are welcome come a little early and order food and drinks off the menu at the Crescent, located at 9257 Olson Road, at Cook. For more information, contact Leah Rogne, 218-787-2212.

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GIRLS BASKETBALL

Wolves fall to Cherry

Team struggling in tougher part of their schedule

by JAY GREENEY
Sports writer

ELY – Both Ely and Cherry deployed the full court press early in their Tuesday night matchup here. The Tigers managed to beat it, while the Timberwolves could not—and that spelled the difference as Cherry went on to win 78-46.

The Tigers, who didn't

have a junior or senior on the roster, should have been the team that lacked experience to stymie the press. Instead they thrived by consistently working around it and setting up easy layups as they built an impregnable 56-29 halftime lead.

“This was a tough game in which their pressure caused quite a bit of frustration,” said Ely Head Coach Darren Visser. “We

Right: Ely sophomore guard Erika Mattson tries to move past a Cherry defender.

photo by J. Greeney

are now in the tougher part of our schedule and in each and every game we need to learn and grow whether we win or lose.”

Ely has now lost two

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



Sports week

Boys bball

Friday, Jan. 19
Ely at MI-B, 7:15 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 20
Ely hosts Duluth-Marshall, 4 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 23
NW hosts Cherry, 7:15 p.m.
Ely at Fond du Lac, 7:15 p.m.
NER at Bigfork, 7:15 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 26
NW at Evel-Gil, 7:15 p.m.

Girls bball

Friday, Jan. 19
NW at Nash-Kee, 7:15 p.m.
NER at Hill City, 5:45 pm

Saturday, Jan. 20
Ely hosts Duluth-Marshall, 2 p.m.

Monday, Jan. 22
NW hosts Cherry, 7:15 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 23
Ely hosts Bigfork, 7:15 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 25
NER at Cherry, 7:15 p.m.
NW at Red Lake, 6 p.m.
Ely at Chisholm, 7:15 pm

Hockey

Friday, Jan. 19
Ely hosts Red Lake Falls, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 20
Ely hosts Red Lake Falls, 2 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 23
Ely hosts Proctor, 6 p.m.

Nordic ski

Saturday, Jan. 20
Marshall Sprints, 11 a.m.

Friday, Jan. 26
Duluth East Invite, 11 a.m.

BOYS BASKETBALL

Like Sherman's march

North Woods tops third-ranked Nevis, lays waste to MI-B, Hill City

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

FIELD TWP— The Grizzlies basketball juggernaut continued into another week as the top-ranked Class A boys team notched win number thirteen against Hill City on Tuesday. The undefeated Grizzlies had five players in double figures as they jumped to the early lead and built a 52-17 halftime lead. The Hornets never even came close, as North Woods took it in the end, 89-35.

Tate Olson led the way for the Grizzlies with 18 points, followed by Brendan Parson and Chase Kleppe, who notched 12 points apiece, and Tanner Lokken and Trevor Morrison, with ten points apiece. TJ Chiabotti added seven, and Cade Goggeye, Dylan Chiabotti, and Darius Goggeye each scored six.

Playing on Saturday in Duluth, North Woods earned a particularly sweet victory against third-ranked Nevis, topping the Tigers 53-39. It was a battle of the unbeaten, and it pitted many of the same players on both teams who had met in the state football

“Our defense was fantastic and did a very good job on the boards.”

Coach Will Kleppe

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

Right: The Grizzlies' Tate Olson breaks through the MI-B perimeter during action last Friday at North Woods School. photo by C. Stone



BOYS BASKETBALL

Ely back on winning track

by JAY GREENEY
Sports writer

BIGFORK – Ely extended its latest winning streak to three games on Tuesday, as they used a balanced attack to top the Huskies 66-45.

“We played very well on both ends of the floor,” said Ely Head Coach Tom McDonald. “We really locked down on defense in the second half.”

Ely took a 28-20 lead into halftime and never looked back. “We also ran our offense well,” added McDonald. “We got good shots within our system.”

The Wolves' schedule doesn't get any easier and playing well on both sides of the ball will hopefully keep their streak alive.

Patrick Vanderbeek poured in 19 points to lead Ely offensively, followed by Carter Gaulke with 16 points and seven assists.

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

NORDIC SKIING

Ely skiers take second

Both boys and girls teams show strength in classical ski contest

by JAY GREENEY
Sports writer

TWOHARBORS—The Wolves got the opportunity to compete the “old fashioned” way on Tuesday at the Korkki Invitational and had strong performances from both teams, taking second in the boys and girls competition.

“The course at Korkki Nordic is an old-school, single tracked trail thru the woods which is always fun

for the skiers,” said Ely Head Coach Paula Anderson. “There is a lot of falling and losing poles due to the difficulty in passing other skiers on the course.”

The course creates plenty of chaos and it brings out strong performances from skiers who are better at double poling versus skating style.

“The boys were strong in that they placed five skiers ahead of Grand Rapids' fourth skier,” said Anderson, even as they were edged for the top spot by the larger squad. The boys team placed five skiers in the top 12 spots but it wasn't enough

Left: Gracie Pointer shows determination as she makes her way along the Two Harbors course. photo by J. Sundell



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

COLLEGE

Ironmen top Rainy River, improve to 11-5

by JAY GREENEY
Sports writer

ELY – The Ironmen trailed Rainy River by five points at halftime on Saturday. But they used strong defense combined with hot shooting in the second half to pull off a 101-88 victory and improve their season record to 11-5.

VCC grabbed seven more steals and forced five more turnovers than the Voyageurs. Combine that with a 56-percent shooting average from two-point range and a solid 46 percent from beyond the arc and it was an all-around solid game against the 9-5 Voyageurs.

Denario Jackson had a huge night for the Ironmen, when he

recorded a triple double, including 15 points, a game-leading 11 rebounds and 12 assists. Bradlee Lewis shot the lights, connecting on 12 of 15 two-pointers to go with three treys and two from the charity stripe for 35 points. Demetrice Mitchell tallied 22 points to go with ten rebounds.

In action last Friday, the Ironmen jumped out to a 23-

point halftime lead against Mesabi Range and never looked back on their way to a 102-57 shellacking of the Norsemen.

The Ironmen got Mesabi to cough up 25 turnovers and had 11 more steals for the game.

Vermilion had five players score in double digits, including Demetrice Mitchell with 24 points, Deshawn Lawson hitting

on 20, and Bradlee Lewis adding 15. Leading rebounders were Mitchell and Denario Jackson tied with ten.

VCC travels to play Fond du Lac Tribal on Saturday. Game time is 3 p.m.

GRIZZLIES...Continued from page 1B

tournament last fall. Nevis had knocked the Grizzlies out of contention on the gridiron, so it was the Grizzlies' chance to return the favor in action on the court.

Cade Goggleye led the way for the Grizzlies, scoring 17 points, followed by Tate Olson, with 12 and Trevor Morrison with 10. Tanner Lokken and Chase Kleppe each added six, while Isaiah Squires added two. Brendan Parson, another starter and regular scorer for the Grizzlies, missed the game, but Isaiah Squires filled the spot and came up big defensively, said Head Coach Will Kleppe.

For the Grizzlies, it was their lowest-scoring match of the season, but they were pitted against the state's top Class A defense, as the Tigers have allowed an average of just 37 points a game so far this season. But the Grizzlies returned

the favor, holding the Tigers to their lowest final score of the season as well. "Our defense was fantastic and did a very good job on the boards," said Kleppe.

Saturday's outing to Duluth came just hours after the Grizzlies hosted Mt. Iron-Buhl in Friday night action. Brendan Parson had a big night, racking up 18 points, to help lead North Woods to a 77-38 win over the Rangers.

Tate Olson was right behind Parson, with 17 points, while Cade Goggleye tallied 12. Tanner Lokken added seven points, Chase Kleppe added six, and Trevor Morrison and Isaiah Squires added five apiece. Dylan Chiabotti tallied four points, while Darius Goggleye added three.

The Grizzlies were set to host Virginia on Thursday night and will play host to Cherry next Tuesday. Both games start at 7:15 p.m.



Junior guard Cade Goggleye works around an MI-B defender during last Friday's match-up with the Rangers. photo by C. Stone

GIRLS...Continued from page 1B



in a row after having a four-game win streak snapped.

"Our goal is to keep improving throughout the season and be playing our best basketball at the end of the season," said Visser. "It is good for us to be playing top level teams to show us what we need to continue to work and improve on."

The Wolves were led by Erika Mattson's game high 12 points to go with seven rebounds. Shayla Zaverl added 11 points while Brielle Kallberg chipped in eight and Gabi Omerza had seven points to go with a team leading eight rebounds.

Left: Junior guard Lida Dodge goes up for a shot under pressure from Cherry defenders. photo by J. Greeney

In Saturday action in Grand Marais, the Wolves never got on track against Cook County and they lost 53-44.

Ely was playing without a couple regular players and fell behind early while playing out of sync. They had trouble rebounding as they gave up many second chance opportunities.

"We struggled in this game to find our rhythm on both offense and defense," said Coach Visser. "We were just never able to overcome an early deficit and get the momentum going our way."

Leading the way for the Wolves was Shayla Zaverl with a team high 20 points, ten rebounds, and four assists.

Ely will host Duluth Marshall on Saturday, with a 2 p.m. start.

WOLVES...Continued from page 1B

Adam McDonald had a good all around game with 11 points to go with eight assists and seven rebounds. Blaise Lah had a big night on the boards pulling down 18 rebounds.

In Saturday action in Grand Marais the Wolves used a big second half to notch a 60-39 victory over Cook County.

"We again played well defensively," said Coach McDonald. "It allowed us to pull away in the second half."

Ely's defense found success with take-aways, which the

offense quickly converted to easy buckets.

The Wolves were again led by Patrick Vanderbeek who dropped seven three-pointers for a game high 21 points. Blaise Lah added 16 points while Carter Gaulke notched a double-double with 14 points, ten rebounds, and eight assists.

Ely hosted a young but persistent Nashwak-Keewatin team Friday night. The Wolves allowed a large second half lead to disappear late in the game but the Wolves held on

to win 66-57.

The Wolves held a big lead most of the game with solid defense and good shooting. But with just under five minutes to go in the game, the Spartans used a full court press to get back to within nine points. Ely was able to defeat the press enough to hold on and win.

"We did not handle the pressure well with under five minutes left," said Ely Head Coach Tom McDonald. "I thought we were solid defensively all game long."

Ely's Adam McDonald led the team in scoring with 22 points along with eight rebounds, while Carter Gaulke had ten points and seven assists. Pat Vanderbeek was good for ten points, six steals, and six rebounds and Blaise Lah added ten points and a game-leading ten rebounds.

Ely will travel on Friday to play Mt. Iron-Buhl. Game time is 7:15 p.m.

NORDIC...Continued from page 1B

as Grand Rapids skiers took the top two spots. Team scores were based on the top four finishers for each squad.

Ben Gustafson was Ely's top boys finisher, taking third overall. He was followed by Jasper Johnston at sixth, Raif Olson eighth, James Schwinghamer tenth, and Ethan Hasz in the twelfth spot.

The girls got a strong performance from their seniors as they led the way taking four of the top 12 spots.

The senior quartet was led by Laura Pasmick who finished fifth with Ryne Prigge seventh, Emma Terwilliger eleventh, and Evelyn Bercher right

behind at twelfth.

Next up for Ely is to compete at the Marshall Sprints on Saturday with races starting at 11 a.m.

- INDIVIDUAL GIRLS VARSITY FINISHERS**
5. Laura Pasmick 0:23:57.6
 7. Ryne Prigge 0:24:11.6
 11. Emma Terwilliger 0:24:39.9
 12. Evelyn Bercher 0:25:02.0
 14. Brooke Pasmick 0:25:38.8
 17. Kalyssa Eilrich 0:26:01.8
 29. Lindy Dalberg 0:29:21.4
 31. Anna Nelson 0:30:03.3

- INDIVIDUAL BOYS VARSITY FINISHERS**
3. Ben Gustafson 0:20:14.7
 6. Jasper Johnston 0:21:10.8
 8. Raif Olson 0:21:45.4
 10. James Schwinghamer 0:21:58.1
 12. Ethan Hasz 0:22:26.9
 16. Nate Nettifee 0:23:06.4
 25. Elijah Olson 0:24:18.5
 29. Chase Eilrich 0:25:25.1
 36. Henry Dirks 0:27:33.0
- GIRLS VARSITY TEAM FINISHERS**
1. Duluth East 378
 2. Ely 369
 3. Grand Rapids 365

- BOYS VARSITY TEAM FINISHERS**
1. Grand Rapids 379
 2. Ely 377
 3. Cloquet-Esko-Carlton 296
 7. Marshall School 291
 8. Two Harbors/Cook County 58

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COMMUNITY EVENTS AND NOTICES



Draft Horse Association annual meeting on Saturday

REGIONAL- The North Star Draft Horse Association, a group of equine enthusiasts, will be holding its annual meeting Saturday, Jan. 20 at Valentini's Supper Club in Chisholm. The meeting, starting at 11 a.m., will review the club's 2017 accomplishments and plan several events for 2018.

The NSDHA, organized in 1982, promotes the safe and humane use of draft animals for work and pleasure. Members share information and resources to help each other master the art of training and driving equines

including heavy draft horses, light driving horses, ponies, mules and donkeys.

The club's mission is education. It hosts several public events throughout the year, including sleigh rides, plow days, county fairs, logging demonstrations, and field days.

"Horses are very intelligent animals," says club president Mike Hanson, who raises and drives Haflingers. "They can be trained to pull wagons, buggies, sleighs and farm implements. Learning how to harness, hitch and drive so you and

the horses are safe and comfortable is a club priority."

The meeting is open to the public. It includes a silent auction, a business meeting with an election of officers and guest speakers. This year's program is on hitching and driving single.

For more information, contact Mike Hanson at 218-290-7031, or Ed Nelson at 218-966-1354 or mreds-farmllc@gmail.com.

PALO

Winter fun in Palo at Laskiaian Feb. 2-4

PALO- It's Laskiaian time. Time to speed down the ice slides; time to spin on the vipukelkka (whip sled); time to have some kropsua or pea soup; time for some family fun!

It all begins on Friday, Feb. 2 with the Queen's Ball and Coronation. There are three girls vying for the title of Miss Laskiaian 2018. Riley Wallace, a junior at Mesabi East; McKenna Edstrom, a sophomore at Mesabi East, and Olivia Sadjak, a junior at South Ridge. The queen will be selected by an independent panel of judges and the result is not revealed until the evening of the ball. Music for the evening is provided by Bob Saumer and Luke Nikunen, two modern day Frank Sinatra and Dean Martin DJs playing music from the 50s and 60s plus whatever this fun-loaded duo can conjure up to entertain you.

Then we're up early on Saturday, Feb. 3 to provide you with our Kropsua (Finnish pancake) Breakfast with all the trimmings- sausage, juice, eggs, strawberries, pickled herring, and homemade bread. That's served from 7:30 a.m. till 11 a.m. From 12 noon to 4 p.m. you may enjoy a heaping bowl of mojakka (beef stew) along with beverages, breads, and to top it off a helping of Lingonberry Vippi Puuro (Air Pudding). If you don't care for that menu, there will be tacos in the bag or sloppy joes.

You can attend free-of-charge hour-long programs in the Old Coop Theater beginning at 10 a.m. It's Casey Aro at 10 a.m., 12 noon, and 2 p.m. Jill Aubin, with her presentation "Hiking Without a Canoe - A Photographic Journey of the Appalachian Trail," is at 11 a.m. and at 1 p.m. At 3 p.m., don't miss local favorite Steve Solkela in concert.

If you're a sports fan, there are basketball games all day in the gymnasium. From 9 a.m. to 12 noon it's



The Eelpoutstringers perform on Sunday.

Kindergarten-third graders with middle school basketball games from 12-4 p.m. To cap off the evening, there's an Old Timers Basketball game at 6 p.m. that's something to behold and finally at 7:30 p.m., it's the Palo Lakers versus the Cotton Cardinals.

You might just win one of the many door prizes for attending these evening games.

Sunday morning begins with a piggies and pancake breakfast served from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. The Ecumenical church service this year is at 9 a.m. You may partake of the traditional Laskiaian pea soup from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Sunday afternoon following the introduction of the royal court, the Eelpoutstringers, a Minnesota-based musical group will be the featured program. The "Pouts" enjoy playing the music that gets your toes tappin' or singing ballads that please your heart and touch your soul.

All day in the Old Co-op Theater we have featured local area authors, including Bea Ojakangas with her

new book "Homemade."

Throughout both days, you can watch demonstrations on the spinning of flax, knitting on an 1890s replica knitting machine, knife-forging, rug weaving, and leatherwork, to name a few. Members of the Fiber Arts Guild will be demonstrating various arts every two hours. You will find homemade toboggans, wood turners, trappers, quilters, knitters, potters, and more.

In addition to the sliding and vipukelka rides there are free sleigh rides. You can shop at the Tori, the Laskiaian Shoppe, or buy a variety of Laskiaian breads at the bakery section. If you are still hungry or thirsty - there's the canteen or the Fry Bread Booth.

If you get cold, take a look at the Christensen sauna on display!

Something for everyone - whether you're four or eighty-four - whether it's 40 above or 40 below zero!

Ely Winter Festival's 25th year; events begin on Thursday, Feb. 1

ELY- Ely's 25th Annual Winter Festival begins Thursday, Feb. 1 and runs through Sunday, Feb. 11. Come visit the International Snow Sculpting Symposium, which this year includes teams from Canada, Italy, and Argentina, carving huge blocks of snow into fanciful statues. An orchestra concert, writers' crawl, crafts fair, fat tire bike rides, and a two-day biathlon are also scheduled. The remarkable Ely Art Walk fills merchants' windows with artworks from around 100 Ely-connected artists. Find out much more at www.elywinterfestival.com, or on our Facebook page.

The Ely Winter Festival and Ely ArtWalk are funded in part by grants from the Arrowhead Regional Arts Council, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund; the Donald G. Gardner Humanities Trust; the Ely Chamber of Commerce; the City of Ely; local merchants, organizations, and individuals.



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Free Youth Mental Health First Aid Course in Hibbing on Jan. 26

HIBBING- NAMI Minnesota (National Alliance on Mental Illness) will hold a free Youth Mental Health First Aid training course on Friday, Jan. 26, from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. at Fairview Plaza, 1200 East 25th St. in Hibbing, in the Taconite Room. The course is designed to teach participants the risk factors and warning signs of mental health problems in adolescents, build understanding of the importance of early intervention, and teach individuals how to help a youth in crisis or experiencing a mental health or substance use challenge. Participants will also learn a five-step action plan to support an adolescent developing signs and symptoms of a mental illness or emotional crisis. To register (required) or get more detailed information, please contact NAMI Minnesota at 651-645-2948 or see classes at namihelps.org.

Annual tree sale underway

REGIONAL- Trees are available for your spring planting needs from the North St. Louis County Soil and Water Conservation District. Take your choice of over 20 varieties of trees in bundles of 10, 15, or 25. There is a nice assortment of shrubs, deciduous trees, and conifers. New this year are bur oak and red splendor crabapple. Reasonably priced between \$30 and \$45 per bundle. Plantskydd and Repellex brands of organic animal repellent products are available to help keep the critters away. All proceeds are used for conservation efforts in the northern part of St. Louis County.

Order early for best selection. Quantities are limited. Deadline to order is Thursday, May 4. Pick up will be in Eveleth on Thursday, May 10 and Friday, May 11. Order forms and information are available at www.nslswcd.org, via e-mail to info@nslswcd.org, or by call or text to 218-749-2000.

Peter and the Wolf performance in Ely and Virginia in February

REGIONAL- The Mesabi Symphony Orchestra and the International Wolf Center invite you to our "Fun for the Family" matinee concerts. Along with other pieces, we'll perform Peter and the Wolf, with narration by Peter Kess, on Saturday, Feb. 10, in Ely's Washington Auditorium, and again on Sunday, Feb. 11, in Virginia's Goodman Auditorium. Both concerts begin at 2:30 p.m. The International Wolf Center will be in the lobby both days with information that Prokofiev didn't have on wolves. Tickets are available at the door, and students get in free with a ticket from their music teacher. Get lots more information at www.mesabisymphonyorchestra.org.

This concert is made possible in part by a grant from the Donald G. Gardner Humanities Trust. Additional funding for this concert is provided by Minnesota Power. Free student tickets are made possible in part by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Arrowhead Regional Arts Council, thanks to appropriations from the Minnesota State Legislature's general and arts and cultural heritage funds.

Annual fish fry and raffle at Veterans on the Lake on Feb. 3

ELY- An "All You Can Eat" fish fry will be held at Veterans on the Lake, at 161 Fernberg Road in Ely, on Saturday, Feb. 3 from noon - 4 p.m. The cost is \$10 per adult, or \$9 with a Winterfest button. Kids 4 to 12 years old get in for \$6, and kids under 4 eat free. Raffle tickets will also be sold at the fish fry until 3 p.m. for drawings at 3:30 p.m. for over \$3,700 in prizes. Tickets available through any board member or at the Front Porch and Sam's.

Compassionate Friends meet Feb. 13

VIRGINIA- The Iron Range Chapter of The Compassionate Friends will meet on Tuesday, Feb. 13, from 6:30 - 8 p.m. at Our Saviors Lutheran Church, 1111 8th Street S in Virginia. This month's meeting will include activities. TCF is a mutual assistance, self-help organization offering friendship, understanding and hope to bereaved families. Anyone who has experienced the death of a child, grandchild or a sibling from any cause is welcome. For more information on TCF, please call Sue Tuomela at 749-2089.



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Outdoors

Our lives in the
Northwoods

Fishing reports

Ely area

The trout fishing opener had a less than stellar turnout this year, undoubtedly due to the the arctic temperatures which had the thermometers registering around minus-thirty degrees here in the North Country. Those folks who did venture out had moderate success. Many anglers stayed in their shacks, rather than moving around in the frigid wind. Burntside Lake fishermen reported that the fish were not as aggressive, with tales of many fish that happened to dislodge the hooks easily, as they were not striking as aggressively as is typical of the species. Travel conditions on the lake were good though, with many areas having an ice road to navigate on. The recent snowfall hasn't had much of an effect for travel as it is mostly light and fluffy.

Walleye success has been hit or miss as of late. Anglers fishing in water depths from twelve to sixteen feet are doing the best. I doesn't seem to matter whether you're fishing with a dead stick or actively jigging, both tactics seem to work equally well.

Crappie action has been slow, but should begin to build momentum as the season wears on.

Courtesy of Babe's Bait, located at Ely's west entrance.



WINTER RECREATION

Just add SNOW!



Winter shifts into high gear thanks to nearly a foot of new snow in the past week

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

REGIONAL— What a difference a snow makes. The storm that moved through the area late last week dumped more than nine inches of the white stuff in some parts of northern St. Louis and Lake counties, providing a much-needed jump start to the winter recreation season. Two-to-three additional inches which fell last Sunday further added to the growing snowpack.

While the area has had snow on the ground since late October, a December and early January dry spell had left too little snow for most winter activities, and that kept the phones from ringing at area hotels and motels, and kept local watering holes quiet as well, particularly as the region endured a weeks-long cold snap.

With the recent sub-zero temperatures, lake ice is rock solid and even most swamps have stiffened enough for heavy trail grooming.

"It was the perfect set-up for the season," said Jeff Carlson, owner and operator of Harold's Arctic Cat near Tower. Carlson said the cold weather and limited snow early allowed the ground to freeze hard, providing a solid base that could last for months. "I think we could be riding through March and possibly into April the way we're set up now," he said.

And that prospect has folks in the hospitality industry excited. "We're nearly full already for this coming weekend," said Orlyn Kringstad, operator of the Marjo Motel in Tower. "And we had one party that came up last weekend for a day and booked two more nights because the snowmobiling was so great," he said.

Rick Oveson, at Oveson's Pelican Lake Resort in Orr, said his parking lot had been mostly empty so far this winter, but he expected that to change as word spread about all the fresh snow. "We've got a good base now," he said.

The influx of snowmobilers was apparent at area bars and restaurants as well.

"We're getting the sleds in here now," said Randy Semo at Good Ol' Days Bar and Grill in Tower, who noted that the first part of the winter was slow for business. "Things are looking up now," he said. "The trails have to be awesome."

"It benefits everyone," said Troy Swanson, president of the Lake Vermilion Chamber of Commerce, who notes that the income generated by visitors circulates throughout the local economy. "We probably have the best-groomed snowmobile trails in the state right now," he said. "This

Above: Snowshoers enjoying a trek near Tower, while a skier at Hidden Valley, below, heads into a spectacular sunset. Whether you're into skiing, snowshoeing, dogsledding or snowmobiling, conditions are now excellent across the area thanks to recent snowfalls. More snow is forecast for late Sunday and Monday. Below: Snowmobilers out for a ride.

top photo by M. HelMBERGER
skier photo by K. Vandervort



“It was the perfect set-up for the season.”

Jeff Carlson

was just the perfect amount of snow.”

Tower area DNR trails specialist Brad Dekkers agreed. "It helped a lot, both that snow last week and the extra snow over the weekend," he said. He said the trails will all have a new grooming before the weekend and should all be listed as in good to very good condition.

And for those who prefer non-motorized sports, the conditions are finally excellent for cross-country skiing and snowshoeing, which has become increasingly popular in recent years.

Both Lake Vermilion and Bear Head state parks are open for snowshoeing, and Bear Head offers snowshoe rentals in case you don't have your own. On snowshoes, you can travel anywhere in either of the parks, except for groomed ski trails. Bear Head now has seven miles of freshly groomed ski trails, with differing levels of difficulty and it also offers a comfortable



trail center for park users to come in out of the cold, dry off, or have a snack before heading back out on the trail. Park Manager Jen Westlund said the park also offers comfortable, heated camper cabins that people can rent if they'd like to spend a little more time in the winter woods, without having to rough it too much.

With warmer weather forecast for the weekend, it should be a great time to get out and enjoy the new snow. The latest forecasts holds a chance of more snow Sunday night into Monday, which should ensure that the winter playground will be open for business for weeks to come. Get out there and enjoy it!

Outdoors briefly

Snowmobile Safety Week set for Jan. 20-28

REGIONAL— Gov. Mark Dayton has proclaimed Jan. 20-28 as Snowmobile Safety Awareness Week in Minnesota.

This an opportunity for the Department of Natural Resources, volunteer safety instructors, the Minnesota United Snowmobilers Association (MNUSA) and its 250 member snowmobile clubs to join together to recognize the importance of safe, responsible snowmobiling.

"It's a fun and exciting activity, but snowmobilers should always remember to make safety a top priority," said Conservation Officer Bruce Lawrence, DNR recreational vehicle coordinator. "They should also always use common sense and keep a clear head when riding."

Here are some other key safety points:

► Snowmobiling and alcohol don't mix - don't drink and ride.

► Smart riders are safe riders - take a snowmobile safety training course.

► Always wear a helmet and adequate clothing.

► When night riding, slow down - expect the unexpected.

► Know before the ride - always check local trail and ice conditions.

► Cross with care.

► Know risks and be prepared - make every trip a round trip.

► One is the loneliest number - never ride alone.

► Ride safe, stay on the trail - respect private property.

Options for both classroom and online classes can be found at <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/safety/vehicle/snowmobile/index.html>.

CO reports

CO Marty Stage (Ely) traveled into the BWCWA for work details. Officers encountered a 100-percent violation rate for the fishing parties contacted on one day. The trout opener was good even though nearly a foot of snow had fallen making lake travel more difficult. There is slush beginning in many areas as well, so be prepared.

CO Troy Fondie (Orr) reports monitoring area lakes for angling activity. Trout angling was monitored with little activity. Area snowmobile trails were monitored with a slight increase in activity.

CO John Velsvaag (Cook) checked snowmobilers and anglers this past week. CO Velsvaag also followed up on a snaring complaint.

LAKE COUNTRY FORECAST

from NOAA weather

Friday				Saturday				Sunday				Monday				Tuesday			
36 23				32 15				26 10				17 2				14 -2			
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.
01/08	26	14	0.00	01/08	22	8	0.00	01/08	26	14	0.00	01/08	25	14	0.00	01/08	26	13	0.00
01/09	27	-6	0.00	01/09	22	16	0.00	01/09	27	-6	0.00	01/09	30	-6	0.00	01/09	26	-8	0.00
01/10	36	-6	0.00	01/10	26	-12	0.00	01/10	36	-6	0.00	01/10	36	-6	0.00	01/10	35	-5	0.00
01/11	36	18	0.48 7.4"	01/11	33	25	0.20 4"	01/11	36	18	0.48 7.4"	01/11	21	18	0.26 5"	01/11	34	6	0.70 6.8"
01/12	15	-25	0.05 0.2"	01/12	13	-2	0.25 4"	01/12	15	-25	0.05 0.2"	01/12	-4	-25	0.00	01/12	6	-30	0.08 1.0"
01/13	-1	-31	0.00	01/13	-8	-41	0.00	01/13	-1	-31	0.00	01/13	0	-31	0.00	01/13	-5	-35	0.00
01/14	-1	-33	0.00	01/14	-5	-46	0.00	01/14	-1	-33	0.00	01/14	3	-33	0.10 2"	01/14	0	-37	0.00
Totals			0.58 35.6"	Totals			0.51 37.4"	Totals			0.09 45.4"	Totals			NA NA	Totals			0.80 35.1"

Hit the Trails!



Area Trail Conditions

Taconite Trail
Good to Very Good
1-3" base, 9-20" snow on the ground

Arrowhead Trail
Very Good
1-5" base, 12-24" snow on the ground

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Adverse childhood experiences (ACE) forum set for Jan. 22 in Ely

ELY- Join us on Monday, Jan. 22 from 6 - 7:30 p.m. at Amici's Event Center to learn how childhood trauma impacts adult health. This free community workshop will focus on Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) - stressful or traumatic events such as abuse, neglect, witnessing domestic violence, or growing up with family members who have substance use disorders. Information on how ACEs impacts people's lives and what we can all do to improve the well-being of our community will be presented. This free workshop is sponsored by Ely Behavioral Health Network in partnership with the Minnesota Department of Human Services and Minnesota Communities Caring for Children (MCCC).

For more information please contact Riana Hegman at 218-235-6104.

Parenting series begins in Ely in February

ELY- Have you ever felt lost or wondered what your child needs from you? Learn how to support and strengthen your relationship with your child by attending the Circle of Security Parenting Series. This eight-week series starts on Wednesday, Feb. 7 from 5:30-7:00 p.m. at the First Lutheran Church of Ely. This workshop emphasizes examples specific to birth throughout preschool-aged children, but the parenting tools and concepts applies to all ages. This free parenting series is being offered by the Ely Behavioral Health Network. Onsite childcare will be available. For more information and to register, please visit Ely Circle of Security Parenting Series on Facebook, or call Riana Hegman at 218-235-6104.

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Annual fish fry and raffle at Ely's Veterans on the Lake on Feb. 3

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free. Raffle tickets will also be sold at the fish fry until 3 p.m. for drawings at 3:30 p.m. for over \$3,700 in prizes. Tickets available through any board member or at the Front Porch and Sam's.

Range Regional Airport sees record passenger year

REGIONAL- The Chisholm-Hibbing Airport Authority (CHAA) announces a record year for airline passengers departing the Range Regional Airport in 2017. Combined airline service provided by Delta/SkyWest Airlines and Sun Country Airlines resulted in 15,089 passengers. This represents a 20-percent increase over 2016 and a number not seen since 1999. The Airport Authority attributes the increase to three factors: a state-

of-the-art terminal facility constructed in 2015, professional airline partners providing on-time service and competitive rates, and passengers recognizing the benefits of flying local - saving time and money.

The Airport Authority wishes to thank the airlines and passengers for the successful year and looks forward to 2018.

Obituaries And Death Notices



Mae M. Dehnhoff

Mae M. Dehnhoff, 70, of Isabella, died on Monday, Jan. 15, 2018, and is finally at peace after a lengthy illness. Services will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 20 at the Isabella Community Center, 32 Lankinen Rd. in Isabella. Arrangements are with Cavallin Funeral Home of Two Harbors.

She was born to Richard and Mabel (Bathke) Singleton in Medford, Wis. Mae moved with her family to Isabella at a young age, where she resided until her death. On Nov. 19, 1966, she married Kenneth Dehnhoff Jr. at

Zion Lutheran Church in Finland. Mae was active in the church, was Treasurer of Isabella Township, and head cook at Camp Buckskin for over 30 years. Spending time with family meant everything to Mae. She also enjoyed cooking, baking, knitting and crocheting.

Mae is survived by her husband of 51 years, Ken; children, Deborah (Eric) Dehnhoff Krofa, Ruth (Todd) Noethe, Kent (Anni) Dehnhoff and Alan (Jessica) Dehnhoff; grandchildren, Leo, Olivia, Paul, Zachary, Ellen, Lilian, Josephine and Lain; brother, Richard (Lyn) Singleton; sisters, Nancy (Charles) Tekautz, Lila (Adrian) VanDeVoort and Gail Melting; sisters-in-law, Pamela (Gerald) Finley and Lonna Gilbertson; and many nieces, nephews and other relatives.

She was preceded in death by her parents; and brothers, Dwight and Raymond.

Frank J. Mauser

Frank J. Mauser, 93, of Ely, passed away on Sunday, Jan. 14, 2018, at Ely Bloomenson Community Hospital. Funeral services will be held at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 20 at Kerntz Funeral Home in Ely with visitation being held one hour prior to the service at the funeral home. Family arrangements have been entrusted to Kerntz Funeral Home of Ely.

He is survived by his three children, Tom (Kathy), Monica (Louie) Pechek and Sue Mauser; nine grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and nieces and nephews.

Bernardine Hill

Bernardine "Dina" Hutar Hill, 70, of Ely, passed away at her home on Thursday, Jan. 11, 2018, surrounded by family, after a courageous battle with cancer. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 20

at St. Anthony's Catholic Church in Ely with visitation being held one hour prior to the service at the church. Family arrangements have been entrusted to Kerntz Funeral Home of Ely.

She is survived by her husband, Dick; children, Sandy (Barney) Lakner, Cory (Cliff) Noble and Rich (Jackie) Hill, all of Ely; six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren, all of Ely; siblings, Greg (Kathy) Hutar, Celia (John) Guillemette, Rosie (Vic Gustafson) Hutar and Dortz (Bob Furniss) Winsor; nieces, nephews, cousins and friends; very special lifelong friend, Patty Vukelich; and Kevin Richards, who she loved as her son.

Muriel Kovall

Muriel Kovall, 89, of Babbitt, passed away peacefully at her home with family by her side on Monday, Jan. 8, 2018. Private family services will be held at the Ely Cemetery.

Arrangements are with Landmark Funeral Home in Virginia.

She is survived by her daughter, Dianne (Harold) Breffle; son-in-law, Ronald Jokela; grandchildren, Justin (Ryan) Jokela,

Mathew (Tara) Jokela, Kyle (Jessica) Breffle and Celeste (Zac) Bradish; and great-grandchildren, Hayden Jokela, Avery Bradish and Baby Bradish (due in July).

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Published in the Timberjay, Jan. 19, 2018

PUBLIC NOTICES

STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF ST. LOUIS DISTRICT COURT PROBATE DIVISION SIXTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT Court File No. 69VI-PR-17-159

ESTATE OF ROBERT EARL JORDAN Decedent

NOTICE AND ORDER OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR FORMAL PROBATE OF WILL AND APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on February 14, 2018, at 9:30 a.m. a hearing will be held in this Court at Virginia, Minnesota, on a petition for the formal probate of an instrument purporting to be the decedent's Will dated October 28, 2014, and Codicil dated N/A, and Separate Writing pursuant to Minn. Stat. 524.2-513 dated N/A, and for the appointment of PATRICIA ANN JORDAN, whose address is 4900 Nature Trail, Racine, Wisconsin 53403 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.

ing. 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 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: January 3, 2018 Gary J. Pagliacetti Judge of District Court Amy Turnquist Court Administrator By: Stefanie Higgins, Deputy

Attorney for Petitioner DEFENBAUGH LAW OFFICE RAE R. BENTZ MN# 218376 107 E Camp St Ely, Minnesota 55731 Telephone: 218-365-4977 Email: rae@defenbaugh-law.com

Published in the Timberjay, Jan. 19 & 26, 2018



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

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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EMPLOYMENT



Deputy Sheriff-Corrections Officer Apply by Jan. 23, 2018

Engineering Aide Trainee (Temporary) - Apply by Feb. 2, 2018

Highway Laborers (Temporary) - Apply by Feb. 2, 2018

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

Equal Opportunity and Veteran-Friendly Employer 1/19

TIMBERJAY CLASSIFIEDS



Considerations of personal privacy, time and resources prevent the newspaper from investigating ads placed in the classified section. If you respond to an ad, we urge you to use the same care and prudence that you would use when conducting business in any other situation.

AUTOMOTIVE

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

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

HOSPICE

VIRGIE HEGG HOSPICE PARTNERS can provide help for patients and their families in ways such as: comfort care, massages, last wishes and more. For more information, contact Program Director Liz Cheney at 218-780-8907 or vhpdirector@yahoo.com. This ad is paid for by Virgie Hegg Hospice Partners.

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

REAL ESTATE

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

FOR RENT

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

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

The Timberjay classified ads reach readers of all three editions every week. Call 753-2950 to place yours now!

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STORAGE

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

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED: Seasonal and Internship Positions at Lake Vermilion - Soudan Mine and Bear Head Lake State Parks. Apply online https://mn.gov/mmb/careers/ Job Posting #: 19423, 19455, 19451, 19443, 18854, 18829. 1/19

FOR SALE

2006 BEARCAT SNOWMOBILE FOR SALE- \$1,950. CALL 218-827-2638 OR 218-742-1608. 1/19P

WANTED

DISABLED VETERAN SEEKS SNOWMOBILE- 300cc or 350cc. Call Harold Goodsky at 218-410-4003.

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

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

SUPPORT GROUPS

MS SUPPORT GROUP- meets the second Friday of the month at 1 p.m. at the Babbitt Municipal Building, senior room. Open to all. For information contact Mary at 218-827-8327

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

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

Classifieds run in all 3 editions of the Timberjay.
Line classifieds cost 30¢/word, \$6.00 minimum. Classified ads can be run a second time at half price (private parties only). We now accept payment by Visa, Mastercard and Discover. Call your ad in to 218-753-2950. Display (boxed) classifieds are billed by the "inch" - please call for prices and information on discounts. Call Today - 218-753-2950 or 218-365-3114

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

AL-ANON FAMILY GROUP- Are you troubled by someone's drinking? Al-Anon Family Group is a community-based mutual support program for the friends and families of alcoholics. It is confidential and open to anyone affected by someone else's drinking. Hope Lutheran Church in Embarrass hosts an Al-Anon group on Monday evenings at 6 p.m. 218-984-2037

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

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

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

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

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

IF YOU THINK YOU HAVE A PROBLEM WITH DRUGS, give yourself a break. There is a way out with the help of other recovering addicts in Narcotics Anonymous. We have been there. For meeting or other information call 218-728-3199. (Narcotics Anonymous is a non-profit organization.)

CREDIT REPAIR SCAMS- "Credit problems? No problem!" No way. A poor credit history takes time to repair, no matter what anybody claims. The Federal Trade Commission says no company can remove accurate or timely information from your credit report. Learn more about managing credit and debt at ftc.gov/credit. A message from The Timberjay and the FTC.

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Super Crossword 9 B.C.

- ACROSS**
1 Opera start
5 "Yes, yes, Juan!"
9 Take — (taste some)
13 Cheeky type
19 Road, in German
20 Foretoken
21 Lovett of country
22 No longer surprised by
23 Ram forcefully?
26 Frito Lay chip
27 December mall hires
28 Teeny
29 Greeting sent by a cosmetics company?
31 "Agnus —"
32 Cache
34 Southeast Kansas city
35 Where lots of mail deliverers scuba-dive?
40 Not at all nigh
44 Most robust
45 Kazan of film directing
46 Hilo "hello"
47 In days past
48 "Lo-o-ovely!"
49 Set crossword hints to music?
53 Prefix with pathology
56 The Big Apple, briefly
58 Fissile rock
59 Middy sleep
60 Divide by type
62 Contract out
66 TV title alien
67 Water whirl
68 Required maintenance items?
73 Face cover
76 From — Z
77 Big fair
78 Character
82 "Scat!"
83 Prologue
85 Upsilon's follower
88 Qdoba treats
89 Inlegant five-member band?
94 66-Across et al.
96 Salt's "Help!"
97 Muslim palace area
98 Haul around
99 Number of magazine subscribers, e.g.
102 Writer Haley
103 Long to look at a periodic table?
107 Feng —
108 Poetry Muse
109 White-haired cubicle
117 New York state prison
120 Is wild for computer programs?
124 Chemist's "I"
125 Nursing school subj.
126 Bit of help
127 In awe
128 Naval units
129 Car-lot sticker abbr.
130 Barley brews
131 Guru's discipline
DOWN
1 Essentially
2 "Fame" star
3 Very loud
4 Alternatively
5 — -chef
6 Unruly kid
7 Fit for sailing
8 Ready to be driven
9 Pugilist
10 Harmony
11 1942 role for Ingrid
12 "The Dick Van Dyke Show" surname
13 Ballet dancer Nureyev
14 "Sitting on — ..." ("Mrs. Robinson" lyric)
15 Blood bank fluids
16 Nero's 404
17 Quintillionth: Prefix
18 "Crazy" bird
24 Aristide's land
25 Eagles' nests
30 Female deer
32 Is sporting
33 Hoagie shop
35 Its capital is Accra
36 Is very angry
37 Co. kahuna
38 — Tin Tin
39 Tatty cloths
40 Exclusively
41 Ran across
42 In the future
43 Harsh-toned
46 Top gun
50 Spicy cuisine
51 Stop moving
52 Pixieish
54 Stone
55 — pro nobis
57 Amigo of Fidel
61 Sedative drug, informally
63 Berg stuff
64 Stout of mysteries
65 Seer's skill
67 This, to Pedro
69 Dying rebuke
70 "Me neither"
71 Sponge up
72 Scarf down
73 Coffee flavor
74 Auditory
75 Rubberneck
79 West Coast coll. in La Jolla
80 Hen's perch
81 Swirly letters
83 Suffix with 90-Down
84 Being aired, in a way
86 Like religious dissenters
87 Writer
88 Calvino
90 Gender
91 Tip of a sock
92 Suffix with major
93 Azadi Tower locale
95 Holy Fr. woman
100 Ham it up
101 City-circling route
103 Goes after Capek play
105 Stability-improving auto part
106 Vocalist Kitt
107 Hound's trail
110 Homeless kid
111 Sacred cow
112 Center point
113 The "E" of HOMES
114 Practically forever
115 Jet name
117 Gets the total
118 Stop up
119 Kelp, e.g.
122 Brand of motor oil
123 A single

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18		
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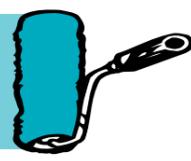
Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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



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B	A	H	N	O	M	E	N	L	Y	L	E	U	S	E	D	T	O				
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