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STATE OF THE BAND 2018

Bois Forte Chair: 'Last year was tough financially'

Chavers offers sober assessment of challenges, opportunities

by JODI SUMMIT
Tower-Soudan Editor

VERMILION RESERVATION- Bois Forte Tribal Chairman Cathy Chavers talked about the tough decisions made by the tribal council this past year at the 2018 State of the Band Address, held Jan.

25 at Fortune Bay.

"Our overall mission is to preserve and promote our quality of life," she said, but noted that financial responsibility is one of the tribal council's top priorities.

"This is the first year we presented our budgets and the Fortune Bay budgets on live stream during

our tribal meeting," she said. "We want to insure our tribal members have more openness." Bois Forte tribal meetings can now be viewed on youtube.com (search for Bois Forte Tribal Council).

"Last year was tough financially," she said. "I am sure you heard the rumors."

Chavers explained that the financial bind did not happen overnight. With gaming revenues lower than expected, and the need to reinvest some of these revenues in the Fortune Bay facility with both exterior projects such as the new roof, and inte-

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Cathy Chavers

ELY WINTER FESTIVAL



Sled dog love aids art career

Tower watercolor artist featured in Ely Art Walk

by JODI SUMMIT
Tower-Soudan Editor

TOWER- Ashley Thamer has always loved art, though her passion was sled dogs. But it was her love of her sled dogs that has jump-started her art career.

"Last August [2016]," she said, "I had a dog with a really

bad injury and needed to raise money for his surgeries." A plea for donations went out, and it seemed natural to volunteer a custom pet portrait painting for those who made larger donations. She was able to raise enough money to help pay off her vet bills, and ended up doing over 20 pet portraits. (Falcor's surgeries were suc-

Tower watercolor wildlife artist Ashley Thamer is participating in the 2018 Ely Art Walk. Her work is on display at the Ely Folk School. photo by J. Summit

cessful, and he is now back running on the trail.)

"Then I started getting requests for private commissions," she said. "It's becoming more of a profession, not just a hobby."

While she started with the focus on pet portraits, she really enjoys all types of wildlife art, and also loves experimenting with color. She

See... ARTIST pg. 9

SULFIDE MINING

Forest Service guts mineral withdrawal assessment

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

REGIONAL— The U.S. Forest Service has announced that it is cancelling plans to conduct an environmental impact statement, or EIS, on the potential effects of the proposed mineral withdrawal in the Superior National Forest. Instead, the agency will conduct a less thorough environmental assessment, or EA, which will be completed in less than a year.

The 234,000 acres of federal land under consideration for the withdrawal are currently set aside, or segregated, from the federal mineral leasing program. According to the Forest Service, that segregation will end on Jan. 5, 2019, unless the agency finds that the withdrawal itself could cause significant environmental effects.

Superior National Forest Supervisor Connie Cummins said such a finding is unlikely, although

See...USFS pg. 10

ELECTION 2018

Parties host caucuses on Tuesday

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

ST. PAUL — Area residents will have a wide choice of candidates to consider as they head to precinct caucuses on Tuesday. Both the DFL and the Republican parties have lively gubernatorial contests, and the DFL has a contest for the endorsement for the Eighth District Congressional seat now held by Rep. Rick Nolan. In that race, former FBI agent Leah Phifer is challenging Nolan for the DFL endorsement, and the Feb. 6 caucuses will be an early

See.. ELECTION pg. 10

Winter Festival turns 25

by KEITH VANDERVORT
Ely Editor

ELY — The community at the end of the road pops the cork on its 25th annual Winter Festival beginning on Thursday, Feb. 1, and running through Sunday, Feb. 11.

"We're adding new events almost daily, so be sure to check our website, www.elywinterfestival.com, regularly, said Lynn Evenson, one of



Emma Kari, the Ely high school art student who designed the 2018 Winter Festival pin gets a snow sculpting lesson from Nancy Schiebe at the Front Porch Coffee and Tea Co. photo by K. Vandervort

many organizers for the annual event. "More goodies appear on our Facebook page. You can't go wrong."

One's inner outdoor

enthusiast will have ample opportunity to be tickled pink. Just in

See... ELY pg. 9



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QUESTIONABLE ACTIONS

Official taken aback by ambulance director tirade

Tower's Steve Altenburg targets Greenwood board chair in profanity-spiked rant after township official comments on website

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

GREENWOOD — The town board chair here says he was the target of a verbal assault, including profanity, by the city of Tower's ambulance director, Steve Altenburg, after he commented favorably on a recent editorial on the website of the *Timberjay* newspaper.

John Bassing said he received the call this past week, at his home, and that the call came from Tower City Hall. He said City Clerk-Treasurer Linda Keith was audible in the background. "I believe Josh [Carlson] was there, too," said Bassing, referring to the city's mayor. "I don't expect to get a call like that

from a public official," Bassing added.

Altenburg was upset after Bassing lauded an editorial that had appeared in the *Timberjay's* Jan. 19 edition that urged the city of Tower to reconsider its current plan for switching to a paid on-call ambulance service, in favor of one that provided more opportunity for its existing volunteers to take part. The editorial further advocated that the city focus on transitioning to an advanced life support (ALS) service as means of improving patient care and generating more revenue. Mr. Bassing expressed his agreement.

"Great editorial," Bassing had commented. "ALS service is available in both Virginia and

Hibbing but the Hwy. 169 corridor has no near coverage. With an aging population and a summer population that dramatically increases the need, ALS is what we should work toward."

The comment apparently incensed Altenburg, prompting his call to Bassing. "He started out a little bit hot, and then he got into the swearing," said Bassing. "Let's just say there was a lot of colorful language directed at the *Timberjay*." Bassing added, "That's not the way to win support."

According to Bassing, Altenburg suggested he should refrain from commenting on such matters because he's an elected official. Bassing said he didn't surrender his First Amendment

rights by holding office. Altenburg's suggestion is ironic, since he was before the Tower City Council several weeks earlier asking the city's elected representatives to submit a letter to the city of Eveleth critical of changes that city was making in its own ambulance service.

According to Bassing, Altenburg began using profanity when describing his displeasure with the *Timberjay* editorial and an accompanying news story about how various communities were adjusting to increasing demand for inter-hospital transfers of patients and the increasing difficulty of attracting volunteers. The *Timberjay* story and editorial had also taken issue with a paid on-call plan pushed by Altenburg

for failing to account for the full costs of the change and exaggerating the potential for new revenue. Altenburg, according to Bassing, took issue with the numbers, but never provided specifics.

"I told him he should write a letter to the editor if he has different numbers," said Bassing.

The *Timberjay* did reach out to Altenburg for comment and for answers to questions about his actions. The *Timberjay* also provided Altenburg with a breakdown of the numbers used in its Jan. 19 story and editorial on the ambulance service and offered Altenburg the opportunity to correct any numbers that he felt were inaccurate.

Altenburg did not respond.

CITY OF TOWER

Council OKs \$500,000 bond for sewer extension

Approves application for demolition funds for marina upgrades

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

TOWER — The city council here approved a resolution Monday night that issues bonds totaling \$500,000 for a sewer extension and related sewer renovation at the Hoodoo Point Campground. The bonds come with an interest rate of 4.25 percent, according to Nick Skarich, of Northland Securities, who handled the bond sale.

Debt service on the bonds will total about \$38,000 a year

for the next 20 years, which is slightly less than the \$42,000 originally estimated. The city expects to pay for the bond primarily through fee increases at the campground, although a budget presented by the city clerk-treasurer last fall indicated the fee increases and additional revenue from the creation of seven new seasonal RV sites, would generate about \$31,000 a year.

The funds will pay the cost of extending the municipal sewer line to a lift station near the campground as well as repairing old feeder lines that direct campground sewage to the lift station. Those lines were in bad condition and may have been allowing considerable infiltration of surface water into the camp-

ground's septic system drainfield, causing stress to the system. The project also will extend the sewer connection to seven additional RV sites.

In other business, the council approved advertising for bids on the demolition project at the former Standing Bear Marina. The city will be seeking IRRRB commercial demolition dollars to help pay for the work, which will clear the way for the new owners to renovate the facility. The demolition work will include the removal of old docks, dock canopies, and a collapsing sea wall, replacement of heaved pilings, and some interior wall demolition in the marina's main building. Some of the work is scheduled to be done on the ice yet this winter, with the remainder

to be completed at ice-out.

In other action, the council gave the green light for a plan to install one or more sewage holding tanks at the airport. City Clerk-Treasurer Linda Keith said that one of the pumps has failed at the lift station that serves the airport and that the Airport Commission has recommended installing holding tanks rather than fixing the pump. City engineer Jason Chopp said the initial cost of installation of a holding tank would likely be less than replacing the pump at the lift station. He estimated the cost at about \$5000-\$6,000, unless it has to be buried deep, which would probably double the cost.

"Have you seen pumping prices?" asked Councilor Brad Matich.

Chopp estimated that a 4,000-gallon tank would provide about a month of capacity, although others on the council suggested that sewage flow at the airport is pretty low, with only a handful of hangars actually having flush toilets. The bathroom at the arrival and departure building also sees minimal use. Mayor Josh Carlson suggested that the airport might be able to get by with a smaller tank.

While the city works out those details, the council gave its approval to apply for a MnDOT emergency aeronautics grant to help pay for the project. The grant would cover 80 percent of the cost of the work.

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POLITICS

Thissen stumps on Range ahead of caucuses

Former DFL House speaker says he's focused on improving the economy, education, and health care

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

REGIONAL— State Rep. Paul Thissen, a Minneapolis DFLer, was stumping for votes on the Iron Range this week, just ahead of precinct caucuses on Tuesday. Thissen, who served one term as House Speaker and two terms as minority leader, announced last year that he is running for governor. He announced last month that he will not seek re-election to the South Minneapolis House district that he has represented for the past 15 years.

Thissen, a 51-year-old attorney, has been traveling the state over the past several months to talk to Minnesotans and he's hearing consistent themes wherever he goes.

"People feel they don't have control of their own destinies anymore," he said. Between the high cost of health care, childcare, higher education, and the lack of good-paying jobs in many parts of the state, Thissen said people increasingly feel like the challenges for families are becoming overwhelming, and that average people don't have the ability to bring the kind of change that's necessary.



Rep. Paul Thissen, of Minneapolis, talked on a wide range of issues in an hour-long interview at the Timberjay's office in Tower.

photo by J. Summit

Thissen said he hears increasing support for healthcare solutions like single-payer, which he believes would significantly improve efficiency in the healthcare system. "I think politically, there is support there," he said. Thissen said an initial phase-in might make sense, starting with children under age 18 and those between the ages of 50 and 65, for whom health insurance premiums can be very high. "If you

take those two groups out of the pool, it would likely reduce costs for those in between," he said. He said direct contracting between the state and health care providers would be another way to reduce the inefficiencies inherent in the current private, multi-payer insurance system currently in existence in the U.S.

While a single-payer system is increasingly popular, Thissen acknowledged that the politics

of a transition would be challenging. "There is a lot of money at stake," he said, particularly for insurance and pharmaceutical companies, which benefit financially from the current inefficiencies. "But we're also at a point where it just isn't working for many people, especially for the folks in the individual market. And that's much more of a Greater Minnesota issue than it is a Twin Cities issue."

Thissen is also interested in advancing state policies to bridge the funding inequities between school districts. During his time as House Speaker, Thissen supported greater state funding support of local levies to try to level the playing field between property-rich and property-poor districts. He also favors increased financial support for early childhood education, and notes that when resources are invested wisely at the front end with children, the results can be impressive. "We need to think more about those first thousand days, because that's when so much of the brain development happens [in children]," he said. "We have ignored that part of kids' lives for too long."

Thissen, like a lot of DFLers, has been thinking about how to

re-engage the party with rural voters. He said many communities outside the metro area are feeling an economic squeeze. He said he'd like to see more community ownership of major assets, like hospitals and energy production. "Right now, we just don't see wealth staying in these communities," he said. In addition, he said, the state could be doing more to assist key businesses, like grocery stores, in small communities, transition to new ownership when current owners are looking to retire. He said a program in Nebraska has served as a kind of matchmaker service, connecting business owners looking to retire with prospective younger buyers looking for opportunities. Thissen said he favors what he calls "radical localism," which he said can help put more power back in the hands of communities. "Right now, people don't feel they have much power."

Thissen, of course, couldn't visit the Iron Range without talking about the current political divide over copper-nickel mining and he said he's tried to remain consistent on the issue, and echoed the positions of several

See **THISSEN...** pg. 5

HONORS

Timberjay earns five awards in newspaper competition

BLOOMINGTON— *The Timberjay* was the winner of five statewide awards during the Minnesota Newspaper Association's annual Better Newspaper Contest. MNA officials

announced the results at last weekend's annual MNA convention, held in Bloomington.

The Timberjay took first place for best website, as well as second-place awards for Editorial

Page as a Whole, General Reporting, Social Issues Feature Story, and Typography and Design.

The newspaper has won in all of these categories, and many

others, on numerous occasions over the years.

"As always, we're pleased for the recognition from those in the industry," said *Timberjay* Publisher Marshall HelMBERGER.

"But the thanks we hear everyday from readers who appreciate the kind of journalism we provide is the highest reward for us."

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OPINION

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Editorial

Mountain bike trails

Community development can lead economic growth

Economic development isn't what it used to be, and Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board members and Commissioner Mark Phillips are increasingly demonstrating that they understand how times have changed. It used to be that people were physically tied to their place of employment, but that is changing rapidly and it means people are increasingly free to locate in places that offer the kind of amenities and lifestyle they prefer.

And that means communities will be successful in the future when they recognize the growing connection between economic development and community development.

Build a great community, and the people will come, and not just as tourists. They'll invest in homes and businesses, and as they do, they help build a stronger, more diverse, and more sustainable local economy. We're already seeing it in places like Duluth and Crosby-Ironton on the old Cuyuna Range, where communities are tapping the interest in outdoor recreation and experiences to revitalize their local economies. We've seen it in Ely, even as progress there is threatened by the current divisions over copper-nickel mining.

To some, the investment of \$4.95 million in new mountain biking trails on the Iron Range might seem odd. But to those who recognize how the changes in the economy have upended traditional models of economic development, it's an extremely hopeful signal that IRRRB officials get it—and are willing to put forward the kind of investments that will enhance communities in our region and create entrepreneurial opportunity.

Interest in mountain biking is growing dramatically, and building new trail systems will bring tens of thousands of new visitors to the area every year. That's great, but it's only part of the story. World-class amenities, like the trail systems currently being planned, will enhance the reputation and the economies of Iron Range communities. As we've seen in Duluth, when a community can highlight itself as a mecca for outdoor recreation, the impact is immediate. First, you see increased visitation, which helps existing businesses succeed. Then comes the inevitable in-migration of new residents who've decided they like what they've seen on previous visits and want much more. They bring new investment, new businesses, new ideas, new incomes, and new vitality to communities that, in many cases, have been stuck in neutral for too long.

Mountain biking trails will bring bike shops, brew pubs, outdoor gear manufacturers, and new residential construction, just as we've seen in Duluth and on the Cuyuna. The new trails will appeal to millennials, but they'll also attract aging baby boomers, many of whom are now looking for interesting communities in which to retire and enjoy an active outdoor lifestyle.

Mountain biking trails aren't a panacea, and they won't revitalize Iron Range communities by themselves. But they are one important piece of an overall economic and community development strategy that can bring new vitality to the region. Perhaps the best news is that it shows that the IRRRB understands how making enticing Iron Range communities contributes to their economic success.



Letters from Readers

An open letter to the Tower Council

Have you all collectively lost your minds? Defying all logic and common sense by removing from TEDA Marshall Helmberger, a knowledgeable and informed advocate for Tower and its future, as he's always been, is bad enough. But then to make matters worse by switching official newspapers? In what alternate universe is the *Tower News*, proud paper that it once was, a better choice than the award-winning *Timberjay*?

And all because Helmberger had the audacity to do his job—to editorialize and question some of the city council's recent decisions? This sort of reminds me of the spoiled kid who, because he doesn't get his way, sulks and then takes his ball and goes home. Tower deserves better than this.

Lynn Scott
Soudan

Can the Dems catch the millennial wave?

In 2018, there will be more millennials than baby boomers eligible to vote. Millennials (typically defined as Americans who have come of age at the beginning of the 21st century), represent the most diverse generation in American history, with fully 43 percent of them being non-white. Millennials are also known for their leftward political bent, with some recent polls showing higher approval ratings for socialism than capitalism among young people. This is clearly bad news for Republicans. Yet for the Democrats to truly take advantage of this generational shift, they may have to look outside of their party for the proper cue.

I'm talking, of course, about Bernie Sanders. In the 2016 presidential primary, Sanders received more votes from mil-

lennials than did Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump combined, and only a few thousand votes shy of an outright majority of all votes cast between the more than twenty Democratic and Republican candidates. The enthusiasm of young Americans for the self-proclaimed democratic socialist caused a lot of consternation from politicians and pundits of both major parties. Irate conservatives called it the result of indoctrination by the Marxist professors that they say have come to dominate academia, warping the minds of impressionable students. Having been in higher education for the past six years, getting a bachelor's and then a master's degree, I can attest that this is nonsense. Most college professors are, indeed, liberals, and perhaps active on social or environmental issues. But they are also paid well and are largely okay with the economic status quo, which puts them in most cases in the business-friendly Clinton wing of the Democratic party. If not for the GOP's overt bigotry and anti-intellectualism, a lot of them would probably be voting Republican with some regularity. In either case, only 34 percent of millennials actually have a bachelor's degree, according to a 2014 Pew Research survey. While this is a higher percentage than for any previous generation, to say that left-leaning millennials are all under the spell of academia is a dodgy claim at best.

Democrats, meanwhile, somehow managed explanations just as inane. On two occasions during the Democratic primary, Hillary Clinton was asked her thoughts on why millennials were so staunchly backing her opponent. Her responses essentially boiled down to "they don't do their research" and "they just like to protest". Others seemed to think that Bernie Sanders, a 74-year-old Jewish grandpa known for disheveled hair and rumpled suits, was some kind of

hip, dynamic superstar on par with Drake and Katy Perry, and that supporting him was just the hip, trendy thing to do among "the youth".

This is, again, utter nonsense. Millennials supported Bernie Sanders for one simple reason: he saw what they saw, and the solutions he proposed matched the scale of the problems facing the new generation.

Let's lay this out. Millennials are seeing much more than the screens of their smartphones these days, and, in many cases, have keener eyes than many of their elders when it comes to recognizing the reality of the modern economy. They see all the components of a secure existence—education, housing, and health care—skyrocketing in cost, at the same time that wages are stagnant and the purchasing power of those wages is steadily declining. They see a corporate culture that no longer views employees as assets to be invested in with training, good wages and benefits, and generous leave policies, but rather as drains on the bottom line to be laid off at a moment's notice, all in the name of boosting the next earnings report. They see how this has spawned a job market where stable 9-to-5 jobs with benefits and pensions have been replaced by unpaid internships and rickety temp jobs with no benefits that can vanish right out from under you without so much as a wave goodbye. These factors combine to place millennials in a much more precarious position than previous generations.

At the same time, millennials see the richest people and corporations in the country getting richer than ever before (unlike wages, corporate profits have continuously increased)—so rich that they're essentially above the law. Whether it's reckless Wall Street executives crashing the economy and ruining millions of lives, Big Pharma CEOs

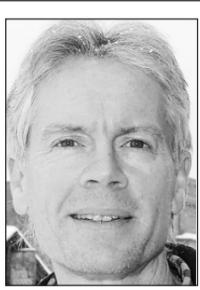
See **LETTER...**page 5



After 20 years, I watched the Vikes again. Nothing's changed

My Facebook feed continues to reflect the ongoing woe of Vikings fans everywhere, and it's reminded me of why I stopped following the gang of purple almost 20 years ago.

I grew up in Bloomington, about five miles from the old Met Stadium. It was back in the day when the average Minnesotan could afford a ticket to a professional football game without requiring a bank loan, and more than once I and friends brushed the snow off a few box



MARSHALL
HELMBERGER

seats and shivered through a game.

I wasn't just a fan... I was a rabid fan. I loved Bill Brown, Dave Osborne, Joe Kapp, Carl Eller, Allen Page, Gene Washington, and, later Fran Tarkenton during his second stint with the Vikes. I'd think about a big game all week, and by Sunday would be primed to watch the action.

I still remember their first Super Bowl appearance, when they played the Kansas City Chiefs on Jan. 11, 1970. It was my ninth birthday so, of course, I assumed the

Vikings were destined to win. They wouldn't disappoint me on my big day, would they?

You all know the sorry truth...after going 12-2 that season, the vaunted Purple People Eaters looked to have indigestion as the Chiefs walloped them, 23-7. I was crushed.

Over the years, we Vikings fans were treated to more disappointments, as our team would assemble outstanding season records and statistics only to have it all fall apart when it really counted. In the 1974 Super Bowl, they lost 24-7 to the Dolphins, and fell 16-6 to the Steelers in 1975. In 1977, it was the Raiders' turn, as they dumped the Vikings in the big

game 32-14. Add to that a long list of devastating playoff disappointments, starting with their dispiriting last-second playoff loss on a Dallas Hail Mary in the 1975 divisional playoff, a dismal end to a season in which the Vikings went 15-1.

The Vikings took another 15-1 record into their 1998 playoff tilt against the Falcons and jumped to a 20-7 lead early on. The Falcons closed the gap to 27-20 late in the fourth quarter, when Vikings kicker Gary Anderson, who hadn't missed a field goal all season, lined up for a relative chip shot that would have extended

See **VIKINGS...**pg. 5

MINING

Meetings to give public chance to weigh in on PolyMet permits

REGIONAL— The public will have the opportunity to learn more and to comment on proposed permits for PolyMet’s NorthMet copper-nickel mine during meetings set for Feb. 7 and 8.

Officials from both the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and the state’s Pollution Control Agency will be on hand to answer questions and take comment during the events, set for Aurora and Duluth.

The meetings will include an open house where the public can learn more about the DNR’s draft permit to mine and the MPCA’s draft air and water quality permits and 401 wetland certification. Attendees will also have an opportunity to comment on the draft permits.

Stenographers will be available to record oral comments offered individually and during the public comment forum. In addition, comment boxes will be available for submitting written comments and objections at the meetings.

“These public meetings are an important opportunity for citizens to learn more about the proposed project and offer comments to the agencies,” said DNR Commissioner Tom Landwehr. “We understand that many people have strongly held opinions about the project, and we are committed to providing a welcoming, respectful environment where all perspectives can be heard and considered.”

Officials says they expect a large crowd will be on hand to weigh in on both sides of the

issue, and they hope to be ready. “We may not be able to accommodate everyone who wishes to speak publically during the meeting,” said MPCA Commissioner John Linc Stine. “However, we will select speakers using a fair and transparent process. In addition, people should know that there will be multiple ways to submit comments at the meetings and all will receive our full consideration.”

The host agencies have engaged an independent facilitator who will select speakers at random from among attendees who sign up to speak at the public comment forum. “We are confident that this will allow us to hear from the greatest number and diversity of speakers as pos-

sible,” added Landwehr.

People do not need to attend a meeting to comment. Public comments may also be submitted by March 6, via the state’s comment portal at <http://polymet.mn.gov/>.

Like all public meetings, officials with the DNR and MPCA say they expect that attendees will remain cordial and respectful of all participants, agency staff, and facility hosts. DNR is working with facility representatives and local officials to ensure the meetings are welcoming and orderly.

The Duluth Entertainment Convention Center will be employing its standard large event security measures as outlined below. In order to ensure a consistent and fair process across

both meetings, these measures will also be in place for the meeting in Aurora.

The following items will not be allowed in the public meetings:

- Outside food and beverages
- Backpacks or large bags
- Handheld signs
- Noise makers
- Weapons
- Public meetings will be held on:

► Wednesday, Feb. 7, Mesabi East (Aurora-Hoy Lakes) High School, Open house: 4-9 p.m. Public comment forum: 6-9 p.m.

► Thursday, Feb. 8, DECC - (Duluth Entertainment Convention Center), Open house: 1-9 p.m. Public comment forum: 6-9 p.m.

LETTER...Continued from page 4

jacking up the prices of lifesaving drugs, big bankers fleecing consumers with outrageous fees, or billionaires literally buying our elected officials, these architects of human misery somehow skate by with fewer consequences than the guy who gets caught with an ounce of marijuana. It’s no wonder then that millennials dislike the current system— an economic order that prioritizes short-term profits

over human welfare and the long-term good of society— and no wonder that they supported Bernie Sanders’s bolder, more transformative policy agenda over the tepid, technocratic tweaks peddled by Hillary Clinton. All of Bernie’s ideas— single-payer health care, tuition-free college, a \$15 minimum wage, mass investment in renewable energy, et cetera— are likely only the start of what

will be needed if millennials are to have any hope of a stable, secure future. This is not to say millennials will abandon the Democrats en masse. Millennials voted for Hillary Clinton over Donald Trump by a wide margin, and have helped deliver wins for centrist Democrats such as Doug Jones in Alabama and Ralph Northam in Virginia. Donald Trump and his toadies in the GOP have

no intention of doing anything to fix the problems described above, so it’s unlikely that the Democrats will find themselves losing the votes of millennials— or the up-and-coming Generation Z—to the GOP. Low turnout, due to lack of enthusiasm, is a bigger concern for the Democrats. To fully overcome the GOP’s gerrymandering and voter suppression (which disproportionately affects the young just as it does

people of color), especially for the critical 2018 and 2020 elections, the Democrats can’t rely on passive generational change alone. They need candidates who will propose bold ideas scaled to the problems millennials face, and who can be credibly believed to fight for those ideas once in office. That’s how they’ll drive the high levels of youth turnout needed to take full advantage of millennials’

imminent numerical superiority, and to give the Republicans the electoral obliteration they truly deserve. Bernie Sanders won’t be around forever, so the Democrats had better start putting up candidates who share his vision front and center. If they don’t, millennials will.

Max Helmberger Tower

VIKINGS...Continued from page 4

the Vikings lead to an insurmountable ten points. But he missed wide, and the Falcons came back in the final seconds for a touchdown that sent the game to overtime. Final score: Falcons 30, Vikings 27.

And there are so many, many more. To be a Vikings fan is to forever live with that crushing feeling that you’re just not good enough. When it really counts, we’ve come away with the participation medal every time.

Twenty years ago I said enough is enough. I found better things to do

with my Sunday afternoons, and left the Vikings behind. I thought for good. For two decades, I couldn’t tell you the Vikings’ record, or even the name of their quarterback. They were dead to me.

But then an old buddy of mine, who was a sports writer at the MDN back in the 1980s, and is now a hotshot lawyer out in Oregon, kept reaching out in an effort to bring me back into the fold. “This year is different,” he told me, “they’re going all the way!” He insisted I watch the playoff game against

the Saints.

So, like a prairie dog who had lived underground for 20 years, I cautiously poked my head up to take a look around. I didn’t watch at first, but checked my phone as the game wore on to follow the score. With the Vikings up 17-0 early in the second half, I cautiously decided to tune in— only to watch the Vikings defense collapse in the fourth quarter. As the final seconds ticked off the clock, with the Vikings then trailing the Saints 24-22, I typed out a sarcastic text to my buddy, on how

nothing seemed to have changed. “Still the old Vikings,” I wrote. “Can you say C-H-O-K-E?”

I was about to hit send, when the Vikings captured lightning in a bottle and pulled out one of the most improbable victories since the Cowboys did it to them back in the ‘70s.

For the briefest moment, I let hope get the better of me. Maybe this was a sign that this year’s Vikings team had the golden touch. Maybe Lucy wouldn’t pull the football this time, and leave all of us Charlie Browns staring

at the sky with a pained expression. After two decades of blissful ignorance, I found myself thinking about the next Vikings game once again. I had gotten sucked back in.

And then the Eagles happened, and all the years of suppressed pain came rushing back to the surface.

“The horror, the horror,” is all my Oregon buddy could say after the game.

But within the week, there were tentative words of hope percolating around on my Facebook feed. One commenter even suggested

that the loss was actually good news, that sets the Vikings up for long-term success. “They’re just a couple pieces away from taking it all,” said this poor deluded fan.

Yes, just a couple pieces away, I thought. All they really need is a defense that shows up when it counts. That... and an offense.

As for me, this prairie dog’s going back underground for a long, long time. There’s just too much pain up on the surface.

THISSEN...Continued from page 3

other DFLers about following the science and the process as proposals move forward. “If we do that and the experts at the agencies determine that the permit should be issued or there’s the ability to do it, I don’t think the governor should be stepping in and stopping that from going forward.”

At the same time, Thissen said he’s not sure that the current financial assurance package put forward for the PolyMet project is sufficient on a longer-term basis. He said as governor, he would be

sure that the package was adequately reviewed every year to ensure that sufficient resources are available for any clean-up necessary.

“That will be on the next governor’s plate,” he said.

He said it’s also important that the next governor require enforcement of any permits that are ultimately issued. “That’s something that the state has fallen down on too often in my mind,” he said. “If the permit is issued, I think the other big job of the next governor is making

sure that the agency is actually enforcing the terms of those permits and be willing to make tough decisions if the permit is not being followed.” Thissen would also like to see more value-added production if the minerals are eventually developed.

On the proposed Twin Metals project, Thissen said he was disappointed with the recent decision by the Trump administration to downgrade a planned study on the merits of the proposed Twin Metals mine near Ely. “It

boggles my mind that we would not do the study,” he said. “Getting all that information makes perfect sense. We need the science behind it to back up what we’re going to do.”

Thissen said he also wants to see the established process followed. “We don’t want it short-circuited, which we’ve seen happening at the federal level.” For example, he said he does not object to the current land exchange plan for PolyMet, but has been unhappy with the way the process has been manipu-

lated in Congress. “Changing the rules mid-stream is not right to me,” he said.

Thissen, who grew up in Bloomington, is the son of two school teachers. He is married to wife Karen and has three children, including two sons in high school and a college-aged daughter. His legal practice, for the former firm of Lindquist and Venum, has been wide-ranging, including pro bono public defense, including a death penalty case that led to the release of a wrongly-con-

victed individual in Texas. He has also handled a number of political asylum cases over the years.



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Ribbon Cutting 4:30 PM



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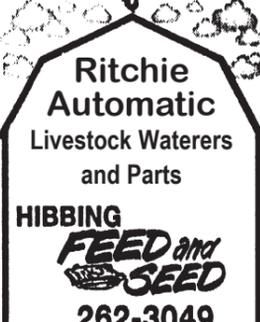
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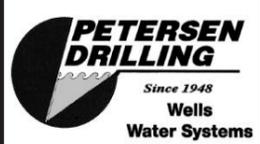
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Babbitt Figure skaters compete in the 38th annual Northland Competition

REGIONAL- Babbitt Figure Skating Club was well represented at the 38th annual Northland Competition in Duluth, Jan. 25-28. Sophie Lenz, Maude Lenz, Taina Koivisto, Avery Buschman and Maizy Sundblad, all students at Northeast Range, performed during this annual competition held at the DECC and Amsoil arenas.

The event is hosted by the Duluth Figure Skating Club and draws several hundred skaters from all over Minnesota, neighboring states, and Canada. Our skaters competed in several different events including Free Skating, Compulsory Moves, and Spins.

Congratulations to these skaters for a job well done representing the Babbitt Figure Skating Club and our community.

These skaters, along with many other area skaters, will be performing in the annual BFSC skating show on Friday, March 2 at 6 p.m. and Saturday, March 3 at 1 p.m. at the Ron Castellano Arena in Babbitt. Please come out to support our skaters!

Ruby's Pantry food distribution set for Thursday, Feb. 8 in Cook

COOK- The next Ruby's Pantry Food Distribution will be Thursday, Feb. 8, from 4:30-6 p.m. at the old Cook School. Registration begins at 3 p.m. at the old school; \$20 cash donation at the door. Volunteers are asked to please arrive at 3 p.m. PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN CONTAINERS.

Ruby's Pantry is now offering online registration at rubyspantry.com starting Friday, Feb. 9, for the March distribution. \$21 donation at sign-up. Sponsored by St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Alango. For more information, contact Sue Kolstad at 218-741-3925.

St. Martin's Catholic Church schedule of Lenten activities

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

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

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

Chimpy Skating Parties on Feb. 3 and 4

SOUDAN- Everyone is invited to Chimpy's Skating Parties on Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 3 and 4 from 12 noon to 3 p.m. There will be food and fun. Loaner skates are available. Boot skaters welcome. This week's party is sponsored by Jordan Rice, Joanne Connell, and the Tower-Soudan Joint Powers Recreation Board.

Vermilion Lake Township Board of Audit

VERMILION LAKE TWP- The Vermilion Lake Town Board will conduct their annual audit of books of the treasurer and clerk during their regular monthly meeting on Monday, Feb. 5 at 5 p.m. at the Vermilion Lake Town Hall.

Cook VFW

Open Daily at Noon
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Thursday Bingo
Early Bird 6 p.m.
Progressive Prizes

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

Take-Out 666-0500

Senior Bingo in Tower Monday, Feb. 5

TOWER- Senior Bingo will be held in Tower on Monday, Feb. 5 at the Tower Civic Center from 11:45 a.m. - 3 p.m. There is a \$10 charge for the bingo party, which includes lunch. All ages are welcome to attend this community event. Lunch is served starting at 11:45 a.m., and bingo begins at 12:45 p.m.

Bingo is cancelled if school is closed due to winter weather. Call Jodi Summit at 218-753-2950 with any questions.

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TRAFFIC SAFETY

Hit-and-run driver kills one of Tower's most famous dogs

by JODI SUMMIT
Tower-Soudan Editor

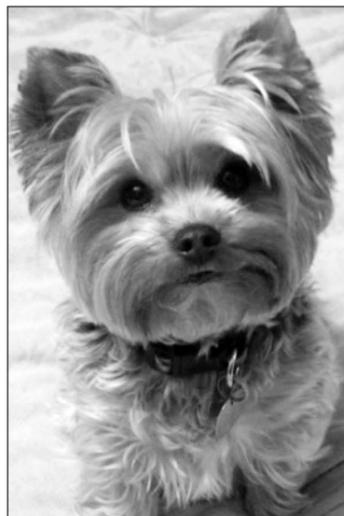
TOWER- Walter, the pint-sized Yorkie who lived upstairs in the Sulu's building with his owners Brenda and Karel Winkelaar, was killed in a hit-and-run accident on North Third St., at approximately 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 25.

Pound-for-pound, Walter had more grace and sensitivity than any dog around. Whether hanging out on Main Street, in his own backyard, or sneaking into the coffee shop to visit with customers, Walter was always on a mission. And that mission, most of the time, was to make friends with anyone he came in contact with.

"He was like a therapy dog," said Brenda, explaining how he always seemed to know which customers needed a little extra attention. He had his favorites too, she said, and would hear a voice of someone he loved, and then sneak downstairs, through the kitchen, and into the shop to say hello.

"He made people feel good," she said. Walter was seven-and-a-half years old. Yorkshire Terriers expected life span is from 13 - 16 years.

Walter was out for an evening walk, with Brenda's son Jesse Gornick, and Jesse's dog Emily,



when a silver-colored older model minivan came speeding down the street, moving west at well above the speed limit. Jesse moved the dogs to the left hand side of the street, and he stood more in the center to try to get the car to slow down.

"That van just swerved to the left, not to the right as you would expect," Brenda said. "It almost hit Jesse, sped down the street and right through two stop signs as it headed down Hoodoo Point Road."

Jesse immediately realized that Walter had been hit. It happened so fast that at first he was unsure of what make or color the car was, but a nearby neighbor, with a security video camera, had footage that

showed Jesse walking alongside the road, and then the speeding van, the only vehicle driving through at that time period. A complaint has been forwarded to the Breitung Police Department. After posting about the accident on facebook, there was another report from a pedestrian who almost was hit by a speeding car, on that same section of North Third, between Birch and Pine streets.

The loss of the small dog is especially hard, since customers coming into the shop this week were all asking where Walter is. Tears are flowing from both sides of the front counter, as Brenda tells the sad tale. Jesse's dog, Emily, who was used to staying with Walter when Jesse was at work, is also having a tough time.

Anyone with information about the accident can call Brenda at 218-290-4912.



A photo of the van caught on video, submitted photos

ST. MARTIN'S



"Souper Bowl" fundraiser at St. Martin's

Stop by for booya on Sunday, Feb. 4 from 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

TOWER- Are you ready for the "Souper Bowl"? The St. Martin's Catholic Youth Group will again be preparing a Booya Dinner for "Souper Bowl" Sunday, on Feb. 4, from 11:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m.; carry outs are available. For the past 14 years, the youth have been donat-

ing the ingredients, preparing the booya and desserts, and accepting freewill donations for the Tower Soudan Food Shelf. The "Souper Bowl of Caring" is a nationwide ecumenical movement that embodies Jesus' teaching to "love thy neighbor."

Please support the youth and bring a healthy appetite on Sunday, Feb. 4, at St. Martin's Catholic Church. All proceeds go towards the Tower Soudan Food Shelf.

Community Notices

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

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

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

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

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

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

TOWER- St. James Presbyterian Church in Tower is hosting their annual Shrove Tuesday pancake meal on Tuesday, Feb. 13

from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. There will be pancakes, sausages, fruit and drink. Cost is by donations. All proceeds will be used to fund the free Vacation Bible School, set for July 9-13. Any questions, call 218-753-6005.

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.

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

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

BREITUNG POLICE DEPARTMENT

December 2017

Calls: 84
 Assist other agency: 22
 Traffic stops: 20
 Arrests: 1
 Citations/Formal charges: 11
 Warnings: 15
 Monthly mileage: 1,927(gold Tahoe 1,075; Charger 0; Explorer 852; Snowmobile 0).

Additional shifts

During the month of December the Breitung Police Department worked 8 hours of extra DWI enforcement through the Toward Zero Deaths (TZD) grant.

Training

During the month of December officers completed yearly online OSHA/POST training.

Squads

We did not have any mechanical issues with our squads during the month of December
 Current end of the month mileage for the Gold 2012 Chevy Tahoe (Tower) is 61,025. 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 6,869.

New office

The Breitung Police Department recently moved to our new office located at 41 1st Ave. in Soudan. If you see our squad car parked out front and would like to stop in and say "hi," just ring the doorbell located by the north door. We would love to put on a pot of coffee and show you our new



November Police Report

Breitung Police Chief Jesse Anderson

office space.

Carbon Monoxide dangers

Another season in the Minnesota deep freeze means you'll be using indoor heating and cooking appliances more while getting less fresh air in the house as you try to shut out the cold. But, if your appliances and heat sources aren't ventilated properly or are malfunctioning, carbon monoxide could build up and lead to a deadly situation. That's why it's so important to make sure you have working CO alarms.

Several incidents involving carbon monoxide have already happened in Minnesota this winter.

Call summary

Citations/Formal charges/Arrests: (1) (GM) 3rd Degree DWI (Pending Analysis)-Charges Pending/Jailed; (1) (M) 4th Degree DWI (.15) Cited/ROR; (3) Driving After Revocation-Cited/ROR; (2) No Proof Of Insurance-Cited/ROR; (2) No Seat Belt Use-Cited/ROR; (1) No Registration-Cited/ROR; (1) Permit Offense Of Another- Cited/ROR

Assist other agencies: (10) St. Louis County Sheriff's Office; (5) Tower Ambulance; (3) Bois Forte Police Department; (2) Tower Fire Department; (1) Minnesota State Patrol; (1) Duluth Police Department

Call categories: (22) Agency Assists; (20) Traffic Stops; (6) Animal Complaint; (4) Paper Service; (4) Check Business; (4) Community Engagement; (4) Public Assist; (3) Motor Vehicle Accident; (3) Permit to Purchase; (2) Alarm; (2) Information Call; (2) Parking Complaint; (2) Intoxicated Person; (1) Check Welfare; (1) Check Hazard; (1) Lock-out; (1) Trouble Unknown; (1) Damage To Property; (1) Vehicle In Ditch



Breitung Police Chief Dan Nylund in the new police department office. The office is located adjacent to the old office, in the former MINOS building. The building has a professional office space, with secure rooms for records storage and evidence storage, as well as ample space to store the education materials used for the D.A.R.E. and Truth About Drugs program that Nylund teaches at the local elementary and high school. photo by J. Summit

AEOA Senior Dining Menu

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

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

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

- Week of Feb. 5**
 Monday- Meat Calzone with Marinara
 Tuesday- Chicken Sandwich
 Wednesday- Bag Lunch
 Thursday- Meatballs, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Dinner Roll, Vegetable
 Friday- Pulled Pork on a Wholegrain Bun, Tater Tots

Week of Feb. 5

- 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.

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

Thursday
 Vermilion Country School Board- Fourth Thursday (except near holidays). Meetings posted online at vermilioncountry.org. Next meeting is Thursday, Feb. 22 at 5 p.m. (third Thursday).
 AA Meeting- Lake Vermilion 12x12 (Open). 6:30 p.m. at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Tower, use the rear side door entrance.

Read the news from all three Timberjay editions each week
www.timberjay.com
 Timberjay subscribers get free access to the online e-edition

THE NEWS OF THE WEEK FROM MS. VERA MILION

said, "It seems that Nietzsche was right: What doesn't kill you makes you stronger!" We didn't ask who Nietzsche was, nor do we care.

Moose invites unique people to share the lower level. Moose did offer a cold weather activity that might suit some, playing blizzard drinking games! When snow climbs above your windows and the TV news hosts invoke the word "snowpocalypse," it's time to break out your well-stocked liquid provisions and pass your time in weather-enforced isolation with a blizzard-themed drinking game.

Turn on the forecast and drink every time you hear a melodramatic description of frozen water falling from the sky. Classics like "snowmageddon" will likely be plentiful, but you should take an extra-long shot for any creative new terms. You'll be through the snow-tastrophe in no time. We know there will be calls to the office but is winter and this weather calls for adult solutions. Kids, your dear aunts, Vera and Hilda, suggest cocoa topped with a white cloud of mini marshmallows. We are skipping this week's recipe, as it's for older people.

In addition to warding off potential frost bite, a little bump gives one a numbing effect, which

makes watching the national news bearable. If you are easily upset by national news, switch to paper cups. If it wasn't Hilda, it was me, throwing glasses at the TV. We nearly went broke replacing TV screens. The only respite we have from the problems of today is the fact that every day there is a garden catalog in the mailbox. We make long lists of flower seeds and plants with our frostbitten fingers that we will be ordering for the spring. The other thing that lifts the sprits of a couple of old broads shivering in their long johns and fleece is the knowledge that beneath the mountains of snow, there are drifts of daffodils

just waiting for the snow to melt and make the world warm again!

This summer I'm staying away from bingo parlors to invest in climbing roses for around my cabin door. I have a William Baffin, but I need a John Cabot, Captain Samuel Holland, Henry Kelsey, John Davis, Louis Jolliet, and a John Davis. We were going to order a Marie Victorin for our feminist friends but it seems that Marie is French for Marvin or Murray—who knew? Well, ta ta loves, cuddle if you can! Done the right way, it saves on the heating bill!

Ms. Vera Milion

SAINT LOUIS COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES BETTER WASTE SOLUTIONS

Area Solid Waste Facility site hours

Northwoods Transfer Station 9384 Hwy 21 N., Ely/Babbitt Winter Hours Mon, Thu, Fri, Sat: 8am-3pm Tue: 9:30am-3pm Wed: 11am-5pm	Cook Transfer Station 2134 S. Beatty Rd., Cook Hours Mon: 10am-6pm Tues thru Sat: 9am-3:30pm
County 77 Canister Site 2038 County Rd. 77, Greenwood Twp Winter Hours Thurs, Sun: noon-5pm	Soudan Canister Site 5160 Hwy 169, Soudan Hours Mon, Wed, Sat, Sun 8am-5pm
Embarrass Canister Site 7530 Koski Rd., Embarrass Hours Sat: 12:30-4:30pm Thu: 10am-5pm	Aurora Transfer Station 5910 Hwy 135 N., Aurora Hours Mon, Thurs, Fri: 8am-4pm Tue, Wed: 10am-4pm Sat: 8am-noon
Household Hazardous Waste Facility 5345 Regional Landfill Rd, Virginia Hours Tues and Sat: 8am-1pm	Regional Landfill 5341 Regional Landfill Rd, Virginia Hours Mon-Fri: 8am-4:30pm Sat: 8am-3:30pm

Winter hours effective October 1st through April 14th

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

the **TIMBERJAY**

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FACIAL HAIR CELEBRATION

Great Nordic Beardfest in fourth year

by KEITH VANDERVORT
Ely Editor

ELY – The Great Nordic Beardfest returns Friday and Saturday at the Boathouse Brewpub and Restaurant. While not officially part of the Ely Winter Festival that kicks off this weekend, the local “hair ball” has proven quite popular.

Organizer Shaun Chosa expanded the event to two nights last year and hopes to expand the fun even further in the future.

The Beardfest will crown champions in many categories of facial hair growth. The fun begins at 7 p.m. each night, with the Friday Night Throwdown more of a popularity contest, and the main event held on Saturday night.

Divisions include: Full Beard Natural Long, Full Beard Natural Short, Freestyle, Modified, Mustache, and Bearded Lady.

As many as 50 con-



A snow sculpture on the east side of Northern Grounds Coffee Shop at the intersection of Sheridan Street and Central Avenue in Ely promotes the Great Nordic Beardfest at the Boathouse Brew Pub this weekend. submitted photo

testants entered the contest in previous years, according to Chosa, and he expects as many if not more to complete this year. Live music on Saturday night will feature “Crazy Neighbors.” Admission is \$5. Foremore information, go to www.great-nordicbeardfest.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

Tuesday Group

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

Feb. 6 – Russ Vanderboom – Author of “The Good Guy List”

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

SUPPORTING THE ARTS

Gardner Trust offers arts grants

ELY - The Donald G. Gardner Humanities Trust board set a deadline of Friday, March 23 for its spring grant round for artists, art groups, youth grants and scholarships.

There will again be a fall grant round with a deadline at the end of September. “The Trust is continually working on updating its grant process,” said Keiko Williams, the Trust’s executive director. “So people and groups applying for funding should make sure they download the newest forms from the website at www.gardnertrust.org. If someone does not have access to the internet they can call the office for grant forms at 365-2639.”

Artists and groups can apply for grants in the following five categories:

► Individual Artist Grants encourage developing and established artists with funding of up to \$1,000 to take advantage

of an impending, concrete opportunity.

► Organization Project Grants support activities in the fine arts and for the Ely Public Library. Grant support is intended to make it possible for organizations to present or produce a fine arts activity.

► Youth Grants are awarded to Ely school students in grades 6-12 who have an interest in and demonstrate high motivation in the fine arts. Home school students who live in ZIP codes 55731 and 55796, grades 6-12, also qualify for this program. The youth grants of up to \$750 can be used for workshops, classes, lessons or mentorships. Youth applicants must call Keiko to schedule a grant review by Friday, March 9.

► Scholarships are awarded to students majoring in one of the disciplines of the fine arts or library science. Scholarships may be awarded to Ely

Memorial High School graduates or an Ely area resident for the past five years who are in their third year of studies or higher.

► Operational Funding Grants fund high-quality, established Ely area organizations that produce, or present fine arts activities or provide services to artists.

Grant forms and eligibility requirements are available on the Gardner Humanities Trust website at www.gardnertrust.org. Those without internet access can contact Keiko at 365-2639 to have an application mailed to them. The deadline for applications will be 12 noon on Friday, March 23. Completed applications can be mailed to the Trust office at P.O. Box 720, Ely, MN 55731 or dropped off at the Ely City Hall, Clerk’s Office, at 209 E. Chapman Street.

The Trust will have open office hours if people

have questions about grants and would like to talk with the executive director. “New applicants are strongly encouraged to have a grant review by the director prior to the deadline to make sure their project will fit into the grant criteria. Individuals or groups that have applied for grants before can also use these office hours to check in about their new application submissions. It never hurts to have a draft reviewed to make sure the narrative or budget are covering all the requirements,” Williams said.

Open office hours are 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Monday, and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Tuesday. Keiko is available to meet by appointment on other days of the week or evenings, if needed. The office will be closed from Feb. 16 to March 1. The Trust office is located on the Lower Level of the Ely City Hall.



the TIMBERJAY

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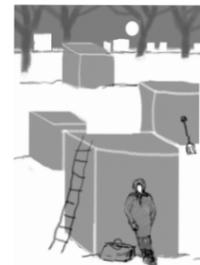
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Breathing Out

by Cecilia Rolando © 2018



blocks await carving
imagination on fire

sculptors, begin work

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MINNESOTA TWINS CARAVAN IN ELY



The Minnesota Twins Winter Caravan Tour stopped at the International Wolf Center in Ely last Thursday. Team mascot, T.C. Bear, left, took a seat next to Fletcher Chopp. Tanner Drange, above, brought his own bear mascot. photos by K. Vandervort

NORTHLAND 300



The annual Northland 300 opening ceremony, held last Thursday at the Grand Ely Lodge in Ely, included Minnesota Special Olympics athletes, snowmobile riders and the Ely Honor Guard. photo by J. Greeney

OUR COMMUNITY

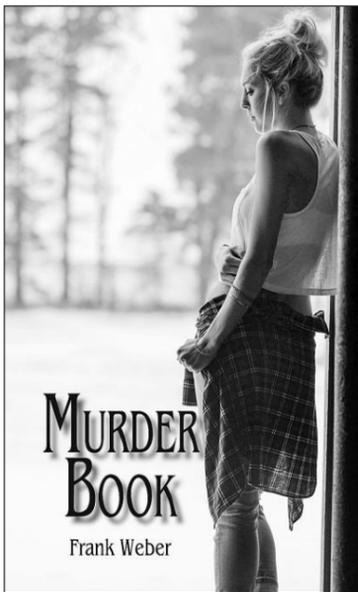
‘Murder Book’ author coming to Ely

ELY -Frank Weber, author of “Murder Book” (North Star Press, 2017) will present an author talk at the Ely Public Library on Friday, Feb. 9 from 5 to 6:30 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

Weber’s adult fiction novel captures much of his real-life professional experience interwoven with personal details of his childhood growing up in a family of twelve in the small rural town of Pierz, Minn.. “Murder Book”, a law enforcement term for homicide case, is packed with authentic investigative details based on his own work and his own life experiences.

Weber is a forensic psychologist who has completed assessments for homicide, sexual assault, and domestic abuse cases. His work has ranged from assessing murderers

chained to the cement floor in the basement of a prison and assessing psychopaths to providing therapy for wealthy professionals who’ve engaged in multiple affairs. He has testified as an expert witness in numerous sexual assault and homicide cases, written seven different treatment workbooks, and in 2015 published a training series for psychologists which has been accredited by the MN Board of Psychology. He has received the President’s Award from the Minnesota Correctional Association for his forensic work, and recently received an award for excellence in his clinical work. Frank Weber has used his unique understanding of how predators think, victim trauma, and actual court cases to create a thrilling mystery.



Broomball Tourney set for Feb. 10

ELY - Gather a group of friends and sign up for fun and friendly competition in the annual Ely Jaycees Broomball Tournament, to be held on Saturday, Feb. 10 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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

Email aborchert03@gmail.com to register.

The Ely Jaycees will provide sticks, balls, and a limited number of helmets. They strongly encourage all participants to wear a helmet while on the ice. Other items suggested include: gloves/mitts, kneepads, and appropriate footwear. Footwear with spikes is not permitted.

Skinny/Fat Relay set for Feb. 10

ELY - Grab your “skinny skis” and your “fat bike” and come out to Hidden Valley on Saturday, Feb. 10 for the inaugural

Skinny/Fat Relay.

The event features a 10K freestyle ski and a 10K fat bike ride (solo both or relay with a partner). We’ll try to set up solo relay athletes with partners if possible on race day. If you

Ely-area precinct caucus sites

ELY – Vermilion Community College will again host the State of Minnesota Precinct Caucus night on Tuesday, Feb. 6. Rooms at Vermilion have been scheduled as follows:

- Republicans - CL 104 and CL 110 (overflow NS 111)
- DFL - City of Ely, Theatre
- DFL - Morse Twp., CC 109
- DFL - City of

Winton, CL126

- DFL - Fall Lake Twp., CL 128
- DFL - Unorg 24, CL 146
- DFL - Eagles Nest Twp., CL 124

Directional signs will be posted in the entryways of the Classroom Building and Theater.

Learn more about the State of Minnesota’s Precinct Caucus night at <http://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/how-elections-work/precinct-caucuses/>

just want to fat bike and need a ski partner, we’ll try to group folks up.

Same-day registration runs from 8-9:30 a.m. There is a \$20 entry fee per person on race day at Hidden Valley.

There’s also a “Tour de Valley” ski race on Sunday, Feb. 11.

This event is sponsored by the Ely Nordic Ski Club and the Ely Winter Festival.

News in Brief

Ely City Council member attends State of the Union address

ELY – Minnesota Congressman Rep. Tom Emmer invited Ely City Council member Dan Forsman as his special guest to attend this year’s State of the Union event held Tuesday night in Washington, D.C., when President Donald Trump addressed a joint session of Congress.

Emmer, a Minnesota Republican, has worked to promote copper-nickel mining projects in northeastern Minnesota. Emmer visited Ely last summer and later introduced the MINER Act, legislation that would restore mineral leases taken away by the Obama Administration.

Forsman, a mine worker, was the subject of a *New York Times* magazine article last fall concerning the mining



Dan Forsman

economy in Ely. The article can be found here: <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/10/12/magazine/in-northern-minnesota-two-economies-square-off-mining-vs-wilderness.html>.

In late 2016, Forsman suggested Hillary Clinton supporters commit suicide, and publicly apologized for his Facebook post that enraged some supporters of the Democratic presidential candidate.

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

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

Winter hours effective October 1st through April 14th

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

Reading Olympics opens at school

ELY – The Olympic Reading Challenge for the Washington Elementary student community will be held in conjunction with the 2018 Winter Olympic Games in Korea.

“This reading incentive program is built around the Olympic Spirit of achievement, team support and sportsmanship,” said K-5 Principal Anne Oelke. “We hope it encourages our kids to read more than they already do, and that it fosters a long-lasting love of reading.”

Here is how it will work:

Weekly reading tracker sheets will be sent home with children each week for the month of February. Weekly reading logs will be due back to the classroom each Monday. Students will sign up for an individual winter Olympic event to compete in. Individual reading log minutes will be calculated and bronze, silver and gold medals will be awarded in each event.

A classroom-wide bobsled race will run with combined reading minute totals for each classroom. At the end of the month bronze, silver and gold medals will be awarded to the winning classrooms with a special prize. Students will be able to track the bobsled race and individual event results on the bulletin board across from the office.

Donald G.

Gardner Humanities Trust

We are now accepting

2018 Arts Grant Applications

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

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

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

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

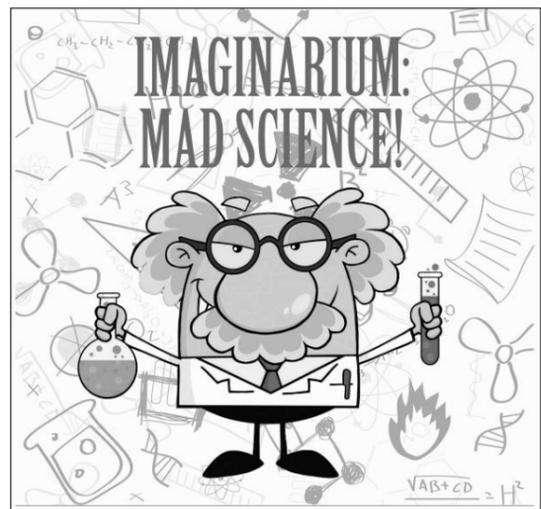
Open Office Hours are 10am - 3pm on Monday & Tuesday from 10am - 2pm or call for an appointment. Youth grant applicants must call for a grants review by March 9.

Ruby's Pantry set for Thursday, Feb. 8 in Cook

COOK- The next Ruby's Pantry Food Distribution will be Thursday, Feb. 8, from 4:30-6 p.m. at the old Cook School. Registration begins at 3 p.m. at the old school; \$20 cash donation at the door. Volunteers are asked to please arrive at 3 p.m. PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN CONTAINERS. Ruby's Pantry is now offering online registration at rubyspantry.com starting Friday, Feb. 9, for the March distribution. \$21 donation at sign-up. Sponsored by St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Alango. For more information, contact Sue Kolstad at 218-741-3925.

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

FIELDTWP- The second annual Father-Daughter Dance (grandfathers, uncles, and others also welcome) will be held on Friday, Feb. 9 from 6 – 8 p.m. at the North Woods School commons. Photography will be available. Cost is \$12 in advance or \$15 at the door, per adult. Join us for a fun night of fun and refreshments. The event is sponsored by the North Woods PTO. Please RSVP and prepay by Feb. 2 at the school; checks can be made out to NWPTO.



Duluth Playhouse's Imaginarium Mad Science in Cook on Feb. 9

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

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

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

Archery season underway

REGIONAL- The following North Woods students earned honors at the the Mesabi East Grand Prix held on Saturday, January 27.

Fourth-grader Anna Nelson took fourth place with a score of 235. Middle Schooler Carter Holman took fifth place with 280, and High School student Jeremiah Voges took second with a 284.

Next week's archery meet is Saturday, Feb. 10 at Hill City.

FOOD SHELF FUNDRAISER

North Woods High School second quarter honor roll

A Honor Roll

Seniors

Kayla Bodri
Grace Johnson
Tate Olson
Stacy Palmer

Juniors

Claire Beaudry
Emily Benoit
Bria Chiabotti
Kristen Cook
Jakob Hyppa
Stefen Johansen
Parker Jones
Chase Kleppe
Regan Ratai
Alanna Rutchasky
Ian Sherman
Anna Trip
Rebecca Triska

Sophomores

Lauren Arvila
Katrina Chapman
Bethany Cotten
Kenzie Fox
Hailey Hakkila
Clayton Janssen
Trevor Morrison
Olivia Niska
Nicole Olson
Karlyn Pierce
Nicole Roy
Neiva Smith
Sasha Strong
Nadine Todtenhausen
Kayla Towner
Michaela Tschida
Macy Viita

Freshmen

Jocelynn Carver
Emily Fosso
Samuel Frazee
Olivia Fultz
Aubrey Koskovich

Ian Olson
Brynn Simpson
Cole Thiel
Zoe Trip

Eighth Grade

Haley Bogdan
Morgan Burnett
Trey Gibson
Michelle Hagen
Alex Hartway
Elsie Hyppa
Taylor Jones
Abby Koch
Owen Land
Michaela Luecken
Shea Oveson
Jacob Panichi
Olivia Udovich
Brandie Walker

Seventh Grade

Cooper Antikainen
Kohen Briggs
Mason Clines
Karah Schofield
Elias Smith
Steven Sopoci
Avery Thiel
Emily Trip
Skyler Yernatich

B Honor Roll

Seniors

Garrett Abramson
Karina Bristol
Ethan Cote
Sabrina Francke
Grace Kisch
Daniel Koch
Tanner Lokken
Kaya-Victoria
Membreno
Brendan Parson
Timothy Pierce
Madison Rautiola
Xari Siman

Isaiah Squires
Lillian Wheeler

Juniors

Madison Antikainen
Tanner Barto
Alexander Byram
Brody Driscoll
Ellie Frazee
Samantha Fultz
Katlyn Hartwig
Haley Hongo
Tyler Kiehm
Kylee Lange
Katie Lundemo
Kayla Palm
Kiana Sargent
Blake Scofield
Madalyn Serna
Drayke Snidarich
Ryan Vlavisavljevich

Sophomores

Brielle Anderson
Zander Carr
LaVonne Drift
Samantha Francke
Luke Gabrielson
Pierce Johnson
Tyler Kehoe
Wyatt Kneen
Morgan Malecha
CeCilia Martinez
Kylie Parson
Meadow Prescott
Hope Robinson
Sara Szweduk
Taylor Vagle
Kennedy Wardas
Brian Whiteman
Courtney Woods

Freshmen

Nikole Boshey
Zachary Cheney
Jack Cook
Megan Cote

Kara Drift
Joey Lakoskey
Jacob Lundemo
Zuly Roach
Austin Sokoloski
Elijah Squires
Andrew Zika

Eighth Grade

Ethan Byram
Ivy Chaulklin
Tyler Chiabotti
Aayanna Goodsky-Spears
Erik Hagen
Joseph Hoagland
Kadence Holland
Katrina Jackson
Timothy Lilya
Leona Lindgren
Francis Littlewolf
Sean Morrison
Abbigail Shuster
Cole Snidarich
James Towner
Kaya Tschida
Lillian Voges
Jaden Whiteman

Seventh Grade

Brenden Chiabotti
Thomas Debeltz
Kia Deegan
Brielle Hujanen
Braden King
Hannah Kinsey
Grace Koch
Benjamin Kruse
Dillon Musakka
Anya Pearson
Kaden Ratai
Jacob Swanson
Logan Vlavisavljevich
Alexandria Whiteman

CRANE LAKE

Crane Lake News by the Singing Teapot Dames



Life in the North Country

Temperature – minus 5. Wind – calm, no wind. It is predicted to be below zero every night this week. Today, the sun is shining; it is a beautiful day in the North Country.

The weather has been mild, with just enough snow to keep the trails in good condition. The tourists are taking advantage of our beautiful North Country and have filled our town to capacity. There is not an available bed for a head this weekend. All of the watering holes and eating establishments are busy and overflowing with camaraderie.

A wonderful skating rink is maintained on the lake by Scotts Bar & Grill. The rosy-cheeked youngsters do enjoy the thrills of skating. Someday, we may have an Olympian. Thank you to the adults who keep the rink always ready.

And of course, there is talk of football. "How many boards are you on?" and "Who are you rooting for?" are two often-asked questions. Super Bowl LII will hardly be the first time Tom Brady has traveled to Minnesota. As the Patriots' quarterback recently mentioned, his mother grew up in a small town outside Minneapolis, where some of his family still lives. Browerville, population 753.

As reported in theathletic.com, Tom Brady grew up in California, but each summer as a boy he

returned to the Browerville area to spend time with his grandparents on the farm where his mother grew up. Conversations with Brady's relatives serve as a reminder that he wasn't always the suave superstar athlete that so many New Englanders perceive him to be. "We had to drag him wherever we'd go," said Paul Johnson, a cousin, recalling his youngest cousin's visits to the family farm, during which "Tommy" was sent tumbling down sand hills and was beaten up during Wiffle ball games. "He was our little hyperactive kid," says Paul of his younger cousin. "I remember him throwing baseballs and busting grandpa's windows."

Brady speaks fondly of the summers he spent with relatives in Browerville.

Tom is married to supermodel Gisele Bundchen. Separately, Tom Brady and Gisele Bundchen are two of the most famous people on the planet, and together they form one heck of a celebrity power couple. Best of luck to Tom with a decisive win on Super Bowl Sunday.

This Dame is not a fan of the Eagles and their unruly fans. Travel agents had to warn the Viking fans, traveling to Philadelphia for the game, to beware of the treatment of the Eagles fans. I have long been a Brady supporter and will continue to appreciate his brilliance as the best quarterback ever!

Life in the Land of Sun and Sand

Florida had a week of fairly nice weather, with temps in the mid-60s. Most people were able to get out and play tennis, pickle ball, golf, or other activities. The big news this week was that the Cardio room at the complex got new ellipticals

and treadmills. The surfers have been out "riding the waves"; even now at 8 a.m., there are a couple out in their wetsuits doing their best in a fairly calm ocean.

About a block from the condo is a candy shop called the Candymaker that has a variety of treats available. This Dame knew there would be trouble as soon as she saw it—reminds her of Canelake's in Virginia. They have sugar-free candies, enticing truffles, all kinds of candies made with white, dark, and milk chocolate. A favorite of many is the saltwater taffy. Of course, one has to walk right past it (if one has a good deal of will power!) on the return from a delicious fresh shrimp luncheon at the Back Porch. Another interesting place, with a wide variety of foods, but featuring fresh fish of all kinds—right on the beach, with indoor and outdoor seating. Birds are welcome visitors, both inside and outside, which makes this Dame a bit uncomfortable. Growing up with Alfred Hitchcock's "The Birds" does not endear our little feathered friends, especially when one is eating!

There are many restaurants here that feature fresh fish, fishing being a big industry on the Gulf. Just like Crane Lake, only with different fish. The restaurants have names like Pompano Joe's, Bubba Shrimp, Joe's Crab Shack, Half Shell Oyster House, Boshamp's, Dewey Destin, Fisherman's Wharf, Stinky's Fish Camp, and Goatfeathers. Besides restaurants, there are market places to purchase raw fresh fish, some featuring deli sections where one can also purchase concoctions of all sorts made from fish—étouffée, bisques, chowders, and gumbos. I've never heard of walleye étouffée, but maybe one exists—and

bets are that it would never replace Shore Lunch!

By the way, has anyone back there ever heard of pickle ball? Apparently, it is a game played on a court like tennis, using large ping pong-type rackets. With opposing teams on opposite sides of a net. Apparently, there is an area called a "kitchen", and one never wants to be in the kitchen. (This Dame can relate to that!) Somehow, I can't picture the game catching on in Crane Lake, but several oldsters here say it's fun. It is a big deal, with leagues and everything, at a retirement community in Texas. Sounds like it might be an old-peoples' game—that's why we haven't heard of it!

Time to go for a walk!

Let us hear from you. If you are a snowbird tell us what life is like in your area. Snowbirds like to hear the news of what is going on at Crane Lake; we like to know about you. Send news by e-mail to info@thelakecountry.com, by fax 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.

Cook Optical
Quality Eye Care for less Stop in & Compare
HOURS: 9-4:30 Mon.-Fri.
Jerel D. Johnson, ABOC Certified
23 E. Vermillion Dr., Cook
EYE EXAMS • 666-2879
Call for Appointment
with Dr. Jensen, Optometrist

ZUP'S Inc.
201 Hwy 53 SE Cook, MN
666-0205
Fall/Winter Hours
Sun: 7 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Mon-Sat: 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Effective October 1

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.

COOK LIBRARY

Teens work together to “escape” the Cook Public Library

COOK- On Friday, Jan. 26, 11 teens accepted the challenge to escape the Cook Public Library. Participants were given a cryptic letter from the Mad Hatter who ransacked the library leaving clues, puzzles and two black boxes protected by a series of word locks, key locks, directional locks and number locks.

Participants had one hour to solve the puzzles, unlock the locks and find the key to the library door. Alice in Wonderland themed clues were hidden throughout the library including in books, on a handwritten note, scrambled Scrabble tiles and posted directional signs.

The door key, hidden in the sink under the Queen of Hearts playing card, was discovered at

the 20-minute mark. The group continued to work on the locks, which took another 30 minutes.

At the end of the event, the group decorated the Moose!

Food for the event was provided by the Friends of the Cook Public Library.

The library’s next teen event will be a Sherlock Holmes Movie Night, on Friday, March 9 at 5:30 p.m.



Teenage sleuths solved puzzles and deciphered clues during a special library program on Jan. 26. The library is sponsoring another teen event on Friday, March 9 at 5:30 p.m. with a Sherlock Holmes movie night. submitted photos



GRIZZLY UPDATES

Bullying: what is it and what are our school policies?

I admit that the word “bullying” sends a chill down my spine. Bullying is complicated. Bullying is difficult. I would suspect that many school staff across the country have had challenges with solving bullying issues with mixed success. I feel a large amount of responsibility to handle bullying concerns, but they are not always an easy or quick fix.

Bullies have always existed and always will exist. I’m not going to try to tell you that it is better or worse now than when we were kids (whenever it was that you were a kid) because there is not enough data. We all likely had our own experience with bullies and bullying. We all have our own story. What is true is the increased amount of exposure that bullying has had over the last decade. Another factor is technology. Kids have unprecedented access to electronic media, which adds another layer to the bullying issue.

Bullying must first be defined. Not all incidents occurring between two or more students are bullying by definition. To determine if an issue is bullying, the issue must pass the following test:

- 1) Is the behavior intended to cause harm or distress?
- 2) Is the behavior repetitive?
- 3) Is there a power difference between the involved parties?

If the answer to all three questions is “yes,” then the issue is indeed bullying. If the answer to any of the questions is “no,” then the issue is student conflict. To give some examples, if one person’s behavior unintentionally made another person feel bad, it is not bullying. If two people are having a one-time conflict, it is not bullying. The definition of the “power difference” can be multi-faceted. The power difference can be defined by physical stature, authority, social standing, or ability to influence. In schools, a student’s social standing is often a com-



JOHN VUKMANICH

ponent in a bullying equation. Some students in school are perceived as having more power or popularity than others.

Incidents that do not pass the test can still be serious, but do not meet the definition of bullying. The reason I am pointing this out is that the term “bullying” is actually used in many situations when it doesn’t accurately define the behavior. A more accurate definition of a large amount of inappropriate student behavior is “relational aggression.”

There are many types of bullying. Physical bullying occurs when a larger, stronger, or aggressive person uses their strength to hurt or intimidate another. Verbal bullying involves cruel statements and put-downs. Cyberbullying utilizes technology and social media. Bullying can be direct or indirect.

Middle level students are notorious for grouping up and picking sides, spreading rumors, and creating drama. In some cases, so many students seem to be involved that the initial issue is difficult to define. Exclusion can also be bullying. This happens when a student is purposely left out of a group or activity.

At a school level, I am very concerned about not just bullying, but the manner in which students treat each other in general. I want parents to understand that when accusations of bullying are brought to the school’s attention, they are always addressed 100 percent of the time. In my twenty-plus years in education I have heard from numerous people that “the school didn’t do anything” about the bullying. What is usually meant by this statement is “the school was not successful in fixing the problem.”

Our promise to students and parents is as follows:

- 1) The school is very concerned about the issue and we will do our best to solve it.
- 2) We will address the students in conflict. It all starts with a conversation.
- 3) We will teach students skills to help move forward.
- 4) We will communi-

cate a plan to address the conflict.

5) We will ask for follow up to check on how the issue is going.

The school will use the resources that it has to help solve bullying and student conflict, from the dean and the counselor to the principal, the school resource officer, and teachers who have a relationship with the students involved.

If conversations and follow up are not successful in solving the problem, punishments will be issued and additional conversations with students and parents will occur. The level at which the school deals with the problem will escalate if the problem continues.

Bullying is no fun for anyone. Please talk to your kids about treating others with kindness even when in conflict. We need to teach our kids resilience, because bullying and conflict exist in all walks of life, and the only thing we can control is our own response. We need to work with our kids to be self-confident and teach them coping skills for conflict situations. Work with the school if you have concerns. Do your best as a parent to explain your concerns and listen to what school officials have to say. Some conflict in

school is not just one-sided. Keep evidence if you see it, such as texts, emails, and social media posts. Instruct your kids not to retaliate, and encourage them to speak to an adult at school, in person. A critical skill for kids is to not respond to social or electronic media in the heat of the moment. Wait, don’t reply, and show an adult. If electronic media posts are serious enough, they can actually be considered criminal harassment, and

the school resource officer should be involved.

Together we can help our kids to “weather the storm” through the challenging middle-level years and develop a positive self-image to grow into happy young adults.

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

SAINT LOUIS COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
BETTER WASTE SOLUTIONS

Area Solid Waste Facility site hours

Ash River Trail Canister Site 11391 Ash River Trail Winter Hours Sat: 12:30pm–4:30pm	Kabetogama Lake Canister Site 10150 Gamma Rd Winter Hours Wed: noon–4pm Sat: 8am–noon	Sturgeon Canister Site 8380 Hwy 73 Hours Sun: 10am–4pm
Orr Canister Site 4038 Hwy 53 Winter Hours Tue, Thu: 9am–noon Sat: 8am–noon	Portage Canister Site 6992 Crane Lake Rd. Winter Hours Tue, Sat: 1pm–4:30pm	County 77 Canister Site 2038 County Rd. 77 Winter Hours Thurs, Sun: noon–5pm
Cook Transfer Station 2134 S. Beatty Rd. Hours Mon: 10am–6pm Tues thru Sat: 9am–3:30pm	Regional Landfill 5341 Regional Landfill Rd, Virginia Hours Mon–Fri: 8am–4:30pm Sat: 8am–3:30pm	St. Louis County Environmental Services Department 1-800-450-9278 Office hours 8-4:30 Monday through Friday www.stlouiscountymn.gov/recycle
Household Hazardous Waste Facilities 5345 Regional Landfill Rd., Virginia Tue, Sat: 8am–1pm	3994 Landfill Rd, Hibbing Sat: 8am–1pm	

Winter hours effective October 1st through April 14th

the **TIMBERJAY**

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COMMUNITY EVENTS AND NOTICES

Brunfelt to speak on the area's cooperative movement on Feb. 6

HIBBING- The well-known Iron Range historian Pam Brunfelt will speak on "The Cooperative Movement," a topic that will resonate with persons of Finnish descent, at a new meeting site – the Grace Lutheran Church across from Lowes in Hibbing, at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 6. The new meeting site is handicap accessible and offers ample parking. Everyone is invited! Coffee is provided and light refreshments to be shared are brought by attendees.

Peter and the Wolf performance in Ely and Virginia, Feb. 10 and 11

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.

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 Front Porch and Sam'z.

Cook Senior Citizens to meet Wednesday, Feb. 7

COOK- Eric Pedderson will be playing for the Cook Seniors on Wednesday, Feb. 7 at 1 p.m. in the Homestead Apartments. Everyone is welcome! Pie social will follow. For more information, call Barbara at 612-868-3040.

Services at Mesabi Unitarian Universalist

VIRGINIA- Rev. Suzanne Wasilczuk will present a sermon titled "How to Move a Mountain: True Grit" on Sunday, Feb. 4, at 10:30 a.m. at the Mesabi Unitarian Universalist Church, located at 230 7th St. S in Virginia. For more information, visit www.mesabiuu.org. A parent/infant area is provided, as is toddler care, and religious education is provided for the over fives. All are welcome and we are handicap accessible.

Felted wool bowl-making class set for Saturday, Feb. 24 in Cook

COOK- Susan Arnold will be teaching a felted wool bowl-making class at the Northwoods Friends of the Arts Gallery in Cook on Saturday, Feb. 24, from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. The NWFA Gallery is located at 210 S River St, next to Dream Weaver Salon. Participants need to bring a towel and a tote lid to use as a work surface. Your completed bowl will be about the size of a cantaloupe. Please register before Monday, Feb. 19 to give Susan time to dye wool fiber in your choice of color. For more information or to register, call Alberta at 218-666-2153. Space is limited.

NWFA is a non-profit membership organization encouraging art and artists in the region of Cook. The website is www.nwfamn.org. NWFA is also on Facebook and Instagram. Enjoy the display of local art at NWFA Gallery, open from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays and from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. on Saturdays.

TOWER BINGO Monday, Feb. 5

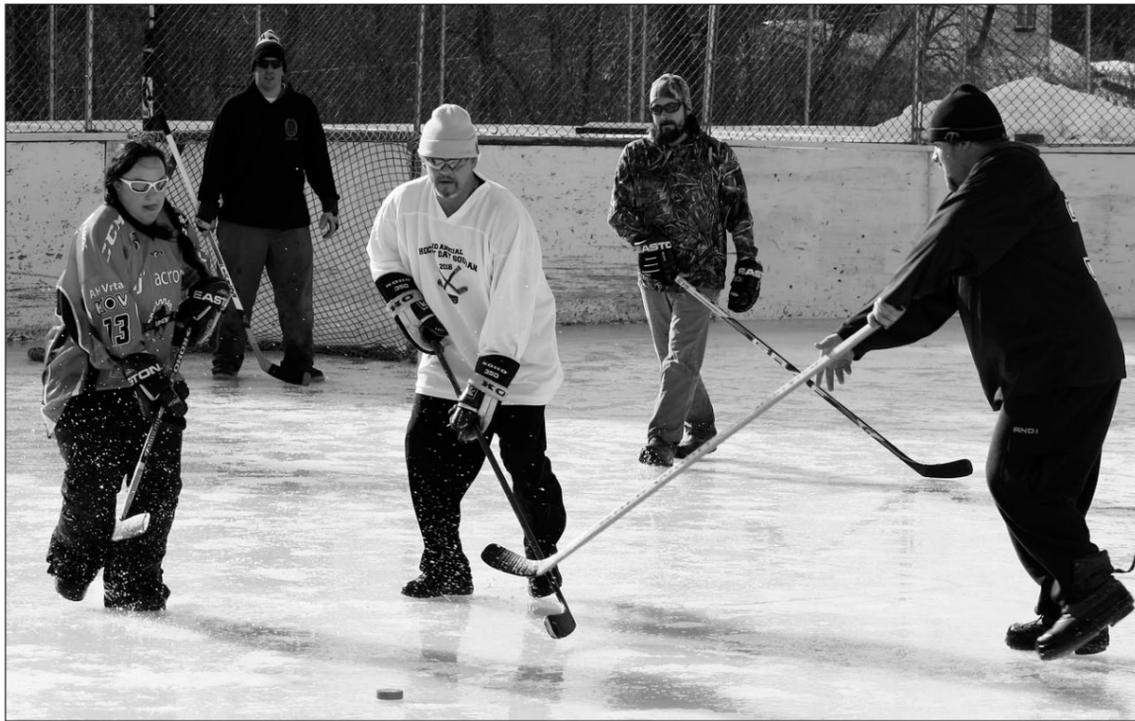
TOWER- Senior Bingo will be held in Tower on Monday, Feb. 5 at the Tower Civic Center from 11:45 a.m. – 3 p.m. There is a \$10 charge for the bingo party, which includes lunch. All ages are welcome to attend this community event. Lunch is served starting at 11:45 a.m., and bingo begins at 12:45 p.m. Senior Bingo is organized by the Friends of the Vermilion Country Charter School. In case of inclement weather or school cancellation, bingo may be cancelled. Questions, call Jodi Summit at 218-753-2950.

Upcoming dates for 2018:

- Monday, February 5
- Monday, March 5
- Monday, April 2
- Monday, May 7
- Monday, June 4
- Monday, July 9 (second Monday)

FUN ON ICE

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



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

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

During the afternoon, Heavy Metal Hockey is sponsoring a skills

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

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

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

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

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

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

CARING FOR KIDS

Information sessions offered for prospective foster parents on Monday, Feb. 5

REGIONAL- St. Louis County continues to need loving foster parents to provide a temporary, stable environment for children in out-of-home placement. To make it easier for people who are considering opening their home to learn what it takes to serve as a foster parent, county social workers are hosting two open house-style information sessions. The first will be on Monday, Feb. 5, from 3:30 – 6:30 p.m. at the Northland Office Center, 307 S 1st St. in Virginia. The second will be on Friday, Feb. 9, from noon - 1:30 p.m. at the Government Services Center, 320 W 2nd St. in Duluth.

Foster home licensors will be

available to meet one-on-one with people to answer questions about foster care options and the requirements. There will be no formal presentation, so people can stay for whatever length of time fits their schedule. The county is in constant need of temporary foster homes, short term/emergency homes, and foster/adopt homes for infants, children and youth. An average of 700 children are in out-of-home placement on any given day in St. Louis County. That number, while high, has at last leveled off after several years of dramatic increase. However, the complexity of the situations, often due to parents' drug addictions and/or

mental illness, has resulted in children having to remain in foster care for longer periods before they can be safely reunited with their families.

Anyone over the age of 21 can serve as a foster parent. Marital status, income level, culture or religion do not matter. For questions about the open house, or about requirements to be licensed as a foster parent, visit stlouiscountymn.gov/childfostercare or call 218-726-2168 in the Duluth area or 218-404-5330 for north St. Louis County (north of Cotton).

Community Notices

Workshop for girls in engineering on Feb. 23-24

REGIONAL- Girls in grades 10 through 12 are invited to come and test-drive the diverse field of engineering at the third annual #WeAreTheFuture Night, to be held from 6 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 23 to noon on Saturday, Feb. 24, at Iron Range Engineering, 1001 W Chestnut St. in Virginia. Join us again for a fun-filled evening and participate in hands-on projects, meet women engineers and engineering students, take a tour of engineering labs and

college projects, connect with the Iron Range STEM community, and gain a mentor. Hurry! Early registration is highly recommended, space is limited. Sign up by Feb. 14 via e-mail at womeninengineering@ire.minnstate.edu.

NAMI support group for families in Virginia

VIRGINIA- NAMI Minnesota (National Alliance on Mental Illness) sponsors free support groups for families and friends of individuals living with a mental illness. Led by trained facilitators who

also have a family member with mental illness, the support groups help families develop better coping skills and find strength through sharing their experiences. A family support group meets in Virginia on the second Tuesday of each month, from 6 - 7 p.m., at Essentia-Health Medical Arts Clinic, 901 9th St. N., in McMillan Room B. For information, call Dan at 218-290-5461.

Search for Miss Pre-Teen St. Louis County announced

REGIONAL- Young girls between the ages of 10 and 12 years are invited to apply for the title of "2018 Miss Pre-Teen St. Louis County". Miss Pre-

Teen St. Louis County will represent her county at the Miss Pre-Teen Minnesota pageant, which will be held at the Wellstone Center on April 28 in St. Paul. Contestants will compete in a personal interview, on-stage interview, and fun fashion wear and evening wear competitions. Young ladies living in St. Louis County who are interested in applying can visit our website at www.misspre-teenminnesota.com, write to Miss Pre-Teen Minnesota International Pageant, P.O. Box 240537, Apple Valley, MN 55124-0537, call 952-432-6758, or e-mail papunltd@frontiernet.net. The entry deadline is March 5.



Now accepting applications for our homeownership program for the 2018 build season.

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marnie@nslchfh.org



Annual Fundraising Dinner Friday • February 9

SOCIAL HOUR • SILENT AUCTION
BUFFET DINNER • PROGRAM

2018 marks the 25th anniversary of the museum and this event's program will focus on the wonderful stories and adventures the past 25 years has provided.

To reserve tickets, go to rootbeerlady.com/programs-events
Call 218-365-4451
Email jess@rootbeerlady.com

Wear your best plaid flannel for this "plaid tie" event!

ARTIST...Continued from page 1

works mainly with watercolors and pen and ink, from a small well-lit studio in her off-grid homestead in rural Tower.

Thaemert's art will be on display in Ely in February, as part of the annual Art Walk, in the windows of the Ely Folk School.

Thaemert moved to Tower last year, after she and her partner Mike Tam purchased 40 acres of land near the Lost Lake Peatland. Mike works seasonally for the forest service, and this winter has been concentrating on getting their homestead up and running.

With a stable of 24 sled dogs, Thaemert starts her day with dog chores, keeping the outdoor dog kennel areas clean, making sure the dogs have food and water, and also spending some time petting and grooming each of the dogs. The dogs are mostly Alaskan Malamutes, large thick-furred dogs bred for strength to pull sleds. But the couple has collected some other breeds of sled dogs, and adopted some "seniors," too old to pull sleds, but happy to become part of their dog family.

"I really like how this area is centered around outdoor recreation," she said. "And it is a really good area for dog sled-



Ashley Thaemert spends some quality time with one of her lead dogs, Akira, at her kennel located near Tower. photo by J. Summit

ding." Dog sledding in the Boundary Waters area is quite different from her previous experiences in Colorado, where she

worked as a trainer and guide for a dog sledding company in Pagosa Springs. She said she is learning the ropes of wilderness dog sledding and camping,

Boundary Waters style, from many other dog sledding enthusiasts in the area. She said the local dog sledding community has been very friendly and sup-

portive. "There is definitely a lot to learn," she said. "I am basically starting my dogs' training all over...They are doing really well and getting better every time." More days than not she is out on area trails, lakes, and little-travelled gravel roads with her dogs, but is still finding time most days for her painting.

In the future, she hopes to work as a guide in the area, doing introductory trips with tourists as well as doing longer trips with fishermen into the Boundary Waters.

Right now about half her dogs are retired or nearing retirement age, and the rest, except for a few lead dogs, are quite young. So most of her energy is focused on training her 12 younger dogs, and slowly building their endurance and stamina. Once her team is more experienced, she hopes to run area races in upcoming years, such as the Wolftrack Classic.

She is also looking forward to meeting more local artists and becoming more active in the local art community. You can find more of Thaemert's artwork online at <https://www.ashleythaemertfineart.com>.

ELY...Continued from page 1

Whiteside Park, event goers find public ice skating, Ely's fourth annual Kubb tournament, the exciting opening ceremonies, demonstrations of figure skating and hockey, fat-tire bicycle rides, sled dogs to meet, and of course, all those snow sculptures.

Snow Sculpting Symposium

"This year's International Snow Sculpting Symposium will welcome teams from Canada, Argentina and Italy," Evenson said. "Wonder if their work will have an accent? Guess we'll have to listen and find out, won't we?"

The Ely Winter Festival Snow Sculpting Symposium is an opportunity for artists to create snow sculptures from 8'x8'x8' or 12'x12'x10' blocks of snow in a public and interactive setting.

Artists will complete their sculptures between Thursday, Feb. 1 and Sunday, Feb 3.

Registration is now open for the Northern Lakes Arts Association Snow Carving Contest. The event is part of the 2018 Ely Winter Festival, Jan. 29 - Feb. 3 in Whiteside Park.

Judging will be held on Sunday, Feb. 4.

Participants need to enter to reserve one of 20 4-foot x 4-foot snow blocks available for carving in the park over the week. The contest is for amateur carvers and is judged according to the following three categories: You must indicate who and how many are carving, to determine your category.

- Individuals, adult or student
- Adult groups
- Student groups

Email names, number of team members and indicate child or adult, Title of Block and contact information to northernlakesarts.org. After you provide your information you will be registered; just make your payment and no further action is needed.

Starting Monday, Jan. 29, show up, claim your block, and carve. There will be stakes with your team name and title of your



The 2018 Ely Winter Festival pin, left, is recreated in snow at the Front Porch Coffee and Tea Co., the traditional festival headquarters. Snow artists from all over the world will descend on Whiteside Park for the snow sculpting symposium this weekend. photos by K. Vandervort

piece on the north/east corner of Whiteside Park.

You will need to provide your own tools...all non-motorized tools are allowed, no colorants may be used. Contestants may carve Monday, Jan. 29 through Saturday, Feb. 3.

Good to know: (Judge's Tip: The judges find carvings that have a cleverness to them more attractive. They also look for ways the basic block shape is changed, carved away, etc.)

The cost is \$10 per block: <https://www.northernlakesarts.org> for Paypal or checks accepted: Northern Lakes Arts Association, 1900 East Camp St., Ely, MN 55731.

The Sebastian Project

Music and art will be presented by Joey Kenig and poetry by Tim Stouffer on Sunday, Feb. 4 at Vermilion Community College from 2-4 p.m. "This is a unique spoken word event with improvisational music," Evenson said, "and includes a chance for the audience to participate in the creation of an On Demand Poem. One hundred percent complete original works will be created in collaboration just for this one-night only show. Come and get your plate filled with brain food before the evening's Super Bowl

events." The event is free with a Winter Fest Button of \$6 at the door.

This activity is 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. This activity is also made possible in part by a grant from the Donald G. Gardner Humanities Trust. Sponsored by Vermilion Community College with special thanks to Megan Heiman

Other events

Outside the park, outdoor lovers can look forward to ice fishing, guided snowshoe hikes to the Hegman Lake pictographs and Listening Point, a broomball tournament, informative "whirlwinds" at the Dorothy Molter Museum, even an ice bar in front of the Winton Roadhouse. "That's in addition to whatever spontaneous adventures present themselves," Evenson said.

The Ely Art Walk deftly combines indoor and outdoor sensibilities. "Our local merchants and artists get together to fill store windows with hundreds of artworks," Evenson said. "Bundle up, stroll our city-wide art gallery, and take home an original piece."

If you really want a



Warm Feet Day, there is lots to do indoors: Ely Dark Sky events are new this year, presentations at the International Wolf Center, a craft fair, an orchestra concert, the Great Northern Beard Fest complete with ladies' division, a fish fry, a spaghetti dinner, an open-music event, a poetry-and-music presentation at VCC. The fun continues through Sunday, Feb. 11, with different events happening every day.

How it all began

In 1984, the Ely Ski Club (now known as the Ely Nordic Ski Club) started a cross-country ski race running from Tower to Ely called the Wilderness Trek. Local businesses and craftspeople set up booths at the finish line. Food and live music added to the festivities.

Starting in 1988, Bill and Gloria Miller volunteered numerous hours to create and direct more activities at the finish line of the Wilderness Trek. Their focus was on expanding to a three-day weekend promoting outdoor activities and education about the history of the Ely area.

In 1995, the Millers and their army of volunteers called on Bob Maida to organize a Snow Sculpting Symposium in concert with an expanded 10-day festival surrounding the Wilderness Trek and fea-

turing the Voyageur historical aspect of the area. Steger Mukluks hosted the first Mukluk Ball. The first commemorative pin was designed especially for the festival.

Then, in 1998, as part of the Voyageur Winter Festival, the Ely ArtWalk was created to promote local artists and their work by providing exhibition space in the windows of Ely's downtown merchants. That year, 16 artists participated, displaying 30 pieces of art in a handful of stores. In 2004, the Ely ArtWalk became its own entity and by 2006 included over 170 artists, 600 pieces of art and 55 stores participating in the event.

Over the years, activities such as a crafts fair, musical concerts, Sled Dog Rides, and several food events have become part of the festivities.

Each year, Grand Marshals are selected from the community, usually based on their service, espe-

cially to the Winter Festival. The late Bob Cary and his wife, Edith Sommer Cary, two of the original members of the Ski Club, were honored as Grand Marshals of the 2006 Voyageur Winter Festival. In 2008, Terri and Terry Schocke were honored for their many years of volunteer service with the Festival. 2010 Marshals were Nancy and Doug Scheibe. Nancy is a sculptor herself and each year creates a sculpture both in the park and in front of the Front Porch, festival headquarters.

In 2007, the name of the festival changed from Voyageur Winter Festival to Ely Winter Festival. The historical aspect is still represented during the two surrounding weekends of the festival and there are always a lot of additional events for the artistically inclined, the musically inclined, those who love the outdoors and those who love to eat! There's always something for the whole family!

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USFS...Continued from page 1

she acknowledged that some of the most significant effects could be economic rather than environmental. "I am deeply aware of the controversy regarding socio-economic implications," said Cummins. "Our specialists are working hard to ensure the EA accurately describes all the facts of the proposal, to aid the Secretary of the Interior in his decision."

The decision comes despite high public interest in the future of the national forest lands in question, which lie within a primary watershed that flows into the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. The Forest Service received more than 90,000 comments during a 210-day

public comment period on the initial scoping for the study. The Forest Service will provide a much shorter comment period to take public input on the more limited scope of their proposed EA.

Comments must be received no later than midnight, Wednesday, Feb. 28, and should be submitted via the project's website at <http://go.usa.gov/xnfQh>, by selecting "Comment/Object to Project" link on the right-hand side of the page.

The original withdrawal proposal, made in the final weeks of the Obama administration, was a major setback for plans by Chilean mining giant Antofagasta to develop their proposed Twin Metals copper-

nickel mine along the Kawishiwi River, near Ely. The company had maintained two federal mineral leases in the area, but the Bureau of Land Management opted not to renew the leases in late 2016. The Trump Interior Department has since changed the department's position on the mineral leases, and it now appears that Interior officials plan to reissue the leases once the segregation is lifted next January.

Environmentalists, who had lauded the Forest Service's earlier proposal to conduct a comprehensive scientific and economic impact study, reacted with disappointment to

the latest announcement from the agency.

"There's no room for shortcuts when it comes to the Boundary Waters," said Doug Niemala, manager of the Ely-based Campaign to Save the Boundary Waters. "All Americans, no matter how they feel about this issue, deserve the most thorough and rigorous analysis possible to determine the risks of sulfide-ore copper mining near the Boundary Waters."

"While the Forest Service has acknowledged that protecting the wilderness through a land withdrawal has no environmental downsides, the other alternatives being considered— such as

converting the headwaters of the Boundary Waters to a sulfide-ore copper mining district— would have catastrophic consequences for one of this nation's crown jewels."

Meanwhile, Eighth District Congressman Rick Nolan lauded the decision, calling it "sensible and the correct one, based on facts and science."

"Moreover," said Nolan, "should the withdrawal fail to receive approval, any proposed mining project for this area of the Superior Natural Forest will still need to go through a rigorous, extensive environmental review process at both the state and federal level."

In St. Paul, Gov. Mark Dayton took aim at the Trump administration, accusing it of putting Antofagasta's financial interests ahead of protecting the Boundary Waters. "Incredibly, the U.S. Bureau of Land Management now says that Antofagasta's leases of federal land are to be automatically renewed, which would mean that the company would control the public's land in perpetuity. I urge the Administration to disclose who persuaded it to steamroll responsible review and protection of this priceless natural resource in favor of copper-nickel mining profits."

ELECTION...Continued from page 1

indication of whether her candidacy is catching on with DFL voters.

Precinct caucuses are the first step in the endorsement process for candidates and also an opportunity for participants to advocate for issues for consideration in the party's platform. In order to participate in a caucus, Minnesotans must be eligible to vote in the November general election, must live in the precinct, and generally agree with the principles of the political party hosting the caucus.

"I encourage all

Minnesotans to go out and caucus on Feb. 6 and make their voices heard," said Secretary of State Steve Simon. "Minnesota has a proud tradition of civic engagement and going to a caucus is a great way for Minnesotans to show support for their preferred candidates, raise an important issue, and meet people in their community. This is an important and historic election year in Minnesota and every voice matters."

The caucuses begin at 7 p.m. and generally last about 90 minutes, depending on the level of dis-

cussion over issues and the number of people who attend.

To find out where your caucus will be held, you can go to the state's official Precinct Caucus Finder on the secretary of state's website at <http://caucusfinder.sos.state.mn.us>.

Below you'll find a list of caucus locations for various townships around the region.

DFL caucuses

Location: Vermilion Community College
Precincts: Ely, Morse, Fall Lake, Winton.

Location: Tower-Soudan School

Precincts: Tower (except Precinct 2), Breitung, Greenwood.

Location: Embarrass Town Hall

Precincts: Embarrass, Kugler, Waasa.

Location: Vermilion Lake Town Hall

Precincts: Vermilion Lake, Tower (Precinct 2).

Location: Wuori Town Hall

Precincts: Alango, Angora.

Location: North Woods School

Precincts: Cook, Orr, Beatty, Owens, Field, Crane Lake, Linden Grove, Willow Valley, Leiding, Portage.

Location: Northeast Range School

Precincts: Babbitt.

Republican caucuses

Location: Vermilion Community College

Precincts: Ely, Morse, Fall Lake, Eagles Nest, Tower, Breitung, Greenwood, Waasa,

Babbitt, Winton.

Location: Cook School

Precincts: Angora, Beatty, Cook, Linden Grove, Owens.

Location: Lakeview Baptist Church, Orr

Precincts: Camp 5, Crane Lake, Field, Kabetogama, Leiding, Orr, Willow Valley.



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CITY OF ELY

Ely street project a reality with IRRRB funding

by KEITH VANDERVORT
Ely Editor

ELY—The renovation of 17th Avenue on the east side of Ely will finally become a reality this summer after the Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board awarded the city of Ely a grant of \$450,000 last week.

“I am elated,” said Mayor Chuck Novak as he described the \$1.6 million project that has been on the city’s capital improvements to-do list for a decade.

The gravel road that runs from Camp Street to Miners Drive will be completely rebuilt starting with infrastructure components of water, sewer, storm water, electrical upgrades, curb, gutter sidewalks and asphalt.

In addition to the \$450,000 IRRRB grant, the city will add \$400,000 to the project. “That money has been budgeted in our projects fund,” Novak said. “We have \$350,000 and we will add another \$50,000.”

Another \$700,000 in matching grant funds will be coming from the state’s Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) through their Business Development Public Infrastructure (BDPI) program. “We have enough with the IRRRB and the city of Ely portion to match that amount,” Novak said.

Local published reports indicated that Gov. Mark Dayton included more than \$1 million for the 17th Avenue East construction project in his recent bonding package proposal, but Novak set the record straight on that misinformation. “The Governor put no public infrastructure projects on his list,” he said. “Our bonding requests were not on his submitted list.”

Novak indicated that the 17th Avenue bonding request will be removed from the city’s bonding wish list with the award-

ing of the BDPI matching grant funds.

The mayor praised IRRRB’s support for Ely’s 17th Avenue renovation project. “Commissioner Phillips has been a very strong supporter of the project moving forward,” he said. “His staff has worked really hard to make this happen.”

Ground-breaking on the project could be scheduled for late May, according to Novak. “(Construction) bidding information will be coming to the City Council in February.”

With work planned this summer on 7th Avenue from Sheridan to Pattison streets, Novak said he hopes both projects can be bid to the same construction general contractor.

He noted that the first phase of the project will be from Harvey to Pattison streets between the high school athletic fields, school bus garage, parking lot and Little League field. “We will be doing curb and gutter and a sidewalk on one side along with repaving and infrastructure work as needed,” Novak said.

“We have a tight

schedule on that project,” he added. “We’re looking at starting right after the Blueberry Arts Festival and completing the work before the start of the school year. It would be nice to bid the two projects together.”

Clerk-Treasurer Harold Langowski said he is contacting local and regional contractors to let them know about the city’s upcoming construction season. “It’s going to be a really busy year,” he said.

“I don’t think we’re going to dream up any large projects for a couple of years,” Novak added. “We have enough on our plate.”

Help for new care facility

The IRRRB also awarded the city of Ely \$140,000 for infrastructure and site work for the construction of a housing facility that will serve people with developmental and intellectual disabilities.

Rural Living Environments, which operates a similar facility in Babbitt, is planning to build a \$500,000 structure at a location near Grahek and Sibley apart-

ments southeast of the Ely - Bloomenson Community Hospital.

“We’ll get the infrastructure over there,” Novak said, including water and sewer, and electrical service.”

According to the IRRRB, the project will employ about two-dozen people when fully operational. Groundbreaking could happen in late April on the 40,000-square-foot facility with opening planned for September.

More projects

► A main water line replacement from the water tower on the west end of town is also on the city’s to-do list this summer. “We have a \$100,000 grant from the Community Development Block Grant program. The infrastructure work will be covered through the Ely Utility Commission and surface work would be covered by the city of Ely, according to Novak. The project cost total is just about \$160,000.

► The city’s recreational trailhead project is also moving forward. “We have a bonding request in the legislature for this year,” Novak said. “This could be a real money-

saver for the state. We’ll have one trailhead to service three trails at the same point. That seems to help the argument for doing this.”

Three different trails, the Prospectors Loop, Mesabi Trail, and the Taconite Trail, would all converge at a common area just west of the Ely-Bloomenson Community Hospital and Essentia Clinic.

“We have already designed it with secure areas for parking,” Novak said. The city of Ely is hiring TKDA, according to Novak, to prepare three-dimensional renderings of the trailhead project to show to legislators later this spring.

Novak sees the project as a key to attracting more visitors to Ely. “We have several county state aid highways within the city limits where the ATVs can get into town and actually park and visit the town. This will definitely help our tourism business, which is what we are dependent on now until something bigger, like Twin Metals, may come to fruition,” he said.

► Vermilion Community College could also be a big winner if

Dayton’s bonding support for \$2.3 million for a new roof and other classroom building renovations comes through.

The VCC classroom project will not only include a new roof, according to Provost Shawn Bina, but also technology upgrades, classroom renovations, handicapped-accessible restrooms, and a new building entrance.

The project must pass muster with the Minnesota legislature this spring to become a reality. Both the House and the Senate must agree on a bonding package when the legislative session begins next month.

Council meeting

Because of the Minnesota Precinct Caucuses next Tuesday, the regularly-scheduled Ely City Council meeting was rescheduled to the next night, Wednesday, Feb. 7, at 6 p.m.

A public hearing on proposed Ely Utility Commission rates will be held at 5 p.m. A public hearing on the Jake Forsman Car Show and Burnout Competition Interim Use Permit will be held at 5:30 p.m.

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The Vermilion Penguins Snowmobile Club would like to thank the following Tower area businesses for sponsoring or donating prizes for the Fun Run that was held January 27.

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Phyllis Burgess
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Glenmore Resort
Good Ol' Days Bar & Grill
Gruben's Marina & Village
Harold's Arctic Sales
Jeanne's Cards & Gifts
Lake Vermilion Houseboats
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The Ledge Liquor Store

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Pike Bay Lodge
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Special thanks to Randy Semo at Good Ol' Days Bar and Grill for hosting the Check Point. Thanks to Jane and Don Johnson, Mike, Bergetta and Rachel Indihar, and Van and Liz Villnow for setting up and registering participants; Roberta and Curly Skogman for collecting prizes; Tom Coombe for announcing the winners; and Jim Zupancich and Nick Wognum for co-chairing the event. The success of the Fun Run is due mainly to all of the volunteers and businesses in the Tower, Babbitt and Ely area, and participants who support this event.

Vermilion Penguins Snowmobile Club

TRIBE...Continued from page 1

rior renovations such as new carpeting, which are essential to compete with other larger casinos, the "big boys."

Chavers said the band is attempting to sell the WELY radio station in Ely. She said daily operating cost losses at the convenience store in Nett Lake are a major concern to the council, and said the store needs more customer traffic to be successful. The store is operating at a significant financial loss on a daily basis, she said.

"The store is a big benefit for the community," she said. A community meeting is being planned to discuss the issue of the Nett Lake Store.

The tribal council voted to cut their salaries by 8.5 percent, and they froze other salaries and cost of living increases for other tribal employees.

On a positive note, she said, they did create a "Christmas fund" to assist tribal members.

Chavers said a talk by Lenny Fineday, at the Leech Lake State of the Band, inspired her to think about the culture of dependency.

"This was instilled in us when the federal government took over. We

Anishinabe didn't use to depend on anyone else," she said. "Today we are still dependent on the federal and state government. We need to end this cycle of dependency. We can be more creative in our economy."

Favoritism also needs to be addressed, she noted. Chavers said a new tribal council policy no longer allows council members to interfere in the collection of fees for services or rents, something that had led to a million dollar debt in the past.

Increasing the safety and health of tribal members is also a priority. The drug epidemic is a major concern. The tribal council is working with other agencies, including other law enforcement agencies and the border patrol. The tribe is nearing an agreement with St. Louis County to house prisoners in county jails, instead of having to bring them to Sherburne County, a four-hour drive, which leaves the reservation without law enforcement coverage for extended periods.

She said Bois Forte is working with other tribes across the state to form a general council to address the opioid crisis, and to

seek funding as a group.

"We need to take our communities back," she said. "This epidemic is affecting our families and our children."

Language and culture

"We need to do a lot more to preserve and teach our language," Chavers said. "We only have three fluent speakers left at Bois Forte."

The work being done by KBFT Radio, 89.9 FM, has been fabulous she said, and there is a smartphone app to teach the Ojibwe language. The radio station not only produces programming featuring the language, culture and arts, but also sponsors and publicizes community events throughout the year.

Chavers said the tribe needs to get more elders involved in teaching language and culture to the next generation. She said there is a group of young people and elders who get together at Nett Lake for language lessons, which is a start.

Last year, she said, the tribal council ended funding for the tribal-sponsored elders committee.

"We want them to develop their own committee without government involvement," she said. "We need to make sure our elders can do what they need to do to teach us."

Two Bois Forte youth, Sasha Strong from Nett Lake, and Reyna Davila-Day from the Twin Cities, were selected to represent Bois Forte on a new statewide committee that is planning the 2018 Minnesota Tribal Youth Gathering Conference in July.

Job training is also important, Chavers said, and the tribe has been sponsoring job/skill training classes through the TERO program, and is starting a new internship program for area youth to provide an introduction to careers in natural resources, accounting, and health services.

Good news

Chavers had some good news to report on several fronts. The tribe has received six million dollars in funding for new housing units, and an Indian-owned contractor will be overseeing the construction project. The tribe has

been awarded another \$15 million in grants this year, and is working on receiving 501c3 (non-profit) status for the heritage center and youth centers, something that will assist in future grant funding.

A report detailing the funding the tribe has received from Fortune Bay over the years, which totals \$58 million, will be released soon. The report will show how that money has been spent and distributed.

The Northern Eagle Credit Union received a grant that will allow them to offer new services such as online banking, debit cards, and checking accounts.

She noted that the tribe is reaching out to state leaders on the wild rice sulfate issue.

"There needs to be more scientific data," she said. "We have been dealing with wild rice for years, and we do have data. It is a staple of our economy and our meals."

Chavers spent a few minutes recognizing Edith Villebrun, who recently retired after working for 45 years in the tribal accounting office. "She is a true role model," Chavers said.

"She battled many health problems but kept working."

Chavers talked about the importance of building strong relationships with state and federal legislators. Minn. Rep. Rob Ecklund attended the State of the Band, and Sen. Amy Klobuchar and Rep. Rick Nolan sent video remarks which were played at the start of the event. Chavers thanked Sen. Al Franken. "He was our friend in D.C.," she said. And she welcomed Minnesota's new Senator Tina Smith.

Chavers ended her talk by asking everyone to "be respectful, honest, and patient."



54.5 cents per mile is now the reimbursement rate for AEOA volunteer drivers.

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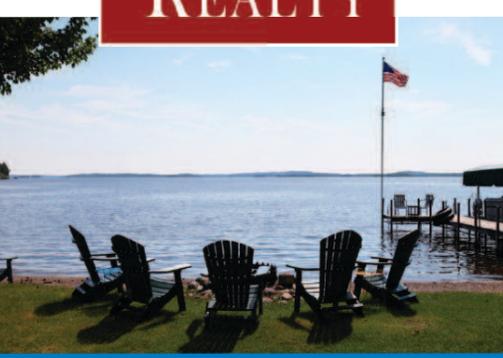
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BOYS BASKETBALL

Grizzlies dominate Golden Bears

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

EVELETH—The Grizzlies juggernaut hit the road on Friday, and routed Eveleth-Gilbert 91-47 in a hard-fought and physical boys basketball contest.

The Golden Bears managed to play even with the top-ranked Grizzlies for the first several minutes, before North Woods was able to pull away. Once that train left the station, it was all over as the Grizzlies nearly

doubled Eveleth-Gilbert by the time it was over. “We were able to wear them down as the game progressed,” said Grizzlies Head Coach Will Kleppe.

The Golden Bears were clearly primed from the start, and it took the Grizzlies a few minutes to adjust. “Eveleth-Gilbert presented a physical lineup against us so we needed to match their intensity to be successful,” said Kleppe.

Senior guard Brendan Parson had a huge night for the Grizzlies,

connecting on seven three-pointers on his way to a game-high 25 points. Senior forward Tate Olson had a hot night as well from beyond the arc, pouring in four treys on his way to 24 points. Senior guard Cade Goggeley added 18 points and eight assists.

Other scorers included TJ Chiabotti, with seven, Trevor Morrison, with six, Tanner Lokken, with five, and Dylan Chiabotti, with four. Chase Klepped scored two and had a good night on the boards, pulling

down ten rebounds.

Kleppe said his team will focus on correcting a few small mistakes as they head into the final month of the regular season. The Grizzlies remain on the road all week, with a Friday night tilt against 9-1 Greenway and a match-up with the 1-10 Nighthawks in Babbitt, at 6 p.m. on Tuesday. They’ll finish the week with a trip to Littlefork, to take on the struggling Vikings.

Sports week

Boys bball

Friday, Feb. 2
NW at Greenway, 7:15 p.m.
Ely hosts Evel-Gil, 7:15 p.m.

Monday, Feb. 5
NW at Fond du Lac, 7:15 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 6
NW at NER, 6 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 8
NER hosts Wrenshall, 7:15 p.m.

Girls bball

Monday, Feb. 5
Ely at MI-B, 7:15 p.m.
NER at Silver Bay, 4:45 p.m.
NW hosts Carlton, 7:15 pm

Thursday, Feb. 8
NW at Evel.-Gil., 7:15 p.m.
Ely host ME, 7:15 p.m.
NER at Bigfork, TBD

Hockey

Friday, Feb. 2
Ely hosts Bagley, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 6
Ely hosts North Shore, 4 p.m.

Nordic ski

Thursday, Feb. 8
Sec. 7 Meet, 10 a.m.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Wolves rout Nighthawks

Second win in a row for Ely

by JAY GREENEY
Sports writer

ELY – The Nighthawks scored first, but Ely scored often as the Wolves routed Northeast Range 73-25 on a seniors’ night.

The Wolves used their full court press to pressure the Nighthawks early, and Ely took advantage with numerous layups and other gimmes en route to their big win.

“Overall it was a good team victory,” said Ely Head Coach Darren Visser. “Our girls worked hard on defense which gave them many great opportunities on offense.”

The winless Nighthawks never gave up and battled to the end. The suffocating defense that Ely played all game limited the scoring opportunities for the Nighthawks.

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

Right: Sophomore guard Brielle Kallberg reaches in to steal the ball from the Nighthawks’ guard Shayler Lislegard during Monday’s game in Ely. photo by J. Greeney



COMMENTARY

How high school league rules can lead to lopsided margins

In high school sports, as in most forms of competition, the occasional mismatch is inevitable. And whenever a high school team wins by a particularly lopsided margin, it invariably invites chatter among fans that some teams are trying to run up the score.

In my experience, most coaches in Section 7 are sensitive to this concern. They understand that they are ultimately educators, and that part of their mission is to teach sportsmanship— and that running up a score on a weak opponent is hardly sporting.

This was a topic that came to mind, for me, after the North Woods Grizzlies boys basketball team routed a young and relatively short-handed team from Cherry last week by a score of 130-

12. It was a blowout of almost epic proportions, the kind that invites questions.

The good news is, there are answers, found most easily in the rules laid down by the Minnesota High School League. Among other things, league officials are concerned that players don’t spend so much time on the basketball court that they get overly tired. That invites injuries, which is something that coaches and the league try to avoid.

Under the league’s rules, no player may play more than three halves between the junior varsity and the varsity game. That’s not a problem for the varsity players, who generally don’t take part in the junior varsity games. It is an issue,

See **MARGINS...**pg. 2B



MARSHALL HELMBERGER

NORDIC SKIING



Wolves take first in Duluth

by JAY GREENEY
Sports writer

DULUTH – Mother Nature challenged skiers with unseasonably warm temperatures on Friday, but that didn’t slow the Ely ski teams, who captured first place in both the boys and girls pursuit competitions.

“It was an extremely difficult day and results were mixed, though

both teams managed to win,” said Ely Head Coach Paula Anderson. “Forty-one degrees makes for some slow skating and near impossible classic conditions, although everyone was in the same boat.”

In the pursuit competition, skiers race a total of five kilometers classic style and another five kilometers freestyle, and they’re ranked by their combined times.

The race conditions made it

Above: James Schwinghamer and Jasper Johnston compete during last Friday’s pursuit race in Duluth. photo by D. Dahlberg

difficult for even the best skiers, as waxes didn’t always meet the conditions. In the classic race the conditions stopped some skiers in their tracks, forcing them to take

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

BOYS BASKETBALL

Ely wins big

Top Littlefork-Big Falls 109-50

by JAY GREENEY
Sports writer

LITTLEFORK – Ely posted its best offensive performance of the season last Friday as it extended its winning streak to seven games, routing Littlefork 109-50.

“We jumped out to a big lead in the first half and continued to play well throughout the game,” said Ely Head Coach Tom McDonald. “We shot the ball well and played well defensively.”

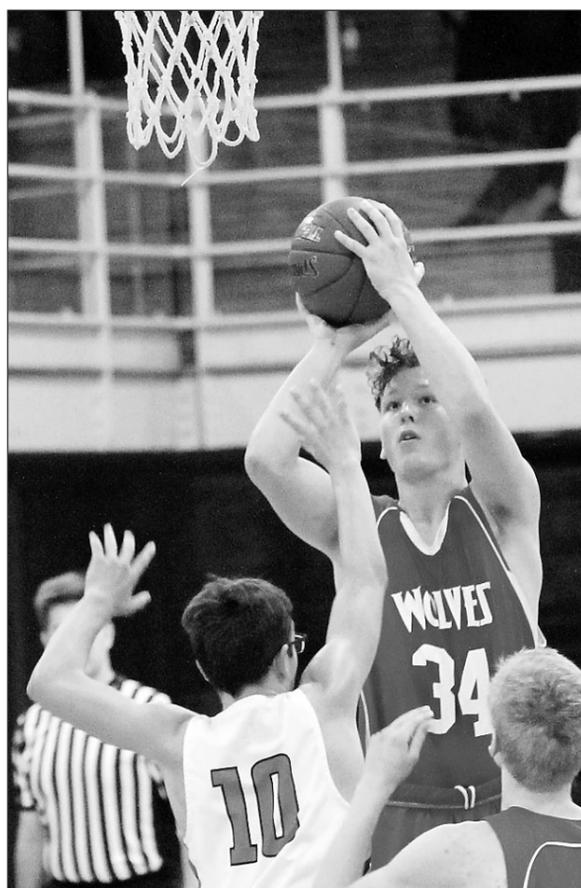
Ely started the game with two reserves but the team played like they had started together all year. Sophomores Dylan Fenske and Eric Omerza were added to the opening line up and took advantage as they both had good games. Fenske poured

in 26 points, grabbed eight steals and tallied five rebounds on the night. Trevor Mattson had a season-high 24 points while Carter Gaulke scored 20 points and had a game-high 11 assists. Eric Omerza had eight points and ten assists while Blaise Lah led the team with 16 rebounds.

The latest win lifts Ely’s record to 14-3. With just eight games remaining, the team can control its own destiny as the playoff season approaches.

The Wolves will host 5-13 Eveleth-Gilbert on Friday. Game time is 7:15 p.m.

Right: Ely senior forward Blaise Lah goes up for a jump shot. photo by J. Greeney



COLLEGE

Ironmen split weekend series

by JAY GREENEY
Sports writer

ELY – The Ironmen rebounded from a Friday night loss to Northland, and combined better shooting and a solid defense to top Itasca 89-65 this past Saturday.

Defense created offense as Vermilion forced nine more turnovers and ten more steals than Itasca, giving them a distinct edge in possessions. A rebounding edge also went to the Ironmen.

VCC took a 14-point lead into halftime and padded that margin before the final buzzer sounded.

Vermilion had five players in double figures, including Marquail Johnson, with 20, and Demetrice Mitchell, with 14 and a team-high ten boards. Denario Jackson came close to a triple double when he scored 16 points and tallied nine rebounds and eight assists.

The Ironmen hoping to add to their four-game win streak on Friday night against Northland, but the Pioneers had other ideas, winning 85-69.

Both teams played a solid first half as Northland led by five going into halftime. But VCC couldn’t make their shots in the second half, which stymied prospects for a late rally. For the game VCC shot just 38 percent on two pointers and just 35 percent from outside the arc.

Vermilion worked the boards, and grabbed nine more offensive rebounds than Northland, but just couldn’t make the ball drop.

The Ironmen got a big night from Demetrice Mitchell who had a team-high 24 points with 11 rebounds and Denario Jackson with 16 points and a team-high 12 assists.

The 14-6 Ironmen were headed to Hibbing Wednesday as the *Timberjay* went to press. They hit the road again on Saturday, to take on Central Lakes in a 3 p.m. start. They host 2-10 Fond du Lac Tribal on Wednesday. Game time is 7:30 p.m.

GIRLS...

Continued from page 1B

Ely had some big performances and was led by senior Shayla Zaverl with a team-leading 30 points, 18 rebounds, and five assists. Erika Mattson had 16 points and nine rebounds while Brielle Kallberg added 14 points. Fellow senior Kalley Fischer notched six points.

Nighthawks junior guard Shayler Lislegard was tireless as she scored 20 of her team’s 25 points. She also tried to crack Ely’s full court pressure.

Ely 71, Chisholm 37

Ely traveled to Chisholm on Thursday and cruised to a 71-37 victory.

“In the first half Chisholm did a very good job of hanging around but in the second our team really stepped up,” said Visser. “We played good team ball and were able to go away with a convincing win.”

Erika Mattson led the charge, with a team leading 33 points and 14 rebounds. Brielle Kallberg had 16 points to go with ten rebounds while Shayla Zaverl added 16 points and nine rebounds.

The win ended a four-game losing streak for the Wolves. The girls now have just nine scheduled games remaining and will play seven of those on the road. They’ll face MI-B on Monday and host Mesabi East next Thursday.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Grizzlies finish a roller coaster week

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

FIELD TWP— The 16-2 Bigfork Huskies dominated their Tuesday night tilt with the Grizzlies, topping North Woods 83-25 in Section 7A girls basketball action. The game capped a roller coaster week for the Grizzlies, who went 1-2 in three games that all featured relative blowouts.

On Monday, the Grizzlies beat Fond du Lac 91-35, recovering from a 110-31 shellacking

at the hands of Red Lake. The Grizzlies struggled to find the basket on Tuesday night as Bigfork’s aggressive play kept them off balance. Kate Stone tallied ten points for North Woods, and was the only Grizzlies player to reach double digits. Brynn Simpson and Bria Chiabotti both connected for five points apiece, while Regan Ratai added three.

Bigfork’s Desiree Kobal led the way for the Huskies, with 23 points.

The Grizzlies put up a

strong performance on Monday, as they routed Fond du Lac. North Woods put together their best first half of the season, tallying 71 points before the break. They would only add 20 more in the second half, but Fond du Lac never threatened.

Bria Chiabotti and Hanna Sandberg poured in 18 points apiece, while Brynn Simpson notched 15 and Nicole Olson added 12. Kate Stone also reached double figures, with ten points, while Sasha Strong connected for seven.

In action last Friday, the Grizzlies simply couldn’t overcome 16-3 Red Lake, who dominated the court from the opening minute. Red Lake junior forward Angel McClain led scoring with 35 points. Bria Chiabotti was top scorer for North Woods, with 11 points. Brynn Simpson and Madison Spears added four points apiece.

The Grizzlies host Carlton on Monday and travel to Eveleth-Gilbert on Thursday. Both varsity games start at 7:15 p.m.

MARGINS...Continued from page 1B

however, for those on the second string, most of whom play during the B-games prior to the varsity start, and fill in as needed during portions of the A-game. In most varsity games, the starters play the first half, and may or may not trade off with the bench as conditions allow, or require in the case of an injury, fouling out, or some other factor.

Most teams in our region don’t have huge rosters, so if you field a team for the junior varsity match, you don’t have many on the second string who can legally play in both halves in the varsity game. As far as the league is concerned, a player who plays any amount of time in a half, even ten seconds, has played for that half.

So even as the Grizzlies’ starters were

scoring at will against a clearly-overmatched Cherry squad last week, there wasn’t much Coach Will Kleppe could do to bring in the second string until the second half. Had he put the bench in sooner, he would have had to put his A-squad back onto the court in the second half. So he did what made the most sense, which was keep his starters on the court in the first half, and send in the bench after the break.

In most cases, that would be enough to limit the scoring mismatch. But the Grizzlies’ second string is comprised of players who would be starters on most other teams. It’s a deep bench and as we saw, sending them in for the second half did little to slow the scoring train. They started the second half up 72-7 and barely

missed a step the rest of the way.

One thing a coach can’t do is tell his team to stop trying. Players are trained to go all-out, and it’s perfectly understandable that the second string players who were out on the court in the final half wanted to make their presence felt. Younger players are always looking to make their mark and advance to the varsity level. Telling them to take it down a notch isn’t fair to them, or the game.

The upshot is that an extreme blowout is almost inevitable on occasion with a team as strong as the Grizzlies. It’s not the coach’s fault and it’s not the players’ fault. More than anything, it’s just the rules of the game.

NORDIC...Continued from page 1B

time to scrape the accumulation of snow off their skis.

GIRLSTEAMRESULTS

1. Ely 376
2. Duluth East 375
3. Grand Rapids 336
4. ME/Virginia/E-G 330
5. Proc/Hrmtown 301
6. Marshall School 300
7. Cloq-Esko-Crlton 292
8. Duluth Denfield 263
9. Hibbing 208

BOYSTEAMRESULTS

1. Ely 372
2. Grand Rapids 367
3. Cloq-Esko-Crlton 361
4. Duluth East 348
5. Marshall School 338
6. ME/Virginia/E-G
7. Proc/Hrmtown 249
8. Duluth Denfield 244
9. Hibbing 227

ELY GIRL FINISHERS (Top 30)

PLACE	NAME	FS TIME	CL TIME	TOTAL
4.	Ryne Prigge	0:14:16	0:16:55.4	0:31:11.4
5.	Emma Terwilliger	0:14:55	0:16:40.4	0:31:35.4
8.	Laura Pasmick	0:14:44	0:17:18.4	0:32:02.4
11.	Evelyn Bercher	0:15:24	0:17:46.4	0:33:10.4
16.	Kalyssa Eilrich	0:16:05	0:18:43.4	0:34:48.4
27.	Brooke Pasmick	0:17:44	0:18:53.7	0:36:37.7
30.	Ana Bercher	0:17:19	0:19:51.1	0:37:10.1

ELY BOY FINISHERS (Top 30)

PLACE	NAME	FS TIME	CL TIME	TOTAL
3.	Ben Gustafson	0:12:47	0:15:55.3	0:28:42.3
5.	Jasper Johnston	0:13:04	0:16:54.4	0:29:58.4
6.	J. Schwinghamer	0:13:25	0:16:33.5	0:29:58.5
18.	Raif Olson	0:13:42	0:17:44.6	0:31:26.6
19.	Nate Nettifee	0:14:02	0:17:34.8	0:31:36.8
23.	Elijah Olson	0:14:48	0:17:17.7	0:32:05.7
24.	Ethan Bremner	0:14:38	0:17:27.8	0:32:05.8
25.	Ethan Hasz	0:14:12	0:18:01.4	0:32:13.4
27.	Chase Eilrich	0:14:33	0:17:51.6	0:32:24.6

Left: Ely’s Ryne Prigge works her way up a hill during freestyle competition last week in Duluth. Prigge topped the field among Ely skiers and finished in fourth place overall. photo by D. Dallberg



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WILDLIFE

Bear that attacked three men may have been held captive

REGIONAL - The black bear that attacked three men and a dog last month near Isabella was deranged by severe brain swelling, and had two external abnormalities, suggesting the bear may have been held captive at one time, according to published reports.

In an interview with the *Minneapolis Star Tribune*, Department of Natural Resources bear research biologist Dave Garshelis said the agency is still investigating the bear's history, and is asking the public to call the DNR's information hot line with any tips.

Garshelis, who is based in Grand Rapids, said veterinary pathologists described the brain swelling as "severe, extensive and subchronic," which would've influenced the animal's behavior.

See **BEAR...**pg. 5B

DNR Conservation Officer Sean Williams (left) and Lake County Sheriff's Deputy Mike McGregor hold a bear that attacked three people and injured two near Isabella. photo courtesy of Lake County Sheriff's Office



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COMMUNITY EVENTS AND NOTICES

Mesabi Range Community and Technical College Fall Dean's List

High Honors (3.75-4.0 GPA)

Viola Connor, Tower
Troy Davidson, Babbitt
Melissa Habum, Ely
Patrick Halbakken, Ely
Morgan Hensley, Embarrass
Samuel Lakey, Babbitt
Sophie Lenz, Embarrass
Kenneth Lolling, Embarrass
Mikayla Mellesmoen, Embarrass
Antonio Pazelli, Tower
Carissa Raj, Tower
Jessie Thoreson, Embarrass
Benjamin Watsula, Babbitt

Honors (3.5-3.74 GPA)

Clarence Jordan IV, Soudan
Laura Lammi, Embarrass
Hannah Lehti, Tower
Jennifer Runningbear, Cook
Alli Sandbert, Cook
David Shober, Ely
Matthew Warren, Embarrass

Local organizations receive grants from Arrowhead Regional Arts Council

REGIONAL- Range-area organizations were awarded grants from the Arrowhead Regional Arts Council on Jan. 18. MN State Old Time Fiddle Championships of Virginia was awarded a \$4,070 Rural and Community Art Project grant to help support the 37th Annual Minnesota State Old Time Fiddle Championships (MSOTFC) on Saturday, Aug. 4, at the Merritt Elementary School Auditorium in Mountain Iron. Northwoods Friends of the Arts of Cook was awarded a \$13,590 Two-Year Operating Support grant to help create a fundraising and marketing plan, upgrade computer systems, and subsidize rental costs. The Arrowhead Regional Arts Council is a regional nonprofit that has been encouraging local arts development in northeastern Minnesota through arts funding and services for over 35 years. For the complete list of those awarded in the Arrowhead Region, visit our website at www.aracouncil.org.

Free updated DEED Business Guide now available; covers major issues faced by people who start businesses

ST. PAUL- The 2018 edition of "A Guide to Starting a Business in Minnesota" is now available from the Small Business Assistance Office at the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED). This popular guide, which is now in its 36th edition and free of charge, provides a concise summary of the major issues faced by anyone starting a business in Minnesota. "Small businesses employ just over half of the private-sector workforce and create nearly two-thirds of the nation's jobs," said DEED Commissioner Shawntera Hardy. "While starting a business is no easy task, this guide gives entrepreneurs the information they need to start a successful business in Minnesota." The 2018 edition of the guide contains in-depth information that is crucial to business success, yet too costly for many small-business owners to obtain on their own. It covers a wide variety of topics, from basic process questions to far more complex regulatory, financial, managerial and business-structure questions. The guide also includes information on an array of programs and initiatives that support small business growth and help entrepreneurs increase opportunities for success. Free copies of "A Guide to Starting a Business in Minnesota" can be obtained in hard copy or on CD-ROM from the Small Business Assistance Office, First National Bank Building, 332 Minnesota St., Suite E-200, St. Paul, MN 55101-1351. Phone 651-259-7476 or 1-800 310-8323. The guide can also be found on the DEED website.

DEED is the state's principal economic development agency, promoting business recruitment, expansion and retention, workforce development, international trade and community development. For more details about the agency and its services, visit the DEED website or follow DEED on Twitter. <https://mn.gov/deed/>.

ART & SOUL GALLERY



Nancy Scheibe, artist and owner of Art & Soul Gallery donated her painting called 'Compassion in Action' to the Spectrum Memory Care Center in Ely. Accepting the painting is Heather Holthaus, RN Health Services Manager. Scheibe donated the painting after Patty Omerza, who was browsing at the Art and Soul Gallery, commented that the painting would be perfect for their memory care center. Omerza's father-in-law had been cared for at Spectrum before his death last summer. submitted photo

UPCOMING EVENTS

Extension Office gardening program, Feb. 15

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

"Growing North" will be held on Thursday, Feb. 15, from 12:30 - 4:30 p.m. at the Mt. Iron Community Center, 8586 Enterprise Dr. in Mt. Iron. Registration begins at noon.

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

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

Parenting classes starting Feb. 7 in Ely

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 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 apply 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.

Cluseum at Minnesota Discovery Center on Saturday, Feb. 10

CHISHOLM- An evening of great food and fun entertainment awaits anyone who enjoys mysterious fun and a good "whodunit." On Saturday, Feb. 10, the classic game of Clue is being brought to life at the Minnesota Discovery Center (MDC).

The object of the game is for players to strategically move around the museum, which will become our game board, collecting clues from which to deduce which suspect murdered the victim, with which weapon, and in what room. Was it Miss Scarlet with the candlestick in the conservatory? Or was it Professor Plum with the rope in the kitchen? The same sort of questions will be asked when you come to play Cluseum.

Registration begins at 3:30 p.m. Then, starting at 4 p.m., participants will be instructed in how to play the game by our host. Everyone will get their own game board with riddles that you, the participant, have to solve! These riddles will guide you to different areas throughout the museum where you must figure out where the clue is hiding. This game is intended for everyone 12 years of age and older.

MDC will be serving dinner afterwards, where our host will be taking guesses from the audience on who committed the murder, with what weapon, and in which room. For this fun and exciting night, members only pay \$35 per person and non-members pay \$45. Pre-paid reservations are required. Please call 218-254-7959 to claim your spots!

Fun & Fit Health Expo, Feb. 10 in Hibbing

HIBBING - Fairview Range, in partnership with Hibbing Public Schools and Hibbing Community College, will hold the fourth annual Fun & Fit Health Expo, scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 10 from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the Lincoln Elementary School in Hibbing. The Health

Expo is free and open to the public, and offers an opportunity to engage and educate attendees through dissemination of health information, free health screenings, and activities targeted to all age groups.

This year's event will feature a wide variety of interactive educational exhibits and free health

screenings including blood pressure, BMI, blood typing, glucose and cholesterol profiling, pediatric gross motor screening, and growth measurement, in addition to the return of the very popular Twin Cities Conquer Ninja Warriors group, who will be creating a unique training and obstacle course specifically for the event.

Conquer Ninja trainers, many of whom have competed on the TV show American Ninja Warrior, will be on-site to help participants through an obstacle training experience of climbing the warped wall

and navigating the salmon ladder.

In addition, representatives from Hibbing Community College's healthcare-related programs will be on hand to provide career information, the Masonic Child Identification Program will be participating by providing Kids' ID kits for children, and the American Red Cross will be holding a blood drive.

Activities also include performances by Casey Aro and KidsDanceFit demonstrations.

The day's activities are sure to inform, educate and engage participants of all ages and connect them with highly qualified, knowledgeable and skilled healthcare providers in a friendly, fun, and informal environment while promoting healthier and safer lifestyles.

For more information, please visit the Fairview Range website at range.fairview.org or the Fairview Fun & Fit Health Expo 2018 Facebook page.

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DAWN'S STORY

On November 29th Dawn was diagnosed with Stage 3 Breast Cancer (Invasive ductal carcinoma). Very aggressive, lethal within months if left untreated.

Dawn is 39 years old and a working mother with three school-age children. She also runs a small specialty bakery business out of her home and is well known in her community as "the cheesecake lady." She is a talented pianist and has played at many area churches, weddings, and special events.

Treatment includes two rounds of chemotherapy and a double mastectomy, followed by radiation. Medical costs are overwhelming.

All proceeds will go to help the family with expenses.

Please join us to help raise money for Dawn's family.

Make a donation to Dawn Crandall at any American Bank location or online at: gofundme.com/sweetmiracle

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OUTDOOR RECREATION

IRRRB approves \$4.95 million for mountain biking trails

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

REGIONAL— State officials are hoping to enhance north-eastern Minnesota's reputation as an outstanding location for mountain biking— and they're putting significant resources behind that goal.

Last week, the Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board approved a \$4.95 million funding package to develop three new mountain biking trail systems along the Iron Range. The plan, approved Jan. 24, includes \$2.55 million for a project at Giants Ridge, \$1.777 million for a project near Chisholm, and \$625,000 for a third project near Cohasset.

The growing emphasis on mountain biking comes in the wake of the economic revival experienced by the communities of Crosby and Ironton, after the creation of Minnesota's first state park dedicated to mountain biking on former Cuyuna Range mine spoils. The park has attracted more than 25,000 riders annually to the communities, providing \$2 million a year in new tourism-related spending and sparked an entrepreneurial revival with 15 new shops and restaurants— along with new residents— coming to the communities since the opening of the

park several years ago.

IRRRB officials noted that a recent study by the National Ski Area Association found that mountain biking had become a significant summer season boost for ski areas, with visitation up 98 percent in recent years.

While Giants Ridge already offers mountain biking opportunities, the latest funding will allow additional investment in the system and new high-speed chair lifts to carry bikes and riders to the top of the hill. The expanded system will add 10-12 miles of developed trail to the existing 25 miles of cross-country ski trails which are currently available for mountain biking at Giants Ridge. The new trails will be designed to meet the criteria for various sanctioned competitions.

The Iron Range Off-Road Cyclists Club has been working for some time to develop the Redhead trail system near Chisholm. It will take advantage of some of the dramatic formations around former mining operations on the south edge of town. The 25-mile system will encompass four mine pit lakes, waterfalls, and spectacular vistas, with a distinctive Western feel, according to project engineers.

The Tioga trail system near Cohasset will include about 30 miles of trail. The Itasca



The new mountain bike trails at Lookout Mountain will soon be joined by three new mountain biking destinations in our area. file photo

Mountain Biking Club has already raised \$1.3 million in funding from other sources for the project, which is why their request to the IRRRB was smaller than the other proposals.

Design work is already well

underway and construction on the planned trails is expected to get underway this spring, with full build-out expected in 2018-19.

Sen. Tom Bakk was the lone member of the IRRRB board to vote no on the funding package.

He said he was hoping to see the projects bring in other sources of money in place of IRRRB funds.

ELY

Ely chamber director Cherie Sonsalla resigns

ELY - Brian Forsberg, president, Ely Chamber of Commerce issued a statement Wednesday announcing the resignation of the Chamber's executive director. "It is with regret that I must announce the resignation of Cherie Sonsalla, who is leaving her position as executive director for the Chamber of Commerce

effective Feb. 11."

Sonsalla joined the Chamber in 2013, filling a position that was vacated by Linda Fryer when she retired that year.

Sonsalla said, "This was a difficult choice for me. I love Ely and have enjoyed working with the boards and committees of the Chamber on behalf of area

businesses. I have had the pleasure of working with some incredible people throughout my time here." In her letter of resignation, Sonsalla said the deciding factor was proximity to her children. "It has been difficult to be so far away from my family."

"Cherie has done a tremendous job running the Chamber

operations," said Forsberg. "She has put in many hours to ensure our projects and events moved forward as planned. We are grateful for her years of service and the valuable contributions she has made."

The board has scheduled a special meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 6, to discuss an interim director

and a search for a new executive director.

Sonsalla begins her new position in Wisconsin with the Oconomowoc Chamber of Commerce as executive director on Feb. 12.

ST. LOUIS COUNTY SCHOOLS

NER renovation projects almost completed

by MELISSA ROACH
Staff Writer

REGIONAL- The new Foster Jacobs & Johnson project manager Aaron Kriens reported to the St. Louis County School Board that the Northeast Range heating project is nearly completed. He sought to assure the board the project would finish smoothly as it transitions to a new project manager. Despite the assurance, he did have some explaining to do concerning the newly installed system, which was not working properly during the recent cold spell.

"The project was pushed back a bit because of some abatement issues we dealt with and that pushed the project into January, when the system failed during the cold weather." He continued, "The boilers were overheating, and the issue being hydraulic, the water was heating up but there was not enough pressure to push it out into the system." He added, "The system is custom-built for the school, and we are working through getting the kinks out." Kriens also acknowledged some of the counter-tops had been installed during more humid weather this fall, and now there are gaps between some of the tops, which he assured were being corrected. Board member Chris Koivisto told Kriens to notify him when he was in the area, as to keep him better informed of issues and progress as the project proceeds toward completion. Koivisto represents Babbitt and Embarrass on the board.

Interim Superinten-

dent Reggie Engebritson reported to the board that in the interest of developing a better line of communication, she will be making short videos addressing school events and notable information titled, "District News in 5", which will be posted on all the school websites as well as the district website with the first video now available for viewing.

She also informed the board that she has attended C4I - Coaching for Implementation, with the building principals. She explained the process of observing five classrooms with student-centered instruction with rigor, and then meeting with the teachers for feedback. She noted the training is part of Learning Sciences International for Educational Innovation Partners.

Engebritson had obtained a grant before coming aboard as the interim superintendent, as executive director for Northland Learning Center, for educator and author Dr. Ross Greene to come to the district for a two-day presentation. Dr. Greene presentation was focused on children with challenging behaviors, and his Collaborative and Proactive Solutions model. Engebritson told the board it was a well-attended event, with good information. She also told the board of an upcoming meeting on Feb. 8 where she will be meeting with the superintendents from the International Falls, Ely, and Mesabi East school districts regarding insurance plans, noting that future meetings will include union representa-

tives.

District Curriculum Technology Integration and Assessments Director Kristi Berlin provided curriculum updates to the board. She said that she has been looking more at Wednesdays and registration numbers for elective classes offered, and "challenging the principals to look outside the box." Member Troy Swanson said he would like to see coding classes offered. "The future is coding, and if we can offer it, we should be." Berlin said that there are some telepresence classes for AP programming classes, but would like to expand the class. For other consideration, she was considering the possibility of changing the order in which students do math. She also reported teacher progress with continuing education.

The board voted to ratify the bus drivers contract for 2017-2020. On a related note, the board discussed an incentive program for the referral and hire of new bus drivers. The incentive program was brought forth to attract new drivers, as there is an "extreme shortage of drivers." The incentive would allow for \$500 to a newly-hired driver that was referred by a district employee. In turn, the referring district employee would receive \$300. Member Dan Manick questioned if there should be a minimum number of routes or length of time the new hire would have to put in before receiving the money. The board agreed to the incentive program as it was written, for now, but wanted Transportation Director Kay Cornelius

take a look at the minimum route or time requirements regarding the issue for the board to revisit.

In other business, the board:

► Approved MOU to Clerical Contract for 2017-2020.

► At the recommendation of business manager Kim Johnson, the board approved *Cook News Herald* designated as the district's legal newspaper.

► At meetings earlier in January, the board also discussed the cheerleading program at North Woods School. Last fall, Sara Niska approached the board concerning the program in hopes the district would support the cheerleading program as an extra-curricular activity. Tom Beaudry, of Cook, voiced his support of the cheerleading program and encouraged the board to support the activity as well. Presently the program is run through community education, with an advisor for the second thru sixth grade "Grizzliettes", as well as grades 7 - 12. An alternate option that was drawn up with former superintendent Steve Sallee and Dr. Engebritson positioned the cheerleading program run as an extra-curricular activity, under a teacher contract for the board to vote on. With questions remaining about the cost to the district, the board decided to table the decision until Feb. 26 regular board meeting. Business manager Kim Johnson was tasked to gather further information regarding the cost of the program run as an extra-curricular activity.

► Approved changes submitted by Q-Comp

program coordinator Kim Jirik for the Q-Comp budget, calling for a decrease in school-wide achievement goal performance pay, from \$300 to \$200 per teacher. Also a decrease in PLC participation and SLG attainment performance pay from \$625 to \$425 per teacher and teacher evaluation performance pay from \$1,100 to \$1,000 per teacher. Change in peer coach payment from \$2,700 to \$50 per evaluation per teacher. Jirik noted the changes will cut approximately \$90,000 total and will balance the district Q-Comp budget.

► Approved compensation for school board members at \$250 per month, plus \$12 per hour for attendance at special school board meetings, study sessions, committee meetings, conferences and seminars, including travel time. Mileage approved at the rate of 54.5 cents per mile. Per diem set at breakfast \$15, lunch \$20, and dinner \$25.

► Hired support staff David Shuster-North Woods, Laura Rosendahl-Tower-Soudan, Emma Autio-South Ridge, April Ploof-North Woods, John Olson-Cherry, Kathy Carlson-Cherry, Amanda Aldrin-South Ridge, Lucille Stepec-Tower-Soudan, Denise Parson-North Woods, Meredith Erickson-District. Placed teacher Anne Christensen on special assignment as Indian Ed District Director effective Aug. 29, 2018.

BEAR...

Continued from 3B

In addition, Garshelis said the bear's back claws appeared to have been clipped by a person or damaged from a hard surface, and it also had missing hair around its neck.

The missing hair, according to Garshelis, was in a complete ring, which was 1-2 inches wide, and scar tissue had also built up. He said the distinct injury makes him think the bear had a snare or collar around its neck at one time.

But unlike research collars that sometimes cause temporary hair loss in certain patches, the missing hair on the diseased bear was permanent and fully circular, he said. "It was something around the bear's neck that either fell off or was taken off and the hair didn't regrow," Garshelis said. "That part of it is a little difficult to understand."

With bacteria ruled out as a cause for the bear's brain inflammation, officials don't see how the neck trauma could be related to the encephalitis. Garshelis said pathologists are checking possible viral or fungal causes for the swelling.

The male black bear attacked the men and dog in broad daylight in the middle of December near McDougal Lake.

If you have information, the DNR's tip line is 1-800-652-9093.



Outdoors

Our lives in the Northwoods

AQUATIC INVASIVES

County board OKs funding for AIS fight

Vermilion and Burntside lake associations among the major grantees

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

REGIONAL— The St. Louis County Board has given preliminary approval of grants totaling \$727,750 in state funds for continuing the fight against aquatic invasive species. The Lake Vermilion and Burntside lake associations, the North St. Louis Soil and Water Conservation District and Wildlife Forever are among the major recipients of the funding. The board is expected to give final approval of the funding on Tuesday, Feb. 6.

All of these organizations have been engaged in a coordinated, multi-year effort to prevent the introduction of invasive species into the region's premier lakes. The largest single

grant, totaling \$391,350 to the Soil and Water Conservation District, will continue to fund watercraft inspections, decontamination efforts, and public education on Vermilion and Burntside, as well as Shagawa, Pelican, and Ely lakes. The SWCD proposes to significantly increase the number of boat inspections and boat decontaminations in the region in 2018. Last year, SWCD workers inspected 20,720 boats, mostly on Vermilion and Burntside, and have set a goal to inspect 29,000 boats in 2018. They also hope to more than double the number of boat decontaminations, from 594 conducted last year, to 1,430.

The Vermilion Lake Association,

which has been a leader in the fight against aquatic invasives in the region, will receive \$59,000 in ongoing funding for its efforts, which include boat inspections, early detection, and education.

The Burntside Lake Association, which will receive \$26,000, will pursue a similar plan of action.

Jeff Lovgren, who oversees the VLA's aquatic species work, said the latest round of funding will allow for a continuation of existing efforts, even as those efforts evolve over time. "Our 2018 plan doesn't represent a dramatic change," said Lovgren. "We're still doing the same things, just doing them differently as we

See AIS FIGHT...pg. 7B



A boat inspector checks for aquatic invasive species on a boat and trailer at Pehrson Lodge on Lake Vermilion. submitted photo



THE CHANGING ENVIRONMENT

Gray foxes move north

Another more southerly species making inroads in the North Country

You can add one more southerly species to the list of those showing up in our region in ever more significant numbers. Sightings of gray foxes were once rare in northeastern Minnesota, but that's not the case this year, as local residents affiliated with the Ely Field Naturalists have been reporting spotting dozens of them this winter.

It's a marked change. For years, the gray fox, which is considered a species of the deciduous forest and open country, was considered virtually non-existent in the Arrowhead, which is located at the southern edge of the boreal forest. The DNR's website includes descriptions and range maps for lots of animal species in Minnesota, and it shows gray fox absent from our region.

But the agency may be revamping yet another range map, as the gray fox has spread into the region.

The influx of gray foxes will bring

Above: A gray fox pictured from late December in Eagles Nest Township.

photo by L. Rogers

Right: A red fox pictured near Tower, highlighting the differences in fur color between the two species.

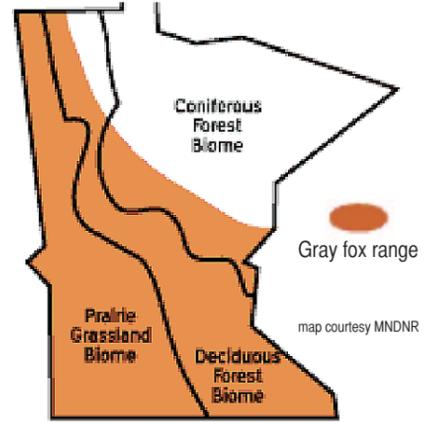
photo by L. Rogers

Lower right: A range map for the gray fox from the DNR website.

inevitable effects, as happens whenever a new species becomes established in an area. There's some research to suggest that a growing population of gray foxes will reduce the red fox population as the two species compete somewhat for food. It could also impact some bird species, since the gray fox is unusual among canids for its ability to climb trees. The raccoon dog, of Asia, is the only other canid in the world that is able to climb trees, and the gray fox has more in common with this Asian species than it does with the red fox.

As a tree climber, the gray fox can be a more effective predator of tree-nesting birds. Combined with the continuing influx

See FOXES...pg. 7B



Outdoors briefly

Fresh snow boosts trail conditions

REGIONAL— A couple inches of fresh snow Tuesday have put a helpful layer of reinforcement back on area trails just in time for the best part of winter.

Trails had gotten a bit icy over the past couple weeks, after a couple days of thawing conditions, but the fresh snow and seasonably cold weather forecast for the next ten days should offer up ideal conditions for snowmobiling, skiing, and snowshoeing.

With the change of the calendar, light is now returning rapidly to the North Country, which gains one hour and 17 minutes of daylight during the month of February.

All of which makes the next several weeks the best part of winter. So get out and enjoy it!

Fishing reports

Ely area

With the walleye angler success rate at an all time low, most fishermen and women have turned their focus on the trout fishing in the area. Lake trout have become the number one target for those looking for some action, and for the most part have been rewarded with some decent catches. Burntside Lake leads the pack with some fish around the five to seven pound range being taken there. Number one method has been a run and gun approach with tube jigs and small spoons being the best tactics for putting fish on the ice. A close second has been to lay a smelt right on the bottom under a dead stick or tip-up.

Rainbow trout have been a hot topic as well on lakes such as Tofte and Miner's Pit. Most fish have come by either using a small jig tipped with a wax worm or dead, salted minnows in shallower depths. Try fishing down from six to fifteen feet beneath the ice for best results. Some folks have picked up a few nice splake from Tofte using these same methods fishing close to shore.

Crappie action has been light, as is usual at this time of the season, but should improve over the next few weeks. Best bets have been on Birch, East Twin and Low lakes.

Courtesy of Babe's Bait,



MARSHALL HELMBERGER

Laker season



Steve Brousseau, of Ely, hoists a nice lake trout he caught recently on Burntside Lake. submitted photo

FOXES...Continued from page 6B

of raccoons, another tree-climbing predator, and nesting birds in our region are facing more challenges than ever to their survival.

Red foxes may also decline as the two species compete for food, although the red fox likely still has a competitive advantage in our region. Just as the Canada lynx is dependent on snowshoe hare as their primary prey, the gray fox has a similar dependence on cottontail rabbits in most of their range. At least for now, cottontails aren't really found in our region, although they've certainly made northerly advances as well. The absence of their primary prey puts the gray foxes at a disadvantage and it could explain why most recent sightings of the species seem to be centered around the Eagles Nest area, where a number of residents are actively feeding the foxes. Most of the sightings we've been hearing about are coming from around homes, where the foxes appear to be attracted by the various food offerings that folks are putting out for the birds, the deer, the pine martens, and other critters.

This may be giving gray foxes a population foothold that's facilitating their spread in the region, just as the increased feeding of deer seems to be helping wild turkeys spread into our area. While they like to prey on cottontails, gray foxes are pretty omnivorous, which means they will eat a wide range of foods depending on the season. That includes mice and voles, birds and their eggs, berries and other fruits, as well as insects. It's unclear the extent

to which climate change is influencing the spread of gray foxes into our region, but it's probably no coincidence that more and more southerly species are expanding their ranges northward. It's worth noting that the recent spike in gray fox sightings comes after three straight mild winters, which probably allowed more of the foxes to survive. Biologist Lynn Rogers, who captured the gray fox image on the opposite page, said he's noticed a significant increase in the number of gray foxes showing up in recent years near his research facility. Recently, he estimates he's seeing more gray foxes than red, which could either suggest an impact to the red fox population, or that gray foxes are more likely to hang out in the vicinity of residences where food might be available.

In my own experience, gray foxes remain pretty uncommon. In the 35 years I've spent in the woods, I've only seen one gray fox, which skulked past my deer stand early one morning. The gray fox is easy to distinguish from a red fox, by the lack of the black "socks" that extend up the leg of a red fox, as well as the grizzled appearance of the fur on the face, back, and sides. The red fox is one of the most widespread predators in the world, ranging across the entire northern hemisphere, including well into the Arctic. By contrast, the gray fox is found only in North America, generally south of Canada. To the south, their range extends through Mexico and Central America, into the northern reaches of South America.

LAKE COUNTRY FORECAST from NOAA weather



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.	
01/22	28	11	0.00		01/22	25	2	0.00		01/22	25	10	0.00		01/22	27	10	0.00		01/22	26	6	0.00		
01/23	20	0	0.00		01/23	18	17	0.00		01/23	24	-5	0.00		01/23	18	-6	0.00		01/23	20	-4	0.00		
01/24	23	-2	0.00		01/24	13	-9	0.00		01/24	18	-5	0.00		01/24	21	7	0.00		01/24	18	-3	0.00		
01/25	27	11	0.00		01/25	21	-2	0.00		01/25	24	10	0.00		01/25	23	19	0.00		01/25	26	18	0.00		
01/26	28	21	0.00		01/26	20	12	0.00		01/26	27	20	0.00		01/26	39	23	0.00		01/26	28	18	0.00		
01/27	43	25	0.01	0.5"	01/27	24	22	0.00		01/27	41	21	0.01	0.1"	01/27	27	9	0.00		01/27	42	20	0.00		
01/28	24	6	0.02	0.5"	01/28	19	14	0.00		01/28	21	4	0.03	0.4"	01/28	9	-17	0.00		01/28	20	2	tr	0.2"	
Totals			0.71	39.0"	Totals			0.63	39.4"	Totals			0.78	48.4"	Totals			NA	NA	Totals				0.80	35.3"

EXTREME COMPETITION

Idaho man wins Arrowhead Ultra 135

Minnesotans take four of five top positions in extreme competition

by MARSHALL HELMBERGER
Managing Editor

REGIONAL — Four Minnesotans placed among the top five finishers in this year's Arrowhead Ultra 135, but it was Jay Petervary, of Idaho, who claimed the top time. Petervary, who has won the competition on two previous occasions, finished the grueling 135-mile race along the Arrowhead snowmobile trail riding a fat tire bike. His winning time of 13 hours, 16 minutes, represents an average speed of just over 10 miles per hour. Minnesota's Ben Doom took second with a time of 14 hours, 12 minutes, followed by Minnesotans Charlie Tri (15:31), Ron Williams (15:39), and Kyle Holloway (15:51) took the next three positions in the competition.

The Arrowhead Ultra, which runs from International Falls to Fortune Bay Resort Casino near Tower, is widely considered one of the most extreme racing events in the world, pitting hardcore racers



Minnesotan Ken Kreuger was nearing the finish line at Fortune Bay early Tuesday evening. photo by J. Summit

against the mid-winter elements in the coldest place in the Lower 48. This year's race largely delivered the kind of conditions that the racers favor, including a temperature at race start of minus 10 degrees F.

The high on Monday reached the low single digits and tempera-

tures dipped into the 20s below zero across most of the region on Monday night, when many of the racers were still on the trail. Tuesday brought milder temperatures, with highs in the teens, along with snow and gusty winds.

AIS FIGHT..Continued from page 6B

learn some things work and some things don't. We try to work smarter to be more effective."

Among the modifications this year is an updating of the VLA's priorities, which elevates the invasive plant, starry stonewort, as the organization's top concern. Zebra mussels, which had topped the group's priority list in previous years, have dropped somewhat as it now appears likely that the low calcium levels in Canadian Shield lakes, like Vermilion, offers some protection against the

establishment of this invasive mussel, which has devastated other aquatic systems elsewhere in the U.S.

In addition, said Lovgren, VLA is stepping up its early detection efforts, particularly as the focus shifts to invasive plants. The organization has established a network of local monitors who conduct regular inspections in the water surrounding boat launches, to detect the presence of invasive plants.

In addition to the latest county grant, the VLA

obtained two additional grants last October from the Initiative Foundation. Those grants, totaling \$93,000, are helping to fund some pilot initiatives to improve boat inspection efficiency on Vermilion public accesses. "These plants generally take root near the entry point," said Lovgren, and when caught early enough, control measures can usually eradicate the problem before it spreads.

Statewide initiative

Each year, through the AIS Prevention Aid Program, the Legislature provides funding to counties to allocate to organizations that will participate in AIS research, control, prevention and education activities.

Since 2014, the county has appropriated more than \$3.1 million in state funds to combat aquatic invasive species.

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Obituaries And Death Notices



Kristian C. Alarcon

Kristian Charles Alarcon, 21, of Vermilion Lake Township, was delivered into the arms of Jesus Christ, his Savior, on Wednesday, Jan. 24, 2018. Memorial services will be held at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 4 at the North Star Church in Virginia with Pastor Terry Sonnentag officiating. Visitation will be one hour prior to services at the church. Arrangements are with Landmark Funeral Home of Virginia.

Kristian was born on April 30, 1996, in Virginia, to Ronald and Laura (Rzewnicki) Alarcon and grew up in Tower. He was home educated and attended Lake Superior College,

attaining his associate degree in Automotive Technology. He was planning to pursue an Engineering degree at UMD and to design performance automotive parts. Kristian had a driving passion for cars, trucks, motorcycles, four-wheelers, and anything motorized or that could go fast.

Kristian was active with Boy Scouts and was an Eagle Scout in Troop 128 of Cook. He also was a Den Chief for Cub Scout Pack 165 of Tower for many years. His hobbies included music (he played bass guitar), mountain biking, German Shepherds, cooking, welding, custom fabrication and helping anyone whenever he was given the opportunity. He especially enjoyed being with his family and friends.

Kristian worked as an automotive technician for Miller Hill Subaru in Duluth, and was renowned in the automotive community for his custom automotive builds, as well as his helping hands.

Kristian is survived by his parents, Ron and Laura Alarcon; brother, Matthew

(Miranda); nephews, Collin, Logan and one on the way; maternal grandparents, Eleanore and Raymond Rzewnicki; numerous aunts, uncles, cousins and friends; and Grendel, his beloved German Shepherd.

He was preceded in death by his paternal grandparents, Elinore and Edward Alarcon; uncle, Steve Alarcon; aunt, Sandy Arras; cousins, Casey and Ronnie Ray; and his first German Shepherd, Gambit.



John G. Holmstrom

John G. "Bud" Holmstrom, 90, of Babbitt, passed away on Tuesday, Jan. 23, 2018, at the Ely-

Bloomenson Community Hospital. A Memorial Mass will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 3 at St. Pius X Catholic Church in Babbitt with visitation one hour prior to the service at the church. Fr. William Skarich will be the celebrant. Military Honors will be accorded by the Babbitt Color Guard. Spring burial will be in Argo Cemetery in Babbitt. Arrangements are with Landmark Funeral Home of Virginia.

He was born on May 21, 1927, in Greaney, to Oscar and Bessie (Paulson) Holmstrom. Bud attended Orr High School and Duluth Vocational Institute. He served in the U.S. Army at the end of World War II, from 1945-47 in Korea, and again in Korea from 1950-51 on active duty. Bud married Jeanne Novak on Dec. 26, 1953, and they were married for 64 years. They had resided in Babbitt since 1959. Following his military service, Bud worked for several mining companies on the Iron Range. In 1955 he was employed by Reserve Mining Company and became a Foreman, retir-

ing in 1986.

Bud was a member of St. Pius X Catholic Church of Babbitt, Maki-Pinola American Legion Post 535 and VFW Post 1539 of Babbitt, and was a former Respite Care Volunteer. Bud was a great "Homestead Days" storyteller. He enjoyed the outdoors, hunting, fishing, four-wheeling, and family gatherings at his Greaney farm.

Bud is survived by his wife, Jeanne; son, John II "Jack" (Cindy) Holmstrom; daughters, Deb Holmstrom and Diane (Lynn) Huseby; sister, Doris Brunette; sister-in-law, Arlene Novak; grandchildren, Jamie (Andy) Linden, Dr. Jennifer (Jon) Hovey, Dr. Jeana (Brenan) Collins, John Holmstrom III, William Holmstrom and Nicholas Funk; and nephew, Glenn (Sally) Goski.

He was preceded in death by his parents; sisters, Ida Goski and Dolly Boyer; and son, Ned Christopher Holmstrom.

Mary Ann Hill

Mary Ann Chiabotti Hill, 92, of Eveleth, formerly of Tower, died on Monday, Jan. 29, 2018, at St. Michael's Health and Rehabilitation Center in Virginia. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, Feb. 2 at St. Martin's Catholic Church in Tower with Rev. Fr. Nick Nelson as celebrant. Visitation will be one hour prior to the services at church. Spring burial will be in Lakeview Cemetery in Tower. Arrangements are with Landmark Funeral Home of Virginia.

Survivors include her three daughters, Danielle (Robert) Stevens of Cloquet, Karen (Claire) Hill of Virginia and Peggy (Kurt) Goodwin of Aurora; son, Jeff Hill of Tower; eight grandchildren, Brad Stevens, Barb Krzenski, Stephen Bell, Jason Bell, Sean Goodwin, Lisa Toller, Amy Hill and Alan Hill; ten great-grandchildren; and sister, Agnes Mesojedec of Virginia.

PUBLIC NOTICES

CERTIFICATE OF ASSUMED NAME

Certificate of Assumed Name Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 333. The filing of an assumed name does not provide a user with exclusive rights to that name. The filing is required for consumer protection in order to enable customers to be able to identify the true owner of a business. Assumed Name: axis technical solutions
PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS: 4258 Kangas Rd., Hibbing, MN 55746
NAMEHOLDER(S): Jeremy Brent Aho, 4258

Kangas Rd., Hibbing, MN 55746

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

signing this document I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Section 609.48 as if I had signed this document under oath.

Dated: January 22, 2018
SIGNED BY: Jeremy B. Aho
MAILING ADDRESS: 4258 Kangas Rd., Hibbing, MN 55746

Published in the Timberjay, Jan. 26 & Feb. 2, 2018

FIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF AUDIT and REGULAR MEETING NOTICE

The February Regular Board Meeting and Board of Audit for Field Township will be held at 7 pm, Tuesday, February 20, 2018 at the Clerk's residence, 9998 East Lind Rd. Angora.

Pat Chapman, Town Clerk

Published in the Timberjay, Feb. 2, 2018

BEARVILLE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF AUDIT

Tuesday, February 27, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

The Bearville Township Board of Audit will be held on Tuesday, February 27, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. at the Bearville Town Hall. This meeting will consist of auditing the books for the year ending December 31, 2017 and preparing a budget and proposed levies to submit to the Annual Town Meeting.

Kathy Cressy, Bearville Township Clerk

Published in the Timberjay, Feb. 2, 2018

EMPLOYMENT



HIRING POLICE OFFICERS

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

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



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

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

2/19

Hiring- Executive Director Well Being Development

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

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

Preferred experience and qualifications

- BA/BS degree
- Non-profit management including grant-writing and fundraising experience
- Excellent written and oral communication skills
- Excellent organization and time management skills
- Proficiency with Office Suite and QuickBooks

Send inquiries and resume to info@elynic.org by February 20, 2018.

Super Crossword

Answers

M	O	S	S	P	E	C	R	A	S	U	T	E	S	D	S	L					
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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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7				4				9	
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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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Find It Here

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

NAPA PARTS CENTER, INC.
45 E. Chapman Street
ELY
365-3132

Langevin Auto & Truck Repair
Full Service Auto Repair & Garage
Hours: 8 AM-5 PM M-F
2 Miles South of Tower
218-749-0751

HAIR CARE

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

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

HOSPICE

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

LICENSE BUREAU

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

REAL ESTATE

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

FOR RENT

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

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

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

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

BUILDING SERVICES

EAST DHU RIVER SAWMILL INC.
"Put A Piece Of Northern Minnesota In Your Home"
Superior Quality
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• Trim
• One-Of-A-Kind Moldings
• Industrial Lumber
218-744-1788
8825 Hwy 101, Orr, MN 55751

SNOWPLOWING

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

STORAGE

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

HELP WANTED

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

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

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

WANTED

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

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

Weekly SUDOKU Answer

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

Classifieds run in all 3 editions of the Timberjay.

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

MARINE

TIMBUKTU MARINA
ON LAKE VERMILION
218-666-2434
7401 Oak Narrows Rd - Cook MN
Cabin rentals
Year round boat storage and dockage
Boat and pontoon rental
Convenience store
Gas, bait & liquor
timbuktumarina.com

TIMBUKTU MARINA
LAKE VERMILION
218-666-2276
2475 Vermilion Dr - Cook MN
Ranger Premier Pontoon WEERES
G3 Boats Mercury Suzuki Yamaha
Sales, service, storage, boat lifts, docks, trailers and accessories
timbuktumarine.com

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

MOCCASIN POINT MARINE
4655 Moccasin Point Rd
Lake Vermilion
218-753-3319
Storage, Boat Rentals, Service/Repairs/Sales
Mechanic on Duty
moccasinpointmarine.com

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Mercury, Lund, Honda Marine
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www.shamrocklanding.com

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Gifts • Boat Accessories
Gas • Bait • Wifi
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Marina Slips • Daily RV Sites
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Call us at: 218.753.5000
4296 Arrowhead Point Rd, Tower MN 55790

Subscribe Today
(218) 753-2950

PUNNING UP AND DOWN

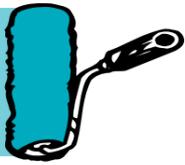
Super Crossword

ACROSS
1 Jan. and Feb.
4 Project detail, for short
8 Coll. dorm monitors
11 Salt Lake City athletes
15 Speedy WWW hookup
18 Nibble away
19 Funny Bombeck
20 Trio after N
21 12-point-wide type
22 Lemur kin
23 Start of the first riddle
26 Ship routes
28 Henry of Time and Life
29 The Teletubby that's yellow
31 Certain citrus grove yield
32 Middle of the first riddle
37 Lingerie garment
39 Snobbery
40 Un-PC suffix
41 Retort to "Not so!"
42 Wrestling pad
43 Party game cry
44 Peaty place
47 Slave over — stove
49 End of the first riddle
58 U.S. snoop gp.
59 Creameries
60 State as fact
61 First riddle's answer
65 Zagreb site
66 "My Man" singer Yoko
67 Pre-58-Across org.
68 Immodesty
70 Old fed. led by Nasser
71 Hydrogen atom's lack
75 Start of the second riddle
81 Holds up
82 Cybernames
84 English rocker Brian
85 Middle of the second riddle
91 Andy Taylor's son
92 Look at
93 Org. giving tows
94 See 75-Down
95 Storage site
100 Misfortunes
102 Livy's 2,150
103 Couple
104 End of the second riddle
110 Intercept and turn aside
111 Gin joint
112 Oohs and —
115 "You have my word"
117 Second riddle's answer
121 Cinematic Spike
122 Purple fruit
123 Go — rant
124 Black-and-white treat
125 — culpa
126 Cut out
127 Aug. follower
128 April follower
129 Simple
130 Purported psychic gift
DOWN
1 Cry feebly
2 Island of Hawaii
3 Detached, musically
4 Jiffy
5 Ace
6 Aussie bird
7 Hardened skin area
8 Fit for a king
9 Straight as —
10 Nerdy sort
11 Big name in pkg. shipping
12 Get stewed
13 PC-sent greeting
14 Deli meat
15 "Blasted!"
16 Big name in swimsuits
17 Not to such a degree
24 Tetley option
25 "True —!" ("Yes siree!")
27 Santa — (hot winds)
30 All the world, per the Bard
33 Actress Metcalf
34 One-dimensional
35 Body part above eyes
36 One of the Musketeers
37 X6 and Z4 carmaker
38 Pep rally cry
44 Doldrums
45 Any of the Joads, e.g.
46 Female kid
48 Old despot of Russia
50 Cry in Berlin
51 Tallies
52 Bite playfully
53 General —'s chicken
54 "There — tide ..."
55 Abate
56 Event with evidence
57 Gawk
61 Pilot and Fit carmaker
62 "— a nap!"
63 Pianist Glenn
64 History unit
65 Fishcake fish
68 Actor Murphy
69 Main point
72 Oil byproduct
73 Bread or booze
74 — buco
75 With 94-Across, donkey noise
76 Sun, moon and star
77 Cablegram
78 Jewish Passover
79 Surround with a saintly ring
80 Caveman Alley
82 Functional
83 Turtle covers
86 Makes natty
87 "— Rock" (1966 hit)
88 "Heavens!"
89 Liquid filling la mer
90 A couple
95 For some time
96 Prison, informally
97 Began to cry, with "up"
98 Prefix with Chinese
99 Chews noisily
101 Ski race
102 "Some Like It Hot" actress
105 Cyber-submit to the IRS
106 Massey of "Rosalie"
107 "Never ever!"
108 Common site for a 7-Down
109 Set (down)
113 Tilling tools
114 Flip one's lid
116 First-aid ace
118 History unit
119 — Moines
120 Male kid

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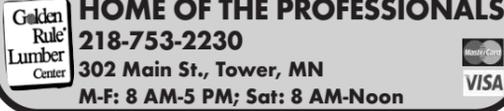
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- # 130924 **MAKINEN** Wooded 40 acres w/ Mud Hen Creek running through it. Electric service available along the road. Old structure exists on property. Property being sold "as is". \$32,000
- #132777 **SUSAN LAKE** 12.2 wooded acres w/ mature timber and approx. 740 ft lakeshore. Year-round road-access, new driveway/parking area, dock, electricity available at road. \$75,000



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- Kjostad Lake-\$97,500** 39 wooded acres and 800 ft of lakeshore. MLS#118466
- Ash Lake-\$125,000** 7.35 wooded acres and 300 ft of lakeshore. MLS#118955
- Pelican Lake-\$99,900** 3.5 acres with 259 ft of lakeshore. Great water views! MLS#133321
- Ash River-\$75,000** 2 boat-access lots available with shared ownership on the road.
- Ban Lake, Orr-\$99,500** 36 wooded acres with 600+ ft of shoreline. Near Elbow Lake. MLS#126515

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