

Back in the game

3 Tiger seniors return to basketball.

in Sports, Page B1



SUPERIOR Telegram

Covering Northwest Wisconsin since 1890

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Stepbrothers Lawson Olson, left, and Jay Johnson, both 6, slide down a hill in Billings Park during a snowstorm on Wednesday. "I call them my twins," said their father, Jordan Johnson. After sledding, the three headed home for hot chocolate.
Maria Lockwood / Superior Telegram

SNOW DAYS

Some areas of Northland top 20 inches and counting

By John Myers
Duluth News Tribune
Duluth

An epic, three-day winter storm continued to throttle the Northland on Thursday, with heavy snow falling across most of the region in the morn-

ing, high winds creating poor visibility and snow-laden trees bringing down power lines.

The snowfall intensity was expected to diminish by Thursday afternoon. But the National Weather Service in Duluth says

light snow will likely continue into Saturday. And then we all know what happens.

"Frigid arctic air follows next week," meteorologists said in their morning advisory.

But first we'll have to dig out from some

historic snow banks.

Most schools across the region closed for a second day and snowplow drivers, who worked most of Wednesday, Dec. 14, to clear roads from the first round of snow, did their best to keep

up with snowfall rates of an inch or more per hour. Weather Service forecasters urged no unnecessary travel Thursday and said whiteout conditions may exist in some areas.

A blizzard warning was in effect until 6

p.m. Thursday along a line from Carlton County through Duluth and up the North Shore. A winter storm warning was in effect for the remainder of the Northland.

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Nurses vote to ratify

New contracts will last 3 years, provide wage increases, address staffing levels concerns

By Laura Butterbrodt
Duluth News Tribune

ST. PAUL — Members of the Minnesota Nurses Association have voted to ratify their new contracts with hospitals, the MNA announced Wednesday afternoon. The nurses union reached tentative agreements with 15 hospitals last week.

The contracts will last for three years and cover 15,000 nurses in the Twin Cities and Twin Ports at Allina Health, Children's, Essentia Health, HealthPartners Methodist, M Health Fairview, North Memorial and St. Luke's hospitals. Each negotiating team has

"As we've all been saying for the last nine months, and will continue to say, the focus of this was on staffing language."

CHRIS RUBESCH,
FIRST VICE PRESIDENT
OF MNA AND A NURSE AT
ESSENTIA HEALTH
IN DULUTH

different contracts, but MNA President Mary Turner said most contracts have similar protections defined to varying degrees.

In a news conference Wednesday afternoon, MNA representatives described the contracts as "historic" due to language addressing staffing levels and wage increases of 17% over three years in the Twin Ports and 18% over three years in the Twin Cities.

NURSES: Page A9

States narrow options for Blatnik Bridge replacement

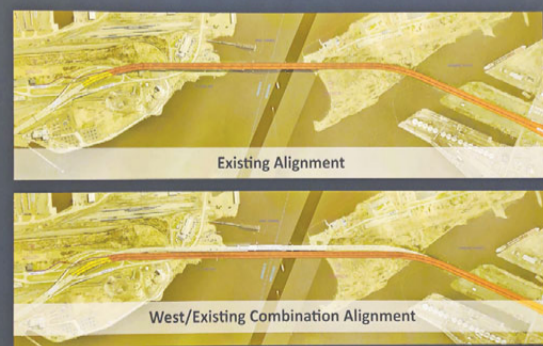
By Shelley Nelson
Superior Telegram

SUPERIOR — Minnesota and Wisconsin transportation officials have narrowed the options to replace the Blatnik Bridge as they move into the environmental assessment stage in the project.

Officials from the state transportation departments presented those options during the sixth public meeting on the project Tuesday, Dec. 13, at the Superior Public Library.

"We looked at the universe of alternatives, down to feasible, down to reasonable," said Pat Huston, project manager with the Minnesota Department of Transportation. "Now we're getting down to what

Alignments Recommended for Further Study



Shelley Nelson / Superior Telegram

A board at the Superior Public Library shows the bridge alignments that will be considered for replacing the Blatnik Bridge as Minnesota and Wisconsin transportation officials start an environmental assessment of the project.

will finally go into the environmental evaluation and the final document."

He said the goal is to present the preferred

alternative to the public in the fall of 2023, before the bridge moves into the preliminary design phase.

BRIDGE: Page A9



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