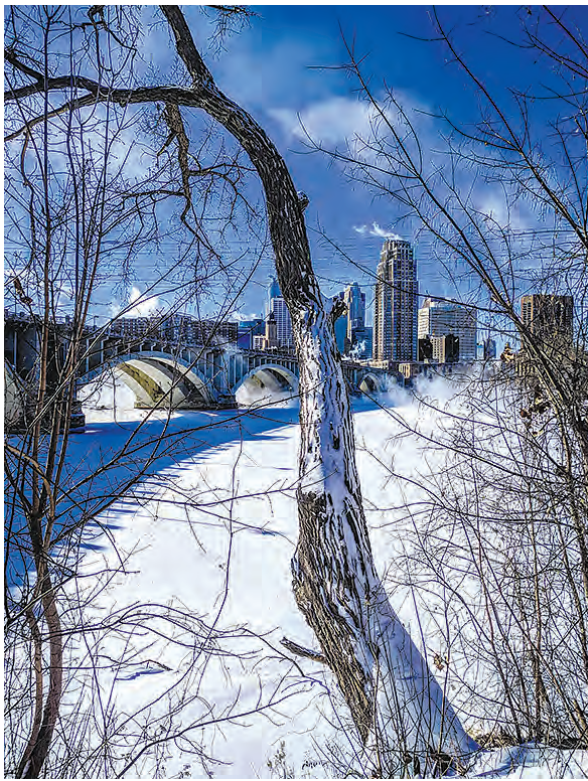



Sub-zero snap shuts down schools, businesses




Top: Mail carrier Tim Johnson made his appointed rounds in Sheridan neighborhood January 29. He and other postal workers throughout the Midwest got the next couple of days off because of the deep cold. On Spring Street, cars were towed for a snow emergency. Eventually towing was suspended because so many cars had dead batteries. (Photos by Karen Kraco) Center: Liz Jensen found frozen beauty near the 3rd Avenue Bridge and took a look back at Northeast from the Guthrie Theater. Carol Jensen photographed a cardinal in her backyard. Bottom: Nik Linde recorded the cold loneliness of waiting for the bus near Sheridan School, while light snow blew across a deserted Broadway.

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... spawns stark, steamy ... or silly scenes

by **Cynthia Sowden**

January is always a cold month, but 2019's version was a record-breaker.

How cold was it?

It's not unusual for schools to close during extremely cold weather, but the week of Jan. 27, park buildings remained locked, the U.S. Postal Service cancelled mail delivery, 24-hour grocery stores closed early and several businesses shut down so their employees wouldn't have to risk frostbite on the way to work.

East Side Neighborhood Services closed. Even the busiest streets became deserted.

Northeast residents got ready to tough it out. Some even found an excuse to play.



Top: For Tom Grotting of Columbia Park, it was time to put his #frozenpants on display. Other Northeasters were soon inspired to dip and freeze their clothing, even spawning a frozen Minnesota Viking. There were reports of frozen pants as far away as Chisago City. (Photo by Mark Peterson)

In Nik Linde's frozen clothing photo posted on MyNortheaster.com, even the dog is frozen at 5th Street and 4th Avenue SE.

Steam rising from the Xcel Energy plant made the parking lot at Jax Café look ominous. (Photo by Cynthia Sowden)



Center: A flock of geese flew toward the grain elevator near the BNSF train yard. (Photo by Mike Madison)

Bottom Left: Looking north at a semi-frozen Mississippi River from the Lowry Avenue Bridge. (Photo by Mike Madison)

Right: A puffed-up robin stops to fuel up on freeze-dried crabapples. (Photo by Cynthia Sowden)



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