

# Marking the way



Steve Kuchera / Duluth News Tribune

Left: 2 Coast Guard members on board the USCGC Spar hold a navigational buoy in place while its anchor chain splashes into the Duluth harbor on Thursday. Right: A crane on the USCGC Spar lifts a navigational buoy off the deck before placing it in the Duluth harbor Thursday as Coast Guard members help control it with taglines.

# Brainerd lawyer to replace Florey

## Walz picks environmental activist for appeals court seat

By Tom Olsen  
Duluth News Tribune

DULUTH — Elise Larson, an environmental advocacy lawyer in Brainerd, will serve as the next Northeastern Minnesota representative on the Minnesota Court of Appeals.

Gov. Tim Walz on Thursday appointed Larson to replace Judge James Florey, a longtime Virginia-based jurist who retired from the error-correcting court April 1.

Larson, 36, is currently the water program director and a senior attorney at the Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy, which has filed legal challenges to several high-profile Northland projects, including the proposed Polymet copper-nickel mine near Hoyt Lakes and the Nemadji Trail Energy Center in Superior.

She also serves as an adjunct professor at the



Larson

University of Minnesota Law School, teaching environmental law and supervising the Environment and Energy Law Clinic.

"I am excited to appoint Elise Larson to the Minnesota Court of Appeals," Walz said in a statement. "She is a remarkable attorney who has excelled at every stage in her career. Her extensive background practicing civil and administrative law — and her experience clerking for some of the region's most renowned judges — has prepared her well for the bench."

Larson was previously a law clerk for Chief Justice Loria Gildea of the Minnesota Supreme Court, the late Judge Myron Bright of the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of

Appeals and Chief Judge John Tunheim of the U.S. District Court in Minnesota. She also was an attorney at Briggs and Morgan P.A., representing private-sector clients in complex litigation matters.

"Elise Larson is an outstanding choice to serve as a judge on the Minnesota Court of Appeals," Tunheim said in a statement. "She combines a brilliant intellect, an ethic of hard work and a genuine compassionate understanding of people. She will be a great leader in our judiciary in the years to come."

The Bagley, Minnesota, native is a graduate of Concordia College and the U of M law school. She has served on numerous court- and legislative-based committees, particularly those involving issues of the environment and natural resources.

"Elise Larson is smart, hardworking, colle-

gial, and she has a keen understanding of how the law must make common sense and serve the best interests of the people," said Paul Anderson, retired Minnesota Supreme Court justice and former Court of Appeals chief judge. "She is also a bona fide daughter of Northern Minnesota, an area she has been selected to represent. She will be an excellent addition to the court."

A merit-selection panel appointed by Walz previously recommended Larson and three other finalists for the seat: Judge Dale Harris, of Duluth, Judge Corey Wahwassuck, of Grand Rapids, and Judge Stoney Hiljus, of Mora.

The Minnesota Court of Appeals was established in 1983 as an intermediate, error-correcting court in order to allow the state Supreme Court to focus on difficult constitutional

and public policy cases. Judges sit in panels of three and serve as the final arbiter in approximately 95% of the more than 2,000 decisions that are appealed from trial courts, state agencies and local governments each year.

The court includes 19 judges: one appointed from each of Minnesota's eight congressional districts, along with 11 members at large. While typically appointed by a governor, the judges serve six-year terms and must run for election in order to retain their seats.

A date was not immediately announced for Larson's investiture. Once sworn in, she will be only the fourth person and first woman to hold the 8th District seat, after Florey, former Duluth attorney Larry Stauber and former Hibbing lawyer R.A. "Jim" Randall.

### BYGONES

News Tribune, April 29, 1982

Business in Duluth was extremely slow in January and the area is still plagued by a recession, according to the Duluth Business Index. The index for January shows Northeastern Minnesota's economy has little chance of improving until the national recession eases.

More people than ever before attended the AAD Temple Shrine Circus at the Duluth Arena-Auditorium last week. Arena officials said 36,672 people watched the seven shows staged by the Garden International Circus, breaking the old attendance record by more than 2,500.

News Tribune, April 29, 1922

Ida Torseth of Virginia yesterday became the first woman candidate for legislative office in St. Louis County when she filed as a candidate for senator in the 61st Legislative District. Incumbent Michael Boylan and D.C. Reed have also filed for the office.

The Duluth Home Investment Company will build 20 to 25 new homes at City Home Acres, a new plat created in Duluth Heights just past the end of the Highland streetcar line. The average cost of the homes will be between \$1,200 and \$1,500 each.

Bygones is researched and written by David Ouse, retired reference librarian from the Duluth Public Library. He can be contacted at djouse49@gmail.com.

# Boy, 14, charged with 10-year-old's killing

## Girl was strangled, sexually assaulted, authorities say

By Chris Vetter

The Leader-Telegram, Eau Claire, Wis.

CHIPPEWA FALLS, Wis. — The 14-year-old boy accused of killing 10-year-old Iliana Peters was charged Wednesday afternoon in Chippewa County Court with first-degree intentional



Peters

homicide and two counts of sexual assault.

He will remain in custody on a \$1 million bond.

"He essentially strangled her and hit her with a stick," said Chippewa County District Attorney Wade Newell.

He then sexually assaulted her, Newell told Chippewa County Judge Ben Lane.

At least for now, the case is in adult court. However, it could later be moved to juvenile court.

"There is a process for

(the defense attorneys) to seek a reverse waiver," Newell explained.

When asked if he would oppose a waiver, Newell said he couldn't answer that question at this time. He wants to see more evidence in the case.

The defendant, identified by his initials C. P.-B., appeared via video from the Eau Claire Juvenile Detention Center. His defense attorneys, Karl Schmidt and Kirby Harless, sat with him at the JDC. They waived time limits on his preliminary hearing.

Newell requested a \$1 million cash bond, saying he was concerned he would flee if he posted bond.

"Given the statements he gave to law enforcement, that he intended to rape and kill the victim, there is a need to protect the community," Newell told Lane.

Lane agreed and set the \$1 million cash bond, and he set the next court hearing for May 5. If the suspect is able to post

bond, he cannot have any contact with juveniles or possess weapons.

"This is a serious charge," Lane said. "I have to consider the threats to the community. The court is concerned this could be a further threat if he wasn't in custody."

The defense had asked for a \$100,000 cash bond.

"We do not feel that setting a bond in excess of \$100,000 is necessary or appropriate in this case," Schmidt said to Lane. "He is 14 and an eighth grader. He can't drive."

Schmidt added: "He is a lifetime resident of Chippewa County. We believe a \$100,000 cash bond would be adequate to ensure he doesn't flee."

Lane ordered the criminal complaint to be sealed, so it is not available to media or the public.

After the hearing, Newell outlined the three charges in a press conference with the media. The suspect is charged with first-degree intentional homicide and first-degree sexual assault of a child, resulting in great bodily harm; each of those two Class A felonies carry a maximum

penalty of life in prison. He also was charged with first-degree sexual assault, a Class B felony, which carries a maximum penalty of 40 years in prison and 20 years of extended supervision.

"All three of the charges require he intended to do something — you went into the situation with that intent," Newell explained.

While Newell said the suspect had a plan to kill her, he couldn't say how long ago he formulated that plan.

The court made the decision for the suspect to appear remotely rather than appear in person, Newell added.

Newell couldn't divulge details of how Peters and the suspect knew each other. He added he hasn't met with Peters' family. Peters was a fourth grader at Parkview Elementary School.

Judge Lane issued a ruling Wednesday morning, prior to the hearing, barring photos of the suspect, and also requiring decorum in the courtroom.

"We have to preserve the juvenile's rights but also the rights of the victims," Lane said.

Peters was reported missing Sunday night.

Her body was found Monday morning near a trail by Leinenkugel's Brewing Co. Chippewa Falls is about 100 miles east of St. Paul.

(c)2022 the Leader-Telegram (Eau Claire, Wis.). Distributed by Tribune Content Agency, LLC.



Duluth parking: The EVEN side of the street.

# DULUTH News Tribune

CONNECTED • ENGAGED • ENTRUSTED

The newspaper of the Northland since 1870

424 WEST FIRST STREET, DULUTH, MN 55802

Volume 2 / No. 211 © 2022

CUSTOMER SERVICE / TO SUBSCRIBE (800) 456-8080

CUSTOMER SERVICE HOURS 8 A.M. - 5 P.M. MONDAY - FRIDAY

NEWS TIPS / CORRECTIONS (218) 723-5300 / (800) 456-8282

SPORTS DEPARTMENT

(218) 723-5303 / (800) 456-8181

TO PLACE AN ADVERTISEMENT

(218) 723-5200 / (888) 823-7355

GENERAL INFORMATION

(218) 723-5281 / 8 A.M. - 5 P.M.

THE DULUTH NEWS TRIBUNE OFFICE IS CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. NEWS STAFF AND SALES REPRESENTATIVES ARE AVAILABLE BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.

Neal Ronquist ..... Publisher nronquist@duluthnews.com (218) 723-5235

Rick Lubbers ..... Editor rlubbers@duluthnews.com (218) 723-5301

Joe Grammond ..... Group Controller/Circ. Director jgrammond@duluthnews.com (218) 723-5267

Megan Keller ..... Adv. Director mkeller@duluthnews.com (218) 723-5213

Chuck Frederick ..... Opinion cfrederick@duluthnews.com (218) 723-5316

A complete newspaper contact list with email addresses is available at duluthnewstribune.com. Membership: We ask customers for 3 days notice for stops and starts to their memberships.

#### NEWSPAPER RATES

Single Copy: \$3.00 Wednesdays, \$3.00 Saturdays

Delivered via U.S. Mail: Wednesday & Saturday Mail Delivery with Digital All Access \$291.49 for 52 weeks or \$161.94 for 26 weeks

All print subscriptions include unlimited digital access. \$13.99 per month Digital All Access

Duluth News Tribune is a Forum Communications Company Newspaper published twice weekly on Wednesdays and Saturdays. USPS 162-180; ISSN 0896-9418.

Periodicals postage paid at Duluth MN.

Refunds for subscriptions are subject to the following conditions. Refunds for unused liability will be issued if the balance is over \$5.00. The remaining balance of \$5.00 or less will be credited to our Newspapers in Education Program. A subscription may be restarted within 30 days to utilize any balance remaining on the account per the customer's request.



**Friends & Family Sale**  
May 5-7, 2022  
**AN EXTRA 10% OFF**  
ALMOST EVERYTHING

Additional 5% or 10% off on appliances when you use your Sears Card!

sears HOMETOWN STORES

LOCALLY OWNED AND OPERATED  
69 North 28th St. Suite 400  
Mariner Mall Superior, WI

1102 Cloquet Ave. Cloquet, MN 55720  
4328 E Superior St. Duluth, MN 55804  
**PARADIGM THERAPY SERVICES**  
**(218) 499-7000**

**Psychotherapy Across the Ages**  
Immediate openings in Duluth & Cloquet