

# LOCALNEWS

## BUSINESS



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
**Jamie Ravenelle, of Tim Hortons corporate office, steps behind the counter to serve customers at the Tim Hortons grand opening at Fortune Bay Resort Casino Friday.**

## Tim Hortons comes to Tower

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

A Canadian restaurant institution now has a home at Fortune Bay Resort Casino.

Tim Hortons Cafe & Bake Shop, which has more than 3,000 locations in Canada and 800 others in the U.S., is now at the Fortune Bay Resort Casino in Tower. The shop is open 6 a.m.-8 p.m. seven days a week, and is the first franchise in northeast Minnesota.

“Tim Hortons is one of the biggest restaurant chains in Canada, even bigger than Starbucks,” Bois Forte Band of Chippewa Chairman Kevin Leecy said in a release. “Our customers at Fortune Bay are already delighted with the fantastic coffee and bakery items.”

A grand opening Friday featured a steady stream of first-time customers, as well as long-time fans of the

restaurant, said officials.

“We had a couple that drove by snowmobile all the way from Fort Frances,” manager Deb Pinski said in a release. “We also had some people come over from Two Harbors and had some calls from St. Paul where people wanted us to ship them Tim Hortons coffee.”

Tim Hortons serves a variety of hot and cold drinks, including coffee, cappuccinos, lattes and smoothies. Aside from beverages, there are three dozen varieties of donuts, plus croissants, cookies and muffins. Tim-bits, which are bite-sized donuts, are also served daily.

“Everything is going very well,” Pinski said. “All of the employees are doing a great job. They have caught on to the little nuances of operating our machines, our standards, how to frost the donuts and build the coffee drinks.”

## Local teachers receive school supplies

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

Ten local teachers last month received supply packs from Cellular Connection, the largest Verizon Premium Wireless Retailer in the U.S., in a joint effort with its customers.

The company donated school supply packs to 3,500 teachers across the country through its Teachers Rock Supply Giveaway.

Included in the giveaway were local teachers: Shelby Dowty, Jody Hamilton, Shawn Johnson, Missy Walls, Kim McDonald, Kayla Gilbert, Jay Boyle, Carol Jaksa, Katie Hamers, and Dave Olson.

More than 350 participating TCC stores across the U.S. pre-selected 10 local teachers who received the packs Feb. 23. The packages — valued at \$80 each — were filled with supplies, in-

cluding glue, pencils, pens, markers, erasers, paper, tissue boxes and more. For every teacher reached, TCC impacted 30 students.

Residents in the community of each participating store also joined the cause by rounding their purchases up to the nearest dollar with the difference going directly toward the Teachers Rock Supply Giveaway.

“Every year, teachers spend an average of \$1.3 billion of their own money on school supplies, and on top of that, budget cuts continue to lead to less support for our teachers,” said Scott Moorehead, president and CEO of TCC in a release. “At TCC, we believe teachers deserve more. We believe that teachers rock. This is one more way we are giving back through our Culture of Good, and we’re proud to be able to do it.”



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## LEISURE

# Local resident becomes first-time author

Story was inspired by personal experiences and four young grandchildren

BY EMILY GEDDE  
Staff Writer

Myrna Mannausau admits she sees a little of herself in the main character of her newly-published book, ‘Merryweather Feathermeyer and the Magic Cape.’

“The story is actually, in a way, like the way I grew up – moving around all the time,” the first-time author said. “My intent was to evoke a feeling of how it feels to be the new kid in school.”

Mannausau said her family moved around a lot because of her father’s job. It wasn’t until she was married that she made International Falls her home.

“Being the new kid (in school) was exciting in a way because of all the new people to meet,” Mannausau said. “But in another way, you kind of feel like you’re being dumped on a different planet.”

Twelve-year-old Merryweather Feathermeyer knows that feeling of being the new kid and how it feels to be the target of bullying. So, Merryweather Feathermeyer takes refuge under a cape given to her by her grandmother and she uses it to shield herself from the bullying.

“She uses the cape until the day comes when she feels better about her situation,” Mannausau said. “Then she puts the cape in a suitcase and pushes it to the back of a closet. The magic part of the cape is it pro-

tected her in a way until she no longer felt she needed protection of that sort.”

**LIFE AS A WRITER**

Mannausau said she hasn’t always considered herself a writer and that ‘Merryweather Feathermeyer and the Magic Cape’ “just kind of popped” into her head.

“And it went from there,” she said. “(Writing the story) was a fun experience.”

The former science teacher and preschool director said she finished the story from start to finish in a couple of hours. Not thinking anything would come of writing the story, Mannausau said it sat on a shelf for more than a year.

The publishing process started following a visit from a friend who lives in California, who read the story and encouraged Mannausau to seek a publisher.

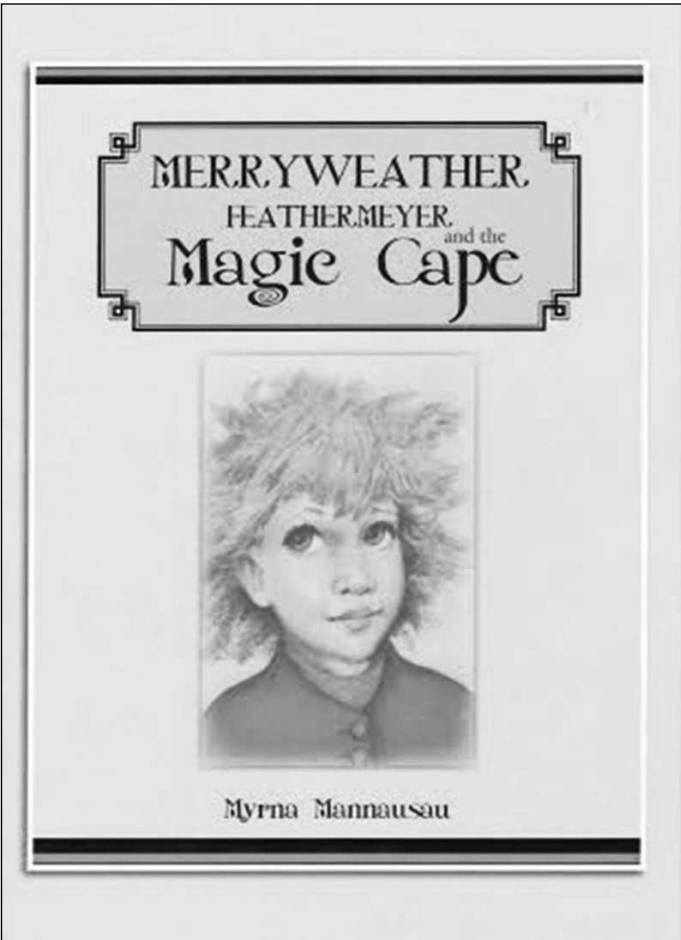
“She really encouraged me to do this,” Mannausau said of her West-Coast friend. “I really respect her opinion.”

After a few rewrites, Mannausau sent the story to several different publishing companies before settling with Author House.

“It was a really positive experience,” she said of the publishing process. “With



Myrna Mannausau



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

‘Merryweather Feathermeyer and the Magic Cape’ is available locally at City Drug, Ronnings, Iverne’s, and The Coffee Landing. It can also be purchased online at Barnes and Noble, Amazon, and in E-book form.

that company, I own the rights to the book, which is important to me.”

The book, which hit shelves last month, has generated positive feedback so far, Mannausau said.


“It was satisfying that my story went from a shelf to a book,” she said. “It inspires

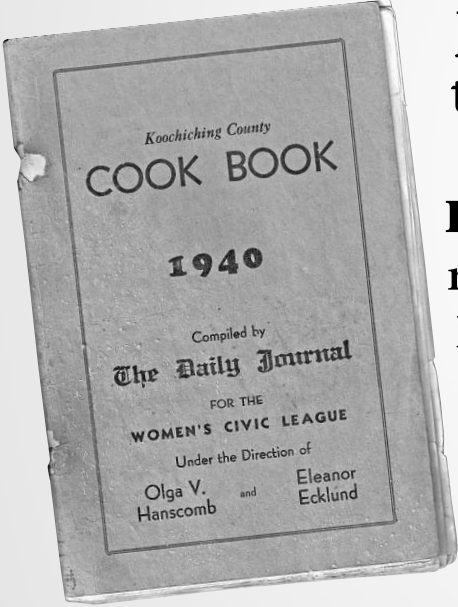
me to write another story.”

‘Merryweather Feathermeyer and the Magic Cape’ is available locally at The Coffee Landing, City Drug, Ronnings and Iverne’s. The book is also available online at Barnes and Noble, Amazon and in E-book form.

## Food is our common ground, a universal experience - James Beard

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