

EDUCATION

RRCC adds new faculty, professionals to staff

RRCC STAFF REPORT

Rainy River Community College announce new faculty and professionals have been added to its staff.

Kris Babler brings diverse leadership and coaching experience to his first season of men's basketball. Most recently, he led the boys' basketball team at Cristo Rey Jesuit High School in Minneapolis from recreational league to competing at the highest level of high school basketball. Babler earned his master of education degree in applied kinesiology from the University of Minnesota and bachelor of arts degree in English literature with a coaching minor from Gustavus Adolphus College. This fall, Babler will also teach courses in developmental English, physical education and college transitions.

Brooke Boulton is a new addition to the English department. Boulton has a master of fine arts degree in poetry from Northern Michigan University and a bachelor of arts degree in English writing from the University of Tennessee, Chattanooga. She has been a graduate teaching fellow and contingent adjunct faculty at NMU since 2010.

Jessica Bright is the new assistant residential life director at Rainy Hall. Bright has a bachelor of arts degree in sport managements from the University of Minnesota, Morris. Her recent work experience includes Target Field and Event Management and Student Activities Affairs at UM, Morris.



Kris Babler



Brooke Boulton



Jessica Bright

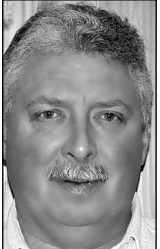


Joseph Hackenmueller

Joseph Hackenmueller was recently hired as a general maintenance worker in the maintenance department. Hackenmueller has a vast background in mechanics, small and large equipment operation, and repair and safety.

Michael Koski is the new full-time instructor and director of the industrial maintenance program. Koski is a graduate of Mesabi Range College and comes with 30 years of extensive background in maintenance. He most recently was an instructor at MRC, and prior to teaching worked for Martin Engineering and Inland Steel Mining Company.

Adam Rotar will lead the women's basketball program this season. Coach Rotar has six years of collegiate coaching experience as an assistant coach at the NCAA Division II, III, and NAIA levels. Rotar has a master of science degree in exercise and sport science, with an emphasis in sport



Michael Koski



Adam Rotar



Jeff Wickstrom

administration, from the University of Wisconsin, La Crosse, and a bachelor of arts degree in coaching and recreation from the University of Wisconsin, Whitewater. Rotar will also teach courses in physical education this fall.

Jeff Wickstrom, who was instrumental in beginning the women's hockey program at RRCC, will be head coach this year. Wickstrom has a master of science degree in mathematics, education; a bachelor of science degree in mathematics, teaching; and an athletic coaching certificate, all from Bemidji State University. Wickstrom is also a full-time math instructor at RRCC.

RRCC is a member of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities and is an equal opportunity employer and educator.

EDUCATION BRIEF

Gordon named to dean's list

Charlie Gordon has been recognized for his accom-

plishments by the University of Minnesota Duluth campus and was named to the dean's list for academic excellence for the 2014 spring semester.

The honor is reserved each semester for students who achieve a term grade point average of 3.5 or higher in the Swenson College of Science and Engineering.



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After School Arts classes offered for students

BACKUS COMMUNITY CENTER REPORT

After School Arts at Backus Community Center seeks to provide a wide variety of joyful, extended-learning opportunities for children in grades kindergarten through grade 12. Instructors are passionate, experienced and enthusiastic about sharing their knowledge and subject matter with their classes.

Class sizes are small, with excellent individual attention and many opportunities for students to learn and grow. All classes are at Backus Community Center. Every class will feature creative and hands-on projects to enhance content and engage learners, with various dates and starting times for different age levels.

Arts coordinator is Betsy Ward.

Love those Lures! Create spoons, jigs and shads for creative fishing. Class meets Wednesdays for three weeks, Sept. 10-24, 4 to 6 p.m. Andrea Kappleman is the instructor for grades 5 and up.

Artist's Workshop – Modern Art, Impressionists and Portraiture

class for grades 7 and up meets Mondays for three weeks, Sept. 15, 22 and Oct. 6. Class time is 5:30 to 8 p.m., with Beth Nelson, instructor.

KinderArt – An introduction to art fundamentals – exploration, creativity and expression. Grades K-2 meet Mondays for eight weeks starting Sept. 8 through Nov. 3 (no class Oct. 6). Class time is 3:45 to 5 p.m.; Betsy Ward is instructor.

Sticks and Stones and Art — Creative kids connect to the great outdoors with science and nature-based projects. Terrie Poe instructs grades 2-4 Tuesdays from 4 to 5 p.m. Class is eight weeks, Sept. 16 to Nov. 4.

Draw! More! Better! It's not about straight lines and rulers. Students, grades 3-6, bring your best work to the first class and be ready for a challenge. Class meets Thursdays, 3:45 to 5 p.m. for six weeks, Oct. 16-Nov. 20. Betsy Ward is instructor.

Musical Crankies — Singing, storytelling and folk art combine for a unique experience. For grades 4-12. Class meets Wednesdays, 6 to 8 p.m., for five weeks, Oct. 1-29.

Darcy Sullivan is instructor.

How to Survive a Zombie Apocalypse. An acting class offered through the Borealis Bards Community Theater Group. Participants will study the play "10 Ways to Survive a Zombie Apocalypse" by Don Zolidis. Classes begin with theater games followed by play rehearsal. Performance is Oct. 18; time to be announced. A minimum of eight students, grades 4-12, is required for the class. Class meets Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6 to 7:30 p.m., for six weeks, Sept. 9-Oct. 16.

Watch for additional classes on our Facebook and web pages.

This program is sponsored by a grant from The Otto Bremer Foundation. A limited amount of funding is available for student scholarships. Registration forms have been sent to area schools with information on dates, times and fees charged. For further information or questions, call Backus Community Center at 285-7225. Forms are also available at the Backus office and on the website, www.backusab.org.

CLASSROOM REMODEL



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Falls High School Family and Consumer Sciences foods classroom underwent a major remodeling project this summer. Included in the project were updated cupboards, new counter tops and kitchen sinks, along with newly painted walls and new ceiling which were completed last summer. Work was done by the school district building and grounds staff, under the supervision of Jeff Veeder. Sherie Wright, of Wright Interiors, supplied counter tops at cost, as well as donated professional advice for the project. Students acknowledged Falls Lumber, which made a financial contribution; community members who purchased French silk pies at the FACS Spring Pie Sale; as well as the school board for showing it values and supports the FACS program. Pictured are school buildings and grounds staff who worked on the FACS remodeling project, Dan Magner and Brian Kelly.



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