

OUTDOORS

CALL OF THE WILD

The Journal welcomes ideas for stories about people in our community who have a unique hunting, fishing or outdoors tale.
Call the Journal at 285-7411

HANGING AROUND



STAFF PHOTO BY EMILY GEDDE

A large flock of Canada geese was spotted Tuesday along Keenan Drive. Most Canada geese have staging or resting areas where they join up with others and their autumn migration can be seen from September to the beginning of November. The early migrants have a tendency to spend less time at rest stops and go through the migration much faster. The later birds usually spend more time at rest stops. This group appears to represent the latter since it has been seen off and on in the same spot since last week.

Koochiching SWCD seeks involvement in Littlefork River Watershed

Oct. 22 gathering planned in Littlefork

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

The Koochiching Soil & Water Conservation District is collaborating with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency to work with local officials and citizens to ensure the health of the Littlefork River and Bigfork River watersheds.

The focus this year is the Littlefork River Watershed, beginning with two local kick-off events that have been organized to inform the public of the findings of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and to gain information from those who live on or near the Littlefork River and its tributaries. Similar work in the Bigfork River Watershed will begin in 2014.

All interested members of the public are encouraged to attend one of two repeat events for an update on what's happening in the Littlefork River Watershed and to voice comments. The first gathering will take place at 1:30 p.m. Sept. 30 at the LaCroix Ranger District, 320 North Highway 53, Cook. The second gathering will take place at 5:30 p.m. Oct. 22 at the Littlefork Community Building, 220 Main Street. For more information, please contact Jolén Simon, Koochiching SWCD program coordinator at 283-1180, or by emailing jolen.simon@koochichingswcd.org.

The Clean Water, Land, and Legacy Amendment approved by Minnesota voters in 2008 underscored the value Minnesotans place on clean water and the lifestyle quality it supports. Funding from this amendment related to protecting and improving the state's waters is directed to the MPCA, the agency charged with cataloging the status, or health, of Minnesota's 81 watersheds. This funding, in turn, is available to local government units such as the Koochiching SWCD to carry out watershed work locally.

In 2012, the MPCA, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and the Minnesota Board of Soil and Water Resources initiated a four-year Watershed Restoration And Protection Project to determine the quality of the waters in the Littlefork River Watershed and develop a long-range plan for keeping its waters healthy. Each of the other 80 watersheds in Minnesota is undergoing a similar project over the next 10 years to extensively monitor the chemical and biological health of the watershed's lakes and streams.

The success of the Littlefork River WRAP will depend

on the collaboration of other state agencies, local governments, the business community, lake associations, and citizens that live and play in the watershed, say resource officials.

What is a watershed? A watershed is the flow, or shed, of water from a defined landscape downhill to the same lake, stream, or river. The smallest watersheds are drainage areas for small streams and lakes. Collectively, each small watershed is a piece, or subwatershed, of a larger watershed that feeds into a river, larger lake, or larger bodies of surface water in the vicinity.

Surface water refers to bodies of water that can be seen on top of the landscape, such as lakes, streams, and wetlands. Surface water is also connected to groundwater, the water below the surface. The groundwater level is commonly referred to as the water table.

The Littlefork River Watershed is one of 81 major watersheds in the state and encompasses a total area of 1,843 square miles. The 160-mile river begins in Lost Lake (west of Lake Vermilion), runs through portions of north St. Louis, Itasca, and Koochiching counties, where it drains into Rainy River and Lake of the Woods, finally flowing into Hudson Bay and Canada.

Why is watershed management important?

Water, and in particular water quality, is one of Minnesota's most abundant and precious resources, say KSWCD staff. Good water quality supports abundant fish populations and quality habitat for wildlife, clean surface water for recreating, and safe drinking water for residents. As the human population increases, landscape development increases the amount of runoff and material carried with it, such as road salt, fertilizers, pesticides, and sediment, directly into surface waters.

Once impaired, restoring water quality is expensive and often unattainable. Keeping clean water clean is easier and less costly in the long term.

What happens on the land determines the quality of the waters. Understanding how human activities on the landscape impact water quality, and more importantly how to minimize the effects of human actions, is fundamental to ensuring high quality waters that provide a quality lifestyle and economic sustainability for the region for future generations to come, according to KSWCD staff.

ARE YOUR HEARING AIDS OLDER THAN 4 YEARS?

If your hearing aids are older than four years old, then there have been significant improvements in products that may improve your ability to communicate. Some of the new features of the digital hearing aids are: wind blocking, focused hearing and telephone heard in both ears. We offer you excellent quality digital hearing instruments at a reasonable price, professional service and ethical business practices.

We strive to provide all people with the means to improve communication. Call today to find out more about our commitment to provide quality instruments and superb service regardless of financial means.

Our clinic dates are as follows:

Thursdays, September 19 & 26
Thursdays, October 3, 10, 24 & 31

RENAISSANCE
HEARING CENTERS, INC.
1-800-414-5854

Many thanks

to all of you who visited me, called, sent notes, cards and lottery tickets while I was confined to Neilson Place in Bemidji. After three months, I am now back home and doing well. Friends and Family are treasures and I have many....

Sincerely,
Harvey Kelly



Great Food To Go

The Rose Garden Restaurant

LUNCH Special Combinations!
Monday - Friday 11am-2pm
All combos include egg roll & fried rice

Family DINNERS
for one up to six 5pm-8pm

HOURS:
M-F 11am-2pm & 5-8pm
Sat. 5-8pm Closed Sunday
Main Street District • 311 4th Ave. 283-4551

Dine In Or Take Out

We gladly accept

www.ifallsjournal.com

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Koochiching County
SAP 036-598-029 (CR 71) Bridge replacement
BIDS CLOSE **Wednesday, October 2, 2013 at 2:00 pm, local time**
NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS: Sealed proposals will be received by the Board of County Commissioners of Koochiching County, Int'l. Falls, Minnesota until **2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 2, 2013** at the office of the County Auditor/Treasurer in the Koochiching County Courthouse 715 4th Street Int'l. Falls, Minnesota 56649 at which time they will be opened and read publicly for the following:

Project Designation: SAP 036-598-029 (CR 71) Bridge replacement and grading on CR 71

Project Location: On CR 71, appx. 0.8 miles east of TH 65, appx. 6.75 miles south of Littlefork. Total Length – 0.04 miles, incl. bridge approach work

Major Project Quantities include:
• removal of existing timber bridge (appx. 22' long), Existing Bridge No. 93477
• 64 lin. Ft. of 10 ft. x 7 ft. precast concrete box culvert (2 lines x 32 ft. long = 64 ft., excluding aprons)
• appx. 681 CY of Common Excavation
• appx. 287 CU YD of Common Borrow
• appx. 386 tons of Aggregate Base Class 5

Project Start Date: No later than **October 21, 2013**

Project Completion Date: Within 10 working days of start date, and no later than **November 1, 2013**

Proposals, Plans and Specifications are available at:
Koochiching County Highway Department
715 4th Street
Int'l. Falls, MN 56649

Cost for Plans: Cost of one set of plans and proposals is \$75 (Minnesota State Sales Tax Included). There is no cost for electronic plans and specs, they are at <https://egram.co.koochiching.mn.us> or phone (218) 283-1186 or email to joseph.sutherland@co.koochiching.mn.us.

Bidder's Bond: Bids must be accompanied by a certified check or bidder's bond made payable to the Treasurer of Koochiching County in an amount not less than 5% of the total bid.

Bid shall be plainly marked on the exterior of the containing envelope: **"2013 Box Culvert, Letting Date, October 2, 2013"**.

The County Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive irregularities and informalities therein, and to award the contract in the best interests of Koochiching County.

Dated at International Falls, Minnesota**September 3, 2013.**

Joe Sutherland, Koochiching County Highway Engineer
Phone: 218-283-1186
Email: joe.sutherland@co.koochiching.mn.us

This is Northwoods Eating

Breakfast Specials

Mon.-Sat. \$6.29 • Sunday \$7.29

Mon.	Big Moose Skillet with hashbrowns
Tues.	Breakfast Sandwich with hashbrowns
Wed.	French Toast w/eggs & sausage or bacon
Thurs.	Blueberry Pancakes w/eggs & sausage or bacon
Fri.	Biscuits & Gravy w/eggs & hashbrowns
Sat.	Cinnamon Swirl French Toast with ham & eggs
Sun.	Blueberry Cream Cheese Crepes with eggs & ham

Dinner Specials

Mon.	Half Chicken Dinner	\$10.99
Tues.	Full Rack of BBQ Ribs	\$17.99
Wed.	Pan Fried Walleye	\$14.99
Thurs.	Mozzarella Girsale w/Marinara Sauce	\$10.99
Fri.	Fishermen's Catch	\$16.99
Sat.	Rib Eye Steak	\$17.99
Sun.	Chicken Kiev	\$11.99

Dinners include choice of potato & salad. Choice of soup for \$1.00 Canadian Money at par!



Hwy 53 & Memorial Drive - Open 6 a.m.-10 p.m.
218-283-8888 • chocolatemooseresaurant.com

330 SCOTT ST.
FORT FRANCES 807-274-6665

- QUILTS
 - DECORATIONS
 - FIXTURES
 - PRICED AS MARKED
-
- FABRICS
 - BOOKS
 - PATTERNS
 - NOTIONS

CRAZY LADIES FABRICS

Close Out SALE

THE FINAL DAYS ARE HERE!
CASH OR CHECKS ONLY. ALL SALES FINAL

25-80% OFF
SEPTEMBER 26-28
OCTOBER 1-5

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS 12-6
WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY & SATURDAY 10-4

WE WILL BE CLOSED SEPTEMBER 19-25 TO ENJOY OUR RETREAT AND PREPARE FOR THE FINAL DAYS.

www.ifallsjournal.com