

# ENTERTAINMENT

## Ethnic Food Festival returns to Backus

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

Backus Community Center announces the return of the ever-popular Ethnic Food Festival set for 5:30 to 7 p.m. Friday on the Backus stage.

Culinary delights from all over the world will be available for sampling. Tickets are \$2 per ticket, per sample. Local musician, Gary Hooker, will entertain guests throughout the evening. A cash bar will be available serving beer, wine, soft drinks and water.

Participants may satisfy a sweet tooth with krumkake, a Norwegian waffle cookie; speculaas, the Dutch windmill cookie; Polish paczki; and pulla bread from Finland, available at the dessert booth.

Attendees will travel



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Linda Merrill and her grandson, Kendall Merrill, serve Irish food at a previous Ethnic Food Festival.

between the vendor booths manned by volunteers who have prepared the foods for this fundraising event for Backus.

“Backus operates on a variety of funding, including fun events like this one that people were asking us to bring back,” said Ward Merrill, executive director of Backus.

The first Ethnic Food Festival in 2008 started as

a way for people in the community to experience how diverse food can generate a healthy sense of shared well-being. “It was so much fun, the vendors decorated their tables like their country and everything looked so nice,” said Kay Arnold, founding member of Citizens for Backus/AB.

This year’s dishes include Irish bacon soup, wild rice and cranberries, curry

chicken, egg rolls, perogies, Bunuelos, raw food and more.

Spots are still open for those interested in preparing an ethnic dish or dessert. To participate, call Robin at 285-7225.

Proceeds from the evening are devoted to the operation of Backus Community Center and all the programs they offer to the community.

## Duluth Playhouse production planned at library on April 1

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

The Arrowhead Library System will present a Duluth Playhouse production of “The Adventures of a Rock Named Sticky” by the Boogers, a free program being offered at 10:30 a.m. April 1 at International Falls Public Library.

The Boogers are a group of rascally performers dedicated to creating original interactive theatrical experiences that celebrate educational topics, according to a new release. Fresh off their first project, the critically acclaimed The Yard Bizarre, they now bring The Adventures of a Rock Named Sticky.

This popular Northland area children’s theatre troupe aims to delight all audiences, but particularly the pre-kindergarten age group.

Shows are interactive and silly, keeping kids and families enthralled and involved for 40 minutes to an hour.

Participants may join the adventure as the Stevenson siblings and their annoying cousin travel through time to explore the history of their pet rock named Sticky. Their time machine is ready and their imaginations are charged for adventure.

The Duluth Playhouse production includes puppetry, mime, dance, games, physical comedy and wit that kids, brothers, sisters, parents and grandparents will enjoy, suggests the release.

This program, sponsored by Arrowhead Library System, was funded in part or in whole with money from Minnesota’s Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

To learn more about Arrowhead Legacy Events, see the calendar at [www.arrowhead.lib.mn.us/whats-new](http://www.arrowhead.lib.mn.us/whats-new), find on Twitter [www.twitter.com/ArrowheadLegacy](http://www.twitter.com/ArrowheadLegacy) or like on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/ArrowheadLegacy](http://www.facebook.com/ArrowheadLegacy).



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