

COMMUNITYNEWS

BORDERLAND BRIEFS

CONCERT CANCELED

The Mullet River Boys concert scheduled for 7 p.m. Friday at Backus Auditorium is canceled due to a car accident. For information, call Backus at 285-7225.

BRONCO SWIM TEAM

Falls High School Bronco swim team practice begins Monday from 8 to 11 a.m. daily at Falls High School pool for grades 7 through 12. Captains practice is from 8 to 10 a.m. through Friday. Paperwork may be picked up at the FHS office. A brief meeting for parents is planned for 8 a.m. Monday. Call 286-3366 for information.

STORIES IN THE PARK

Stories in the Park at 6 p.m. tonight will feature 30 to 40 minutes of stories and game about elephants at the Eighth Avenue green space.

SUMMER READING PICNIC

The International Falls Public Library Summer Reading Picnic is planned for 12:30 p.m. Thursday at Smokey Bear Park. Join in the traditional fare of hot dogs, sloppy joes, chips and ice cream. First chance to pick-up summer reading t-shirts. For all ages.

MEDICARE PRESENTATION

A “New to Medicare Presentation” is planned for 10 a.m. to noon Tuesday at Backus Community Center. This presentation is for persons who would like questions answered on Medicare Parts A through D, Medicare Insurance options, supplemental insurance, assistance paying for prescription drugs, the Medicare Savings Program and more. To register and learn more call the Senior LinkAge Line at 1-800-333-2433. Registration is required to ensure available space and materials.

KOOCHICHING SPORTSMEN’S ASSOCIATION

Koochiching Sportsmen’s Association will gather for the summer meeting at 6 p.m. Aug. 13 at Sportsmen’s Dock Gazebo. A potluck social will follow with hot dogs and beverages supplied by the club.

LOTTERY

Sunday’s Daily 3 8, 1, 2	Friday’s Mega Millions 13, 29, 34, 37, 72
Sunday’s Northstar Cash 9, 13, 24, 25, 28	Mega Ball 6
Friday’s Gopher 5 4, 12, 33, 38, 45	Saturday’s Powerball 12, 26, 44, 46, 47
Saturday’s Hot Lotto 3, 12, 18, 19, 32	Powerball 29
Hot Ball 15	

CALENDAR

TODAY

- Sing and Play in the Park, 10-11 a.m., Ranier Park.
- Littlefork Ambulance Thrift Shop open, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Northland Art Society open, various arts, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Backus, Room 114.
- Wednesday Study Group, 10:15 a.m., Faith United Church of Christ.
- Falls High School Class of 1963, 11:30 a.m., Lenard’s.
- Test of emergency sirens – 1 p.m., International Falls; 2, Fort Frances.
- Community Market, 4-6:30 p.m., Backus Third Street parking lot.
- Sunbeams and Girl Guards, 4:30-6 p.m., The Salvation Army.
- Free At Last, 4:30-6:30 p.m., Forestland Annex, lower level conference room.
- Narcotics Anonymous, 6 p.m., Alano Club.
- Stories in the Park, 6 p.m., Eighth Avenue green space (near community gardens).
- Men’s Non-Violence Group, 6-8 p.m., Friends Against Abuse office.
- Borealis Bards, music and script readings, 6:30 p.m., Smokey Bear Park.
- Elks Lodge Wednesday Meal, 6:30 p.m., pork loin, baked potato, salad, veggie, roll, dessert.
- Little Lambs (up to age 4) and King’s Kids (ages 5 and up), 6:30-7:15 p.m., Full Gospel Fellowship Church.
- Texas Hold ‘Em, 7 p.m., Moose Lodge.
- Alcoholics Anonymous, 7:30 p.m., Alano Club.

THURSDAY

- Hospital retirees, 8 a.m., Lenard’s.
- Bone Builders, 10 a.m., Woodland Apartments.
- Littlefork Ambulance Thrift Shop open, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Falls Hunger Coalition Food Shelf open, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., 1000 Fifth St.
- Northland Art Society open, various arts, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Backus, Room 114.
- Summer Reading Picnic, 12:30 p.m.,

- Smokey Bear Park.
- Northland Art Society open, various arts, 4-8 p.m., Backus, Room 114.
- Adventure Corps, 4:30-6 p.m., The Salvation Army.
- Weight Watchers, 4:45-5:15 p.m. weigh-in; 5:15 meeting, Zion Lutheran Church.
- Falls Trap Club, trap shooting, 5:30 p.m., Moonlight Rock Road.
- Community Café, free meals served, 5:30-6 p.m., roasted turkey, potatoes, gravy, candied carrots, dinner roll, Backus Community Center.
- Burgers Supper, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Moose Lodge.
- Beginner’s Tae Kwon Do, 5:45 p.m., Falls Elementary School gymnasium or cafeteria.
- The Lamplighters, women’s support group for survivors of childhood sexual abuse, 6-8 p.m., Friends Against Abuse, 407 Fourth St.
- Line Dancing, 7 p.m., Moose Lodge.
- Alcoholics Anonymous, 7:30 p.m., Alano Club.

FRIDAY

- Boise Cascade Insulite retirees, 8:30 a.m., Hardee’s Restaurant.
- Falls Hunger Coalition Food Shelf open, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., 1000 Fifth St.
- Serenity Sisters, Women’s A.A., noon, Backus, Rational Alternatives, Room 101.
- Elks Lodge Friday Light Meal, 5:30 p.m., turkey/bacon club sandwiches.
- Narcotics Anonymous, 6 p.m., Alano Club.
- For Those in Need, Addiction Recovery, 7 p.m., The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, 1340 Keenan Drive.
- Alcoholics Anonymous, 7:30 p.m., Alano Club, 410 Fifth Ave.

SATURDAY

- Community Market, 9 a.m.-noon, Backus Third Street parking lot.
- Kabobs on the Grill, 6 p.m., Moose Lodge (reservations, 283-3615).
- Alcoholics Anonymous, 7 p.m., Alano Club.

Special growing conditions for blueberry success

Recently I have had questions about growing blueberries from folks who have already bought blueberry bushes and planted them. Ooops! These bushes require careful planning. Here’s why.

Blueberry plants need special growing conditions. They require acidic, well-drained soil and full sun with a pH of 4-5. Amending the soil to that specificity is very difficult but possible. BUT FIRST take a soil sample and send to the University of Minnesota. Kits can be obtained from local county extension offices.

The Beltrami County Extension office in the fairgrounds 4-H building. Call 444-5722. One can get a soil bag, instructions and an address. And for \$17 the Soil Lab will send you a report telling you



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CONRAD
MASTER GARDENER

what the pH is, the soil texture, and phosphorus potassium levels. Base on that there will be recommendations on how much nitrogen, and other soil amendments to add to soil.

One cannot dump a bunch of acid amendments all at once. It may take two to three years to prepare one’s bed prior to planting so a bed should be prepared

instead of just each hole. Just living next to a pine tree is not the answer. Since blueberries can live 30-50 years, preparing soil adequately is a very wise investment. Most soils are typically at the acid end of the spectrum in this area of Minnesota instead of being toward base, but one can never be certain without a test.

If the pH of the soil is between 5.5 and 7.0, and the texture is sandy to sandy loam, the addition of acid peat is all that will be needed to prepare the soil. Mix 4 to 6 inches of acid peat into the top 6 to 8 inches of soil. In addition to acidifying the soil, the peat increases the soil organic matter content.

Sulfur compounds can be used to acidify the soil. Elemental sulfur takes at least one year to adjust the pH. This is why one

needs to take a year or two to prepare the bed before starting blueberry plants. Aluminum sulfate is not recommended as it can be toxic to roots. Iron sulfate reacts much faster than elemental sulfur (less than one month). Cost is a factor here.

Most garden soil is not good blueberry soil, so modification of the soil is necessary.

Soils with a pH greater than 7.0 will require higher rates of amendments and are not recommended for growing blueberries. Blueberry plants require a soil that is well aerated and has a high water-holding capacity in addition to being acidic. The recommended shrubbery varieties are “St Cloud” and “North Country” from the University of Minnesota Extension

website.

So, good luck but just don’t go buy several plants before testing your soil and planning the amendments well in advance of planting. There will be little blue rewards if one plans carefully. Or there is the Lake George Blueberry festival.

Refer to the revamped and updated University Of Minnesota Extension Service website <http://www.extension.umn.edu/garden/yard-garden/> for more information on horticultural topics. In addition, local Master Gardeners will again answer your questions on home horticulture. Call 218-444-7916, leave your name, number, and question and you will get a call.

Eklund's Peaches

COLORFUL
SUNBURST
FRUIT

WE'RE COMING!
Check for the truck on
Saturday, August 16th
And we will be here
thru the Following Week
While Supplies Last!

*Truck will be in the Parking Lot next to
Family Dollar on Highway 53*

ACTIVE STREETS

June 11 | July 9 | August 13 • 5:00—7:00 PM

Bring your bike, skateboard, inline roller skates ...
and your family to

Fourth Street and Ninth Avenue for

- Summer Shakespeare
- Bone Builders
- Yoga
- Street Hockey
- Chalk Art
- Stories 6:00 pm
- Bike Adjustment
- Basketball
- Street Chess
- Disc Golf
- Street Puppets
- Unusual Wheels
- Bike Tune Ups
- Planking Contest
- And more!

4:00-6:30 pm Backus Community Market
5:00-6:00 pm Healthy Meal is served at
Backus Dining Room

*Funding for this project is provided by the Center for Prevention
at Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota.
Made possible through support from the Statewide Health Improvement Program,
Minnesota Department of Health.*

Best Food!
Best View!

Now open for
**Breakfast, Lunch &
Dinner daily**

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY
DINNER FEATURE**

Chicken Cordon Bleu
*Breaded Chicken Breast stuffed with ham and
Swiss cheese on a bed of wild rice. Served with
fresh vegetables & choice of salad.*

Thunderbird Lodge
ON BEAUTIFUL RAINY LAKE

10 miles east of Int'l Falls on Hwy. 11
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