

LOCALNEWS

State gas prices rise; national prices fall

L-BF students help save white pine

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

Average retail gasoline prices in Minnesota have risen 15.7 cents per gallon in the past week, averaging \$3.08 per gallon Sunday, according to GasBuddy's daily survey of 2,856 gas outlets in Minnesota.

This compares with the national average that has fallen 3.7 cents per gallon in the last week to \$3.05 per gallon, according to gasoline price website GasBuddy.com.

Including the change in gas prices in Minnesota during the past week, prices Sunday were 14.6 cents per gallon lower than the same day one year ago and are 14.0 cents per gallon lower than a month ago. The national average has decreased 28.4 cents per gallon during the last month and stands 25.9 cents per gallon lower than this day one year ago.

No International Falls gas prices were reported on the website as of Monday morning.

"You know, I wonder if gas stations will run out of 2's to use on their signs because they can't remember where they put them all," said GasBuddy.com senior petroleum analyst Patrick DeHaan in a news release. "It's been a long time since we've seen this many stations nationally under \$3 per gallon — nearly

four years. The best part is that Americans are saving a staggering amount of money- almost \$110 million a day- versus what was being spent at the pump a year ago. We're quickly approaching 70,000 gas stations in the U.S. selling under \$3 per gallon versus around 7,500 stations one year ago."

But while prices will continue declining in most areas across the country, there is some bad news for motorists in the nation's midsection — mainly the Plains states — but the issue may trickle over into a few neighboring states, said DeHaan.

"There has been some supply tightness surrounding seasonal refinery work that's causing wholesale prices in that region to rise," he said. "While the problem is temporary and may last a couple weeks, we want to inform motorists in that area that they may notice prices rising, but it is a short term problem, not a long term one. For motorists everywhere else, pump prices should continue to drift lower in the week ahead," DeHaan noted.

GasBuddy operates MinnesotaGasPrices.com and more than 250 similar websites that track gasoline prices at more than 140,000 gasoline stations in the United States and Canada.

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

Seventh grade students in Luanne Hendrickson's life science class at Littlefork-Big Falls School helped to place caps on budding white pine Thursday.

With the guidance of their teacher, a few assistants, and four Minnesota Department of Natural Resources foresters, they traveled by bus from the school to state owned land on the Galvin Line forest road. At the site they were given some background and got to see an aerial photograph of the area.

The students watched a video in their classroom before heading to the woods, and had further instruction before they began bud capping. Bud capping involves placing a piece of paper around the terminal bud of white pine trees to prevent them from

being browsed by deer, explained Danae Schafer, DNR forester, Littlefork. This ensures that the tree has good growth and form until it grows out of deer browse range or about six-feet tall. Two staples fasten the paper to the tree, and it is a proven method of protection. In about two and a half hours, the class of 31 students had successfully bud capped the white pine on 10 acres.

In the spring, the bud caps should be removed to prevent issues with mold or insects. "These seventh graders are now bud capping experts, so if you have questions about bud capping ask them or give the Littlefork forestry station a call at 278-6651," she said. "Every student that was questioned indicated that getting to spend time in the woods was better than the classroom any day."



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

An L-BF student places paper around the bud of a white pine.



The paper is stapled to the bud to prevent deer from eating it and damaging the growing tree.



L-BF seventh graders involved in the bud capping pose for a photo.

**FIND DEALS**  
in  
**The Journal**  
**Classifieds**

**Trick or Treat Street**  
**Friday, October 31 | 4 to 6 pm**

Bring your little ghosts & goblins to Backus this Halloween for a fun, safe & warm trick or treat experience!

**NEW THIS YEAR:**  
**Haunted House in the Basement!**

**BACKUS**  
*Community Center*

(218) 285-7225 | 900 5th Street | Int'l Falls  
www.backusab.org | Facebook: Backus AB

**Happy Birthday to the twins!**  
**Philip and Carl!**  
**2 years old on October 30.**

*From Mom, Dad & Big Brother Oscar, your Grandparents and everyone in Littlefork and the Falls.*

**MESOTHELIOMA LUNG CANCER**

If you or a loved one have been diagnosed with Mesothelioma, Lung Cancer or any other asbestos related disease contact us for a confidential review of your rights. There are strict time limits in which to bring these claims. Shermoen & Jaksa, PLLP has been representing Minnesota asbestos victims for over 20 years. We are one of only two Minnesota law firms that regularly litigate asbestos cases.

**Shermoen & Jaksa, PLLP Law Office**  
**345 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue**  
**Int'l Falls, MN 56649**  
**(218) 283-4494**  
**1-866-283-4494 Toll Free**

**BRIAN BRIGGS**  
East Ward City Council

- Married with 3 children and 4 grandchildren
- 32 years of service with the US Air Force and Air National Guard
- Prior city councilor
- Quartermaster of the VFW
- Member of the International Falls City Planning Commission
- Member of RLMC Board of Trustees

I will work toward a more cohesive council that makes thought-out, educated decisions and works well with other councils, organizations and boards. I truly believe this will give us the strength to move our community forward and give taxpayers a say in how their tax dollars are spent and accounted for.

Spurring economic growth in our community requires enhancing our infrastructure such as roads, resurrecting the Highway 53 Corridor project, and investing in the existing businesses while taking an optimistic approach to "growing our own" first.

**CONTACT BRIAN AT**  
**218-340-9795**  
*Servant Leader .... Dedicated .... Experienced*  
*Sensitive to Taxpayer's Dollars*

Paid for by the candidate on his own behalf.  
2970 Town Road 224, Int'l Falls, MN

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Prepared and paid for by Committee to Elect Eric Johnson MN House 3A, Jami Traska, Treasurer International Falls, MN

**ENDORSED BY KOOCHICHING COUNTY LABOR ASSEMBLY**

- Falls Senior High School Graduate-1984
- Vermilion Community College Graduate- 1986 (A.A. Natural Resources Law Enforcement)
- Hibbing Community College Graduate- 1986 (Law Enforcement Skills Program)
- Hired Koochiching County Boat/ Water Patrol- Summer 1986/1987

- Hired Full-Time International Falls Police Dept.- 1991
- D.A.R.E. Officer, K-9 Officer with International Falls Police Dept.
- Past President LELS #105 Local Union
- Hired Chief Deputy with Koochiching County Sheriff's Office- 2007 (Successfully Investigated minor crimes to Murder)
- Appointed Sheriff Koochiching County- 2012
- Emergency Manager Koochiching County (Incident Commander of June 2014 flood operations)
- Graduate of the National Sheriff's Institute- 2013
- Past President International Falls Little League
- Youth Hockey Coach- International Falls
- Recreation Football Coach- International Falls
- International Falls Little League Baseball and Softball Coach
- CEO'S in the classroom presenter- 8<sup>th</sup> grade classes
- Past Board Member of Friends Against Abuse and Sunrise Center
- 27 years Law Enforcement Experience

**VOTE NOV. 4th!** **ELECT** **VOTE NOV. 4th!**

**BRIAN JESPERSEN**  
**KOOCHICHING COUNTY SHERIFF**  
Paid for by the committee to keep Brian Jespersen Sheriff  
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