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ELECTION 2014

## Falls School Board to feature new faces

BY SPENSER BICKETT  
Staff Writer

There will be three new faces on the Independent School District 361 School Board in January, and starting in 2016, there will be an additional seat to fill on the board.

On Election Day last Tuesday, voters in the International Falls school district elected Tom Holt, Heather McBride, and Toni Korp

Board starting in 2015.

Holt, the only candidate listed on the ballot, garnered 3,175 votes. McBride and Korp



**Kevin Grover**

District Superintendent Kevin Grover said the new members

will take their seats in January. The board will hold a special meeting prior to the regularly-scheduled monthly meeting in order to swear in the new members and assign them to the various board committees, he said.

Holt said he was "kind of let down" by the fact he was the only candidate on the ballot for the three openings, and was hoping to have more people involved in the race. He said he's looking forward to working toward cre-

ating a better learning environment for students.

"We've got very intelligent kids, and if we're going to grow and expand as a town, we need to get them involved," Holt said.

McBride said she's "glad the campaign is over, a weight has been lifted off my shoulders." She said the community support she received was "amazing," and she enjoyed visiting with parents and hearing their concerns.

Looking forward to January, Mc-

Bride said she's "excited to see what the current board members have been working on and keep things moving in the right direction."

Voters in ISD 361 also had a special question to consider on their ballots: Shall the school board of ISD 361 consist of seven members? The board currently consists of six members.

Voters overwhelmingly supported expanding the board,

**School Board to A7 >**



STAFF PHOTOS BY SPENSER BICKETT

Missy Trickel, left, and Bev Mayfield hang tags on the "angel tree" at Kmart Saturday.

## On angel's wings

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

Thanks to a local Salvation Army program, community members can make sure kids have a happy holiday season.

Missy Trickel and Bev Mayfield of the local Salvation Army set up two "angel trees" in International Falls Saturday, one at Kmart and one at Menards.

The trees are full of wish lists created by Koochiching County children whose parents might not be able to make ends meet during the holiday season, Mayfield said.

People are encouraged to select a wish list and purchase items to help fill the list. The program runs to Dec. 12, and participants can drop off wrapped or unwrapped gifts at the Salvation Army, 1301 Third Avenue West.

The Salvation Army has a giveaway day on Dec. 18, Mayfield said, when volunteers drop off the gifts for the children.



Missy Trickel hangs tags on the "angel tree" in Kmart Saturday. A second tree is at Menards.

## DNR grant gives trap shooters a boost

BY LAUREL BEAGER  
Editor

A state grant to the Falls Trap Club will assist the International Falls school trap team in a partnership intended to expand and increase shooting opportunities.

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has approved nearly \$400,000 in expedited small range trap shooting grants to expand, improve or upgrade trap shooting ranges across the state.

The grants are the result of a \$2.16 million legislative appropriation earlier this year aiming to increase shooting range capacity for youth trap shooters by providing matching funds to recreational shooting clubs open for public use. Falls Trap Club Inc. of International Falls will receive \$5,400.

Eric Norstad, coach of the Falls trap team, sought the grant for a new trap thrower, he said. The state grant will provide half the funds needed for the thrower, with the team raising the remainder of the funds.

He credited Boise Paper, a Packaging Corporation of America



FILE PHOTO

**Mary Dahl takes aim.**

company, for helping the cause by providing \$2,500 toward the purchase of the thrower.

The number of clay target league youth shooters jumped from 3,400 in spring 2013 to around 6,100 in spring 2014, according to the DNR.

"These grants will be a shot in the arm to the trap shooting

**DNR to A7 >**

## Hometown Holiday Weekend offers parades, prizes, more

**Shop-at-home  
campaign weekend  
moves pet contest  
indoors**

BY CHAMBER REPORT

The Hometown Holiday Weekend in International Falls Nov. 28 and 29 will see the return of the annual pet contest as part of the Friday afternoon fun which also includes old-fashioned wagon rides and the traditional parade of lights.

The festivities are added to a weekend of retail specials that promote holiday shopping at home, according to Faye Whitbeck, president of the International Falls Area Chamber of Commerce.

midst shopping and \$25 gift certificate registrations at all

participating businesses, the annual holiday pet contest will lineup Friday at about 1:30 p.m. around the popular warming fires in Centennial Park (next to Border Boxes).

"The fires have added quaintness to the festivities," Whitbeck said.

She said this year's pet contest features an important change: After an outdoor promenade on the 300 block of main street, the pets will move inside Shannon Square.

"Some of those little canines really can't take much cold," Whitbeck said, "so after showing the pets off outside, we'll move indoors for the judging, treats, and to announce each pet and their owner." Judges will award two pets with \$25 in Chamber Dollars. Pet owners should watch for complete details.

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