

Where there's smoke

Firehouse tour highlights fire prevention

A12



Music in the air

Concerts set to begin, continue at Backus

A10



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Walking for a cause

BY EMILY GEDDE
Staff Writer

Seeing the International Falls community come together to support the fight against cancer humbled Ashley Anderson and Kathleen Severson.

The girls, who are both new to the community, participated in Saturday's fifth annual Community Cancer Walk in honor of their loved ones who lost their battles with cancer.

"My brother died from lymphoma," said Anderson, who wore lime green, the color designated to bring awareness to the disease. Anderson's friend, Lacey Richmond and Richmond's 3-month-old daughter also wore lime green in honor of Anderson's brother, Derek, who died in 2009.

"It means a lot to me," Anderson said of participating in the event. "It was hard to watch him go through (cancer). Today I get to wear something in his name."

Severson wore black, the color of melanoma, which claimed the life of her mother, Michelle, 15 years ago.

"She was only 32 years old when she died," Severson said of her mother. "I was 7 years old. I miss her everyday."

All three girls say they plan to continue participating in future Community Cancer Walks and are happy they are able to help other families whose lives are affected by cancer.

"It is definitely something I know I will do again," Anderson said.

The girls added to the event's overall turnout, which organizers say mimicked last year's record numbers.

According to organizer Betsy Loop, about the same number of walkers who attended the event last year, made



STAFF PHOTOS BY EMILY GEDDE

At left, Lacey Richmond, holding Lyndi, 3 months, Ashley Anderson and Kathleen Severson, don shirts in honor of family members who have died from cancer. The girls say Saturday was their first time participating in the Community Cancer Walk.



Lauren Snyder, 2, participates in Saturday's Community Cancer Walk.



Maggie McBride, left, and Jan Sandbeck, laugh as they make a lap around Bronco Arena.

Walking to A7 ➤

Dayton, staff look at Boise job loss

Council moves forward with bids after exchange

BY LAUREL BEAGER
Editor

Governor Mark Dayton and Department of Employment and Economic Development Commissioner Katie Clark Sieben will meet today with area elected officials and members of community response teams about the 265 local jobs terminated because of the shutdown last week of three machines at Boise Inc.'s paper mill in International Falls.

The meeting is 11:15 a.m. today at the third floor courtroom in the Koochiching County Courthouse. International Falls Mayor Bob Anderson told the International Falls City Council Monday an agenda for what is scheduled to be a brief meeting has yet to be determined. See Saturday's edition of The Journal for coverage.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

On Monday, the council unanimously agreed to seek bids for installing utilities to a parcel in the city's multimodal district, but only after it was revealed no bids had been sought earlier.

Councilor Gail Rognerud accused Anderson of overstepping his authority when she realized he put on hold action taken in May by the council to seek bids for installation of utilities to a part of a multimodal warehouse district. The action authorized city staff to seek bids from contractors for the utility installation on Parcel A of the district, which is now in the city limits. Other portions of the district are not in the city limits and discussions about annexing

Council to A7 ➤

Good Samaritan Society says, 'welcome home'

BY EMILY GEDDE
Staff Writer

Anna Mae Sullivan burst into tears as she entered the new Good Samaritan Society — International Falls last week.

They were tears of joy as she was finally able to move into her new home.

The former assistant director of nursing for the local Good Samaritan Society who is now a resident was able to get her first glimpse of the new facility on Keenan Drive more than a year after its construction began.

"The only word to describe it is gorgeous," Sullivan said with a huge smile on her face.

Among the many new amenities the new facility offers, Sul-

livan says she is most excited about having her own bathroom, and most importantly her own shower.

"I'm just so, so glad," she said as her daughter, Lisa Cameron, unpacked boxes and put clothes away in her mother's new room. "And there is a fireplace right outside where I can knit."

Adam Coe, the organization's administrator, said offering people private rooms is a huge benefit of the new building.

"People are very happy," he said. "The stories we hear from residents are amazing just in this first week. People are sleeping better and are so glad they don't have to share their living space anymore."

Coe said the first week of hav-

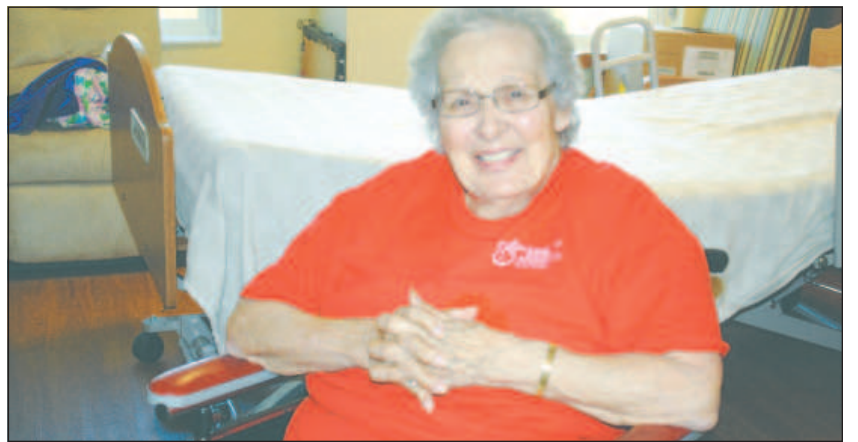
ing residents in the new building has been an exciting adjustment.

"So far, it's been great," he said. "Of course, there have been some adjustments that come with change, but that is to be expected. Some staff have worked at the other site for more than 30 years — their entire career. Now it's a different routine and a different layout. But we're getting there."

The new Good Samaritan Society — International Falls site includes both a nursing home and an assisted living facility.

Good Samaritan Society — Northwinds Assisted Living is a first of its kind service offered in the International Falls community, Coe said.

Assisted Living to A7 ➤



STAFF PHOTO BY EMILY GEDDE

Anna Mae Sullivan takes a break from unpacking to pose in her room at the newly-constructed Good Samaritan Society — International Falls last week. Sullivan says she is most excited about having a private living space complete with her own bathroom — something residents didn't have at the former site.

INSIDE
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