

COMMUNITY

A LOOK AT BORDERLAND

The Journal welcomes ideas for stories about people in our community.

Call the Journal at 285-7411

OBITUARIES

The Journal publishes paid obituaries in Wednesday and Saturday editions and on its Web site at www.ifallsjournal.com.

Obituaries must be submitted by 10 a.m. Tuesdays to be published in the Wednesday edition, and by 10 a.m. Thursday to be in the Saturday edition.

All obituaries must be prepaid before they are published.

Obituaries can be faxed to the Journal at 285-7206; e-mailed to tammiec@ifallsjournal.com; or mailed to The Journal at 1602 Highway 71, International Falls, MN 56649.

We encourage electronic delivery of obituaries and any accompanying photos.

If desired, The Journal will e-mail or fax a proof of the obituary to the funeral home handling the service.

For more information, call Tammie Calder at 285-7411.

Roger Henry Bradburn, 71

Roger Henry Bradburn, “Pug-Eye,” 71, of International Falls, Minn., passed away Tuesday, July 16, 2013, at Littlefork Care Center, Littlefork, Minn.

Roger was born July 30, 1941, in Littlefork.

Roger married Linda Hunter on Aug. 11, 1962, at Littlefork Lutheran Church.

Roger worked for Anchor Gas, and owned and operated Bradburn Service, Bradburn Sales and Bradburn Ice. They moved to International Falls in 1978. He worked as a repairman at Intercity Gas from 1978 to 1985.

He sometimes traveled to Las Vegas and Texas during the winter months.

He enjoyed spending time at Lake Despair, Ontario, at his cabin, loved fishing, and spending time with his grandchildren.

He also enjoyed playing cards and Texas Hold'em.

He was a member of Zion Lutheran Church.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Henry and Shirley Bradburn; sister,



Sharen Oien; and grandson, Nicholas Foss.

Roger is survived by his wife, Linda Bradburn of International Falls; son, Mike Bradburn of Twig, Minn.; daughter, Stacy (Larry) Foss of International Falls; grandchildren, Zachary, Alissa, Kelsey and Rachel; and his dog, “Riley.”

Memorial services are planned for 2 p.m. Monday, July 22, at Zion Lutheran Church.

Condolences may be left at www.greenlarsen.com.

Arrangements are with Green-Larsen Mortuary Inc., International Falls.

FUNERALS

Earl ‘Punk’ Palmquist, 86

Memorial services for Earl “Punk” Palmquist, 86, of International Falls, who passed away Saturday, July 6, 2013, were conducted at 10 a.m. Saturday, July 13, at Zion Lutheran Church.

Officiating was the Rev. Stephen Olson.

Music was by Joe Belanger.

Interment was at Forest Hill Cemetery.

Military rites were accorded by Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2948, with flag presentation by Wayne Sampson and Dale Henrickson.

Arrangements were with Green-Larsen Mortuary Inc., International Falls.

Robert ‘Bob’ LaPage, 66

A graveside service for Robert “Bob” LaPage, 66, of International Falls, who died Wednesday, April 24, 2013, in Minneapolis, was conducted at 10 a.m. Friday,

July 12, in the Veterans of Foreign Wars section of Forest Hill Cemetery.

Officiating was the Rev. Stephen Olson.

Military rites were accorded by Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2948, with flag presentation by Wayne Sampson and Dale Henrickson.

Arrangements were with Green-Larsen Mortuary Inc., International Falls.

Elizabeth ‘Betty’ Miechkota, 69

A memorial gathering for Elizabeth “Betty” Miechkota, 69, of International Falls, who passed away Thursday, July 11, 2013, at St. Luke’s Hospital, Duluth, was conducted from 5 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, July 16, at Green-Larsen Mortuary.

Prayer service took place at 6:30.

Officiating was Deacon Fran Zaren.

Music was by Joe Belanger.

Arrangements were with Green-Larsen Mortuary Inc., International Falls.

Mabel Carlson

Mabel Carlson was born Aug. 3, 1912, to Knute and Beata Noss in the Sturgeon River area, eight miles west of Big Falls.

Her parents were homesteaders who settled there in 1900.

She grew up on the farm and attended the county grade school in Big Falls.

When she married her first husband, Van Vleck, they moved to Oregon. Several years later, she returned to Big Falls, and then married her lifetime friend, Carl Carlson.

She loved cooking and baking — when she owned and operated the Fargo Cafe in Big Falls, her customers appreciated her talent.

She was the last survivor of a family of 10 — four brothers and five sisters — when she died Feb. 8, 2013.

Both husbands and an infant son preceded her.

Survivors are two daughters, Bonnie Culbertson, living in California, and Carolyn (Smitty) Smith in Florida. She will also be missed by four grandsons — Gregory (Renee) Henkel, California; Jay (Teresa) Henkel, St. Cloud; Bradley (Georgianne) Henkel, Vening; T.J. Culbertson, California; and two step grandsons in Minneapolis — David Colby and Douglas (Pamela) Colby. She has five great-grandchildren — Brian, Brett, Christian, Dominick and Liza Henkel; and five step great-grandchildren — Michael, Alexsa, Mariah, Alex and Madeline Colby. In addition, she was loved by numerous nieces and nephews.

After her retirement, she

began babysitting, and several families adopted her as their grandmother.

In addition, she continued staying active by volunteering in her church, St. Paul Lutheran, and at Koochiching County Historical Museum.

She worked hard all her life, but declared, “I had a wonderful life.”

Mabel enjoyed her years at West Falls Estates, making new friends and enjoying visits with new and old friends alike.

Above all, she cherished her visits back to her hometown, renewing old friendships, and her Big Falls friends flocked to see her.

Hundreds of people from near and far filled Smokey Bear Park to celebrate Mabel’s 100th birthday Aug. 3, 2012. Mabel was deter-



mined to have that “kegger in the Park,” overcoming many obstacles along the way.

A final Celebration of Life is planned for 11 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 3, at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 1324 Ninth St., International Falls. Graveside services will be conducted at 4 p.m. at Evergreen Cemetery. Big Falls.

Melons in Minnesota, grow what you love

Learn to grow what you love to eat! Many people really enjoy eating watermelons and cantaloupe. If you have a very sunny spot in your garden with as close to 10 hours of sunlight as you can get, provide some fairly rich soil and a little work, then melons can be grown in your home garden here in northern Minnesota.

It may take you a few years to find a strategy and seeds that will work well for both your preferences and for our northern Minnesota climate. My first try on both cantaloupe and watermelons was a total failure. On my second year I paid a little more attention to the number of days to harvest and read a little more about what it takes to have a successful melon crop and I had better success.

The first part of growing melons successfully here in northern Minnesota is finding a way to start the seeds indoors — generally with “grow lights” or simple fluorescent lights. If you are lucky, you might find a garden center that has started them for you. Try to get the cantaloupe or watermelon started



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MARKESON
MASTER GARDENER

indoors about five weeks before transplanting them outdoors after the last frost of the spring.

Ready your transplant location by mounding up a slightly raised hill of rich soil with a diameter of two to four feet. Leave plenty of space for your melon to vine; trying to have six feet or more from the center of the mound for the vines. In order to keep the moisture in and to help provide heat for these heat loving plants, a good next step is to anchor some black “poly” over the raised hill. Transplant three melons in each hill quickly, trying to avoid exposing the roots to any direct sunlight as that can damage the roots.

My current favorite watermelon is the

‘Blacktail Mountain’ variety, which claims about 70 days to maturity from time of transplanting them into your garden. This variety has a fairly small area of vining if this is a concern. I also liked the ‘Sweet Siberian’ watermelon which has about 85 to 90 days to maturity and a larger vining area. The ‘Sweet Siberian’ was very tasty, but not everyone appreciated the yellow color of the fruit. I have found all of my favorite melon seeds at Seed Savers Exchange.

One challenging problem with growing watermelons is determining when they are ripe. I started out with the “thumping for a hollow sound” method, and had only modest success in determining when the watermelons were ripe. I then read about a method of looking at the tendril that is right across from where the watermelon is attached to the vine. When that little tendril appears dried up, there is a good chance that the watermelon is ripe.

The traditional cantaloupes that we find at the supermarket are a little difficult to grow successfully here

in northern Minnesota. The cantaloupes that I have grown to appreciate are the “French” type of cantaloupe, and particularly the ‘Charantais’ variety. This variety is sized about right for two servings, and I think is extra tasty. Growing them takes 75 to 90 days to maturity from transplanting. There are some other varieties with shorter times to maturity, such as the ‘Minnesota Midget,’ but I have not tried that variety. My one hill of ‘Charantais’ provided about 50 cantaloupes last year.

To find reliable information about gardening and other horticultural topics, go to the University of Minnesota Extension website <http://www.extension.umn.edu/gardeninfo/>. Local master gardeners will answer your gardening questions via a voice-mail service. Call 444-7916, leaving your phone number, name and the nature of your question. A volunteer master gardener will give you a call.

ROTARY GUEST



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Darrell Dobson was the guest of Rotarian Donna McClellan at a recent meeting of the International Falls Rotary Club. Dobson is a Vietnam veteran and a dog lover who started a local effort entitled Pets for Vets. He matches up homeless dogs from Fort Frances and International Falls to veterans or anyone that would benefit from having a dog.

Low interest rate available for housing repair loans

USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Very-low income households in need of home repairs may qualify for a one percent home improvement loan offered by United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development.

A qualified applicant must have an income below the established maximum income limits, demonstrate credit worthiness and repayment ability.

The program offers a

maximum loan amount of \$20,000 with a repayment term of 20 years depending upon repayment ability. No real estate mortgage is required for loans below \$7,500.

For more information or to request an appointment, call the USDA, Rural Development Office at 218-751-1942, ext. 4 or write to USDA, Rural Development, 3217 Bemidji Ave. N., Bemidji, MN 56601. Visit the USDA website at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/mn>.

Thank You All!

For the support our Family has received during this difficult time.

From the Family of
Jim McKelvey

Happy 75th Birthday
Joanne
July 19th
Wife, Mother, Grandmother, and Great-Grandmother

It's Party Time!

Come help us celebrate
Rachel Amidon's Graduation
and her 19th Birthday.

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July 27th from 2-4 pm
At 405 5th St • RSVP to Renee
218-283-2098 or 218-324-3046