

LOOKINGBACK

BLAST FROM THE PAST

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25 YEARS AGO
Pat Soboleski of Minneapolis was the Class A winner of the 13th annual Mermaid Rock Regatta. Warren Wagness took second and Patty Ross took third.

The International Falls School Board recently accepted the resignation of playground supervisor Florence Etienne with thanks and regret.

40 YEARS AGO
A girl was born yesterday at Falls Memorial Hospital to Mr. and Mrs. Kent Millette.

A boy was born yesterday at Falls Memorial Hospital

to Mr. and Mrs. William Cole Jr.

50 YEARS AGO
Today Pam Woods, 13, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Woods, Ranier, can smile at you from her wheelchair because 11 days ago her friend, Judy Vergona, 14, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Vergona, Detroit, Mich., rescued her during a swimming accident.

Mr. and Mrs. Francis Kohlhasse and son, Kent, 9 months, Anchorage, Alaska, are here for a visit with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J.C. Kohlhasse, Morrison Road. Kohlhasse is a detective with

the Anchorage police department.

The Chessmen teenage dance combo won first place in the group competition at the Timbertennial Variety Show held in Backus Auditorium for a capacity crowd Sunday evening. Members are Paul Lucca, guitar; Lynn Schwankl, drums; Terry Bunnis, guitar; and Nick Kostiuik, saxophone.

Crowning moment at the seventh annual Timbertennial celebration came Saturday night at coronation ceremonies in Sports Stadium when Janet Anderson was named to rule over Borderland in 1963-64 as

Queen VII. Queen Janet's senior princess is Kalleen McMicken and junior princess is Virginia Bishop.

60 YEARS AGO
Peggy Lee Effertz entertained 14 little girls at a lawn party Sunday in celebration of her fourth birthday anniversary which is today.

A son was born today at Falls Memorial Hospital to Mr. and Mrs. William Blais, weight, 9 pounds, 4 ounces. Name chosen, Dennis.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Boyum, 100 13th St., announce the engagement

of their daughter, Lois, to Lawrence Braaten Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Braaten Sr., South International Falls.

Stanley Kuttess, Loman Route, left by bus for Klamath Falls, Ore., to visit Gene Bolter, formerly of the Falls.

70 YEARS AGO
A daughter, Nancy Jo Ann, was born this morning at the Laurion Maternity Home to Mr. and Mrs. Harry Noland of Littlefork.

A member of the Air Defense Wing in San Diego, Pvt. Ronald White writes: "You can send some of the

Minnesota weather down here. It's so hot here that the tar on the highway looks like rainwater. The hottest it has been is 135 degrees."

Planning to help with the harvesting, John Magnussen of Clark's Colony left for Sioux Falls, S.D., where he will stay with his brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. L.E. Johnson. He will attend school this year in Sioux Falls.

Al Domish was honored by friends and relatives at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Domish. Mr. Domish will leave Sunday for Fort Snelling.

CAMP

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Camp Kooch's leadership structure has changed considerably over the years, and its current, official name is the Camping and Education Foundation, and is a 501C3 non-profit organization. This non-profit status has helped the camp gain more acreage over the years, foundation president Hugh Haller said.

"People would donate their land on Deer Island to us, and since we were a non-profit, they could use it as a tax write-off," he said.

Camp Kooch is now the only occupant of Deer Island, which is 600 acres, 50 of which is camp site. The rest is undeveloped woodland, and will remain that way because of a stipulation from a major land donor, the Ernest Oberholtzer Foundation, Haller said.

There are countless activities for campers at both camps, ranging from archery to sailing, rock climbing to wood crafting. The camps also offer a variety of activities from Native Ameri-

can culture, mainly the Ojibwe and Chippewa tribes, which are the local tribes, Heinle said.

"We really try and teach the native ways, and the respect for nature comes through that," Heinle said.

The fostered sense of community extends out past the camp, which has a healthy relationship with Voyageurs National Park, as well as a very "symbiotic relationship" with International Falls, Haller said.

"We help Voyageurs a lot, by helping them clear their trails, doing things like that," he said.

The camp's relationship with International Falls is more complex. Many of the campers come from out of town, and outnumber the local campers. But the camp also brings in parents who come and visit, stay in local resorts and hotels, and go to local restaurants, which all brings in revenue for local businesses, Haller said. There's also more local kids attending camp now "than ever before," he said.

"We also have 25 percent of our campers on scholarship so they can attend," he said. "We're

also talking with local businesses about having sponsored scholarships."

There's a lot of reciprocity in their relationship with the community. Businesses will donate time and expertise to helping the campers and staffers build and fix things at the camp site, which was built with camper labor, Heinle said. Some of these businesses are run by former campers who want to give back to the camp, like Northern Lumber's Richard Thompson, who's been involved with Camp Kooch since 1966.

Don Balenger is another such case. Balenger, a local metalworker and artist, has lent his unique touch to much of the new metalwork at Camp Ogichi. His creative additions to the new sauna, as well as other pieces throughout the camp have added a fun touch to otherwise mundane features, Dix said.

As a mainstay in the community with a solid donor base, Camp Kooch and Camp Ogichi look to continue teaching children the values of community and respect, as well as the difference between needs and wants, for years to come.

GRANT

► continued from A1

the city when the grant was in jeopardy of being retracted by the state. State officials questioned significant changes in the plans for the district than were originally stated in the grant application.

In addition, Anderson said the grant funds should be placed in the city's accounts, not the EDA accounts because the city was provided the grant.

"Intentional or unintentional, they credited the wrong account," he said of action taken by the council in December. He stressed that the EDA and the city are separate legal entities, as is made clear in the grant documents, which he said refer to the EDA as a third party.

The third reason for not signing the documents, he said, is that the council did not take action to accept the grant extension provided recently by the state.

Anderson said if the city does not comply with the terms of the grant, yet spends the money, the state can retain money from the city's local government aid allocation.

But Rognerud said nearly \$300,000 has already been spent in moving a leachate collection line

from the property. She said that should fulfill much of the required match.

Anderson said the money was spent by the EDA, not the city. He said that while the EDA money is, like city money, taxpayer generated, the money already spent by the EDA is not credited to the city as its required match.

And, Rognerud said Anderson indicated the previous day to her he would not sign the documents until he was designated the lead for seeking shovel-ready certification for the site.

"You are using your power to sign the grant for political purpose," she said. "That's inappropriate."

Rognerud asked the council add to her motion acceptance of the grant agreement and extension.

Anderson apologized and said his comment about taking the lead on the certification was in appropriate, but he still wanted to lead the effort.

"But finances are key," he said of the grant. "I will not sign until I know our finances are in order. Take to me court and let the courts decide."

The discussion prompted a plea for cooperation by Councilor Pete Kalar. Dressed in his Koochiching County jailer/dispatch uniform, he said he was disappointed he had to leave his

work for a special meeting to deal with the issue.

He told fellow councilors while he didn't understand the technical issues involved, he said it's easy to understand the grant should be placed in the city's accounts.

"I don't care who is in charge... We need to come to consensus to move forward otherwise, who will want to work with us?," he said referring to clients for the district. "I don't understand why it's hard to move the funds... I don't want to hear (the phrase) 'end run' again unless I am watching football. I do understand the political games. Maybe that's why we don't have the city administrator applicants we want."

Councilor Cynthia Jaksa suggested the city take action to authorize the EDA to take the lead on the multimodal district, which she said she believed would resolve the issue of where the funds should be placed.

In addition, she told Anderson that she appreciated his leadership skills and valuable contacts. And she said the city has a "gifted ED director," referring to Mason. "I don't see why the ED director and city can't work together. We keep reliving this and coming back to it."

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