

LOCALNEWS

Is it flip-flop season yet?

BY EMILY GEDDE
Staff Writer

Mother Nature hasn't been very convincing that Borderland is now more than a full month into spring.

Between record-breaking snowfall amounts and low temperatures, the weather trophy case is stocked at the end of April.

Precipitation for the month was right on target, however, it was colder than normal, according to the National Weather Service in Duluth's website.

The average temperature landed at 34.6 degrees – 4.7 degrees below the normal of 39.3 degrees, making it the 13th coldest April in NWS recorded history.

"We only had four days with temperatures above normal," said Steve Gohde, observing program leader at the NWS.

Two daily temperatures records were set: The 15th with 5 degrees and the 18th with 15 degrees. Not exactly gardening weather just yet and definitely below normal for the end of April, Gohde said.

"Seeing temps dip to almost zero (degrees) is certainly not uncommon for this time of year in northern Minnesota, but it does seem unusual," he said.

And how about that wind?

Earlier this week, wind gusts reached as high as 45 miles per hour knocking out power and causing other minor damage.

Amy Rutledge, corporate communications manager for Minnesota Power, said Monday's power outage lasted from around 10 a.m. to 10:45 a.m., and affected

More Online

For a complete forecast, visit www.crh.noaa.gov/dlh.

about 800 people locally. High winds knocked a tree onto a power line, which crews worked quickly to remove, she said.

The culprit?

Gohde said a huge low pressure system moved slowly over the area to bring the North Dakota-like winds to Borderland. It was the same system, he said, that brought deadly tornadoes and almost two feet of rain to other parts of the country.

"International Falls was on the very northern extent of that system," the meteorologist said. "It is pretty unusual for wind speeds to reach gusts of 30 or more miles per hour for the duration of almost 48 hours. That wind was pretty persistent."

Wind and cold aside, precipitation amounts for the fourth month of 2014 fell right in line with what meteorologists consider normal.

Rainfall amounts totaled 1.53 inches for the month. Snowfall, however, came in a little higher.

A total of 7.2 inches of snow fell during April's 30 days, which is 0.8 inches above normal. Still, it was only the 24th snowiest April in NWS history.

The 2.8 inches of snow that fell April 24 broke a daily record over the previous record of 0.5 inches set in 1959.

Many Borderlanders might have grumbled at the sight of the white stuff on the ground again, however Gohde said the snow pack this year will help



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Becky Nelson shared this photo of her trampoline after the wind got done with it Monday. Nelson reports the trampoline traveled about 150 yards from the back of her yard to the front.

April weather facts:

- The highest temperature for the month was 62 degrees on the 19th and 20th
- The greatest amount of precipitation in a 24-hour period occurred on the 24th to the 25th when 0.68 inches of rain was recorded
- At least a trace of precipitation was reported on 19 days
- The month ranked No. 42 for the wettest in NWS history
- The average wind speed for the month was 9.3 miles per hour

reduce any minor flooding risks.

"The early December snowfall insulated the ground and limited the frost depth," he said. "We only had about 15 inches of frost under that snow, which is pretty low."

Gohde noted, however, frost may have been more severe under roadways causing water pipes to burst.

In addition, little or no heavy rainfall also helps eliminate unwanted standing water and flood-

ed basements.

"When we had the stretch of five warm days at the end of March and early April, we got lucky there wasn't any heavy rainfall," Gohde said. "Mother Nature timed the spring runoff really well."

The outlook for May follows the same pattern this winter and early spring has set in Borderland. Weather service officials predict the month to bring below normal temperatures and near normal precipitation.

NORTHLAND ART SOCIETY



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

NAS member Helen O'Brien awards a draw prize at the April 26 Northland Art Society fundraiser at the Moose Club.

NAS fundraiser deemed success

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

Northland Art Society raised \$844 at its April 26 fundraiser at the Moose Club.

NAS member Diana Kangas said organizers were pleased with the results because the event raised about \$200 more than the previous year.

The money will be used to repair the society's old glass-pottery kiln as well as to help offset its overall operational costs in an effort by the non-profit charity to keep membership dues as low as possible, Kangas noted.

About 75 people participated in the pork roast dinner fundraiser. The event included 17 basket prizes filled with one-of-a-kind artwork hand crafted by Northland Art Society members. Tickets for the baskets were sold for \$1 each and participants dropped their tickets into the baskets they hoped to win. The fundraiser also featured a 50-50 draw, as well as a meat draw from donations from Super One, a fish draw from donations from Sportsman's Service and a fruit basket door

prize donated by County Market.

"The Moose members are a jolly bunch to work with and they were very grateful for the good turn out as proceeds from their pork roast dinner go to funding their charities of choice," said Kangas.

NAS's next fundraiser will be the Backus Holiday Shopping & Craft Festival Nov. 29. "This is right at our door step so we also host an open house to try to increase our membership," said Kangas.

People who were not able to get to the fundraiser can donate by cash or check to the Northland Art Society by dropping by the NAS art room, located in the Backus Community Center, Room 114, between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. from Monday through Thursday. Contributors will receive a tax deductible receipt for their donation, see members in the art room creating hand-crafted art work, and tour the facilities, said Kangas.

Community members can soon view some of the NAS artwork at the Voyageur Restaurant, U.S. Highway 53.

LOMAN
RURAL FIRE
DEPT.
ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL
MEETING
TUESDAY,
MAY 6TH AT 7PM.
**Bethany Lutheran
Church Hall, Loman**

Join us at Island View Realty for an **Everyone Welcome**

Open House

Wednesday, May 7th • Noon – 6 p.m.

Come and meet the team!
Refreshments Served

Bring an item for the food shelf!

ISLAND VIEW REALTY
218-285-7060
ISLANDVIEWREALTY.COM

CITY OF INTERNATIONAL FALLS STATE OF MINNESOTA MAYORAL PROCLAMATION PROCLAIMING MENTAL HEALTH MONTH MAY 2014

WHEREAS, mental health is essential to everyone's overall health and well-being; and

WHEREAS, all Americans experience times of difficulty and stress in their lives; and

WHEREAS, prevention is an effective way to reduce the burden of mental health conditions; and

WHEREAS, there is a strong body of research that supports specific tools that all Americans can use to better handle challenges, and protect their health and well-being; and

WHEREAS, mental health conditions are real and prevalent in our nation; and

WHEREAS, with effective treatment, those individuals with mental health conditions can recover and lead full, productive lives; and

WHEREAS, each business, school, government agency, healthcare provider, organization and citizen shares the burden of mental health problems and has a responsibility to promote mental wellness and support prevention efforts.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, I Mayor Robert W. Anderson of International Falls, Minnesota, do hereby proclaim May 2014 as Mental Health Month. As the Mayor of International Falls, I also call upon the citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses and schools to recommit our community to increasing awareness and understanding of mental health, the steps our citizens can take to protect their mental health, and the need for appropriate and accessible services for all people with mental health conditions.

Robert W. Anderson
Robert W. Anderson
Mayor of International Falls, MN

Relax & enjoy *Mother's Day* with us at our house.

SUNDAY, MAY 11TH 2014

Mother's Day Buffet ~ 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

- Rosemary Pork Loin • Lemon Chicken • Chef Carved Roast Beef
 - Mashed Potatoes & Gravy • Gourmet Potato Casserole
 - Alfredo Pasta • Whole Green Beans • Honey Glazed Carrots
 - Egg Bakes • Homemade Dinner Rolls • Full Salad Bar
 - Grandma's Homemade Dessert Bar
- Adults \$14.99 Seniors \$12.99 Children 6-12 \$9.99
Kids 5 & under Free (1 per adult)

*Plated Mother's Day Dinner
in the dining room ~ 4 p.m. to 9 p.m.*

- Rosemary Pork Loin or Roast Beef • Mashed Potatoes & Gravy
- Vegetable • Popover • Tossed Salad *only \$11.99*



Lenard's
Bar, Restaurant and Catering Services
In the new AmericInn in International Falls (former Holiday Inn)

RESERVATIONS RECOMMENDED 218-283-4800
We cannot guarantee seating without a reservation.

*We are now open Sunday
evenings until 8 p.m.*