

COMMUNITYNEWS

ASK A TROOPER

Check and double check tires

Q: How do you determine if your tires are unsafe?

A: Tire talk is important for anytime of the year. But now as we get into the winter and snow season, it's an important time to double check the only thing keeping you on the highway. According to Minnesota State Statute 169.723 a tire shall be considered unsafe if it has:

- 1. Any part of the ply or cord exposed; or
- 2. Any bump, bulge or separation; or
- 3. a tread design depth of less than 2/32 (1/16) of an inch measured in the tread groove nearest the center of the tire at three locations equally spaced around the circumference of the tire, exclusive of tie bars or for those tires with tread wear indicators; or
- 4. Been worn to the level of the tread wear indicators in any two tread grooves at three locations; or
- 5. A marking "not for highway use," or "for racing purposes only," or "unsafe for highway use;" or
- 6. Tread or sidewall cracks, cuts or snags deep enough to expose the body cords

My best advice is to keep a regular eye on your tires. Check the tire pressure often. A tire can be as much as 50 percent under inflated before it is visibly noticeable. So take a pressure gauge to each tire and know what your tire pressure should be at. Routine maintenance is good insurance: Rotate and



Sgt. Neil
DICKENSON
MINNESOTA STATE PATROL

balance according to your vehicle owner's manual.

Alignments are important also. Some signs that you might need an alignment: Your car pulls or drifts away from a straight line. You have rapid or uneven tire wear. The spokes of your steering wheel are off to one side while driving on a straight and level road.

By just taking a few seconds to walk around your vehicle before each time you get in to go anywhere, can pay off. I know it has for me. Not only in my personal car, but my squad car as well. Speaking from personal and professional experience, the "snow" tires I run at this time of the year have made all the difference in my traveling throughout some of the deepest snow and treacherous conditions. I would not want to be without them.

If you have any questions concerning traffic related laws in Minnesota, send your questions to: Sgt. Neil Dickenson, Minnesota State Patrol, 1131 Mesaba Ave., Duluth, MN, 55811. Or reach me at neil.dickenson@state.mn.us.

BORDERLAND BRIEFS

LONGEST NIGHT/REFLECTION SERVICE

The public is welcome to prepare for Christmas at the Longest Night/Reflection Service planned for 7 p.m. Sunday at Faith United Church of Christ, 1001 Fifth St. Refreshments and conversation will follow.

BOOK CLUB

Rainy River Book Club will meet at noon Saturday at Lenard's. Book for discussion is "Salt" by Mark Kurlansky. All book lovers are welcome.

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS GROUP

OverEaters Anonymous support group will meet at 4 p.m. Sundays at Evolve Fitness Center, 1301 Third St. No fees or dues are required.

PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB

Northwood Shutterbug Photography Club will meet at 6 p.m. tonight in the downstairs meeting room of International Falls Public Library. Everyone is welcome. 'MUSIC IN THE DUNGEON'

"Music in The Dungeon" continues at 2 p.m. Sunday with a concert of Christmas music presented by the Community Band. A Christmas laser show is included in the performance. The public is welcome. Donations of \$10 (children \$5) are accepted, with proceeds to benefit the promotion of music in the community. The elevator will be open for use. Refreshments will be served. For information, visit mrfaithslasers.com or Facebook "Faiths Dungeon".

LIBRARY STORYTIME

Storytime at 10:30 a.m. Thursday at International Falls Public Library will feature about 30 minutes of holiday stories followed by about 30 minutes of play. For all children prior to entering kindergarten.

CALENDAR

TODAY

- Retired Boise Cascade electricians, wives/guests, 9 a.m., Coffee Landing Cafe.
- Retired Boise Cascade papermakers, wives/guests, 9 a.m., Lenard's.
- Walk-ercise group, 10-11 a.m., Backus Community Center gymnasium.
- Littlefork Ambulance Thrift Shop open, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Northland Art Society open, various arts, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Backus, Room 114.
- Wednesday Study Group, 10:15 a.m., Faith United Church of Christ.
- East Koochiching Area Sanitary District Board, 11 a.m., Sanitary District Boardroom, 1412 Highway 71.
- Salvation Army Advisory Council, noon, Salvation Army building.
- Girl Guards, Sunbeams and Adventure Corps, 4:30-6 p.m., The Salvation Army.
- Free At Last, 4:30-6:30 p.m., Forestland Annex, lower level conference room.
- International Falls Recreation Commission Board, 5:45 p.m., city council chambers.
- Reflect and Refresh – Walk the Labyrinth, 5-6:30 p.m., Holy Trinity Episcopal Church.
- Northland Art Society open, various arts, 5:30-8 p.m., Backus, Room 114.
- Northwood Shutterbug Photography Club, 6 p.m., International Falls Public Library, basement meeting room.
- Narcotics Anonymous, 6 p.m., Alano Club.
- Men's Non-Violence Group, 6-8 p.m., Friends Against Abuse office.
- Members and guests Elks Lodge 1599 Wednesday Meal, 6:30 p.m., chicken cordon bleu.
- Little Lambs (3 years to kindergarten) and King's Kids (1st-5th grades), Youth Group (6th grade-up), 6:30-7:30 p.m., Full Gospel Fellowship Church.
- Rainy Lake Sportfishing Club, 7 p.m., Americlnn.
- Alcoholics Anonymous, 7:30 p.m., Alano Club.

THURSDAY

- Bone Builders, 10-11:30 a.m., Woodland Apartments.
- Littlefork Ambulance Thrift Shop open, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Falls Hunger Coalition Food Shelf open, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., 1000 Fifth St.

- Northland Art Society open, various arts, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Backus, Room 114.
- Storytime, 10:30 a.m., International Falls Public Library.
- Falls High School Class of 1960, 11:30 a.m., Lenard's.
- Servants of Shelter board, noon, St. Thomas Parish office.
- Ostomy support group, 2:30 p.m., Essentia Health-International Falls Clinic.
- Weight Watchers, 4:45-5:15 p.m. weigh-in; 5:15 meeting, Zion Lutheran Church.
- Community Café, free meals served, 5:30-6 p.m., lasagna, corn, garlic bread, Backus Community Center.
- Moose Burgers Supper, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Moose Lodge.
- Beginner's Tae Kwon Do, 5:45 p.m., Falls Elementary School gymnasium or cafeteria.
- The Lamplighters, women's support group for survivors of childhood sexual abuse, 6-8 p.m., Friends Against Abuse, 407 Fourth St.
- St. Thomas Bingo — Bonanza, 6:45 p.m.; Bingo, 7, Aquinas Hall.
- Pool, 7 p.m., Viking.
- Line Dancing, 7 p.m., Moose Lodge.
- Alcoholics Anonymous, 7:30 p.m., Alano Club.

FRIDAY

- Last Day for Mitten Tree, Moose Lodge.
- Walk-ercise group, 10-11 a.m., Backus Community Center gymnasium.
- Falls Hunger Coalition Food Shelf open, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., 1000 Fifth St.
- Serenity Sisters, Women's A.A., noon, Backus, Rational Alternatives, Room 101.
- Flu Shots, noon-4 p.m., Koochiching County Public Health Department.
- Members and guests Elks Lodge 1599 Friday Light Meal, 5:30 p.m., chicken breast sandwiches.
- Narcotics Anonymous, 6 p.m., Alano Club.
- For Those in Need, Addiction Recovery, 7 p.m., The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, 1340 Keenan Drive.
- Alcoholics Anonymous, 7:30 p.m., Alano Club, 410 Fifth Ave.

SATURDAY

- Rainy River Book Club, noon, Lenard's.
- Bingo, 1 p.m.; adult Christmas party, 6, potluck and turkey Bingo, Moose Lodge.
- Alcoholics Anonymous, 7 p.m., Alano Club.

LOTTERY

Sunday's Daily 3
1, 7, 9
Sunday's Northstar Cash
3, 4, 15, 22, 29
Friday's Gopher 5
1, 6, 8, 14, 17

Saturday's Hot Lotto
5, 21, 32, 35, 38
Hot Ball
8
Friday's Mega Millions
2, 31, 46, 58, 65

Mega Ball
7
Saturday's Powerball
5, 13, 28, 43, 55
Powerball
33

POLICE REPORT

Minnesota State Patrol

Rollover: A logging truck driven by Kenneth Mortenson, 49, of International Falls, rolled into the ditch near U.S. Highway 53 and Ash River Road at about 6 a.m. Monday, striking another vehicle in the process. The northbound logging truck trailer drifted onto the shoulder, causing an over correction and loss of control, said the State Patrol. Jeffrey Lopeman, 59, of Mahtowa, was pulling an enclosed trailer with his pickup truck and made contact with the truck. Mortenson's logging rig was totaled, while Lopeman's

truck had severe damage. Both drivers were taken to Rainy Lake Medical Center in International Falls with non-life-threatening injuries, said the Minnesota State Patrol.

International Falls Police Department

Arrests: Three adults and one juvenile were arrested Sunday when a search warrant conducted at Riverview Boulevard resulted in the seizure of nearly one ounce of methamphetamine, according to Cpt. Tom Lynch. As of Monday afternoon, the suspects remained in custody at the Koochiching County Jail awaiting

an initial appearance in Koochiching County District Court.

Koochiching County Sheriff's Office

Kitchen fire: Two women, ages 53 and 36, were burned in a grease fire reported on Highway 332 Dec. 12. The report said the women were burned when a grease fire started in a pan on the stove, and it appears they attempted to extinguish the fire by throwing the pan in a sink. The women were splattered with grease, causing burns. They were taken to a burn unit at a Duluth hospital for treatment of second-degree burns, said the report.

International Falls Journal

Red Wing Publishing Co.
1602 U.S. Highway 71
International Falls, MN 56649

Published Wednesday and Saturday except on holidays
Periodicals postage paid at International Falls, MN 56649

To reach us:

Phone: (218) 285-7411
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Web site: ifallsjournal.com

To subscribe:

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Postmaster and subscribers send address changes to: The Journal, 1602 Highway 71, International Falls, MN 56649.

New subscribers may send a check to same address.

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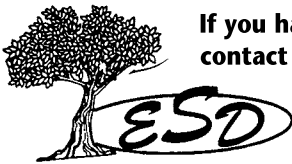
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HOLIDAY CLOSING

The Solid Waste Transfer Station/ Recycling Center holiday hours:

- Wednesday, Dec. 24 - Open 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon
- Thursday, Dec. 25 - Closed
- Friday, 26 - Resume normal hours - Monday thru Friday 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m., Saturday 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.
- Thursday, Jan. 1 - Closed



If you have any questions please contact the Koochiching County Environmental Services Department at 283-1157

TRIMMED WITH A WISH

Here's hoping your holiday is a cut above the rest! We loved every minute of serving you this year, thanks!

Amp Salon

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