

# LEISURE

## FUN IN BORDERLAND

The Journal welcomes ideas for stories about people in our community who have interesting pastimes or hobbies.  
**Call the Journal at 285-7411**

# Pianos of a different color

BY EMILY GEDDE  
Staff Writer

In an effort to get more people in tune with their musical side, public pianos are expected to be placed around International Falls and Ranier.

Five pianos are expected to be hand painted by students May 24 to be placed at Ranier Park, the dock at the Spruce Street landing, City Beach and Backus Community Center.

The Ranier City Council in February approved a motion allowing the Ranier Recreation Club to seek grants from Koochiching Community Development Association to fund the instruments.

The Ranier “Keys to the City” project would place three pianos in public spaces for anyone to

play. A similar project, the “Play Me, I’m Yours” project places painted pianos in public spaces worldwide for anyone to play.

A grant of \$3,175 was given to the rec club by KCDA for the three pianos and two additional pianos were donated by community members, according to Lindsey Goulet, rec club board member.

“Through partnerships with the local art and music community, the Keys to the City program will help to promote and bring together different artists, various groups and enable individuals to feel part of something,” Goulet said.

To make the pianos more touchable, approachable and playable, local students will be asked to participate in a May 24 event in the parking lot at Backus Com-

### Learn to play

Beginning June 4, free weekly piano classes will be offered at the Ranier Park piano from 10-11 a.m. Lessons by local pianists will run through Aug. 7 and will be held in the Ranier Community Building in the event of rain.

munity Center to paint the instruments with a theme reflective of the area.

“We will be dividing the pianos by grades from preschool to eighth grade,” said Denise Kulig, Northland Art Society member. Art society members will mentor children as they put their creative sides to work painting the pianos.

“We would also like some older students in ninth grade

on up to come out and help with the smaller children,” Kulig added. “This would be a great event for art students and students going into the education field.”

Any and all students are welcome to participate in the painting event which is expected to begin at 9 a.m. May 24. A free lunch provided by the local Lion’s Club will be available for the hungry artists.

Ranier Mayor Dennis Wagner said once the pianos are installed, they are available for anyone and everyone.

“They become a blank canvas for public creativity,” he said. “Maybe a piano, I thought, could be a catalyst for connecting people and starting conversations about how they can make the community better together.”

## LORIE LINE TO PERFORM



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

**In honor of her 25th year of touring, Lorie Line and her Fab Five will take the Backus Community Center stage at 3 p.m. Sunday. Tickets for the show are \$39 for reserved seating and \$34 for groups. Line is expected to be in the Backus lobby following the performance to pose for photos and sign autographs.**

# Festival to celebrate 75th anniversary of ‘The Wizard of Oz’

### JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

For the 39th consecutive year, the Judy Garland Museum in Grand Rapids, the birthplace of Judy Garland, is celebrating the entertainer and her timeless film, “The Wizard of Oz,” during its week-long Wizard of Oz Festival, June 10-15.

“All of us at the Judy Garland Museum are incredibly excited to celebrate the 75th anniversary

of The Wizard of Oz during this year’s Wizard of Oz Festival,” said John Kelsch, director of the museum. “The film has become an iconic part of American history, and we are proud to be a part of preserving and celebrating its legacy.”

In recognition of the 75th anniversary of The Wizard of Oz and the movie’s enduring heritage, this year’s festival, formerly the Judy Garland Festival, includes a number of special events.

Kicking off this year’s festivities is the opening of a new Wizard of Oz exhibit at the Judy Garland Museum. The exhibit includes 3,000 items related to the movie, including the carriage that heralded Dorothy and her friends into the Emerald City, an original Winkie Guard spear used at the Wicked Witch of the West’s castle, Dorothy’s Adrian-designed 1938 pinafore test dress, Oz set design watercol-

ors from 1938-39, original movie theatre lobby cards, and much more. The exhibit opening takes place at 10 a.m. June 10 at the museum, 2727 Highway 169 in Grand Rapids.

Mid-week, festival organizers hope to break the Guinness World Record for the most fully costumed Wizard of Oz characters in one place. The current record stands at 446. To break the record, 447 individuals dressed in full Wizard of

Oz recognizable character costumes must gather in one place for a minimum of five minutes. The event takes place at 5:30 p.m. June 13 on the Evergreen Terrace Lawn adjacent to the museum.

Additional festival events include a youth talent contest judged by Judy Garland’s son, Joe Luft; presentations on the making of The Wizard of Oz and the movie’s impact by notable Wizard of Oz

Historian John Fricke; the Emerald City Fest, including Horse of a Different Color Carriage rides; the Munchkin Baby Shower to benefit Baby Steps Boutique; the Toto, Too Dog Talent Contest; the Oz Film Fest, featuring three different Oz movies; and much more.

To see a complete calendar of events, including dates, times, locations, and fees, visit [www.judygarlandmuseum.com](http://www.judygarlandmuseum.com).

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### Fundraising Benefit For Theodore Kyle Bilyeu

Son of Sherry (Fiedler) and George Bilyeu, grandson of Charlene (Pickar) and Herbert Fiedler and Lorraine (Sneath) and Ted Bilyeu

**When: Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup> 2014**

**Where: Hanson's Outpost HWY 53 International Falls, MN**

**Dinner Starts at 5:00 pm**

**Karaoke begins after dinner**

For more information please visit: [www.facebook.com/helpkylerecover](http://www.facebook.com/helpkylerecover) or [www.youcaring.org/helpkylerecover](http://www.youcaring.org/helpkylerecover)

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## ORDINANCE #956

**AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING LOW BID IN THE AMOUNT OF \$410,254.50 AND AWARDING CONTRACT TO WAGNER CONSTRUCTION, INC., 3151 HWY 53, SUITE 1, INTERNATIONAL FALLS, MN 56649 FOR THE CITY OF INTERNATIONAL FALLS 2013 MULTI-MODAL DISTRIBUTION CENTER SITE IMPROVEMENTS**

The City Council of the City of International Falls, Minnesota, does ordain as follows:

**SECTION I.** The advertisement for bids for the furnishing of all labor, materials and equipment for the City of International Falls 2013 Multi-Modal Distribution Center Site Improvements has been published, and all other acts required by law performed, and that in reply thereto, bids were received and, after due consideration, the City Council deemed the low bid of Wagner Construction, Inc., 3151 Hwy 53, Suite 1, International Falls, MN 56649, in the amount of \$410,254.50 being the most favorable bid, and said bid was duly accepted subject to passing of this Ordinance.

**SECTION II.** The Mayor and City Administrator are hereby authorized to enter into contract with Wagner Construction, Inc., 3151 Hwy 53, Suite 1, International Falls, MN 56649 for the furnishing of all labor, materials and equipment for the City of International Falls 2013 Multi-Modal Distribution Center Site Improvements in accordance with approved specifications, and the filing of a performance bond for the faithful performance of this contract, said low bid being on file in the Office of the City Administrator.

**SECTION III.** This Ordinance shall be in effect after publication.

Passed its first reading this 7th day of April 2014.  
Passed its second and final reading this 5th day of May 2014.

Robert W. Anderson, Mayor

Attest:   
Kenneth R. Anderson, City Administrator

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