

# LOCALNEWS

## Community group begins Tuesday

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

A new schedule of “Great Decisions,” a community discussion group, is out and sessions are expected to begin Tuesday.

Great Decisions is a citizen education and discussion program about foreign policy issues that meets monthly through April and welcomes anyone and everyone in the community to join.

Meetings, facilitated by community members, are conducted from 4 to 5:30 p.m. once a month at the International Falls Public Library meeting room in the lower level. The first meeting is set for Tuesday

### Great Decisions schedule

Date	Topic	Host
Sept. 9	China’s foreign policy	Darrell Schmidt
Oct. 7	Food and climate	Sue Nordquist
Nov. 4	Israel and the U.S.	Bob and Leanne Crompton
Jan. 6	Defense technology	Jim Jackson
Feb. 10	Energy independence	Byrne and Carole Johnson
March 10	U.S. trade policy	Bob Phillips
April 7	Islamic awakening	Vicky Hepperlen

and Darrell Schmidt will facilitate the discussion on China’s foreign policy.

The effort started locally in 2006 after Sue Nordquist attended the Minnesota International Center Great Decisions Conference in

New York. The conference inspired the former Falls High Spanish teacher to spearhead a local effort in International Falls.

The group welcomes community members of all ages and stresses high school

and college students are encouraged to attend, listen and share their views, according to a release.

If a larger group is planning to attend, it should contact Diane Adams at the library, 218-283-8051; or Nordquist, 218-283-8687. Information will be provided if notified in advance.

The local Great Decisions group is sponsored nationally by the Foreign Policy Association and coordinated by the Minnesota International Center, a nonprofit organization that hopes to inspire communities to understand global issues and cultures in the ever-changing world.

## Falls Essentia clinic adds new psychiatrist

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

The Essentia Health-International Falls Clinic has added a psychiatrist who will care for children, adolescents and adults with developmental delay.

Dr. Tim Smith joins the Essentia Health-International Falls Clinic team after earning his medical degree from the University of Minnesota Medical School in Minneapolis. He completed a residency in psychiatry at Hennepin County Medical Center in Minneapolis, and a fellowship in child and adolescent psychiatry at the University of Minnesota Medical Center-Fairview in Minneapolis.

“I came into medicine knowing I wanted to work with children in a rural setting,” Smith said in a

release. “Although I had no formal exposure to psychiatry prior to medical school, I found a field that resonated with every core belief and principle that had guided my drive to serve.”

According to the release, Smith has a special interest in caring for patients with autism and developmental delay.

“I mark the face-to-face time with this population as the highlight of any day and I love to work with the families and caregivers who are on the front lines of daily care,” he said.



Dr. Tim Smith

## Program mixes ghosts and great stories

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

Ghost stories don’t always have to be scary, and can sometimes be informative stories about the past.

The Ghosts of Voyageurs program at Voyageurs National Park seeks to inform brave participants about past historical characters from the park, including the voyageurs, gold miners, and I.W. Stevens.

The program will be presented from 8 to 9:15 p.m. Thursday and Friday and again the following week

from 8 to 9:15 Sept. 18 and 19 on the grounds of the Rainy Lake Visitors Center.

VNP staff will take participants on a lantern-lit journey through the grounds of Rainy Lake Visitors Center, and participants should meet at 7:30 at the center for check-in prior to the program, a release stated.

This is the program’s second year, and Rainy district interpreter Justin Olson said the program came about after park rangers who had worked in dif-

ferent parks mentioned similar programs at those parks. This year’s iteration of the program will feature new characters, and the lead guide will be different from last year.

“Last year the feedback was very positive, people enjoyed it quite a bit,” Olson said. “So we’re building off of that, because it was very popular.”

Olson said last year’s program featured a 30-percent limit per tour, and they filled that up quickly. This year, they’ve changed it to accommodate 50 people

per tour, and are offering it on four days, as opposed to last year, when they had it three days.

“It’s an opportunity for people to take a glimpse back into the history of voyageur country,” Olson said. “We cover a broad range of time frames, so it’s an opportunity for people to reminisce or learn something new.”

The program is free, but reservations are required and begin Monday. Call the Rainy Lake Visitors Center at 218-286-5258 for reservations.

## August chiefs reports

Reports from the International Falls police and fire chiefs were presented Tuesday to the Falls City Council.

Falls Police Chief Mike Musich provided an activity report for August. Among the activities officers took part in during the month was railroad safety training and a required table top annual exercise at the Falls International Airport. He said the exercise involves staff at the airport and is based on how to handle a specific emergency.

He said officers handled activities surrounding the International Falls Bass Championship and prepared a Wednesday meal at the Elks Lodge 1599 Aug. 27.

He said officers made 650 contacts with the public including: 434 general calls; 66 traffic stops; 39 medical assists; five agency assists;



Mike Musich

Adam Mannausau


nine attempt to locate calls; one fire assist; and 93 initial complaint reports, which are services recorded for future reference.

In addition, he said the department was involved in three projects, including handling complaints about motorcycles using a railroad grade.

He credited his officers for assisting in the prosecution of a sexual assault in which the offender was sentenced to 14 years in prison.

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A fundraiser for the re-election of  
*District 3A State Representative*  
**David Dill**  
on Monday, September 8, 2014  
at the Americinn, International Falls  
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.  
Hors 'd oeuvres • Cash Bar  
Contribution: \$50 Individual • \$100 Couple  
Your political contribution is eligible for the MN Political Contribution Refund Program.  
*Refund forms available at the gathering.*  
Prepared and Paid for by Bob Anderson, 414 Shorewood Drive

**CITY OF RANIER**  
**NOTICE OF OPEN FORUM**  
**RANIER COMMUNITY HALL**  
**9/11/14 @ 6:30 PM**  
**PROPOSED LAND USE/ZONING ORDINANCE**

**PRIOR TO THE OPEN FORUM,**  
**PLEASE REVIEW THE DRAFT LAND**  
**USE ORDINANCE ON**  
**THE CITY’S WEBSITE @ raniermn.govoffice2.com.**  
**WRITTEN COMMENTS ARE ENCOURAGED**  
**AND CAN BE PROVIDED TO THE CITY**  
**BY E-MAIL @ cityofranier@frontiernet.net**  
**OR DELIVERED TO THE CITY OFFICE.**

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