

Aili takes second

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The Journal



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STAFF PHOTOS BY SPENSER BICKETT

Carrie Erickson leads Cooper around a group of Littlefork-Big Falls students Thursday as part of a program to educate kids on how to safely interact with dogs.

Permission to pet

BY SPENSER BICKETT
Staff Writer

Northern Minnesota children are getting a hands-on lesson on how to safely interact with dogs, thanks to a Minnesota Veterinary Medical Association program.

Jenn Imbleau and Carrie Erickson stopped by the Littlefork-Big Falls School Thursday to give a presentation on preventing dog bites, which is done by knowing how to interact with all kinds of dogs. The goal of the presentation is to show kids how to have a better relationship with animals and prevent them from experiencing a dog bite, Erickson said.

With the help of their four-legged friend “Cooper,” Imbleau and Erickson shared important lessons: leave strange dogs alone, ask permission from a dog’s owner before petting a dog, and never approach a dog by running up to it.

Following these lessons can help lower the number of yearly dog bites in the U.S., which Imbleau said stands at 4.7 million right now.

“They’re coming out with a new number in the next year or so, and we’d like to see it be a lot lower,” Imbleau said.

Imbleau and Erickson have been a part of the statewide program for more than five



Jenn Imbleau, left, and Carrie Erickson show Littlefork-Big Falls students the proper way to approach a dog and pet it.

years, and have been asked to give their version of the presentation during the MVMA Conference Feb. 6-8. This is the second time they’ve given their presentation at the statewide conference, Erickson said.

Dog to A7 ➤

Jenn Imbleau, left, and Carrie Erickson show students how to get on the same level as a dog before you start petting it.



Koerter’s again robbed at knife point

Police chief urges people to lock up

BY LAUREL BEAGER
Editor

International Falls police are asking for the public’s help in solving the second armed robbery in three months at Koerter’s Amoco in International Falls.

At 6:11 p.m. Tuesday, someone entered Koerter’s Amoco, 1601 W. Second Ave., brandishing a knife and demanded the money in the cash register, Falls Police Capt. Tom Lynch reports.

The suspect fled on foot with an unknown amount of money.

A similar incident involving a robbery with a knife occurred in October. Lynch said no one was arrested in that robbery and he said it’s unknown if the two robberies are connected.

Police ask that anyone who may have been in the area of Koerter’s Amoco at the time of the robbery and may have seen something suspicious to assist by contacting police at 283-4416.

Anyone with information that could lead to an arrest in the robbery is asked to call Crime Stoppers of Minnesota at 1-800-222 TIPS (8477). Cash rewards are paid to people who provide information that leads to an arrest and conviction and callers remain anonymous.

Robbery to A7 ➤

Propane shortage and price a concern

BY LAUREL BEAGER
Editor

With a propane shortage causing costs to nearly double in just a few months, a 73-year old rural Borderland man says he has no other choice but to have it delivered and pay for it with a credit card.

With no other source of heat, the man who contacted The Journal out of concern later asked his name not be used in the story just in case the propane dealer he relies on is angry about his comments and doesn’t bring his propane.

“Then, I’ll die out here,” he said.

“I have to to buy some and I really can’t afford to do that,” he said. He wouldn’t normally pay the cost of propane with a credit card, he added.

“But I guess I got no choice,” he said.

Propane to A7 ➤

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