

# 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**

## Local woman is directing popular musical

### Debbie Griffith has spent several weeks in Moorhead directing Oklahoma!

BY EMILY GEDDE  
Staff Writer

Theater for Debbie Griffith started as something she loved, and has grown to be her passion.

While she has been known to wear many hats, the International Falls resident is currently taking on the role of managing artistic director for Gooseberry Park Players, a children's theater group based in Moorhead. This summer, the group is performing "Oklahoma!" at the Frances Frazier Comstock Theatre stage at Concordia College.

"It is rewarding to direct and encourage students to realize the value and uniqueness that each can bring to the stage everyday and then present their gifts to a live audience," she said of the job.

The show, which is scheduled to take the stage at 7 p.m.

July 16-20 and 1 p.m. July 21, has Griffith already experiencing proud moments, even before the curtain raises.

"I will be the mom standing right in front of the stage each performance clapping and yelling with my distinctive yee-haw," she said. "I am proud of my kids and proud of this production of Oklahoma!, which is about new beginnings, stepping forward and not looking back because your past doesn't have to define your future."

Oklahoma! is the first musical written by the team of composer Richard Rodgers and librettist Oscar Hammerstein II. Set in Oklahoma Territory in 1906, the play



Debbie Griffith

tells the story of cowboy Curly McLain and his romance with farm girl Laurey Williams. A secondary romance involves cowboy Will Parker and his flirtatious fiancée, Ado Annie.

The original Broadway production was a box-office smash and ran for an unprecedented 2,212 performances, later seeing award-winning revivals, national tours, foreign productions and an Academy Award-winning 1955 film adaptation. It has long been a popular choice for school and community productions, such as the project Griffith is involved with in Moorhead.

"This show has been a blessing and an honor to direct because of the staff, students, parents and board members," she said. "Life is about relationships and knowing who we are and what we can give rather than

what we can take and get. I thank God for the dream that continues and the magic of the theater."

Tickets for Oklahoma! Can be purchased by calling 218-299-3314 or online at [www.gooseberryparkplayers.org](http://www.gooseberryparkplayers.org).

#### ABOUT GRIFFITH

After graduating from Gustavus Adolphus College with degrees in speech/theater and secondary education, Griffith said she involved herself in various roles around the Twin Cities area in hopes of someday heading east to New York City to take on Broadway. However, she met and fell in love with Dan Griffith, who she has been married to for 22 years. The couple has four sons.

The Griffiths have lived in International Falls where Griffith has directed several plays, has a 60-second radio

#### If you go

**What:** Gooseberry Park Players' "Oklahoma!"  
**When:** 7 p.m. July 16-20; 1 p.m. July 21  
**Where:** Frances Frazier Comstock Theatre on the campus of Concordia College in Moorhead, Minn.  
**Cost:** \$12 for adults ages 14 and over; \$6 for children ages 13 and younger  
Tickets can be purchased by phone, 218-299-3314 or online, [www.gooseberryparkplayers.org](http://www.gooseberryparkplayers.org)

program and travels around the country as a motivational speaker.

"I am not a power point speaker, but rather use props, musical theater and dramatic characters to communicate a message," she said.

Griffith said it was during one of her speaking events that a board member from Gooseberry Park Players suggested she audition for the role of artistic director.

"The Gooseberry Park

Players provides young people with a unique educational and multi-generational summer theater experience," she said. "Youth ages 11 to 18 are invited to participate in our July production each year. Our productions are based on classic and contemporary dramatic literature designed to intrigue, inform, educate and entertain a family audience. We believe in providing a theater opportunity for every child."

## Microsoft trying to recover from Xbox One launch

BY ERIC MATHEWS  
Staff Intern

It's no secret that gamers were unhappy with the new Xbox One features. Many users announced their displeasures by posting jokes, memes, and GIF's making fun of the new console, on the internet. The price as well as the restrictions sent many dedicated Xbox fans over to Sony's PS4.

Microsoft set out to relieve the pressures on gamers by changing the Xbox One's policy. In June, the company announced that the Xbox One will not have to check into the internet once every 24 hours, even for offline games. Instead, the console will only have to be logged into the World Wide Web when first setting it up.

They also lifted their restrictions on used games,



Eric MATHEWS  
INTERNS

an act many gamers were pleased about. Now users will be able to sell their used disc-based games, and trade them with their friends.

"The sharing of games will work as it does today; you will simply share the disc." Microsoft's Don Mattrick wrote. However, games downloaded from the Marketplace cannot be sold or traded. This way, Microsoft and its custom-

ers get what they want. Users get the freedom to sell and trade their games, and Microsoft can control the trade of its digital material.

The new Xbox will also not be region locked, meaning you can take the system anywhere you want. Before, it was going to be required to leave the console in one area, and connected to the internet. Gamers wanted the freedom to pick up their console and go play it at a friend's house, something that many users do.

It is also rumored that Microsoft will make its online membership, Xbox Live, free, or reduce its membership price, in order to make it cheaper than Sony's PS4 in the long run. The reason behind the two consoles' price differences are the cameras. Yes, the PS4 was going to come with

a camera.

Sony's original plans were to integrate its camera, which was known as the PS4 Eye, into its new console, just like Microsoft did with the Kinect 2. The company dropped the idea, however, to beat Microsoft on price.

If the camera was included, the price is estimated to have been \$499, just like the Xbox. This sudden drop of hardware rendered one of the consoles unique feature, the Dualshock 4 controller's LED light, useless. The camera will be available, however, at a separate price of \$59.99.

Microsoft may still sacrifice some of its features, or highlight some new ones, in order to win back some of its customers. Their effort may pay off when both systems launch in fall.

## MAKING ART



STAFF PHOTO BY ERIC MATHEWS

**Northland Art Society member Kathie Fluke cleans a bowl she just fired in a kiln while working in the club's art room at Backus Tuesday.**



**Huge, delicious, juicy ...**  
**Fills you up, Satisfies**

**FREE DELIVERY**  
**THE BIGGEST BURGERS AROUND**  
**PLAY PULL TABS**  
**283-2222**

**or Try Borderland's Favorite Pizza & Other Foods on Our Full Menu!**  
**Chamber Dollars Gladly Accepted Here!**

**LIVE MUSIC ON SUNDAYS** 4:30 to 8:30 p.m.  
with Patty O'Porter  
**Texas Holdem Wed, Fri & Sat Nights!**

**BORDER BAR PIZZA PARLOR**  
283-2222 3rd Ave. & 5th St. • I. Falls  
Mon-Thur 11:30am-10pm • Fri & Sat 11:30am 11pm • Sun 11:30am-9pm



**Holy Trinity Episcopal Church**

**OUTDOOR SERVICES**

Voyageurs Visitor Center Picnic Area  
10:00 a.m.

July 14<sup>th</sup>  
July 28<sup>th</sup>  
August 11<sup>th</sup>

*If it is raining we will have the Service at Church*  
**820 4th Street, Int'l Falls**




**COUCHICHING ARENA**

is available for ice rental for the summer months.

**Ask about our DAYTIME SPECIAL**  
if you rent 2 hours between 9am - 12pm,  
**25% OFF the regular price**  
(For groups of 18 or less, larger groups pay regular)

**For information and bookings call Brent or Casey**  
**(807) 274-6722**





Roger and Rhonda Hanks  
Announce the upcoming marriage of their daughter Lyndie Hanks to Wayne DeFault son of Howard and Vicki DeFault.

All friends and relatives are invited to attend a reception at the  
Eagles Club in Bemidji, Mn  
on July 20th starting at 8:00pm.



**City Drug Bridal Registry**

RaeAnn Taylor & Andrew Lundy  
July 13, 2013

Alissa Nuthak & Matt Krueger  
July 13, 2013

Cedulie LaVigne & Dave Lloyd  
July 27, 2013

Ashley Stewart & Derek Foss  
August 10, 2013

Jen Rabedeaux & Gabe Greener  
August 11, 2013

Joy Miriam Zupke & Cory Rintala  
August 17, 2013

Courtney Chrislock & AJ Knutson  
September 7, 2013

Alysa Ruelle & Joe Hackenmueller  
September 14, 2013

Amy Morrison & Gary Hart  
September 21, 2013

Heather Sundsvold & Justin Ebel  
September 27, 2013

Free gift wrapping & a large selection of Hallmark cards.



283-3061 • [www.citydrugstore.com](http://www.citydrugstore.com) • 314 3rd. St. • M-Sat 8 a.m.-6 p.m.

**FIND DEALS**  
in  
**The Journal Classifieds**

