

# OUTDOORS

## CALL OF THE WILD

The Journal welcomes ideas for stories about people in our community who have a unique hunting, fishing or outdoors tale.  
**Call the Journal at 285-7411**

# Wet-cord breaking June

BY EMILY GEDDE  
Staff Writer

It hasn't been raining for 40 days and 40 nights, but lake and river levels around the area might make it seem like it.

It's no surprise that the summer – and the year – is off to a wet start.

According to the National Weather Service in Duluth, this year is shattering previous rainfall records set in 1950 and 2002, the last time there were significant amounts of water in the area.

"It is uncommonly wet," said Kevin Huyck, NWS meteorologist.

Since June 1, 9.93 inches of rain has fallen as of Wednesday, which greatly surpasses the average amount of 3.22 inches of rainfall for the same time period. Not only is International Falls currently holding the trophy for the wettest June on record, it is on track for the wettest year on record. Since Jan. 1, 18.75 inches of rainfall has been recorded putting it a No. 5 on the wettest list.

"The wettest year on record is 1941 with 34.35 inches of rain for the International Falls area," Huyck said. "We're on pace to keep up with that."

And, there's rain more on the way.



STAFF PHOTO BY EMILY GEDDE

**Weekend rainfall could add more havoc to an already swollen Rainy Lake.**

Showers and thunderstorms are predicted for the weekend – some of them severe carrying heavy amounts of rain.

"Saturday has potential for heavy rainfall," the meteorologist said. "On the low end, it could only be half an inch, but on the high end, it could be up to 2 inches."

And, he continued, some "narrow stretches" of the storm could potentially carry more rain than that.

"Folks shouldn't be letting their guard down," he said, referring to property owners on Rainy Lake and area rivers affected by ongoing flooding. "There is a lot of saturation in the ground and it won't take much rainfall before it can't absorb it."

### Unique situation

While flooding to the extent Borderland has been experiencing is uncommon, Huyck said aerial flood

warnings aren't.

"We won't have flood stages along the international border like we do on some of the other steams, like the Mississippi River," he said, "but, we do have gauge sites, so we can tell water is coming up, but we don't have a good sense of the impacts. As far as river flooding is concerned, it's not uncommon, but we don't typically have this problem along Rainy River."

It was around June 12 the weather station was alerted by law enforcement that the local water situation was quickly becoming a problem.

"This event is unique," Huyck said of the flooding. "At some of the gauge sites sending data, we're breaking records in the 80-year set. It's a situation we really haven't had to deal with before."

### Hang in there

Looking into an extend-

ed forecast, Huyck said high-pressure systems are working their way toward the area for the first part of July, bringing rain and storms that could hit on the Fourth of July.

"If it doesn't rain July 4, it definitely will July 5," he said. "The long-range guidance is split on whether International Falls will stay dry for the Fourth."

In fact, he noted most of July will see periods of rain "every couple days" until the middle of the month.

On the bright side, Huyck said he is hopeful August could bring better, dryer news.

"We'll likely start to see warmer, dryer conditions," he said, extending the hopeful news beyond the summer months. "There's actually a good probability we'll see some drying conditions later this winter with temps warmer than what we experienced last year."



STAFF PHOTOS BY LAUREL BEAGER

# Water, water everywhere

Abby Smith and Jordan Riggs didn't let a little water stop them from catching trout at the Rod Smith Memorial Kids Fishing Pond on County Road 93 east of International Falls. Riggs reported the fishing was pretty good, and he'd caught a nice one just prior to the photographer showing up. In the wider view of the pond, the county's grader is shown where much of the sand for the initial bagging effort was taken.





## Summer Sale Begins!

up to **33% off**

### Ladie's & Children's Spring & Summer Fashions

*The Hideaway*  
Clothing for Women & Children

Downtown  
326 3rd St.  
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# EARLY DEADLINE

## FOR FOURTH OF JULY Sat., July 5th IFalls Journal

Advertisers are asked to submit copy early as we will be closed Fri., July 4<sup>th</sup>.

### SATURDAY, JULY 5 ISSUE OF THE International Fall Journal

Display ads due: Tues, July 1 at 2 pm  
Classified words due: Wed, July 2 at noon.

INTERNATIONAL FALLS, MINNESOTA

# The Journal

1602 HWY 11-71, INT'L FALLS, MN, 218-285-7411

### ORDINANCE #958

AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING LOW BID IN THE AMOUNT OF \$508,722.00 AND AWARDING CONTRACT TO BOWMAN ASPHALT PRODUCTS, INC., 1747 HWY 11 EAST, INTERNATIONAL FALLS, MN 56649 FOR 19TH STREET IMPROVEMENTS - 2014 S.A.P. 134-126-002 FOR THE CITY OF INTERNATIONAL FALLS, MINNESOTA.

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 19th Street Improvements - 2014 S.A.P. 134-126-002 for the City of International Falls, Minnesota, 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 Bowman Asphalt Products, Inc., 1747 Hwy 11 East, International Falls, MN 56649, in the amount of \$508,722.00 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 Bowman Asphalt Products, Inc., 1747 Hwy 11 East, International Falls, MN 56649 for the furnishing of all labor, materials and equipment for 19th Street Improvements - 2014 S.A.P. 134-126-002 for the City of International Falls, Minnesota, 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 16th day of June 2014.  
Passed its second and final reading this 23rd day of June 2014.

Robert W. Anderson, Mayor

Attest:  
Kenneth R. Anderson, Administrator

Published: Saturday, June 28, 2014

# riverfest

INTERNATIONAL FALLS MINNESOTA

Saturday, July 5, 2014

**Gates open at 2:30 pm**

*Irvin N. Anderson Amphitheater*

**Rainy River Waterfront, Highway 11 East International Falls, MN**

**Sorry, no personal coolers**



**LITTLE RIVER BAND**  
**Saturday, July 5**  
7:00 pm

**Lamont Cranston 5pm**  
**Mike Ure Band 3:30**

**Advance Tickets: \$30.00**  
**Gate Tickets: \$40.00**  
**VIP Tickets: \$75.00**

VIPs receive: 5 beer tickets and/or complimentary pop, complimentary snacks, private beer garden & porta potty, private parking in the west lot with shuttle to gate service. Only 100 VIP-Sold at Backus or online

**TICKET OUTLETS:**  
INTERNATIONAL FALLS: KGHS-KSDM Radio I City Drug I Backus Community Center  
FORT FRANCES: Betty's of Fort Frances I Northwoods Gallery & Gifts  
Buy tickets online at [www.riverfestifalls.com](http://www.riverfestifalls.com) or [www.backusab.org](http://www.backusab.org)

Riverfest is brought to you by:

Questions? Call Backus (218) 285-7225

**CharterMedia**

Check out our BUNDLES! Bundle tickets & beer & save! Only available online or at the Backus Office [www.riverfestifalls.com](http://www.riverfestifalls.com)



## Do you have one of the following health insurance providers?

**Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota**  
**Medica · HealthPartners® · Preferred One**  
**SilverSneakers® · Silver & Fit®**

*If your answer is yes, you may be eligible for a fitness rewards program that pays you back for working out or a free membership if you are eligible for either the SilverSneakers or Silver & Fit programs. Bring your insurance card into Stride during staffed hours (8am-6pm M-F) to find out which option is available for you!*

**FEDERAL EMPLOYEES**  
You are also eligible for a reduced rate membership through the Blue Cross Blue Shield Federal Employees Program. Ask us for details!



**Stride**  
**FITNESS & HEALTH**  
Located at 10 Shorewood Dr. International Falls, Minnesota  
Phone: 218.285.2901