

LOCALNEWS

Preparing to succeed

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

Slowing the spread of a pandemic is a complex process requiring the cooperation of multiple agencies and the public. Fortunately for Borderland, four residents attended a training conference last month to make sure the area is ready in case of such a disaster.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency hosted a conference titled “Pandemic Planning and Preparedness” Jan. 22-24 at the Center for Domestic Preparedness in Anniston, Ala. Forty members of Minnesota’s Northeast Healthcare Preparedness Coalition attended, including Sheriff Brian Jespersen; Nancy Lee and Lindsy Barnhart, of the Koochiching County Health Department; and Luke Waller, assistant emergency manager for Koochiching County and who works at the Rainy Lake Medical Center hospital campus.

The conference featured two days of classroom training, Barnhart said, followed by a day-long exercise simulating the first two months of a pandemic influenza

outbreak.

“We learned some information about how pandemic influenza starts, transmits, and the course it tends to follow, as well as some best practices for slowing the spread and treating it, and also how to communicate effectively with various agencies and the public,” Barnhart said.

Having four residents from Koochiching County attend the conference with the NHPC group gives the area a leg up in case of an emergency, Barnhart said.

“Not only are the four of us from International Falls and Koochiching County better prepared to work together in an emergency, but we have also built relationships necessary to work with our counterparts throughout the region so as to receive and offer assistance when needed,” Barnhart said.

Disasters and preparing for pandemic events highlights the strain on operations, security, and many other services and infrastructure crucial to health systems and law and order. Minnesota is taking



Nancy Lee, left, works with other emergency responders on pandemic preparedness at a training conference last month.

the steps to address its ability to identify, contain, treat affected survivors and have plans in place for communities to recover quickly.

The CDP’s pandemic training course contains techniques for jurisdictions to plan and prepare for pandemic emergencies and also addresses procedures relating to other disasters caused by weather, accidents or man-made hazards. Minnesota is taking steps in pandemic and disaster preparedness and the CDP’s pandemic planning course provides effective planning classes for emergency response personnel in a variety of situations.

The NHPC group was a part of 20 agencies taking part in the training, includ-

ing health care facilities, local and tribal public health, public safety, emergency management, the Air National Guard, as well as regional health care, public health, and emergency management coordinators.

The CDP “Pandemic Planning and Preparedness” course is fully funded for tribal, state, and local response personnel. Round-trip air and ground transportation, lodging, and meals are provided at no cost to responders or their agency or jurisdiction. The CDP is a leading player in preparing state, local and tribal responders to prepare for and respond to man-made events or major accidents involving mass casualties.

DISTRICT COURT

The following people have been sentenced for aggravated misdemeanor or felony crimes in Koochiching County District Court. This information is provided to The Journal by court staff.

James R. Rask, 18, International Falls, was sentenced Jan. 27 for felony theft — take, drive motor vehicle without owner consent. He was given a stay of imposition of sentence and placed on five years supervised probation. He was ordered to pay \$275 fine and fees. He was ordered to serve 32 hours with the Sentence to Serve program and must submit to random testing and searches. He must follow the recommendations of a treatment program and may not use alcohol or drugs and may not attend social gatherings where alcohol or drugs are being served or consumed.

Derrick J. Hutchinson, 32, International Falls, was sentenced Jan. 27 for gross misdemeanor endanger child — permit presence during sale of controlled substance. He was sentenced to one year jail and \$3,000 fine. The jail time and all but \$50 of the fine were stayed on court conditions and he was placed on three years supervised probation. He was ordered

to complete an chemical assessment, submit to random testing and serve 32 hours with the Sentence to Serve program.

Jodi L. Hutchinson, 24, International Falls, was sentenced Jan. 27 for gross misdemeanor endanger child -permit presence during sale of controlled substance. She was sentenced to one year jail and \$3,000 fine. The jail time and all but \$50 of the fine were stayed on court conditions and she was placed on three years supervised probation. She was ordered to serve 32 hours with the Sentence to Serve program.

Jana R. Reff, 26, International Falls, was sentenced Jan. 27 for gross misdemeanor endanger child — permit presence during sale of controlled substance. She was sentenced to one year jail and \$3,225 fine and fees. All but four days and \$275 were stayed on court conditions and she was placed on three years supervised probation. She was ordered to serve 32 hours with the Sentence to Serve program and must submit to random testing and searches. She may not use drugs or alcohol, and may not enter places where it is being used or sold, unless for work purposes. She was ordered to complete treatment.

catch up online . . .

Check for updates on all your local news at www.ifallsjournal.com



Frontier High-Speed Internet

19.99

per month with qualifying phone service

2-Year Price Guarantee

No contracts

Free from rate hikes



“I’ll take Frontier High-Speed Internet for \$19.99 per month, please. I always wanted to say that.”

Get the speed you need with Frontier High-Speed Internet. Call **1.888.770.6869** or visit **Frontier.com/FrankFactor**.



 You can’t get BS from a buffalo.™




Limited-time offer for new Internet customers, including current voice-only customers. Must subscribe to a qualifying package of residential phone and High-Speed Internet services. Actual speeds may vary and are not guaranteed. Service subject to availability. Installation fees apply; discounted Internet install fee waived for self-install. Price guaranteed for 24 months. A \$9.99 broadband processing fee upon disconnection of service applies. Taxes, governmental and other Frontier-imposed surcharges apply. Higher Internet speed tiers available in limited areas for additional charge. Frontier reserves the right to withdraw this offer at any time. Other restrictions apply. Other trademarks or service marks are the property of their respective owners.


©2014 Frontier Communications Corporation. ROP_19CPR_QTR_BW_1113


TREAT Your SWEETHEART

All of Your Favorite Chocolates at City Drug!






Don't forget to pick up a  Hallmark card for your sweetie!



REGISTER TO **WIN**
Russell Stover
Assorted Fine Chocolates
2 lb. 2 oz. • \$29.99 value
Drawing held Feb. 11th

City Drug

314 3rd St., Int'l Falls
Mon. – Sat. 8 – 6 **283-3061**
www.citydrugstore.com





Visit The Journal on



facebook®



Search: Ifalls Journal

INTERNATIONAL FALLS, MINNESOTA

The Journal