

# COMMUNITYNEWS

## BBB’s top five summer scams

BBB STAFF REPORT

Summer is a great time to take that long-overdue vacation or make much-needed home repairs, but as the weather heats up, so do scams. Better Business Bureau of Minnesota and North Dakota is warning consumers about these popular summer schemes.

Don’t let a scam ruin your vacation. Fake travel agents and websites are known for touting too-good-to-be-true deals in the hopes of getting your money in return. Whether it’s a fake timeshare rental or a falsely promised Disney vacation, don’t let a vacation scam take you for a ride. Make sure the offer is legitimate by checking bbb.org first. If there is no BBB Business Review on the company, dig deeper: Google the phone number or website to see if others have reported problems.

Keep your belongings safe during your move. Summer is the peak time of year for changing residencies, and unlicensed movers and dishonest scammers are waiting to take advantage of the busy season. Always research the company and check out the mover’s BBB Business Review at bbb.org.

Not all price quotes online or over the phone are legitimate (or binding), and crooks are not likely to send an estimator to your home in advance. Also remember that the lowest estimate can sometimes be an unrealistic, low-ball offer, which may cost you more in the end.

Beware of summer concert ticket scams. Before paying for concert tickets online, make sure the seller is reputable. Oftentimes, phony sellers will trick consumers into wiring money with no intention of sending real tickets. Most concert

venues now allow ticket holders to print tickets from personal computers, which also gives scammers the opportunity to sell the same ticket over and over to unsuspecting consumers.

Be wary of sellers who: offer a sad tale as to why they cannot use the tickets; only accept cash; want the money wired or transferred through a prepaid account; and/or pressure you to act quickly.

Be wary of high pressure door-to-door sales tactics. Many legitimate companies use door-to-door sales, and various city ordinances regulate solicitors to protect residents from unscrupulous individuals.

However, consumers need to watch for individuals who try to work their way around the system to line their pockets. Many door-to-door salesmen offer deals for everything from driveway paving to air conditioning repair to security systems. Before saying yes, get all promises in writing, including start and finish dates. Never sign a contract that has an open-ended completion date or blank spaces.

Beware of job scams that can turn a hot summer cold. Finding summer employment is a top priority for most college and high school students. Don’t let the seasonal job hunt turn into a huge waste of time and money. Always be wary of employers who require fees for training and background checks, or who tout “no experience needed.” BBB considers these red flags for employment scams.

Find out more about scams and sign up for scam alerts at BBB Scam Stopper (bbb.org/scam). For tips you can trust, visit bbb.org and for the latest, check out our blog, like us on Facebook or follow us on Twitter.

## BORDERLAND BRIEFS

CLASS OF 1979 REUNION

Falls High School Class of 1979 will gather for the 35-year reunion tonight at Thunderbird Lodge. Cost is \$40 couple or \$25 single. Checks payable to Class of ‘79. Cash bar cocktails begin at 7 p.m., appetizers all night, class photo at 8 and music and dancing from 9 to midnight. Post updates and RSVP at www.facebook.com/groups/fallsclassof79 or email updates and RSVP to fallsclassof79@groups.facebook.com.

AFTER LOSS GROUP

The After Loss Group will meet at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday at Voyageur Cafe.

BOARD GAME MONDAYS

International Falls Public Library has a wide variety of board games, new and old, for ages 3-99, and will feature Board Game Mondays from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. beginning June 30. Play one game or several; learn a new game or play an old favorite. Children under 8 need to be accompanied by an adult.

CLASS OF 1953 REUNION

Falls High School Class of 1953 will gather for a reunion at 3 p.m. July 5 at Americlnn.

RRCC TURBO TUESDAY

Easy Enrollment Day is set for 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. July 8 at Rainy River Community College. Students have the opportunity to apply, test, register, and tour the campus.

CLASS OF 1984 REUNION

Falls High School Class of 1984 will gather for the 30-year reunion at 6:30 p.m. July 5 at Sha-Sha Resort.

## CALENDAR

### TODAY

- Community Market, 9 a.m.-noon, Backus Third Street parking lot.
- Rainy River Book Club, noon, Lenard’s.
- New Members and Sponsors Dinner, BBQ pork chops Supper, 6 p.m. (reservations, 283-3615), Moose Lodge.
- Falls High School Class of 1979 35-year reunion, 7 p.m., Thunderbird Lodge.

### SUNDAY

- Kabetogama United Methodist Church-hosted Blueberry Pancake Breakfast, 8 a.m.-noon, Kabetogama Senior Hall.
- Open Discussion, 9 a.m., Alano Club.
- A.A., 7 p.m., Pineview Recovery Center.
- Sunday Night Into Action Group, Step and Tradition Study, (bring Big Book and Twelve by Twelve), 7:30-9 p.m., Borderland Alano Club.

### MONDAY

- Community Band, 7 a.m., The Dungeon, Backus Community Center.
- Exercise, 10-11 a.m., Backus Auditorium gymnasium.
- Northland Art Society open, various arts, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Backus, Room 114.
- Board Game Monday, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., International Falls Public Library.
- Community Band, 5 p.m., The Dungeon, Backus Community Center.
- Weight Watchers — weigh-in, 5-5:30 p.m.; meeting, 5:30-6, Littlefork Lutheran Church.
- Women’s Non-Violence Group, 5:15-6:45 p.m., Friends Against Abuse office.
- Rainy Rustic Riders Vintage Snowmobile Club, 7 p.m., Thunderbird Lodge.
- Cribbage, 7 p.m., Elks Lodge 1599.
- Alcoholics Anonymous, Women’s Step Study, 7 p.m., Coffee Landing Cafe.
- Borderland Substance Abuse Court Alumni Recovery support group, 7:30 p.m., Alano Club, 410 Fifth Ave.
- Narcotics Anonymous, “How It Works” step gathering, 7:30-9 p.m., Alanon Club.

### TUESDAY

- Water Testing, 8 a.m.-noon, Koochiching County Health Department.
- St. Paul Lutheran Church men, 8:30 a.m., Lenard’s.
- Boise Cascade retirees and former employees — paper test, beater room and ChemLab, 9 a.m., Grandma’s Pantry.
- Rainy Lake Medical Center hospital campus present and former employees, 9 a.m., Lenard’s.
- Rainy Lake Medical Center Auxiliary, 10 a.m., hospital campus, meeting room.
- Bone Builders, 10 a.m., Woodland Apartments.
- Littlefork Ambulance Thrift Shop open, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Northland Art Society open, various arts, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Backus, Room 114.

- Falls Hunger Coalition Food Shelf open, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 1000 Fifth St.
- Alanon, 1:30 p.m., Zion Lutheran Church (283-3739, 283-8540).
- TOPS MN34, 5 p.m. weigh-in; 5:45, meeting, Koochiching County Senior Center.
- Women’s Ministries, 5-7 p.m., The Salvation Army.
- After Loss Group, 5:30 p.m., Voyageur Cafe.
- Community Café, free meals served, 5:30-6 p.m., pulled pork on a bun, apple slaw with carrots, pickles, Backus Community Center.
- Beginner’s Tae Kwon Do, 5:45 p.m., Falls Elementary School gymnasium or cafeteria.
- Steak sandwiches and potato salad Supper, 6 p.m., Moose Lodge (Legion).
- Greater International Falls Jaycees, 6 p.m., Americlnn.
- Women’s Support Group, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Friends Against Abuse office.
- Littlefork Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9641 and Auxiliary, 7 p.m., Post Home.
- International Early Iron Car Club, 7 p.m. (Leon, 283-9773, Sandy, 807-274-2345).
- Texas Hold ‘Em, 7 p.m., Moose Lodge.
- A.A./N.A., 7 p.m., Pineview Recovery Center.
- “Celebrate Recovery,” 7-9 p.m., Evangelical Covenant Church.
- BigBook Study, 7:30 p.m., Alano Club, 410 Fifth Ave.
- Non-smoking Alcoholics Anonymous Group, 7:30 p.m., Zion Lutheran Church.

### WEDNESDAY

- Sing and Play in the Park, 10-11 a.m., Ranier Park.
- Exercise, 10-11 a.m., Backus Auditorium gymnasium.
- Littlefork Ambulance Thrift Shop open, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Northland Art Society open, various arts, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Backus, Room 114.
- Wednesday Study Group, 10:15 a.m., Faith United Church of Christ.
- Falls High School Class of 1963, 11:30 a.m., Lenard’s.
- Test of emergency sirens — 1 p.m., International Falls; 2, Fort Frances.
- Community Market, 4-6:30 p.m., Backus Third Street parking lot.
- Sunbeams and Girl Guards, 4:30-6 p.m., The Salvation Army.
- Free At Last, 4:30-6:30 p.m., Forestland Annex, lower level conference room.
- Stories in the Park, 6 p.m., Eighth Avenue green space (near community gardens).
- Men’s Non-Violence Group, 6-8 p.m., Friends Against Abuse office.
- Elks Lodge Wednesday Meal, 6:30 p.m., Giovanni’s pizza and salad.
- Little Lambs (up to age 4) and King’s Kids (ages 5 and up), 6:30-7:15 p.m., Full Gospel Fellowship Church.
- Texas Hold ‘Em, 7 p.m., Moose Lodge.
- Downtowners Group, 7:30 p.m., Alano Club.

## LOTTERY

**Wednesday’s Daily 3**  
5, 3, 5  
**Wednesday’s Northstar Cash**  
5, 14, 22, 23, 29  
**Wednesday’s Gopher 5**  
2, 23, 24, 26, 42

**Wednesday’s Hot Lotto**  
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35

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