

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

Despite dislike of the cold, Aili loves to hunt

First buck goes in the freezer

BY LAUREL BEAGER
Editor

Sporting a new pink camouflage rifle and sitting on her own for the first season, Daisy Aili shot her first buck at 4:30 p.m. Tuesday.

A very excited Aili said despite the heated deer stand her husband Kirk had constructed for her, the cold temperatures nearly ended her day just before shooting the six-point buck.

“I didn’t see anything from the stand and I thought, ‘Screw it, I am leaving. This is no fun,’” she said Wednesday.

Instead, she got out of the stand and toughed it out.

“I thought maybe I’d give it another half-hour — maybe,” she said.

That half-hour ended up being worth it.

“I was sitting there freez-

ing, closing my eyes, and when I opened my eyes there was a six-pointer in front of me,” she said.

Aili is an inexperienced hunter. She said she sat in a deer stand with someone else for the previous two seasons because she didn’t have a license. She had only shot her new rifle when sighting it.

While sitting in the stand, Aili said she’d tried to imagine what would happen if she saw a buck.

“Here it was, standing in front of me,” she said. “What do I do? The adrenaline was pumping, I was breathing heavy and my shoulders were moving. I was afraid to pick up my gun.”

The buck was about 40 yards away when she shot.

“I hit him in the heart, it just blasted inside,” she said. “There was no blood and I was crying because I couldn’t trace it.”

Kirk was hunting a short distance away and came



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Daisy Aili poses for a picture with the first buck she shot.

to assist her after hearing her shot.

“I was freaked out because I couldn’t find it,” Daisy said, concerned a wounded deer was running in the woods. She said she and Kirk found the deer about 100 yards from where it was shot.

Kirk was excited for her and proud of her shot, she said.

Originally from the Philippines, Daisy said she’s lived in International Falls for seven years and never imagined she would love hunting, but she does. However, she said she still doesn’t like the cold temperatures.

She said her 7-year-old son Kian is working on getting his deer.

Her buck will go into the freezer, and she’s not sure what she’ll do with the antlers she said are too small for mounting.

But she’s already making plans for next deer season.

“I will hunt for a big one next time,” she said.

Hunters register 54,000 deer during first weekend

DNR STAFF REPORT

Minnesota hunters registered 54,000 deer during the first three days of firearms deer season, according to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

Final numbers from the weekend show that the number of deer registered dropped 30,000 from 2013. So far this year, including special hunts and the archery season, hunters have harvested 67,000 deer, down from the 2013 to-date harvest total of 100,000.

“Comparing this year’s harvest to harvests in previous years doesn’t necessarily reflect hunter opportunity or the number of deer on the landscape in 2014,” said Leslie McInenly, DNR big game program leader. This year’s lower harvest is by design because regulations were implemented to place more deer – particularly does – off limits to in-

crease Minnesota’s deer population.

The DNR’s ongoing deer management work also includes upcoming revisions to the deer population goals for large portions of northeastern, north-central and east-central Minnesota. This is part of a multi-year goal-setting process for the entire state. People interested in helping set these deer population goals can get more information on the process and opportunities for involvement at www.mndnr.gov/deer.

In much of Minnesota, the deer season continues through Sunday, Nov. 16. Additional deer will be harvested during the northern rifle zone season, which continues through Sunday, Nov. 23; the late southeastern season, which runs Saturday, Nov. 22, through Sunday, Nov. 30; and the muzzleloader season, which begins Saturday, Nov. 29, and continues through Sunday, Dec. 14.

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November is
Diabetes Awareness Month

Diabetes prevents your body from turning food into energy. People with diabetes can feel weak, rundown or tired. When you have diabetes, you are at a greater risk to develop other health issues such as foot, eye, heart and kidney problems.

Signs of diabetes

If any of these apply to you, talk to a member of your primary care team.

- Tiredness
- Frequent urination
- Extreme hunger and thirst
- Unexplained weight loss
- Slow-healing bruises and sores

Know your risk

Anyone has a risk of developing diabetes.

- A family history of diabetes
- Being overweight
- Had gestational diabetes (diabetes during pregnancy)
- Being over age 40
- Not enough physical activity

Reduce your risk

Essentia Health recommends you:

- Stay at a healthy weight
- Eat a healthy diet
- Be active
- Have a relationship with a primary care team
- Quit smoking

We can help

If you have been diagnosed with diabetes, we offer:

- Certified diabetes educator
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Source: American Diabetes Association®

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