

COMMUNITY NEWS

ASK A TROOPER

Special registration plates

Q: Could you explain the significance of the W on license plates?

A: I believe Minnesota started using “whiskey” or “special registration” plates back in the mid- to late 1990s. I think the first set was a “WX” followed by four numbers that has since cycled through many times over using a “W” followed by another letter, then four more numbers. In 2013, 25,719 motorists were arrested for DWI in Minnesota and one out of seven drivers had a DWI violation on their record. My understanding is this is to alert law enforcement and the public that either the person driving the vehicle or someone that had driven the vehicle was guilty of an “enhanced” DWI violation.

How does a person “earn” a set of these? A few ways from a DWI offense, including:

■ A second DWI violation within 10 years.

■ A DWI violation while having an alcohol concentration of twice the legal limit (.16 or more).

■ A DWI violation while having a child under the age of 16 in the vehicle if the child is more than 36 months younger than the offender.

■ A violation by a person whose driver's license or driving privileges have been canceled under Minnesota Statute section 171.04 , Canceled Inimical



Sgt. Neil
DICKENSON
MINNESOTA STATE PATROL

to Public Safety (Multiple DWI violations).

How long must these special registration plates be on the car?

■ Special registration plates issued must be displayed for at least one year from the date of incident. In some cases, Special registration plates must be displayed for much longer than one year (multiple DWI offenses and other driving without license violations).

What are the fines and other penalties that accompany these special registration plates?

■ A person that is guilty of a DWI offense that would require needing special registration would be a gross misdemeanor and punishable of up to a \$3,000 fine and/or one year in jail.

If you have any questions concerning traffic related laws in Minnesota, send questions to: Sgt. Neil Dickenson, Minnesota State Patrol, 1131 Mesaba Ave., Duluth, MN 55811. Or neil.dickenson@state.mn.us.

CALENDAR

TODAY

- Retired Boise Cascade electricians, 9 a.m., Coffee Landing Cafe.
- AARP Tax Aide preparation, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Backus Community Center, Rooms 208/209 (free, appointments, 283-5236).
- Walk-ercise group, 10-11 a.m., Backus Community Center gymnasium.
- Community Clothes Closet drop-offs, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Aquinas Hall.
- 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.
- Salvation Army Advisory Council, noon, Salvation Army building.
- Girl Guards, Sunbeams and Adventure Corps, 4:30-6 p.m., The Salvation Army.
- Free At Last, 4:30-6:30 p.m., Forestland Annex, lower level conference room.
- Northland Art Society open, various arts, 5:30-8 p.m., Backus, Room 114.
- International Falls Recreation Commission Board, 5:45 p.m., city council chambers.
- Narcotics Anonymous, 6 p.m., Alano Club.
- Northwoods Shutterbugs Photography Club, 6 p.m., International Falls Public Library basement meeting room.
- Men's Non-Violence Group, 6-8 p.m., Friends Against Abuse office.
- Members and guests Elks Lodge 1599 Wednesday Meal, 6:30 p.m., pork hocks.
- Little Lambs (3 years to kindergarten) and King's Kids (1st-5th grades), Youth Group (6th grade-up), 6:30-7:30 p.m., Full Gospel Fellowship Church.
- Rainy Lake Sportfishing Club, 7 p.m., Americlnn.
- Adult Mixed Volleyball, 7:15 p.m., Backus Community Center.
- Alcoholics Anonymous, 7:30 p.m., Alano Club.

THURSDAY

- North Dakota State University representative, 9 a.m., Falls High School.
- Community Clothes Closet open for customers, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Aquinas Hall.
- AARP Tax Aide preparation, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Backus Community Center, Rooms 208/209 (free, appointments, 283-5236).
- Bone Builders, 10-11:30 a.m., Woodland Apartments.
- Littlefork Ambulance Thrift Shop open, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
- WIC Clinic, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Koochiching County Public Health Department.
- Falls Hunger Coalition Food Shelf open, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., 1000 Fifth St.
- Northland Art Society open, various arts, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Backus, Room 114.

- Storytime, 10:30 a.m., International Falls Public Library.
- National Nutrition Party, 10:30 a.m.-noon, musical entertainment; lunch, noon, Koochiching County Senior Center.
- Falls High School Class of 1960, 11:30 a.m., Lenard's.
- Servants of Shelters Board, noon, St. Thomas.
- Ostomy support group, 2:30 p.m., Essentia Health-International Falls Clinic.
- Weight Watchers, 4:45-5:15 p.m. weigh-in; 5:15 meeting, Zion Lutheran Church.
- Community Café, 5:30-6 p.m., lasagna, corn, bread stick, Backus Community Center.
- Burgers Supper, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Moose Lodge.
- Beginner's Tae Kwon Do, 5:45 p.m., Falls Elementary School gymnasium or cafeteria.
- The Lamplighters, women's support group for survivors of childhood sexual abuse, 6-8 p.m., Friends Against Abuse office.
- Line Dancing, 7 p.m., Moose Lodge.
- Alcoholics Anonymous, 7:30 p.m., Alano Club.

FRIDAY

- Mind/body workshop, 9-10 a.m., Backus Community Center.
- AARP Tax Aide preparation, 9 a.m., Big Falls Apartments; 1 p.m., Northome Apartments.
- AARP Tax Aide preparation, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Backus Community Center, Rooms 208/209 (free, appointments, 283-5236).
- Walk-ercise group, 10-11 a.m., Backus Community Center gymnasium.
- Falls Hunger Coalition Food Shelf open, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., 1000 Fifth St.
- Serenity Sisters, Women's A.A., noon, Backus, Rational Alternatives, Room 101.
- Top the Tater Dinner, 5-6:30 p.m., Backus Community Center dining room.
- Members and guests Elks Lodge 1599 Friday Light Meal, 5:30 p.m., burgers and French fries.
- Narcotics Anonymous, 6 p.m., Alano Club.
- Backus Performing Arts Series, James Sewell Ballet, "Guy Noir," 7 p.m., Backus Community Center Auditorium.
- For Those in Need, Addiction Recovery, 7 p.m., The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, 1340 Keenan Drive.
- Alcoholics Anonymous, 7:30 p.m., Alano Club, 410 Fifth Ave.

SATURDAY

- Moose Lodge events – Open, noon; Bingo, 1 p.m.; Tom's pulled pork Supper, 6 (reservations, 283-3615).
- Guided Snowshoe Hike, 1-3 p.m., Rainy Lake Visitor Center.
- Open Gym, 3-5 p.m., free, Backus Community Center gymnasium.
- Alcoholics Anonymous, 7 p.m., Alano Club.

BORDERLAND BRIEFS

JUNIOR BARDS

International Falls' community theatre troupe, Bo-realis Bards, announce a children's branch, The Junior Bards. Sixteen performers, ages 8 to 16, will have debut performances at 2 p.m. March 22 and 29 in the Dungeon of Backus Community Center. "This Is a Test" is one-act comedy where Alan Lefenfeld, high school sophomore, takes a test without properly preparing. Tickets are \$5 per person or \$20 per family.

PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB

Northwoods Shutterbugs Photography Club will meet at 6 p.m. tonight in the basement meeting room at International Falls Public Library. Everyone is welcome.

TOP THE TATER

A Top the Tater dinner is scheduled for 5 to 6:30 p.m. Friday at Backus Community Center. The \$6 per person cost includes baked potato, toppings, salad, bread stick, dessert and beverage. The dinner precedes Backus Performing Arts Series, James Sewell's "Guy Noir — The Ballet" at 7 in Backus Auditorium. Dinner ticket value packs are available for sale at the door. Dinners available "to go." Call Backus 285-7225 for information.

AARP TAX AIDE

AARP Tax Aide preparers will be at Big Falls Apartments at 9 a.m. Friday and at Northome Apartments at 1 p.m.

Call me today to set up your appointment or stop in to see me!

North Border Financial Services, LLC
400 3rd Street International Falls
Call 285-6111
Owned and operated by Bill Higham, EA

I have been serving the International Falls area with professional tax preparation, consulting, and payroll tax assistance, for over 20 years.

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Hours: Monday through Friday 8:00 am to 6:00 pm
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Lunch and Dinner daily
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**FRIDAY & SATURDAY
DINNER FEATURE**

Crab Stuffed Chicken
Chicken breast stuffed with crab, cream, corn, mozzarella cheese, sun-dried tomatoes topped with lemon cream sauce over a bed of wild rice and fresh steamed vegetables. Served with Tossed, or Caesar Salad.

Thunderbird Lodge
ON BEAUTIFUL RAINY LAKE

10 miles east of Int'l Falls on Hwy. 11
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**Return Of The
ETHNIC FOOD FESTIVAL**

FRIDAY,
MARCH 27, 2015

Backus
Auditorium

**\$ 2.00
per ticket**

5:30 - 7:00 pm

INTERNATIONAL / ETHNIC FOOD

Samples and Desserts
Prepared by Local Chefs, Cooks & Volunteers

Tickets for Food Samples Available at the Door
Beer, Wine and Beverages available

**BACKUS
Community Center**
(218) 285-7225 | 900 5th Street | Int'l Falls MN
www.backusab.org | Facebook: Backus AB

Sponsored by Citizens for Backus/AB
Call Backus Community Center
at 285-7225 for more information

Backus is fully accessible to persons
with disabilities - Please call our office for
specific accommodations

Knights of Columbus

LENTEN FISH FRYS

Aquinas Hall

Serving every Friday during Lent

February 20th 5-7 p.m. February 27th 5-7 p.m.
March 6th 5-7 p.m. March 13th 5-7 p.m.
March 20th 5-7 p.m. March 27th 5-7 p.m.

Serving....

Walleye Fillets

Fried Potatoes, Coleslaw, Fresh Bun
Choice of two vegetables,
Beans & Pickles, Lemonade or Coffee

One Fillet \$11.00 **Two Fillets \$14.00**

All Meals \$1.00 OFF with Food Shelf Donation

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