

**Drop it off**  
Officials open drug  
drop-off station

A4



**Quite a  
night**  
Concert series  
show is Sunday

A9



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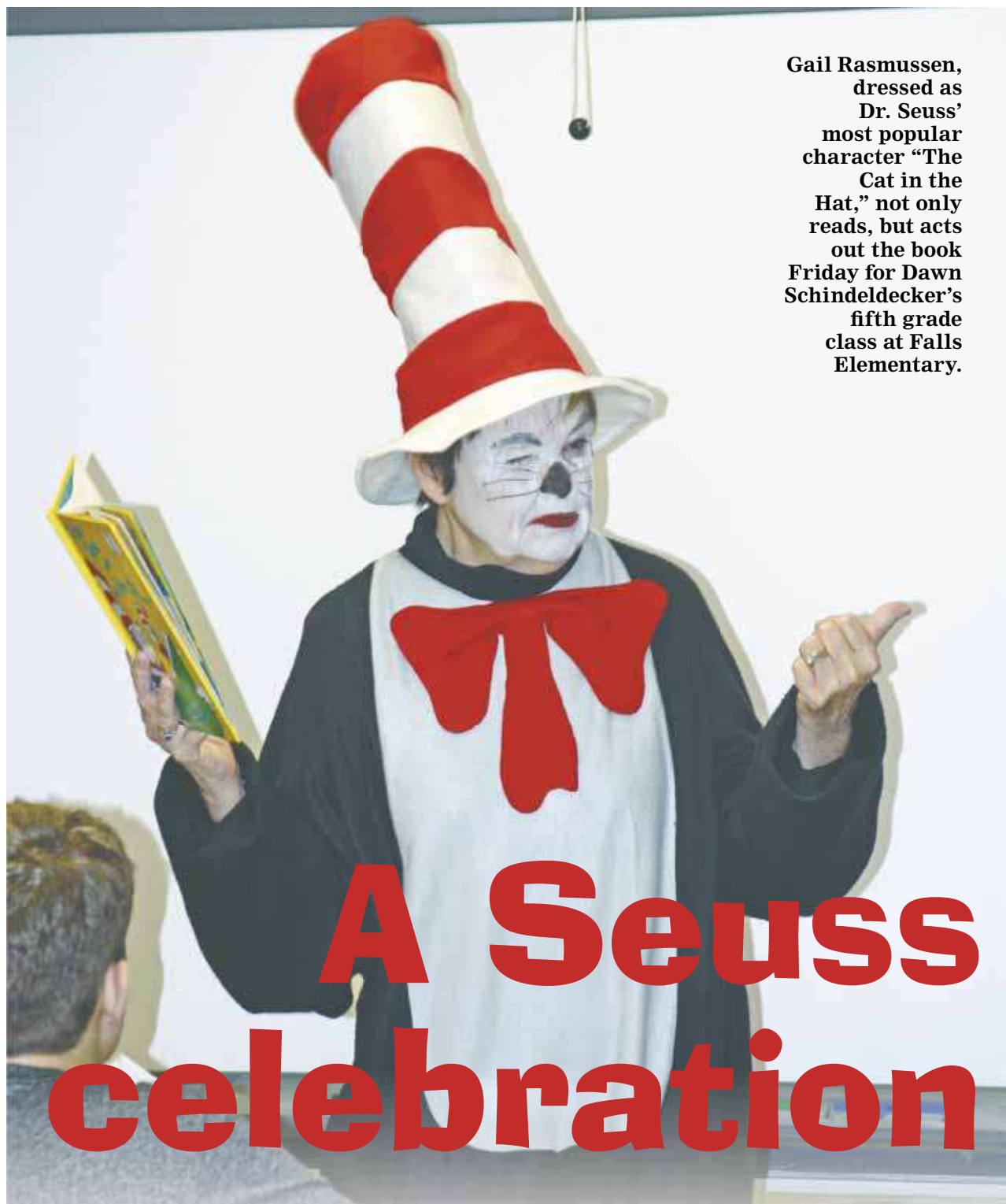
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Gail Rasmussen, dressed as Dr. Seuss' most popular character "The Cat in the Hat," not only reads, but acts out the book Friday for Dawn Schindeldecker's fifth grade class at Falls Elementary.

## A Seuss celebration

BY LAUREL BEAGER  
Editor

People who regularly read get smarter and increase their vocabulary and test scores, Gail Rasmussen told fifth graders at Falls Elementary School Friday.

While that's a good goal, she said reading is fun because it takes you to new places and allows you to meet new people.

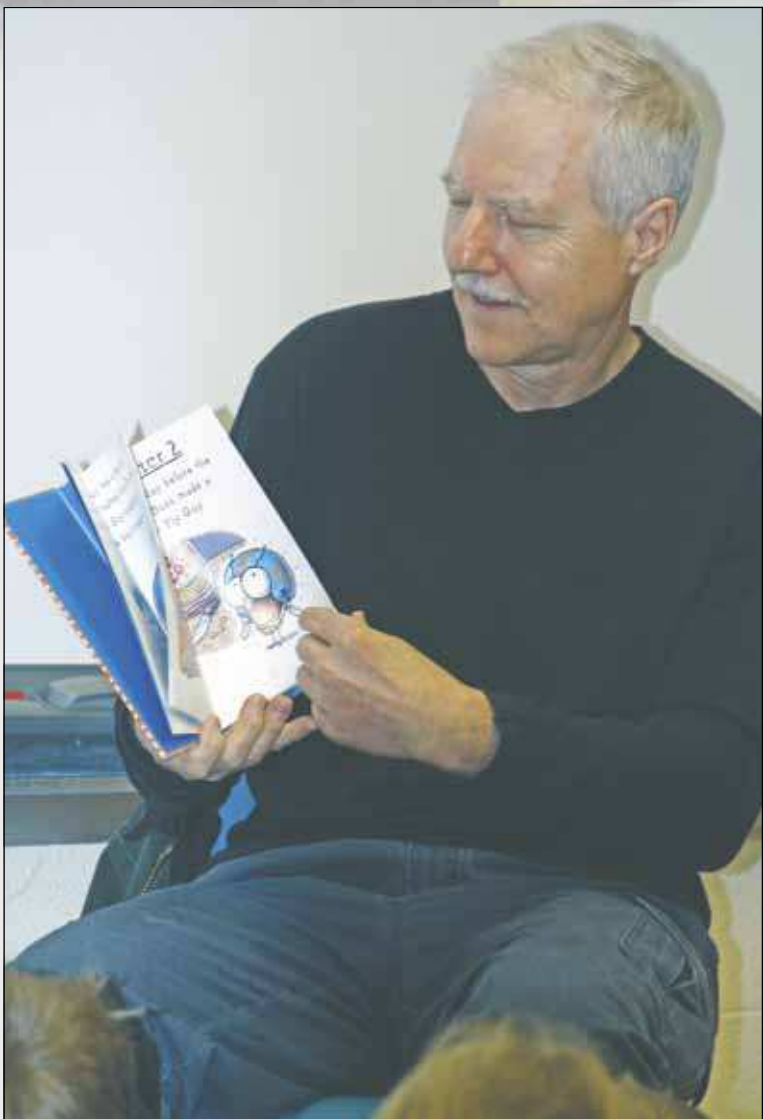
Dressed as Dr. Seuss' character "The Cat in The Hat," Rasmussen celebrates Read Across America and Dr. Seuss Week each year with Falls Elementary students.

The reading initiative was recognized at the school Friday when dozens of community members came to the school to read books to classes at the school.

As former teacher Rasmussen met with Dawn Schindeldecker's fifth grade class, she told the students all Dr. Seuss books teach a valuable lesson. Rasmussen read, of course, "The Cat in the Hat" and "The Hunter" by local author Mary Casanova.

Jeff Hardwig read to first graders in Lisa Auran's class three books he said had been recommended by teacher, and his wife, Mary Kay Hardwig,

Seuss to A7 >



STAFF PHOTOS BY LAUREL BEAGER

Jeff Hardwig reads Friday to first graders in Lisa Auran's class three books he said had been recommended by teacher, and his wife, Mary Kay Hardwig, whose classroom is just down the hall at the school.

## Board expels students for weapons

BY EMILY GEDDE  
Staff Writer

Three Falls High School students who brought weapons to school last month were expelled Monday by the Falls School Board.

The expulsions, which last one calendar year, are the result of an investigation by school officials that began after a Feb. 21 incident. The names of the students, who are minors, were not released.

During an open discussion Monday, the board agreed to

pass three resolutions – one for each student involved. The first resolution did not list a reason for expulsion because the student waived their right to a hearing prior to Monday's board meeting, according to Falls Superintendent Kevin Grover. Hearings were conducted last week.

The next resolution said the reason for action was possession of a weapon on school property and the third said it was for possession of a weapon and

Expel to A7 >

## Ice, ice, baby

BY SPENSER BICKETT  
Staff Writer

While most Borderlanders are enjoying the heat wave this week, one local man is lamenting its timing.

Mark LeBlanc finished building an 11-foot ice sculpture of the Transamerica Pyramid, the tallest skyscraper in San Francisco, early Sunday morning. Monday afternoon, LeBlanc said the bright western sun was already starting to do its damage to the sculpture's sides.

LeBlanc said he's been building ice sculptures every winter since 1992, as a tribute to his parents, who passed away within five months of each other. As a kid, LeBlanc said his family would visit an uncle in Fort Frances, and there was always someone on his uncle's street

Ice to A7 >



STAFF PHOTO BY EMILY GEDDE

Mark LeBlanc's ice sculpture of the Transamerica Pyramid is lit up at night.

## Falls native among several local forum presenters

BY LAUREL BEAGER  
Editor

An International Falls native and Rainy Lake summer resident will present an abstract at this week's International Rainy — Lake of the Woods Watershed Forum at Rainy River Community College.

Jeffrey C. Kantor, professor of chemical and biomolecular engineering at the University of Notre Dame, will present a model for predictive control strategies for implementing rule

curves for the Namakan Reservoir and Rainy Lake Watershed.

The special focus session at this year's forum is "Effects of artificial lake level management: Multidisciplinary preparation for a review of the IJC 2000 rule curves for Rainy Lake and Namakan Reservoir." That special focus will be a part of the forum along with the usual topics related to the Rainy-Lake of the Woods basin, such as nutrients and water quality, algae,

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