

LOCALNEWS

In light of Boise job terminations, donations will be matched

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

Hard times call for “United” measures, according to Mark Bakk.

Bakk, board president of United Way of Northeastern Minnesota and director of finance for Lake Country Power, said the United Way’s motto: LIVE UNITED, means to band together in times of crisis to help community members and neighbors.

“When the news of the

permanent elimination of 265 jobs at Boise Inc. came out in May, we at United Way of Northeastern Minnesota started racking our brains as to how we could help,” Bakk told The Journal in a statement. “UWNEMN’s service territory includes both the Iron Range and Koochiching County, though funds raised in each community stay local. We decided that the most important immediate focus should be on the community’s most

vulnerable members – children.”

To help the International Falls and surrounding communities, UWNEMN has set up a fund to raise support to continue and expand the Buddy Backpack program in Koochiching County.



Mark Bakk

“The need for a program like Buddy Backpacks, providing weekend meals to food insecure children, will undoubtedly rise in the wake of the pending layoffs, which will officially begin in October, just as the school year is getting underway,” said Bakk. “Currently, one in five children in Koochiching County is living in poverty, which is a statistic that is higher than on the Iron Range.”

Bakk said the generosity of

the Otto Bremer Foundation donations to the fund will be matched dollar for dollar, up to \$10,000. “Your dollars will be maximized through this match, doubling your impact on children’s lives in the area,” he said.

“Many of us on the Iron Range can relate to times of layoffs and downsizing, and know the stress that can be put on a family,” said Bakk. “This permanent layoff will not affect just the Boise employees

losing their jobs but will have a trickle-down effect on the surrounding businesses and services, affecting those families also. I encourage you to LIVE UNITED and join us in supporting the children of International Falls and Koochiching County with this effort.”

To donate, visit www.unitedwaynemn.org or send a donation to UWNEMN at 229 West Lake Street, Chisholm, MN 55719.

Kalin launches campaign for secretary of state

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

Touting his record as a small business owner and two-term state legislator, Jeremy Kalin announced his candidacy for Minnesota secretary of state Tuesday.

Kalin was joined by his wife and campaign supporters and military veterans for the announcement at the state Capitol.

“I am running for secretary of state because I am passionate about our democracy, and about making it work for every Minnesotan,” stated Kalin. “I believe that every Minnesota citizen deserves the right to vote, and to have that vote counted. As chief author of the Military Voting Bill, I am proud to have worked with Secretary of State Mark Ritchie and our state’s veterans to pass the largest expansion of voting rights for

Minnesotans in decades.”

Kalin said he will seek the DFL endorsement next spring. He said he plans to run the a grassroots, people-powered campaign similar to those that helped him secure two terms in the Minnesota House, representing a district with suburban, exurban and rural voters.

Kalin applauded Ritchie, who has said he will not seek reelection, for his work in restoring Minnesota’s leadership in running fair, free, and open elections.

“The Secretary of State’s Office must be run in a nonpartisan manner, by someone with a passion for protecting our



Jeremy Kalin

democracy for everyone. Secretary Ritchie has restored and strengthened that tradition for Minnesota. While he leaves big shoes to fill, I am excited about running for and serving as Minnesota’s next secretary of state.”

In the legislature, Kalin represented Chisago County just outside the Twin Cities metropolitan area.

Kalin also cited his experience as a small business owner in his decision to run for secretary of state.

“As the president and founder of my own business, I know the challenges and struggles faced every day by Main Street and family-owned businesses across our state. I am excited about creating a Small Business Innovation Center in the Secretary of State’s office, to connect new entrepreneurs with all

of the great resources that already exist for innovators today – because a small business owner should be focused on developing great ideas, not on figuring out which piece of paper they need to file with which governmental body.”

Kalin cited his two-year-old twin children as a key motivator for running.

“As a husband and a father, I care deeply about protecting the Safe At Home program run by the Secretary of State’s office. Safe At Home ensures address confidentiality for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking or other threats to their safety. Victims of these crimes of violence should be able to go about their lives without fear that the simple act of voting could expose their whereabouts to their aggressor.”

DOUBLE HEADER



STAFF PHOTO BY JEANIE TILANDER

A showy lady slipper, Minnesota’s state flower, features a double flower.



Holy Trinity Episcopal Church

OUTDOOR SERVICES

Voyageurs Visitor Center Picnic Area
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July 28th
August 11th

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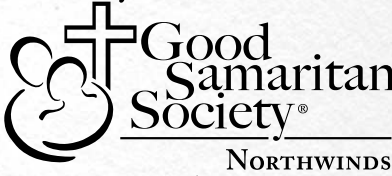
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