

Holiday dinner delights dozens

Community Christmas dinner returns for 8th year

A3



Deer harvest down

Declining numbers don't surprise DNR

B8



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Cadyn Zahn and his dog take advantage of the conditions Wednesday after school let students out early.

As storm subsides, snow removal efforts begin

Snowstorm closes schools early Wednesday

BY EMILY GEDDE Staff Writer

About 16.5 inches of snow glistened in the sunshine Thursday morning after what seemed like a never-ending snowstorm that began Monday. Snow could be seen flying in every direction early Thursday as residents and snow-removal crews worked to clean up the white stuff before the cold set in. Winter storm warnings for Borderland expired at 6 a.m. Thursday leaving in their place a wind chill advisory calling for potential wind chills as low as 25 below zero. "Residents all around the area need to get the snow

cleaned up before the cold sets in," Mike Stewart, meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Duluth told The Journal Thursday. "Once it gets too cold, it will be like moving concrete...But on the plus side, with the cold air coming in, it'll shut off any major snow storms for at least a week and a half." This week's persistent snowstorm had some kind of flurries flying for nearly 72 hours straight, and gave snowplow crews little time to sleep between extended shifts. International Falls Public Works Director Gary Skallman said city crews began plowing snow Thursday at midnight and were still at it around 9 a.m. later that day. "Early-hour shifts are scheduled primarily for safety and less traveling motorists during these hours," he said.

Snow to A7 >



Saren Olson uses a snowblower to remove snow near Sears on Third Street Thursday morning. Borderland residents woke up Thursday to the end of a three-day snowstorm that left 16.5 inches of snow on the ground locally and up to 3 feet in other parts of the state.

CVB seeks marketing funds

City, county consider request

BY LAUREL BEAGER Editor

A request for \$93,000 from each International Falls and Koochiching County to market tourism opportunities by the area's Convention and Visitor Center isn't likely to be fully funded. However, members of the Koochiching Development Authority Board Tuesday said they would consider providing a lesser amount. Pete Schultz, CVB director, and Joe Mershon, CVB Board president, met with the KDA Board, which is made up of county commissioners, to discuss the proposal. With the loss of 265 jobs from the local paper mill and tourism serving as the community's second largest industry, the timing is right to invest in tourism, Schultz told the board. Mershon added tourism is the reason he lives in the community. "It's how I got here — a summer vacation," he said. Mershon said increasing the number of tourists to the the area by marketing to specific areas is a cost-effective way to recover from the paper mill job loss. "We don't need infrastructure," he said. "All we need to do is market a great product. Every extra dollar gives great results." The CVB has budgeted nearly \$93,000 itself for marketing, with all but about \$5,500 committed, according to an overview provided to the board. Schultz said meetings with International Falls officials indicate the city may contribute half of the requested \$93,000 or less because of financial constraints. "We ask for whatever help we can get," said Schultz. Mershon said he's passionate about tourism and said any money provided to the CVB for marketing wouldn't be squandered. "I would love to see something grow quickly and this is the way to make it happen," he said, adding the CVB would provide results in about one year of the additional marketing to the board. "The CVB works, tourism works. And getting people to the table and seeing the budget increase is the end goal."

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Remembering Pearl Harbor 72 years later

BY SPENSER BICKETT Staff Writer

Seventy-two years ago today, the U.S. suffered an enemy attack, the scale of which had not been seen before. Just before 8 a.m. Hawaiian time, more than 350 Japanese fighters, bombers, and torpedo planes unexpectedly attacked the U.S. Naval base in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. The attackers came in two waves from six aircraft carriers, destroying 188 U.S. aircraft, killing 2,402 and injuring 1,282.

The next day, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt declared Dec. 7, 1941 "a date which will live in infamy" in a Joint Session of Congress, calling for a formal declaration of war against Japan. Congress declared war less than an hour later, and the U.S. entered into World War II in the European and Pacific theaters. More than 70 years later, Japan



Wade Pavleck

is a world economic power, and the United States' fourth-largest trade partner, according to census data. Toyota, Nissan, and Honda all produce cars which sell well in the U.S., and Americans use their Sony PlayStation video game systems, hooked up to their Sony TVs. Japanese and American cultures have been intertwined, but the memory of Pearl Harbor still remains. Wade Pavleck, Koochiching County commissioner and Vietnam War veteran, said the attack was a catalyst to push the U.S. into WWII, and helped change

the course of American and world history. "Had we not taken action after the attack, who knows what would have happened?" Pavleck said. "It galvanized the nation and was a turning point in history." As a public official, Pavleck said he's talked with many older Koochiching County residents who were alive during the attack and have first-hand memories of the event. His grandparents and parents talked about it as well, he said, and it was unbelievable to them the U.S. was attacked by

another nation. Comparing it to his own experiences in Vietnam, Pavleck said the widespread support WWII veterans experienced upon their return home wasn't what he experienced. "The people coming home from WWII were the real heroes, the sacrifices they made were historic," he said. "With Vietnam, no one was excited you came home, there wasn't the widespread support." Japan's current economic prowess is in some part due to

Pearl Harbor to A7 >