

EDUCATION

STRAIGHT 'A'S

The Journal welcomes ideas for stories about students from and in our community.
Call the Journal at 285-7411

FHS alumni return to school in a teaching capacity

Kelly Langton-Antin — Independent School District 361 media generalist/librarian

Langton-Antin was born in Littlefork, grew up in International Falls and received her bachelors degree from Bemidji State University. A familiar face in the school, she has been a substitute for the last 10 years. Reading has always been a favorite pastime for her, which makes being a librarian a perfect fit.

Jeanna Toninato — Falls High School English teacher

Toninato graduated from FHS only a short while ago. The University of Minnesota Duluth is where she received her bachelors degree

in teaching communication, arts and literature. Toninato, who is starting her teaching career in her hometown, enjoys spending time with her family and friends at her cabin and on Rainy Lake. Being on the other side of the desk at FHS makes her former teachers her colleagues now.

Ryan Puncochar — Falls High School social studies, history teacher

Puncochar is from New Prague and received his degree at the University of Min-



Kelly Langton-Antin



Jeanna Toninato



Ryan Puncochar



Alex Ringhofer



Sarah Bradley



Joe Krause

nesota, Twin Cities, and also Minnesota State University in Mankato. This is his first full-time teaching position. His hobbies include fishing, rugby, snowboarding and football. Puncochar was excited to learn that one of the perks of living here is that he can camp in Voyageurs National Park free of charge.

Alex Ringhofer — Falls

High School math student teacher

Ringhofer graduated from FHS only a short while ago. She is attending college at North Dakota State University in Fargo, N.D., and will receive her teaching degree in math education in December. Ringhofer enjoys spending time in the garden, reading and hanging out

with her family. Seeing her former teachers as colleagues offers up some challenges. Fellow teachers call each other by their first name but to

is well liked by the students at FHS.

Joe Krause — West End Elementary School Title I teacher

Krause is originally from International Falls and graduated from Bemidji State University. He has spent time as a long-term substitute teacher, but this is his first year as a full-time teacher. When Krause was in school his favorite subject was science, especially biology. He loves to spend his time outdoors hunting and fishing with his family. He also enjoys attending sporting events in town and cheering on the students. Krause is another teacher who finds it enjoyable to work alongside some of his former teachers.

MnDOT hosting free truck-weight information workshop Oct. 2

MNDOT STAFF REPORT

The Minnesota Department of Transportation is hosting a free Truck-Weight Education Workshop Oct. 2 at the Bemidji MnDOT headquarters building, 3920 Highway 2 West.

The workshop will address concerns from state, county, city, and township transportation authorities regarding damage from heavy trucks. Explanations are provided which explain road weights during various times of the year including the winter load increase and spring load restrictions.

The program promotes voluntary compliance to reduce damage to public roads and highways from

overweight vehicles.

The goal is to provide information and explanations to attendees on how to haul the most legal weight without violating the truck-weight laws.

Topics covered include:

■ An update of road weight limits and differences between the state and local systems

■ Laws governing gross weights, axle weights, tire weights, road-restriction weights, and seasonally increased (winter and harvest) weights

■ Road damage issues: how overweight trucks cost us all

■ Overweight truck issues go beyond just gross and axle weights

■ Classroom exercises to help you identify concerns in your own trucks

■ What's different between axle spacing? Do I have the right tires for the weight?

■ Issues to consider when purchasing a new truck, or altering a current truck

■ Professional, easy-to-understand "take-home" materials to assist you with your own configurations and options

There is no fee to attend the workshop, but registration is required. Download the registration form for more information on Minnesota Statewide Truck-Weight Compliance Training or contact cceconf2@umn.edu, 612-625-2900.

Wenger granted admission to Great Lakes Maritime Academy

Corin S. Wenger, son of Marty and Diane Wenger, has been granted admission to the Great Lakes Maritime Academy.

He is a 2013 graduate of Falls High School and Rainy River Community College, and is currently serving a mission internship with Mennonite Mission Network in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Following his return to the United States in July 2014, Cadet Wenger is scheduled to report aboard ship in Traverse City, Mich., August 2014.



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BACKUS COMMUNITY CENTER

Season Tickets for Backus Concert Series 2013-2014
All concerts 7:00 p.m. at Backus Auditorium

September 28, 2013
Chris Koza, Singer/Songwriter Folk/Rock Band
"Rogue Valley"

October 14, 2013
The Rose Ensemble, Vocal/Instrumental
"The Roots of Bluegrass"

November 8, 2013
Hard Travelin' with Woody (Guthrie)
Randy Noojin (One Man Show)

February 28 & March 1, 2014
Touring production of "The Mill" by
Jeannine Coulombe (1989 labor unrest in Int'l Falls)

March 22, 2014
The Galactic Cowboy Orchestra
Original/Traditional Bluegrass

Season Tickets:	Single Admission:
Adult \$45.00	Adult \$12.00
Family \$95.00	Family \$25.00
Student \$10.00	Student \$6.00

Tickets available at Backus Office, City Drug and Betty's in Fort Frances

Backus is fully accessible to persons with disabilities – please call our office for specific accommodations.

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Kindergarten teacher Miranda Gustafson helps her students plant a raised bed garden.

Indus School starts off on a positive note

INDUS SCHOOL REPORT

The school year is off to an exciting start at Indus School. An open house took place Aug. 28 for parents and students, featuring a simulation of a school day.

For high school students, this meant 10-minute segments with each high school teacher to find out about each subject.

Elementary students met with their teachers, as well, and heard a presentation by the Boy Scouts.

A meal was provided and staff were introduced by principal Michael Underwood.

Underwood, in his first year at Indus, is pleased with the way the year has started out, saying, "The first seven days of school have exceeded my expectations with regard to student attitudes and behaviors."

The school population is also ahead of last year's.

During the first week of school, the Indus Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports team, led by sixth grade teacher Sara Wendt, held a rally to reintroduce students to PBIS and to explain new aspects of the program.

Featured at the rally was

"Ditsch Dynasty," a skit modeled after the popular TV show "Duck Dynasty," and starring fifth grade teacher, Leon Ditsch and school administrative secretary Karen Anderson. This is the second year Indus has had the PBIS program.

Also new this year is a salad bar during school lunchtime, provided through a School Health Improvement Program grant, along with school gardens built by Ralph Lewis and managed by science teacher Tom Van Damme.

High school and elemen-

tary students will be planting and caring for the gardens which will provide some of the produce for the salad bar. As a part of the wellness program at Indus, physical education and health teacher Melody Nelson-Swenson is coordinating the new Presidential Youth Fitness Program in her classes, as well.

And, the fall Indus sports season is off and running, with varsity girls' volleyball and two sports shared in a co-op arrangement with Lake of the Woods Schools: nine-man football and cross country.