

# EDUCATION

## Program aims to make back-to-school exciting

BY EMILY GEDDE  
Staff Writer

The back-to-school ads are out and practices for fall sports are in full swing. The first day of school is right around the corner.

While gathering new backpacks, the trendiest clothes and supplies for the upcoming school year can be exciting for some, for others, the cost of everything can be too much for the checkbook.

That's where the Learning Tree Program comes in.

Similar to the angel tree at Christmastime, the learning tree features back-to-school wish lists of Borderland children ages 5-18 in grades kindergarten through 12th grade.

"The main goal (of the program) is to provide at least five main school supply needs and three main clothing needs to each child signed up in the program to prepare them for going back to school," said Joe Nikolanci, one of the program's coordinators. "Each year, we've been able to provide virtually all the supplies and clothing that each kid asks for because we have such great sponsors."

So far, Nikolanci said about 153 children are signed up for the program, which is down from last year's total of 178.

"But that's a good thing," he said. "That means less people are in need this



STAFF PHOTO BY EMILY GEDDE

**School supply wish lists made out by Borderland children hang on a learning tree at the Chocolate Moose waiting for shoppers to pick them up. Those purchasing supplies on the lists have until Aug. 22 to do their shopping.**

year."

The deadline for applications for children eligible for the program was July 25, but Nikolanci assured people still wanting to sign up that there is time.

"We always accept late applications," he said. "We want to make sure no kids get left behind or forgotten."

Shoppers fulfilling apple-shaped wish lists, which are placed at locations list-

ed in the box connected to this story, have until Aug. 22 to drop off purchased supplies. Supplies are tentatively scheduled to be distributed Aug. 25.

Nikolanci reminded shoppers there are other ways to help the program other than selecting a wish list.

"If people feel they don't want to fully commit to taking a whole supply list from a learning tree, they can

### More information

**Learning trees are available at the following locations:**

- Stewart's SuperOne
- County Market
- TruStar Federal Credit Union
- Border State Bank
- Chocolate Moose
- Hardees
- City Drug
- Rainy Lake Medical Center
- United Healthcare
- Evangelical Covenant Church

**Purchased supplies can be dropped off at:**

- City Drug
- Stewart's SuperOne
- United Healthcare

provide a monetary donation or a simple donation of supplies as well," he said. "Any monetary donations can be made to the Rotary Club payable to the learning tree."

Donations can be dropped off at Randy Pozniak's office, 213 Third St.

Nikolanci stressed how grateful he was to be part of a program that aims to help others in need.

"It's important for me to be able to give some of my time and efforts to help people who are truly in need," he said. "It's really great to see the community rally around a great cause."

## Elks plan annual corn and brat feed

International Falls Elks Lodge 1599 will host its annual Corn and Brat Feed from 3 to 7 p.m. Friday. The public is welcome to attend this event, that takes place each year to help raise money for scholarship to local area students.

The lodge will serve a brat or a burger, all the corn you can eat, and a beverage for \$6. Featured will be a cash raffle, silent auction and free cotton candy, as well as a bounce house for the kids. Live music by Pat Porter will begin at 7 in the lodge.

Elks Lodge 1599 actively participates in scholarship programs each year. Students in the area schools should check in with the school counselors for information and application deadlines for Elks scholarships.

The Most Valuable Student Scholarship Program provides 500 four-year scholarships ranging from \$1,000 to \$15,000 per year for graduating high school seniors based on financial need, leadership and academic excellence.

The Legacy Award Program is open to any high school senior who is the child, step child, grandchild or step grandchild of a living Elk in good standing who joined the order on or before April 1, 2011.

A total of \$56,000 has been awarded to students through Lodge 1599 since 2001.

Amy Auran was awarded \$1,000 a year for four years as one of the Minnesota Legacy Award winners in 2014.

Elks Lodge 1599 also pro-

vides local scholarships to area students through the efforts of the Past Exalted Rulers, Elks Bowlers, LeRoy Belanger Memorial, Elks Lodge 1599, Mike Hines Memorial, the Lady Elks, Recreation Hockey and the Elks Curlers.

This year, a total of \$5,800 in scholarships were awarded to Brooke Millerbernd, Bailey Vollum, Sofia Olesen, Jakob Ettestad, Allison Fairchild, Logen Amundsen, Katie West, Chandra Wiley, Kathleen Klow, Auran and Marissa Siltman.

ELKS LODGE LOCAL SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER

BRAT OR BURGER/CORN BEER OR POP

Silent Auction

Cash Raffle

\$6

ALL THE CORN YOU CAN EAT

Bounce House for the Kids

FREE Cotton Candy

Friday, August 15 3-7 p.m. Third Street

Live Music with PAT PORTER Starting at 7 p.m. Public Invited

Public Invited

Rainy Lake Community Orchestra 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Summer String Concert

Friday, August 15 • 7:00 p.m. Ranier Community Building No Admission Charge - Refreshments Following Concert

This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Arrowhead Regional Arts Council thanks to a legislative appropriation and an appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.

Thank You

to all who supported us through your donations. Our Butterfly Release was a success!

Thank you to AmericInn and Lenard's Restaurant for opening their gardens to us.

A HUGE thank you to Lenard for setting it all up, you have been such a huge help to us over the years.

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10 Year Anniversary

6TH ANNUAL CHAMPIONSHIP Car Show!

Featuring a drive thru the Big Tent! Saturday, Aug. 23<sup>rd</sup> 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Many Awards! "Gas" Card Prizes!

Smokey Bear Park 8 a.m. : Car Show Registration 10 a.m. : Car Show Begins 4 p.m. : Car Show Awards!

Pat or Debbie Harris • 218-283-4938 patharris@frontier.net or pdharris1955@hotmail.com "Check out the weekend events @ ifallsbass.com"

Big Brother Jake would like to announce the arrival of his sister Hadley Renee Lucca, 6.9 oz. 19 1/2 in. long, born on Tuesday, July 29th at 4:16 p.m..

Proud parents are Ryan and Jessica Lucca. Grandparents are John and Jill Roche, Doug and LuAnn Henrickson and Tim and Wendi Lucca. Great-Grandparents are John and Judy Olson, Mary Roche, Cheryl and Ken Henrickson, Leroy and Linda Dahl, Carolyn McDougall and Tranquillo and Dorothy Lucca. Also, Great - Great Grandma Agnes Henrickson, aunts and uncles Rylan, Liana, and Kallie Henrickson, Rob Lucca, and Krysten Hall. Deceased great grandparents are Jerry Arel, John Roche, and Jake McDougall.

This is Northwoods Eating

Breakfast Specials Mon.-Sat. \$6.29 • Sunday \$7.29

Mon. Big Moose Skillet with hashbrowns

Tues. Breakfast Sandwich with hashbrowns

Wed. French Toast w/eggs & sausage or bacon

Thurs. Blueberry Pancakes w/eggs & sausage or bacon

Fri. Biscuits & Gravy w/eggs & hashbrowns

Sat. Cinnamon Swirl French Toast with ham & eggs

Sun. Blueberry Cream Cheese Crepes with eggs & ham

Dinner Specials

Mon. Half Chicken Dinner \$10.99

Tues. Full Rack of BBQ Ribs \$17.99

Wed. Pan Fried Walleye \$14.99

Thurs. Mozzarella Girasole w/Marinara Sauce \$10.99

Fri. Fishermen's Catch \$16.99

Sat. Rib Eye Steak \$17.99

Sun. Chicken Kiev \$11.99

Dinners include choice of potato & salad. Choice of soup for \$1.00 Canadian Money at par!

Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner

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