

# LOCALNEWS

## Art experience in Duluth

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

The Tweed Museum of Art at the University of Minnesota-Duluth will feature the art of internationally-celebrated watercolorist Cheng-Khee Chee from May 12-Sept. 20.

The solo exhibition brings together 40 watercolor paintings created over the past 40 years, including “Duluth Depot of 1974,” the first painting Chee exhibited with the American Watercolor Society, as well as the monumental “100 Koi” the artist completed in late 2014.

Experiences and influences of both Eastern and Western art and culture have shaped the six-decade-long artistic career of Chee, according to a news release.

Born in 1934 in Fengting, southeastern China, the artist emigrated to British-

colonized Malaysia at age 14. As a self-taught artist, with both Eastern and Western mentors, Chee has developed a combined vision incorporating the processes of Chinese brushwork with Western painting styles.

Over the years, Chee has developed and adapted a repertoire of techniques from both East and West that clearly identify his work and have influenced countless students. For the philosophical underpinnings of his creative practice, the artist cites Confucianism and Buddhism as powerful influences.

“After many years of practice, I have concluded that the watercolor medium is closer to Tao than any other medium,” Chee said in the release. “The very flowing movement of washes has a strong evocative power. The interpenetration of

colors creates mysterious precipitations and nuance. In watercolor, the artist can let the medium obey its own laws and create wonders in the same way that nature creates her own works.”

In addition to the artist’s aesthetic concerns, Chee has demonstrated a passionate commitment to the medium of watercolor by working tirelessly to engage new audiences through teaching workshops, leading cultural tours and organizing international exhibitions.

“In Chee’s art the interplay between Taoist philosophy, Chinese brush painting and Western art forms — from realism to complete abstraction — offers us an expanded way to look at watercolor painting,” Peter Spooner, the exhibition’s guest curator, said in a release. “He offers viewers multiple ways to approach

his art. Each path yields an enriching opportunity to perceive the world through his eyes. A focus on technique is one path; attention to spiritual influences is another. This exhibition gives everyone — local fans, watercolor aficionados and students alike — several means to appreciate his work.”

**First exhibition**

The Way of Cheng-Khee Chee: Paintings 1974-2014 is the first exhibition by the artist at the Tweed Museum of Art since 1992, and will be accompanied by a publication with essays by artist and writer Ann Klefstad and guest curator Peter Spooner. A variety of public programs are planned, including receptions, gallery talks, and a three-day workshop for practitioners and novices alike, led by Chee. For registration and fee information, visit [www.d.umn.edu/tma](http://www.d.umn.edu/tma).

## Fire danger remains high in Minnesota

MNICS REPORT

Fire danger remains high in most of Minnesota despite scattered precipitation.

Weather plays an important role in fire danger and the chance of a small fire spreading and doing damage. Minnesota’s weather forecast for this week shows that most of the state will experience high to very high fire danger, according to Minnesota Incident Command System, known as MNICS.

Relative humidity is at critical levels despite some rain that fell this week.

Green-up is just beginning in southern Minnesota, but without significant rain, green-up statewide is likely to be delayed. Until green-up, even significant rains only lessen fire danger for a short time.

Minnesota fire managers use several methods to determine fire danger including fine fuel moisture, 1,000-hour fuel moisture and probability of ignition.

The majority of wildfires in Minnesota begin in grass or other fine fuels including standing dead vegetation in fields, swamps and other open areas. These fuels dry out in a matter of hours.

So, if it rains in the morning or even much of the day, when the sun comes out and there is a light breeze, those dead grasses and other small fuels can dry out and be available to burn in as little as an hour. At this time of year, a rain does not buy us even of day of low fire danger.

Fine fuel moisture this week could drop to 3 percent — extremely low.

Another factor is larger

woody material from 3 to 8 inches in diameter and the layer of duff on the forest floor. With the below normal precipitation Minnesota has received this year, these fuels will take a long time to adjust to wetter conditions (more than a month). Although they do not ignite easily, when they do, they generate extreme heat often causing dangerous fire behavior and make mopping up fires more difficult.

Minnesota is experiencing historical low 1,000 hour fuel moistures. Values are in the teens in much of the state.

One other factor firefighters use is the probability of ignition, which considers the chance that a source of heat such as a spark will start a fire should it land on receptive fuels.

This week, probability of ignition could reach 85 percent, extremely high.

A weak cold front will move across northern Minnesota tonight and into Tuesday bringing light rain, with about a tenth of an inch possible in some areas. But a tenth of an inch of precipitation will not change fire conditions for long.

The weather will become dry and even warmer Wednesday and Thursday, with the first shot at a significant change in fire danger this weekend with another round of showers.

Fire danger will remain high this week. The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources fire managers urge caution when working with equipment that can cause sparks, outdoor boilers and campfires.

Falls ranged from \$2.29 to \$2.45 per gallon, according to the site.

Including the change in gas prices in Minnesota during the past week, prices Sunday were 119.9 cents per gallon lower compared to the same

## National average rises on higher crude prices

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

Average retail gasoline prices in Minnesota have risen 3.6 cents in the past week, averaging \$2.36 per gallon Sunday, according to GasBuddy’s daily survey of 2,856

gas outlets in Minnesota. This compares with the national average that has increased 8.2 cents in the last week to \$2.54 per gallon, according to gasoline price website MinnesotaGasPrices.com.




Gas prices in International

day one year ago and are 4.5 cents per gallon higher than a month ago. The national average has increased 10.7 cents per gallon during the last month and stands 116.7 cents per gallon lower than this day one year ago.

For the most current information on Rainy and Namakan Lake levels, visit the following:

[www.ijc.org/en/RLWWB](http://www.ijc.org/en/RLWWB)

(click on the 'Data' link)



FALLS HUNGER COALITION IS SEEKING A VISIONARY, EXPERIENCED LEADER TO SERVE AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.

Applicants must have college degree in relevant field or 2-3 years work equivalent, present a professional demeanor under a variety of conditions, develop positive relationships with organizations within our Coalition. A successful candidate must be able to manage the operational components of the food shelf, possess excellent written and oral communication skills and oversee/coordinate numerous volunteers. Knowledge of Quick Books, grant seeking/writing, reporting and public relations is necessary. This Position requires the ability to stay informed about Government laws and programs. The director must be able to attend meetings, work on special projects and fundraising, have the ability to be creative as well as a strategic thinker, conduct tours, and meet deadlines.

RESUMES MAY BE SENT TO:

FALLS HUNGER COALITION1000 5th St. Int'l Falls, MN 56649Application deadline will be May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2015





Join us at an open house meeting near you

Minnesota Power is hosting public open house meetings to update the public on the **Great Northern Transmission Line Project**. Two main project updates to be informed of include:

Attend a meeting to:

- Hear a Project update.
- Discuss the new Scoping Decision Routes.
- Learn how to get involved in the EIS & routing processes.

- Scoping meetings and an associated comment period was held by the MN Department of Commerce and the U.S. Department of Energy in July and August 2014. The scoping decision document was published on January 9, 2015 under PUC Docket Number: E-015/TL-14-21.
- The Draft Environmental Impact Statement (Draft EIS) is anticipated to be available for review in mid-June 2015 with EIS Information hearings in July 2015.

Route alternatives and alignment modifications were identified during the Draft EIS scoping process beyond the routes we filed in our Route Application in April 2014. These Draft EIS alternatives and alignments are currently being studied and analyzed as part of the Draft EIS process. These new Draft EIS alternatives and alignments are referred to as the Scoping Decision Routes.

Detailed maps of the Scoping Decision Routes available online at: [www.GreatNorthernTransmissionLine.com/map](http://www.GreatNorthernTransmissionLine.com/map). We encourage you to review the Scoping Decision Routes and understand the impacts they may have in your area.

In order to keep landowners and stakeholders informed, especially those now potentially affected by the Scoping Decision Routes, we are holding a series of open houses in May. Please attend and share your feedback with the Project Team and learn about how you can participate in the EIS & routing processes.

Date & City	Time	Venue Name & Address
<b>Roseau</b> Monday, May 4	5pm - 7pm	Roseau Civic Center 121 Center St E, Roseau, MN 56751
<b>Warroad</b> Tuesday, May 5	11am - 1pm	American Legion 410 East Lake St, Warroad, MN 56763
<b>Baudette</b> Tuesday, May 5	5pm - 7pm	Baudette Ambulance Garage 111 First Ave SW, Baudette, MN 56623
<b>Littlefork</b> Wed, May 6	5pm - 7pm	Littlefork Community Center 220 Main St, Littlefork, MN 56653
<b>Northome</b> Monday, May 11	5pm - 7pm	Northome Public School 11731 MN Hwy 1, Northome, MN 56661
<b>Bigfork</b> Tuesday, May 12	11am - 1pm	Bigfork Edge Center 200 Main Ave, Bigfork, MN 56628
<b>Grand Rapids</b> Tuesday, May 12	5pm - 7pm	Timber Lake Lodge 114 SE 17th St, Grand Rapids, MN 55744

Visit [www.GreatNorthernTransmissionLine.com](http://www.GreatNorthernTransmissionLine.com) or call 877.657.9934

Wedding Invitations

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Thank you for being THE HERO!



We would like to extend a huge **THANK YOU** to the community, individuals and the following organizations that used their superpowers this March and donated to support **Falls Hunger Coalition**:

Advanced Chiropractic  
Bremer Bank  
Border State Bank  
Coffee Landing  
County Market  
Einarson Flying Service  
Evolve U Fitness  
Gearhart's Floral  
Hardee's  
Int'l Voyageurs Snowmobile Club  
Knights of Columbus  
Northern Exposure  
Rainy Lake Medical Center  
Rotary Club of Int'l Falls  
Shermoen & Jaksa  
Super One  
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United Health Group  
Waschke Family GM Center



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