PRESIDENTIAL SAVINGS
County Market LIQUOR

Miller Lite
24 Pack Cans
$16.97

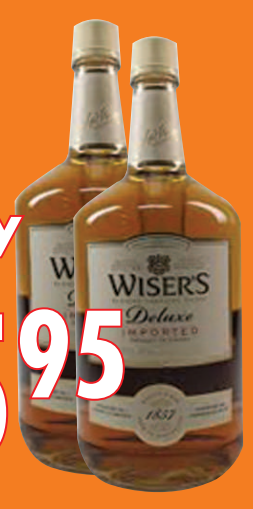
Corona
12 Pack Bottles
$12.97

Redd's Ale
12 Pack Bottles
or 12 Pack Cans
$11.97

Summit
6 Pack Bottles
$6.96

Captain Morgan
1.75 Liter
$19.97

Wisers Whiskey
1.75 Liter
$15.95



E & J Brandy
1.75 Liter
$14.97

UV Vodka
1.0 Liter
$9.97

Robert Mondavi Wines
750 ML
$6.96

Sweet Bitch Wines
750 ML
$6.96

14 Hands Wines
750 ML
$8.98

Black Box Wines
3 Liter
$16.96

County Market LIQUOR
Prices good thru Saturday
February 22nd, 2014
VISA MasterCard American Express Card
Monday—Saturday
8a.m. — 10p.m.
Sunday - CLOSED
1907 Valley Pine Circle • Int'l Falls, MN 56649
Right next to County Market • 218-283-6163
Come for the SERVICE.....Leave with the SAVINGS!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

**Members of the "Super Stormers," coached by Mary Ciriacy, were Erika Hufnalge, Rylee Kittleson, Maria Hoopman, David Ciriacy, Kaden Bjorkquist and Colt Dahlgren.**

# 4-H robotic teams compete in state championship

**UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA EXTENSION**
Koochiching County 4-H Office

Two teams from International Falls competed at the Minnesota First Lego League State Championship Feb. 8 at the Washington Technology Magnet School, St. Paul.

This was the first time a Koochiching County 4-H team from the Falls qualified to participate in the state tournament. This year, Minnesota had 555 teams participating in the 2013-2014 tournament season, and only 66 advanced to the state tournament.

Each fall, First Lego League releases a challenge theme. It changes every year, and is based on a set of real-world problems facing scientists and engineers today. This year it was called "Nature's Fury" which had to do with natural disasters. All of the areas of the competition revolve around the challenge theme.

The tournament score is composed of four areas: performance of robot runs, project presentation, core values/teamwork interview, and the design and programming interview.

Teams work together to build and program a robot using Lego Robotics educational kits. They score points by programming it to complete as many tasks on the playing surface it can, in 2.5 minutes. The entire team must also participate in the project area where they create an innovative solution to a problem correlated to the yearly theme. The project presentation is five minutes in front of a panel of judges, followed by a question and answer session on their research.

Next, another panel interview with a teamwork "task" (given to them at that time) to complete as they are judged on how well they work as a together, and use the "core values" of the First Lego League. Lastly, another panel interview on their robot design and explaining their programming code.

"It was a long day, competing against the best teams in Minnesota," said Mary Ciriacy, coach."Some of these teams are after school programs that practice every day. It was a great experience for our 4-H teams to be able to participate here and gain experience for next year's season. I found out that a few of the teams that we were competing against have patents pending on their project's innovative solutions. What a great goal for next season."

Members of the "Super Stormers," coached by Mary Ciriacy, included Erika Hufnalge, Rylee Kittleson, Maria Hoopman, David Ciriacy, Kaden Bjorkquist and Colt Dahlgren, and placed 21 out of 66 in robot performance. The project area was rain storm. "Our solution is to create a new roofing material to prevent hail damage to roofs. We plan on using the better of these two products: metal roofing and impact resistant rubber shingles," said a news release about the event.

Members of the "Last One Standing," coached by Timothy Ciriacy, included Megan Herrly, Jacob Hufnagle, Michael Ciriacy and Heather Hall. Their project area was blizzard.

"The 'Get Back Park' is a winter storm survival kit," said the news release. "It will be marketed toward teenagers in a stylish design and portable — so they can take it with them when driving or riding with friends."

At the regional tournament the "Last One Standing" robotic had won the head to head with consistent score of 369. During the practice sessions between the regional and State tournament, their robot was maintaining a score of 470. With a highest table score of 505 which would have put them in the top three at the State Championship. However, their robot did not perform well at the tournament; their highest run was 242. The team members were disappointed, but handed themselves with courtesy and maturity.

Knowing that they would not place well, it came by surprise to the "Last One Standing" to hear the team name being called for an award during the awards ceremony. It was the first place "Gracious Professionalism" Award — presented to the team who was positively impacted their competitors based on input from other teams at the tournament on sportsmanship-like qualities, and judges' referrals from the Core Values interview.

This senior team had served as mentors to the International Falls rookie team, putting in more than 50 combined hours as youth leaders. One member did a presentation on programming overview for all the other teams at the beginning of the season. Another member did one on one training for the Super Stormers members called Programming for Non-Programmers.

"Starting all the way back in October, last every Monday and Wednesday was a four-hour commitment for the senior team members who choose to be mentors to the younger teams. First they would come and help the younger teams and then they would stay for their own team practice," said 4-H Program Coordinator Stacy Hall. "They may have not been the last ones standing at the head to head table that Saturday, but they were the ones who stood out above the crowd."

**Members of the "Last One Standing," coached by Timothy Ciriacy, were Megan Herrly, Jacob Hufnagle, Michael Ciriacy and Heather Hall.**