

# Local author writes books for new American Girl

## JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

A new American Girl is out and ready for action. Grace Thomas, the 2015 Girl of the Year, an avid baker with an entrepreneurial spirit, is motivated to follow her dream of starting a baking business after an inspiring trip to Paris, according to a news release.

The Girl of the Year books — “Grace,” “Grace Stirs It Up,” and “Grace Makes It Great” are all written by local author Mary Casanova.

Casanova is no stranger to the American Girl brand. According to the release, the author has written books for three other American Girl characters — Jess, Chrissa, and McKenna.

With every novel, Casanova researches and travels extensively, the release continued. For Grace, she traveled to Paris with her daughter, Kate.

“I’d been to France

three times for research and to speak,” she said. “This time, my research meant simply being a tourist. Because I’m geographically challenged, I invited my daughter, who use to be a band tour manager, to join me.”

While in Paris, the mother-daughter duo rented bikes, walked along the Seine, explored parks and famous sites, sipped coffee at outdoor cafes, sampled pastries, and took a baking class in the home of a French chef.

“Ah, Paris,” Casanova said in the release. “What a wonderful place to do



Mary Casanova wrote three books for American Girl’s new Girl of the Year, Grace.

research.”

Much like Casanova, the character of Grace loves to bake and returns from a trip to Paris with the courage and skills to start her own French baking business with her two best friends.

“Learning to combine their talents, Grace and her friends mix together some great ideas that, ultimately, lead to many sweet rewards,” the release concluded.

In addition to the books, Grace’s story will be featured in a full-length movie expected to debut from Universal Studios Home Entertainment this summer.

# BILLY MCLAUGHLIN AND HIS ELECTRIC STRING QUARTET



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The next show in the Backus Community Center concert series, Billy McLaughlin and his electric string quartet, is set to take the stage at 7 p.m. Friday. Single-show tickets are \$12 for adults; \$6 for students; and \$25 for families.

## More information

TO further Grace’s message that working together is the best recipe for success, American Girl has created For Goodness, Bake!, a year-long fundraising initiative in support of the No Kid Hungry campaign.

The initiative began Jan. 1, and the American Girl company donated \$50,000 to No Kid Hungry and is encouraging girls to host charity bake sales in their local communities and donate proceeds to the organization. For every \$1 raised, No Kid Hungry can connect a child with 10 additional meals.

For more information, visit [www.americangirl.com/girlloftheyear](http://www.americangirl.com/girlloftheyear).

Go to [ifallsjournal.com](http://ifallsjournal.com)




Read.  
(New stuff every day)

Register.  
(Once. You’re done!)

Remark.  
(Comment blog.)

QR CODE DIRECTORY



Scan the QR code to reveal more information, including valuable discounts, upcoming events and news about the products and services you care about.

Print or display the offer on your phone to redeem at the selected business.

International Falls Journal

RETAIL



401 Fourth Street  
Int’l Falls, MN  
218-283-3454



We feature a great selection of furniture styles, including traditional, contemporary, casual, cottage, mission, distressed, painted, arts and crafts and eclectic. You can express your personal style, whether it be wood, leather, upholstery, with accessories, area rugs and flooring.

RETAIL



Your Only Locally Owned Source of  
Fine Jewelry Since 1983.



RETAIL



SAVINGS  
THROUGHOUT  
THE STORE!



From Wallops to Whitetail,  
The Outdoorsman’s  
Headquarters  
Hwy 11 and 11th Street • Int’l Falls



FLORAL & GIFTS



We offer a large variety of fresh flowers & gifts. Enjoy the convenience of safe & secure ordering 24 hours a day!

Monday-Friday 8am-5pm  
Saturday 9am-3pm  
532 4th St. Int’l Falls • 218-283-8141



Everything you need, for every job.



NORTHERN  
LUMBER & HARDWARE





Landscape & Nursery

A year-round garden & gift center

Gift Shop • Garden Center  
Wildlife & Pet Supplies  
Landscaping • Trailers  
Hwy 11 East • Int’l Falls  
218-286-5365





Visit our new website!  
[superoneifalls.com](http://superoneifalls.com)



Scan Here For Our Weekly Sales.

Stewart’s  
SuperOne Foods  
Hwy 11-17 • Int’l Falls, MN  
283-8440



FARM BUREAU FINANCIAL SERVICES

Insurance • Investments




Jake A. Casareto




• Homeowners • Auto  
• Business • Life/Health  
• Mutual Funds • Annuities

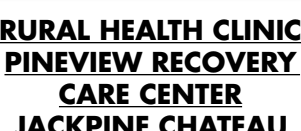
(218) 240-1373 Cell • (218) 464-4943 Office  
Jacob.Casareto@fbfs.com

HEALTH/MEDICAL



LITTLEFORK MEDICAL CENTER





RURAL HEALTH CLINIC  
PINEVIEW RECOVERY  
CARE CENTER  
JACKPINE CHATEAU

AUTOMOTIVE



International Falls, MN  
Since 1946




Check out our inventory. Our Online showroom is open 24/7 for your shopping convenience.


309 5<sup>th</sup> Street • Int’l Falls, MN  
218-283-8486



SERVICES



Corrin’s  
Plumbing, Heating  
& Air Conditioning, Inc.  
445 4th Street • 283-8161



Bill Corrin, Owner  
Family owned since 1909

Accepts All Patients.



Rainy Lake  
CLINIC

SAME DAY APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE  
218.283.5503  
1400 Hwy 71 • International Falls, MN

