

LOCALNEWS

ELECTION 2014

Candidates file for November elections

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

The filing period for elected federal, state, and county position closes at 5 p.m. Tuesday.

This year, the primary election is Aug. 12 and the general election is Nov. 4. Absentee ballots are available starting Sept. 19.

The following people have filed as of Tuesday morning for the following positions:

Federal

- U.S. senator, now held by Al Franken, Democrat. Filed are Tom Brooks, Steve Carlson, Jack Shepard, Kevin Terrell, Stephen Williams, Independence Party; Mike McFadden, Patrick D. Munro, Julianne Ortman, Ole’ Savior, Republican; Franken, Sandra Henningsgard, Democrat.
- U.S. representative for District 8, now held by Rick Nolan, Democrat, who has

filed for reelection. Also filed is Stewart Mills, Republican.

State

- State representative for District 3A, now held by David Dill, DFL, who has filed for reelection. Also filed is Eric Johnson, Republican.
- Governor and lieutenant governor, now held by Mark Dayton and Yvonne Prettner Solon. Filed are Hannah Nicollet and Tim Gieseke, Independence Party; Scott Honour and Karin Housley, Jeff Johnson and Bill Kuisle, Marty Siefert and Pam Myhra, Kurt Zellers and Dean Simpson, Republican; Bill Dahn and James Vigliotti, Leslie Davis and Gregory K. Soderberg, Mark Dayton and Tina Smith, DFL.
- Secretary of state, now held by Mark Ritchie, DFL. Filed are Bob Helland, David A. Singleton, Independence Party; John Howe, Dan Severson, Republican;

Gregg A. Iverson, Steve Simon, DFL.

- State auditor, now held by Rebecca Otto, DFL, who has filed for reelection. Also filed are Patrick Dean, Independence Party; Randy Gilbert, Republican.
- Attorney general, now held by Lori Swanson, DFL, who has filed for reelection. Also filed are Brandan Briggs, Independence Party; Sharon Anderson, Scott Newman, Republican.
- Judge, Ninth District Court 6, now held by Charles LeDuc, who has filed for reelection.

Koochiching County

- District 1 commissioner, now held by Wade Pavleck, who has filed for reelection.
- District 2 commissioner, now held by Kevin Adee, who has filed for reelection.
- District 4 commissioner, now held by Rob Ecklund, who has filed for

reelection.

- County auditor/treasurer, now held by Bob Peterson, who has filed for reelection.
- County recorder, now held by Pam Rooney, who has filed for reelection.
- County sheriff, now held by Brian Jespersen, who has filed for reelection.
- County attorney, now held by Jeff Naglosky, who has filed for reelection.
- Soil and Water Conservation District 1 supervisor, now held by Chris Pfeifer. Richard J. Dreher has filed.
- Soil and Water Conservation District 4 supervisor, now held by Al Linder, who has filed for reelection.
- Soil and Water Conservation District 5 supervisor, now held by Chris Pfeifer. Richard J. Dreher has filed.

Cities and schools don’t have primaries; filings for those offices open July 29 and close Aug. 12.

County wood sale on track

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

Koochiching County’s sale of wood is on track for the year.

County Land Commissioner Dennis Hummertsch told the county board last month wood from 2,182 acres have been sold so far this year, representing 47 percent of the target of 4,600 acres.

He said 73,000 cords of wood have been scaled so far for a value of \$1.7 million. That’s money in the bank, from down payments and scaled wood, he added.

The sold value of wood is a little down for this time of year, Hummertsch said.

Meanwhile, Hummertsch reviewed the results of the May 7 timber action which sold 24,862 cords for a value of \$587,562.

He said the auction was well attended and brought some “spirited” bidding.

The total aspen sale price ranged from \$13.25 per cord to \$39.60 per cord. The total aspen sale average price was \$28.80 per cord with the total sale all species average at \$23.63.

Hummertsch told the board the aspen price has been hanging steady in the last couple auctions.

The county’s Sustainable Forestry Initiative and Forest Stewardship Council wood certification audits will occur in June, he told the board.

Hummertsch said the certifications require much work by staff to meet the standards, but he reiterated maintaining the dual certification is worth the effort for marketing the county’s wood.

Average retail gasoline prices in Minnesota stay ‘relatively quiet’

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

Average retail gasoline prices in Minnesota have risen 0.6 cents in the past week, averaging \$3.50 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 1.2 cents in the last week to \$3.64 per gallon, according to gaso-

line price website MinnesotaGasPrices.com.

Regular gas prices in International Falls, according to the site, ranged from \$3.39 to \$3.54 per gallon; midgrade prices were listed at \$3.59; premium prices ranged from \$3.79 to \$3.99; diesel fuel ranged from \$3.89 to \$4.29.

Including the change in gas prices in Minnesota during the past week, prices Sunday were 33.4 cents per gallon lower compared to the same day one year ago and are 0.9 cents per gallon lower than a month ago. The national average has decreased 0.3 cents during the last month and stands 0.6 cents per gallon higher than this day one year ago.

“It’s been another relatively quiet week across most of the country with

the national average fluctuating little,” said GasBuddy.com Senior Petroleum Analyst Patrick DeHaan. “Having said that, some hot spots have emerged- specifically areas of the Great Lakes where prices last week shot within just a 10th of a penny of four dollars per gallon. While that has led Great Lakes and Midwest markets higher, I don’t believe the higher prices are sustain-

able much longer. In many areas that saw large jumps last week we’re already seeing relief. For the rest of the country, this week will likely feature little movement as wholesale gasoline prices continue in their funk and as we await the traditional decline of wholesale prices to start the summer driving season,” DeHaan said.

GasBuddy.com is a tool to

help motorists save money at the pump by collecting gas price data and displaying it on websites and on a free smartphone app that has been downloaded over 37 million times. The site operates MinnesotaGasPrices.com and more than 250 similar websites that track gasoline prices at more than 140,000 gasoline stations in the United States and Canada.

Boise Paper employees award safety funds

Finishing and shipping employees presented \$3,800 in safety funds to independent school district athletics and food pantry services in Koochiching County in May.

Boise Paper, A Division of Packaging Corporation of America, donated the funds in recognition of employee safety participation. Employees decided to distribute monies evenly to the athletic programs in the International Falls, Littlefork/Big Fork, and Indus schools, and the Falls Hunger Coalition and Salvation Army food pantries.

“I extend my congratulations to the deserving organizations and thanks to finishing and shipping employees for participating in safety improvement and making a difference in our mill and community,” says Bert Brown, International Falls mill manager. “Their daily focus on safe work practices and hazard elimination have resulted in employees returning home injury-free and surpassing a one-year safety milestone.”

For the past several years, monies have been set aside to assist organizations in Koochiching County based on employee safety participation. Those interested in learning more information about the program are encouraged to call 218.285.5312.



Front Row – L-R: Boise Paper production manager Carrie Coffield, International Falls school superintendent Kevin Grover, Salvation Army director Bev Mayfield, Littlefork/Big Falls school board member Doug Franz, Falls Hunger Coalition assistant director Brittany Rognerud, and Finishing/Shipping employees Sue White and Annette Watkinson. Back Row – L-R: Finishing/Shipping employees Bill Hanson, Darrick Johnson, Scott Lucek, Tony Heibert, Chris Wade, C.J. Heibert, Kirby Wilcox, and Craig Turner.

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