

LOCALNEWS

Bowling for beasts

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

The Borderland Humane Society, Moose Lodge 1259, and International House of Bowling are teaming up for a fundraiser to benefit man's four-legged best friend.

The "Rollin' for Furballs" fundraiser is Saturday at the International House of Bowling and the Moose Lodge 1259. Participants can bowl from noon to 4:30 p.m., with a taco dinner to follow at 5 p.m. at Moose Lodge 1259.

Everyone is welcome to come out and help raise funds for a new animal shelter. The event will feature jackpot bowling and cosmic

bowling, with lights, music, and the opportunity to win prizes. There's no need to form teams prior to the event, and a two game minimum will be required at \$5 per game, with the price of shoes included.

Kallie Kantos-Fritz, active BHS member, said the humane society hasn't done a fundraiser like this before, and came up with the idea after deciding to forgoe their annual large fundraiser, "A Cause for Paws."

"We don't have a big fundraiser, so we're going with little ones," Kantos-Fritz said. "We decided something family-oriented would be good."

BHS has not set a fund-

raising goal for the event, Kantos-Fritz said, only that any positive contributions would be great. With the city of International Falls and Koochiching County contributing to the new animal shelter along with the BHS, she said fundraising is about making things easier on the taxpayer.

"We're doing everything we can to make the taxpayer burden lighter," Kantos-Fritz said.

There will be photos of animals available for adoption at the fundraiser, Kantos-Fritz said, as well as the plans for the new shelter. She said she's most looking forward to seeing kids play and have a good time.

Musich to provide crime reports

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

International Falls Police Chief Mike Musich will provide activity and crime reports to the Intentional Falls City Council at its first regular meeting of the month.

Musich reported to the council last week that staff had handled 93 incidents in April. Those incidents included assaults, burglaries, criminal damage, harassment, and traffic accidents. The most serious, he said, was a kidnapping and confinement incident.

In addition to those incidents, he said staff have met with people on various issues. In total, he said his department made more than 339 public contacts in April.

He said the department also handled 26 medical assists, four other agency assists and 40 traffic stops.



Mike Musich

He said the department in April had more than 500 calls for service.

That's a lot of incidents and contacts for a department that at most times has two officers at a time on the streets, he said.

"If the stats continue, I will approach the council for another officer," he said. The number of police officers in the department has been reduced from 13 to 11 "with no justification of why."

"Crime is not going down," he told the council.



Volunteers Amy Schroeder and Amy Jackson, of Minnesota Power, pack Buddy Backpack food kits.

Kids voice their opinion

Buddy Backpack food evaluated by program participants

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

United Way of Northeastern Minnesota volunteers want the food selected for the Buddy Backpack program to be nutritious above all else, but also want the kids in the program to like it.

During the 2013-14 school year, UWNEMN researched, ordered and with the help of hundreds of volunteers packed all of the food for the Buddy Backpack program serving the Iron Range and Koochiching County.

The changes in the food kits were really well received by the children and the school nurses and school personnel who administer the program in the schools.

"There were vast improvements in the nutritional content and variety in this year's food kits. We heard so many positive comments from our students,"

said Hibbing School Nurse, DeeAnn Lindholm.

To evaluate the food items and to get a sense of which products the children liked and didn't like, UWNEMN is administering an online survey. So far, nearly 100 children of the 740 served this year have completed it. The feedback has been interesting – predictable in some cases and surprising in others.

"We taste tested all of the products we chose for the food kits last summer as a staff and had children sample them as well. We knew they would love products like whole grain Goldfish crackers and TruMoo vanilla milk. Some of the products all of our staff members loved, like sunflower seed butter as a peanut butter alternative, the children did not like. It is important that we hear from our kids what they like and don't like because we don't want

the food to go to waste," said Elizabeth Johnson, program coordinator.

The UWNEMN staff is already planning for the 2014-15 Buddy Backpack program, using the survey results as a starting point for ordering the year's food items.

"We will try to bring back as many of the products as possible that they really loved. Those that have low ratings, we won't be reordering. We want to ensure that our children are not only receiving nutritious food – but that they are eating it also," said Johnson.

UWNEMN is currently in the research phase again, seeking out new nonperishable food options, receiving and testing samples, and planning for the next school year.

Donations to support the Buddy Backpack program in the area can be sent to UWNEMN, 229 West Lake Street, Chisholm, MN 55719 or visit www.united-waynemn.org. Call 218-254-3329 with any questions.

riverfest

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Saturday, July 5, 2014

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Gates open at 2:30 pm

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Rainy River Waterfront, Highway 11 East International Falls, MN

LITTLE RIVER BAND

Saturday, July 5

7:00 pm

Lamont Cranston

5:00 pm

MIKE URE BAND

3:30 pm

Advance Tickets: \$30.00

Gate Tickets: \$40.00

VIP Tickets: \$75.00

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FORT FRANCES: Betty's of Fort Frances | Northwoods Gallery & Gifts

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