

LOCALNEWS

Cold snap continues

Borderland schools get late start

BY EMILY GEDDE
Staff Writer

It just keeps getting colder. The deep freeze saga continued this week as wind chills brought temperatures down to the 40-below range Monday and Tuesday, prompting school delays and closures around the state.

International Falls schools opted for a two-hour late start both days while many others around the state closed completely.

Superintendent Nurdy Nelson said although temperatures were cold, he felt the two-hour delay was an adequate call rather than closing school completely.

“We need to (attend school) when we can,” he said. “The two-hour late start gives people ample time to get things in order for their child to leave the house.”

Nelson said if school closed in the Icebox of the Nation every time temperatures dropped into the 20s or 30s below zero, there could be several days of school closure.

“It is more extreme up here,” he said. “We’d be missing a lot of school if we closed every time the rest of the state did.”

Nelson advised parents to dress their children appropriately when sending them to school. Layers of clothing covering exposed areas of skin cuts down on the risk of frostbite – which can happen in a matter of minutes.

“We want the students kept safe and they need to dress for the weather,” he said.

Still, the superintendent said if parents don’t want to send their child to school because of the cold – an absence wouldn’t be counted against them.

“If parents feel it’s a danger to have their child walk down to the bus stop or

More information

For a complete forecast, visit www.crh.noaa.gov/dlh.

they can’t get here because their car doesn’t start, they just need to call and let us know,” he said. “There are so many different scenarios during the winter and we try our best to address them all.”

MOTHER NATURE’S TROPHY CASE

As of Saturday, the winter of 2013-14 is now the third coldest on record in International Falls, although very few daily records have been broken according to the National Weather Service in Duluth.

The average temperature from Dec. 1 through Jan. 26 was -3.5 degrees — trailing only the winters of 1976-77, when the average temperature for that period was -4.1 degrees, and 1978-79 when the average temperature was -4.8 degrees.

The NWS reports this weather pattern developed in the middle of December and has allowed for waves of arctic air to funnel into areas across the state – and the rest of the country. As of the end of January, this stubborn northerly flow has not let up and is resulting in record-setting winter, said the NWS.

A 48-hour wind chill warning was lifted at noon Tuesday with the forecast hopeful that things could warm up to temps above zero.

The high for today is predicted to be 18 degrees, but Thursday will dip back down to 1 degree. Looking into the weekend, meteorologists are predicting temps will reach above zero, but will struggle to reach more than 10 degrees during day-time hours.

Operation Round Up funds programs

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

Operation Round Up awarded nearly \$9,000 to various organizations throughout Borderland.

The North Star Community Trust Board met in January to review the 28 applications seeking more than \$33,000 for various programs.

Operation Round Up, a voluntary member-driven fundraising program of North Star Electric Co-operative Inc., had only about \$9,000 to award, making it difficult for members of the board to select which group would get funding and how much it would receive, they reported.

Many local programs and organizations benefit from the program designed to provide financial assistance for worthwhile projects and charities in the area. Donations are given to organizations to help make the area a more pleasant and safe place to live.

All funds for Operation Round Up are contributed by the member-owners of North Star Electric and the money is put into a trust fund that is separate from electric accounts. The trust is administered by its own board of directors comprised of people from across the area. Operation Round Up directors are appointed by North Star’s board members and must be members of the cooperative. The cooperative’s general manager is a non-voting member of the board.

Organizations from the area may apply for a donation from the Operation



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Front row, from the left: Julie Lepisto, North Star Electric Community Trust Board; Diane Adams, Koochiching County Community TV; Larry Warrington, North Star Electric Community Trust Board; second row: Carol Burmeister, Big Falls CERC; Cynthia Jaksa, Koochiching County Community TV; Mary Jo Winkel, Littlefork Lutheran Quilters; Cheri Skurkis, Northern Light Quilt Guild; third row: Tom Donahou, Littlefork Ambulance; Marty Cody, Northland Amateur Radio Association; Loren Lehman, Littlefork Fire Department; Jerolyn Nordlund, Littlefork School; Mary Ellen Lehman, North Star Electric Community Trust Board.

Round Up Trust. The applicant must be charitable in nature and be working to meet a need in our area. The Operation Round Up Board meets twice a year and decides if an application meets the guidelines of the trust and if funds are available.

If a member chooses to be part of Operation Round Up, their bill is “rounded up” to the next highest dollar. For example, if a bill is \$96.47, the computer will round up the bill to \$97. The additional 53 cents will be placed in the trust and distributed to local charitable and community-based programs.

About 80 percent of North Star’s members have chosen to participate in Operation Round Up and it is expected that contributions will be

about \$18,700 each year. That money goes right back into the community.

The average annual contribution from a member is about \$6. The most that could be contributed in a year by a member is \$11.88 (12 months x 99 cents).

To contribute as a member of North Star Electric or a non-member of the cooperative, contact the North Star office.

The following local organizations received funding:

- Falls Hunger Coalition — food stocking
- Littlefork Lutheran Quilters — Quilting from the Heart
- Clementson Community Cemetery — beautification of cemetery
- Big Falls CERC — Duluth Children’s Museum Trip

- Big Falls CERC — Ice Box Theater/book fair
- Littlefork Fire Department — hand tools for rescue truck
- Littlefork Fire Department — generator for rescue truck
- Littlefork Ambulance Service — power cot
- Koochiching County Community TV — television programming
- Northland Amateur Radio — Big Falls repeater
- Kabetogama Fire Department — gas alert
- River Valley Development Association — community building
- Littlefork School — sewing
- Northern Light Quilt Guild — material for quilting
- Salvation Army — Heat Share

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Haven Liam Street

Parents:
Maria & Ryan

Open House at Dena Bergstrom’s Home
1306 18th Street (Stenberg Addition)
Thursday, February 6, 2014
3:30pm - 6:30pm
Registered @ Target

MESOTHELIOMA
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If you or a loved one have been diagnosed with Mesothelioma, Lung Cancer or any other asbestos related disease contact us for a confidential review of your rights. There are strict time limits in which to bring these claims. Shermoen & Jaksa, PLLP has been representing Minnesota asbestos victims for over 20 years. We are one of only two Minnesota law firms that regularly litigate asbestos cases.

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“I am very excited to come back and serve the community where I live.”
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To schedule an appointment,
please call 218-283-5503

BREAKFAST MENU:
PRICE: ELEM: \$1.50 SEC. \$1.60
ADULT: \$2.00
Daily offering is
• Milk
• Juice
• Fruit
And a choice of one of the following:
• Yogurt/Nutrigrain Bar
• Cereal/Nutrigrain/Toast
• Entree:
3rd: Biscuit Breakfast Sandwich, Rosy Applesauce
4th: Excellent Egg Taco w/Salsa, Yogurt Cup, Pineapple Chunks
5th: Aloha Muffin, Cereal & Fruit
6th: Star Spangled Pancakes, Sausage
7th: Bagel with Toppings, Fresh Orange
10th: Breakfast Pita w/Salsa, Hash Browns, Fruit
11th: Breakfast Sandwich, Fruit Cocktail, Milk
12th: Cereal Bar, String Cheese, Citrus Fruit Cup
13th: French Toast Strips, Strawberries & Bananas
14th: Western Omelet Quesadilla w/Salsa, Potato Rounds, Fresh Pear
18th: Scrumptious Coffeecake, Sunrise Smoothie, Graham Crackers
19th: Biscuit & Gravy, Apricots
20th: Oatmeal Breakfast Round, Banana
21st: Waffles w/Syrup, Sausage Links, Mandarin Oranges
24th: Breakfast Sundae, Raisins
25th: Breakfast Cheese Pizza, Fresh Mixed Fruit Cup
26th: Breakfast Bake w/Tomato Salsa, Toast, Fruit
27th: Pumpkin Chocolate Chip Muffin, Cereal, Orange
28th: Pancake on a Stick w/Syrup, Tri-Tater
Offer-vs-Serve is designed to decrease plate waste and reduce food cost while maintain nutritional integrity of the lunch. Students are offered five required food items: meat/meat alternate, milk, grains/breads, fruits, vegetables. Students are required to select three of the five items with one of the items being either the fruit or vegetable component.

For more information or assistance, please call Sue Karsnia, Food Service Director
Phone: 218-283-2571

ISD 361—February 2014
LUNCH MENU

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
<div> Happy Valentines Day!</div> <div></div>				
Lunch Prices Elementary \$2.00 Secondary \$2.10 Reduced \$4.00 Adult \$3.50	3 Beef & Cheese Burrito Romaine & Tomato Mexican Corn Salsa & Tortilla Chips Apple Wedges Fruit Choice Milk	4 Stromboli Garden Spinach Salad Fresh Carrots Fresh Strawberries Fruit Choice Milk	5 BBQ Beef on a Bun Sweet Potato Puffs Breadstick Orange Smiles Oatmeal Cookie Fruit Choice Milk	6 Turkey & Cheese Hoagie Lettuce & Tomato Oven Fries Sliced Peaches Graham Snacks (9-12) Fruit Choice Milk
10 Taco Soup Tortilla Chips Fresh Broccoli Sliced pears Snickerdoodle Fruit Choice Milk	11 Corn Dog Garden Salad Seasoned Peas Apple Wedges Fruit Choice Milk	12 Beef & Noodles Mashed Potatoes Fresh Baby Carrots Blueberry Oat Muffin Pineapple Tidbits Fruit Choice Milk	13 Chicken Quesadilla Salsa & Tortilla Chips Refried Beans Orange Wedges Fruit Choice Milk	7 Country Style Beef Pattie Mashed Potatoes/Gravy Steamed Broccoli Wheat Roll & Jelly (6-12) Banana Fruit Choice Milk
17 NO SCHOOL	18 Pork Rib on a Bun w/ Lettuce & Tomato Tri-Tater Tots Green Beans Fresh Kiwi Cherry Crisp Fruit Choice Milk	19 Lasagna Garden Spinach Salad Breadstick Apple Wedges Tomato Wedges Fruit Choice Milk	20 Mandarin Orange Chicken Breadstick Tossed Salad w/Romaine Steamed Carrots Rice Fresh Strawberries Fruit Choice Milk	14 Cowboy Cavatini Tossed Salad w/Romaine Green Beans Wheat Roll & Jelly Fresh Banana Fruit Choice Milk
24 Pig in a Blanket Potato Wedges Broccoli w/Cheese Fresh Apple Jello Fruit Choice Milk	25 Chicken Wrap Romaine & Tomato Mix Spanish Rice Seasoned Carrots Tropical Fruit Sauce Fruit Choice Milk	26 Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce Garden Spinach Salad Seasoned Peas (9-12) French Garlic Bread (9-12) Fresh Grapes Fruit Choice Milk	27 Taco Salad Tortilla Chips & Salsa Refried Beans Breadstick Pineapple Tidbits Fruit Choice Milk	28 Chicken & Noodles Mashed Potatoes Green Beans Wheat Roll & Jelly Orange Wedges Fruit Choice Milk

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