

Flag Day program included music, readings, and American flag history



June 14th is Flag Day in the United States, and this year, Backus Community center presented a program of music, history and more with the help of the local Elks Lodge and area talent.

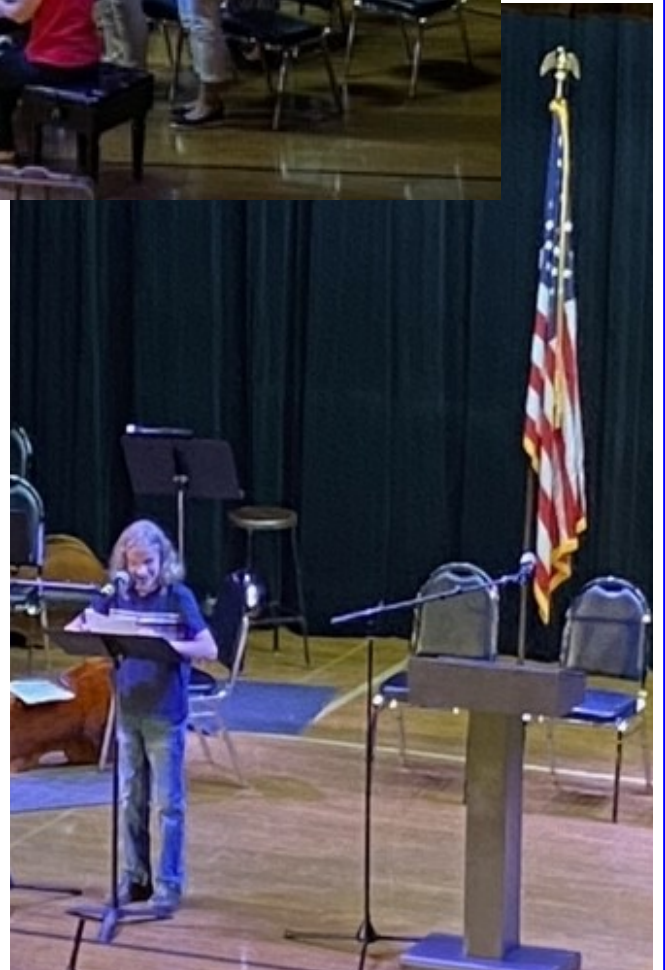
Joe Belanger directed the Rainy Lake Community Orchestra in several numbers including Woody Guthrie's "This Land is Your Land" and Sousa's "Stars and Stripes Forever".

The Elks Lodge officers presented their traditional Flag Day program with flags that have been used throughout the history of the United States, and a patriotic reminder of what the flag means to Americans.

Joe Sullivan and Tucky Dill presented readings about the flag and the Pledge of Allegiance.

The program concluded with the Community Choir singing several patriotic songs, including "God Bless America" with audience participation.

Attendees remarked on the "very moving" program saying they learned many new things about our flag's history.



Joe Sullivan reads a piece about the Pledge of Allegiance

From the Director's Desk

Summer is here, and planning is underway for a wonderful Summer Arts Program for kids!

Art programs for children offer value in many areas that last a lifetime. Helping our youth through art programs may be one of the most important things we can do as a community. Having children involved in arts can:

- encourage them to think outside of the box and come up with new ideas,
- help them express themselves and communicate thoughts and feelings in a nonverbal way,
- strengthen and improve their memory, attention span, and problem solving abilities,
- have a calming effect and reduce stress,
- boost confidence and self-esteem,
- develop fine and gross motor skills.

MOST OF ALL, the kids just have FUN.

Backus has some great classes lined up and the teachers are excited. It's going to be a week that is jam packed with creativity!

The program information and registration form is available on our web page. Visual arts. Music for everyone. Games. Check it out!

~Lois Lundin

Welcome to Backus!

Michelle Boelk - Event Coordinator

Joe Martinez - Building Custodian

Veterans Lodge is now open!

Tentative hours are ;

Monday & Wednesday
12:00-6:00PM

Tuesday & Thursday
9:00AM—1:00PM

Backus Room 208
Second Floor, southeast corner



**Do you enjoy receiving
the Backus newsletter?**

**We can now send your newsletter
digitally!**

**Please call the Backus office at
(218)285-7225**

**to let us know if you would prefer
your newsletter via print or email.**

Contact Backus:

E-mail: backusoffice@backusab.org

Call: 218-285-7225

Write: 900 5th St., Int'l Falls MN 56649

BACKUS STAFF

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Executive Director

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Business Manager

Alyssa Crawford,
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Darcy Sullivan,
KCC-TV Director

Michelle Boelk
Event Coordinator

Summer Arts for Kids



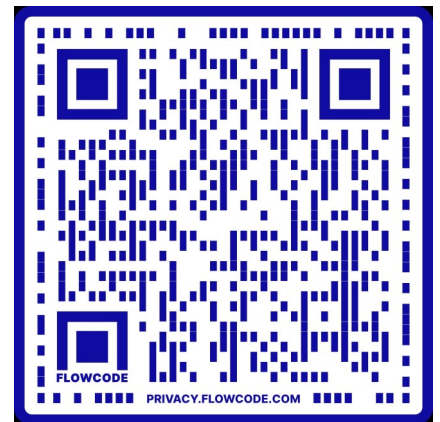
Learn to play a musical instrument! Improve your painting skills!! Perhaps the stage is calling you to perform!!! Pick up some new game ideas for family and friends to enjoy together!!!!

Here is your chance! Backus Summer Arts Week is slated for Monday through Friday, July 24 to 28, from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Each class is \$25

for the entire week, and they are open to students who are entering 1st through 12th grade. You can sign up for an entire day of classes or you can pick specific classes from the list and come and go from Backus during the day for these classes. Use the QR code to check out the offerings and sign up!

The Backus Summer Lunch Program is happening as well, so if you are here for the class before or after lunch, you will be able to eat lunch with us at no additional cost.

Come join us for a fun week of learning some new skills at Backus Summer Arts 2023.



Immerse yourself in star-studded skies at the Voyageurs Star Party

The three-day Voyageurs National Park “Star Party” will kick off with the unveiling of a new telescope at Backus Community Center at 7 p.m.

The Voyageurs Star Party is a multi-day astronomy festival hosted by Voyageurs Conservancy, Voyageurs National Park, and many partners. The star party is free to attend and all ages are welcome. Whether you’re an amateur astronomer or this is your first time stargazing, you will want to take part in this star-studded celebration.

Enjoy special speakers, Perseid meteor shower viewings, arts and crafts, telescope sessions, guided constellation tours, and more.

Thursday, August 10 - Ranier & International Falls, MN
 Friday, August 11 - Rainy Lake Visitor Center
 Saturday, August 12 - Kabetogama Lake Visitor Center

Watch for more information and plan to attend.



Special thank-you to Curtis Wong for generously donating an 18' Obsession Telescope to enhance Dark Sky Programs at Voyageurs National Park!



900 Fifth Street
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(218) 285-7225
www.backusab.org

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“Historic Backus Community Center, the heart of International Falls, where all generations celebrate arts, culture, recreation, wellness, and life-long learning.”

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*The next board meetings is July 13 at
5:15PM in room 101/102.*

BACKUS VALUES YOUR INPUT!

Do you have comments, questions, suggestions,
or concerns regarding Backus?
Please contact the Backus Board at
backusboard@backusab.org

COMING SOON TO BACKUS

FREE CONCERT JULY 1

Strolling Clones 4-10 p.m.
Irvin Anderson Amphitheater

Summer Arts for Kids

July 24-28; 9-3:30

Ruby's Pantry

5:00-6:30 p.m., Monday, July 10

Community Café

5:00-6:00 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays

VNP Star Party Kick-off

Thursday, August 10 7 p.m.