

BACKUS Community Center

Volume 16, Issue 2

September 2024



Summer Concert by Bonfire Heart

The John Faith Little Theater was the place to be on Thursday evening, August 29. Alyssa Fator and Mandi Baron are local favorites. Known for their campfire vibe, the ladies played old favorites and introduced some new music. Bonfire Heart has been playing at many local venues; Backus was thrilled to have them round out our summer in the Little Theater!



THANK YOU!

United Way of Northeastern MN **STEP INTO SCHOOL**

SPONSORS

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Ruby's Pantry Benevolence Fund

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BACKUS Community Center **Rotarians**

International Falls Fire Department
International Falls Police Department
Koochiching County Sheriff's Office
US Customs and Border Protection
Rainy Lake Gazette

SALONS

Border Cuts - Tammy
VIP Salon - Melissa
Shear Performanz - Becky

AND VOLUNTEERS!

United Way **STEP INTO SCHOOL** program

Thank you sponsors and volunteers!

Back to School

Thank you , United Way, for helping area kids get off to a great start to this school year!

From the Director's Desk

Our new transformer has been installed and our incoming electrical system has been updated! That might not be the most exciting update to a lot of people, but the Backus leadership team and Board of Directors is really happy to have this job done. Thank you to **Urban's Up North Electric** for all that you did to bring this across the finish line, and for helping Backus with all of our electrical projects!

The Backus team is working to bring new programming designed to promote community (that means you!) participation and fun! Game nights, community theater, music, and paint your partner nights are just a few; watch the web and social media for dates and times. Wait 'til you see!

All the best wishes for a fabulous autumn season! Lois Lundin



The team from
Up North Electric

CALLING ALL TUESDAY MUSICALE SCHOLARS!

Backus Community Center is excited to announce that Tuesday Musicale is now part of the Backus Music Program!

We would **LOVE** for **YOU**
to **PARTICIPATE**
in the
**Tuesday Musicale
Holiday
Showcase!!!**

Sunday, December 1, 2024
2:00 p.m.

If you have received this scholarship anytime since 1964, we would love for you to be a part of the revival showcase to raise money to send some very musically talented students to music camp for years to come!

Please contact Michelle Boelk with questions or to sign up.

michelleb@backusab.org
OR
218-285-7225

If you are unable to attend in person but would still like to be a part of the showcase, you can send us a

**video performance or
a testimonial**

to tell how this program made a difference for you and what your experience meant to you!

VOLLEYBALL

Every Monday and Thursday
7:30PM
Backus Community Center
900 5th Street
\$2.00 per Night
No Cost for Backus Members
All skill levels are welcome.
If you are under 18 a waiver must be signed by a parent or guardian.

PICKLEBALL

**TUESDAYS AND
WEDNESDAY'S 7:00PM
SUNDAY'S 5:00PM**
BACKUS COMMUNITY CENTER
900 5th Street, International Falls, MN
a waiver must be signed for anyone under 18
\$2.00 a night
No Cost for Backus Members

BACKUS STAFF

Lois Lundin,
Executive Director

Hoa Sobczynski,
Business Manager

Michelle Boelk
Event Coordinator

Darcy Sullivan,
KCC-TV Director

Alyssa Crawford,
Office Assistant



KCC-TV needs member support

What can you do?

KCC-TV is our region’s local public access television station. [This station relies on funding from members and business partners in order to remain in operation.](#)

Our needs are quite simple.

Funding is used for:

- Operational costs (staff and a work space)
- Equipment upgrades and maintenance
- Licenses
- Software updates for programming

Become a KCC-TV member! We need the financial support of our viewers to help keep this programming operational.

Whether you watch KCC-TV or you know the value that this service provides to your family members or friends, membership is a great way to show your support. If you prefer, you can make a donation of any amount.

**It’s so easy to support KCC-TV!
Please send your membership today.**

There is so much to see on KCC-TV!

Koochiching County Community TV (KCC-TV) is our northern Minnesota region’s “boots on the ground” when it comes to reporting area happenings. Darcy Sullivan, Program Director for KCC-TV, is seemingly everywhere and she is rarely out without a camera in hand. She demonstrates a strong commitment to keep people in and around our community connected.

Viewers can dial in to KCC-TV programming on local cable channel 7. People all around the world can see programming and stay up to date on home-town happenings by clicking on one of the links on the Backus web page. **It’s all FREE!** Check it out here:

<https://backusab.org/kcc-tv>

- Local City Council meetings
 - County Board meetings
 - Airport Commission meetings
 - North Koochiching Sewer District meetings
 - Economic Development Board meetings
 - Special community meetings and forums
 - ISD 361 School Board and special meetings
 - Current and past sporting events
 - Sports Rap with George and Ringer
 - Alex Baker Apartment construction updates
- Concerts
 - Rainy Lake Community Orchestra
 - Concerts in the Park
 - School concerts and holiday programs
 - Backus concerts
 - Community Theater productions
 - Parades and city celebrations
 - Graduation ceremonies
 - Human interest stories
 - Announcements for coming events

This past spring, KCC-TV had a complete equipment failure. At long last, our old equipment was deemed beyond repair. We didn’t have funding to immediately replace the equipment, so KCC-TV was off the air for a short time.

Boy, did we hear from our viewers! We learned that there are more people who depend on KCC-TV than we imagined. People missed being able to watch the programs that kept them engaged with community happenings. People have come to depend on the timely broadcasts to help them stay “in the know” about decisions and changes that impact their lives.

We are grateful to the City of International Falls Economic Development Authority for the financial support they gave to purchase new equipment!

KCC-TV. Helping to keep people connected.



900 Fifth Street
International Falls MN 56649
(218) 285-7225
www.backusab.org

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September 2024

Address Label



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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Steve Costley, *President*
Patti Ballan, *Secretary*
Tom Smith, *Treasurer*
Julie Bartkowski *Vice President*
Tim Fairchild
Donna Frederickson
Jim Lyman
Gail Rognerud
Mike Williams
Kay Arnold, *Emeritus*
Molly Bragg, *Emeritus*

*The next board meetings is Oct. 8th
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

September 25: Candidate Forum 6:00PM
September 26: Alexander Baker Apartments
Open House 1:00PM
October 16: Chicken Dinner ~ Backus Fundraiser
October 26: House of Thrills and Chills Play
November 16: Local Concert
Michelle and Elsa
December 1: Tuesday Musicale Showcase
December 1-6: Holiday Week
Local concerts and holiday festivities each night!

MONTHLY: Game Nights

Watch the Backus Web Page for all happenings

www.backusab.org