



Contributed photo

The Cultural Center will once again host a variety of activities during the annual National Night Out on Tuesday, Aug. 2.

NYM NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

New this year, the Cultural Center will launch its Positive Community Sign Project at National Night Out. Supplies will be available for attendees to create a sign design during National Night Out, with all designs being entered into a community contest. Sign designs will be posted in our gallery and online, and community members are invited to vote for their favorite designs. The top vote-getters will be printed and distributed to community members to post in yards around NY Mills. Thanks to the NY Mills Civic & Commerce Association for their sponsorship of this

project.

The Cultural Center will be open during National Night Out for attendees to visit the gallery and gift shop as well. The current gallery show features nature paintings by Kent Estey and decoys by Bruce Dixon (on display through July 30), and the gift shop is a hidden gem featuring the work of over 100 local/regional artists, local foods, Scandinavian treats, books, and a variety of unique treasures.

National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partner-

ships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. Millions of neighbors take part in National Night Out across thousands of communities from all fifty states, U.S. territories and military bases worldwide on the first Tuesday in August. Neighborhoods host block parties, festivals, parades, cookouts and various other community events with safety demonstrations, seminars, youth events, visits from emergency personnel, exhibits and much, much more. Check out National Night Out on-

line for ideas and to learn more at www.natw.org.

Anyone who would like to be a part of the National Night Out in NY Mills is asked to email info@kulcher.org or call 385-3339.

This activity is made possible in part by the voters of Minnesota through an operating support grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.

For more information, call the Cultural Center at (218) 385-3339 or visit the Center's website at www.kulcher.org.

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TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

and west of Blanche Lake.

Sheriff deputies said the driver of the ATV, at 9:47 p.m., was attempting a turn-around, lost control, and was ejected from the ATV.

The victim, a male, sustained a broken right leg and road rash. He was transported to the hospital in Fergus

Falls by emergency medical services (EMS) personnel.

Scam reported

A resident of Pickerel Lake, northwest of Otter Tail Lake, was reportedly scammed out of more than \$10,000. The person fell victim to the grandson in jail

scam on July 16.

The scam victim is out the money, through a UPS transfer, but fortunately did not give out any personal information to the scammers.

Law enforcement personnel remind county residents that scam artists will use any tricks they can to

exploit grandparents' love and concern for their grandchildren. This gives rise to imposter fraud specifically targeting older Americans.

Don't fall for a suspicious call, and instead call the county sheriff office at 218-998-8555.

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BACH TRAVELS TO YOUTH GATHERING

ees. Then in '83, I was in my first church and the youth gathering was in Nebraska. However, we decided to do a different youth trip. But after that, I went every other year."

Held every three years since 1980, the LCMS Youth Gathering provides thousands of youth and adults the opportunity to come together as a community of God's people to be encouraged in their walk with Jesus Christ and learn about the Christian faith and their Lutheran identity.

The Gathering is more than the five days of the event. The preparation process for the Gathering brings together young people and supportive adults to encourage each other in their baptismal identity. The Gathering provides young people a vision for the vastness of Christ's Church and equips them for vocational service as they continue their walk with Jesus.

"We used to call it the 'National Youth Gatherings,'" Bach explained. "But they recently told us it's more than that—it's international now. There are people from 10 different countries that go to the gatherings."

Every year, the international youth gathering has a central theme that speakers and other authorities lead off of, throughout the five-day event. This year's theme, in all things, is a reminder that the Christian story encompasses all things. Nothing, and no one, is left out.

In baptism, all things in people's lives are brought under the gracious rule and reign of Jesus Christ. The story includes everyone. Christ is the single "big idea" in Paul's letter to the Colossians, and he was the single big idea at the 2022 LCMS Youth Gathering.

"Along with a new theme each year, they always have backpacks," said Bach. "And that's always a huge deal—the color of the back-

“ This particular group of teens I think was one of the best groups I’ve ever taken. The adults that got to come with us, happen to all be parents. They were a great group of people to work with. I try to emphasize that we have to be all, once we get there.

- Gary Bach on his most recent trip to the youth gathering



Gary Bach

pack. This year it was like a navy color. Which was exciting."

For each church that goes to the gathering each year, they send a primary adult leader with the teens that are eligible. Bach has been the primary leader all 13 years and has kept tabs on all information regarding the youth trip, as well as where all of the kids are during the trip.

"It's almost overwhelming, to me, because the very first one, you got a packet in the mail. Now, you have to look all throughout social media for updates and information a good year in advance. It's a lot to try to soak up all the information."

For his 13th youth gathering trip, Bach took his first trip to Houston to explore the city and affirm, support, and promote the ministry that Bach has been a part of for the past 40 years.

"This particular group of teens I think was one of the best groups I've ever taken," he said. "The adults that got to come with us, happen to all be parents. They were a great group of people to work with. I try to emphasize that we have to be all, once we get there."

Throughout the many years Bach has been taking teens to the youth gatherings, various things have been changing as the years progressed.

"I think the biggest change in the gatherings have been the numbers.

They have both progressed and declined throughout the years," he explained. "The first gathering I went to, in Washington D.C., I would like to say it was around 10,000-15,000 people. It was all in a big convention center."

Numbers have definitely grown with the most recent gathering at 20,000 people including the youth, adults and young adult volunteers. Open to kids between the ages of 14-18, the international youth gathering has many opportunities for kids to gather together in big stadiums.

"After the 90's, the youth gatherings became more focused on some really good substance stuff in terms of the themes and what scrip-

ture says about it. With a bigger focus on serving too. It's not just a big party. So each one has gotten better," Bach said.

Bach and his teens have gotten to do many off-site serving events through the gathering over the years including: packing lunches for summer activities at the YMCA, picking up trash in low-income neighborhoods, cleaning up grounds at a nursing home, etc.

For more information on the next LCMS Youth Gathering, taking place in New Orleans, visit www.lcms-gathering.com.

To visit Gary Bach at Trinity Lutheran Church in New York Mills, visit www.nymtrinity.org or call 385-2450.

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Local ties to Salolampi

By Tucker Henderson
Reporter

Some of you folks around town have already heard that I'm back in the Dispatch office after a six-week hiatus while working for Salolampi, the Finnish Language Village affiliated with Concordia Language Villages just north of Bemidji.

First off, I would like to thank everyone for the heartfelt "welcome back" that I have received in the past week. It is much appreciated and I'm glad to be back, again sharing the stories of New York Mills.

While I was away, I realized throughout my time there, that faces, names, and ties from our very own little village of New York Mills would pop up during my daily life as a counselor and marketing assistant.

Now, the most obvious of the connections is Amy Iida Tervola Hultberg, the dean of Salolampi. She lives here in Newtonville and is a Mills native. I also met the granddaughter of Walter Peltoniemi at camp this summer, who said that she loved spending time with her grandfather at his farm northwest of Heinola when she was growing up.

One of the most prominent examples of these connections is the impressive hand-calligraphy records of all the donors that contributed to the first and second building funds in the 1990s when Salolampi was gaining a step up in the world of CLV: obtaining their very own site. Names such as Harold Karvonen and Leon Keranen are recorded as directors of the project and Russ Parta was an obvious choice for publicity chair back in '93. You will also see the names of Gen Keranen and Glen and Miriam Mursu as well as many others with ties to New York Mills.

The library, of course, is a smart spot to research anything Finnish and Finnish-American. There are dozens of books that mention New York Mills and some of our community members from throughout the years. One such book, an immigrant's calendar from 1922 (100 years old this year!) lists all kinds of information about the wave of Finnish immigrants that came to this area in the late 1800s. Many of my

own ancestors are listed there.

Christianity is an important part of Finnish and Finnish-American culture, it always has been. It should come to no surprise that a certain Finnish Bible made its way to a corresponding shelf in the Salolampi library once upon a time. This Bible surprised me by the inscription inside the front cover: it had been donated to the New York Mills Elders Home in 1962 by the Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Adult Sunday School! My best guess is that Harold Karvonen had donated it to Salolampi from the Elders Home in the years that he was a director on both boards.

Another fact that I happened upon by accident (which can sometimes be the most fun research of all!) when I was scanning my way through the Finnish translation of 'History of the Finns in Minnesota' when I saw a familiar name in the local church information. A familiar name, I may add, that wasn't familiar because of my research into this area's history. Quite the contrary, this name is only known to me because of its importance at Salolampi: E. A. Jyring.

Now, E. A. "Jerry" Jyring is a name that many Salolampi villagers will encounter, even if they don't take the time to learn who he was. My interest in all things history led me to learn a bit about Mr. Jyring a number of years ago. He and his wife donated a substantial monetary sum to help aid Salolampi's building fund. Their name graces the largest building on the grounds as "Jyringin Talo." Now what was his name doing in the Trinity Lutheran Church section of this book? He lived in Hibbing after all. He certainly wasn't a local.

After reading the excerpt, I took the book to a native Finn to have him look it over to make sure I was translating it correctly. Sure enough, the same Jerry Jyring that donated the money for Salolampi's Iso Talo, was also the architect for the old Trinity Church building south of the railroad tracks!

Like I always say: the more you learn about the Finnish-American community, the smaller and smaller it gets.

NEW YORK MILLS FARMERS MARKET

Grown and Made Locally!

OPEN

WEDNESDAYS 3-6PM
SATURDAYS 9AM-1PM

Farm Fresh Seasonal Vegetables & Fruit, Artisan-Style Breads, Jams, Jellies, Pickles

City of New York Mills Public Works

Date	High	Low	Prec.	Date	High	Low	Prec.
7/11/2022	77	66	0.56" Rain	7/11/2021	81	59	
7/12/2022	77	59	0.20" Rain	7/12/2021	85	59	
7/13/2022	81	57		7/13/2021	83	61	
7/14/2022	76	56		7/14/2021	84	61	
7/15/2022	78	56	0.62" Rain	7/15/2021	80	55	
7/16/2022	85	65		7/16/2021	84	59	
7/17/2022	79	61	1.14" Rain	7/17/2021	84	56	
7/18/2022	85	66		7/18/2021	86	58	

For any underground digging projects, small or large, remember you need to call Gopher State One Call to locate all underground utilities, please dial 811 or 800-252-1166.

24 hour City Utility Emergency Service call the New York Mills Public Works Department at 218-385-2213 (if not an emergency you will be subject to after hours call pay)

Regular business hours are 7AM to 4PM Monday - Friday.