

# Award-winning local radio—WTIP

**Staff reports**

WTIP North Shore Community Radio is the recipient of two awards.

Deb Benedict, the station's director, has been selected as Broadcaster of the Year by the Independent Public Radio network, AMPERS. The station was also recognized for its work during the Ham Lake fire.

AMPERS is an organization of 12 independently licensed and managed, locally responsive, community-based public radio stations in Minnesota. The network covers nine-tenths of the state's area and 92 percent of the state's population with signals from its member stations.

For the second year in a row, AMPERS held its annual meeting in Grand Marais earlier this month. More than 25 people came to Grand Marais to participate in the annual meeting, which was held at the Johnson Heritage Post.

As part of the annual meeting, the AMPERS organization recognizes the work of select individuals associated with an AMPERS station who demonstrate excellence in production, engineering, development,



Photo by Michele Jansen, KBEM  
Kelvin Quarles, General Manager of KMOJ in Minneapolis, chair of the AMPERS nominations committee, presents the AMPERS Broadcaster of the Year award to WTIP's Deb Benedict.

promotion, and/or community involvement. This year AMPERS chose Benedict as Broadcaster of the Year.

"I was thrilled and surprised by the award from my peers," says Benedict. "It is a credit to the staff, the volunteers, and the

board of directors for all we have done in the past couple years."

AMPERS President Jim Gullickson said the award is a great honor for Benedict and the community: "Deb has done such a remarkable job with WTIP in what is really a short period of time. The station has moved from having a great deal of programming shared with KUMD in Duluth to now really doing everything independently. That comes with no small price tag when it comes to her time, energy and efforts. Certainly she's had a great crew working with her but having that crew also required a lot of work on Deb's part in terms of getting funding from CPB. She's done such a remarkable job. We're so proud of what's transpired at that radio station and how that station has become so part of the fabric of the community up there."

The station was also selected by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB) for a 2009 My Source Community Impact Award for Engagement for the station's work related to coverage during the Ham Lake Fire.

Benedict said it is a great

honor. "I'm very pleased to have the station chosen for such a prestigious award," she says. "Our focus has always been on serving the community and being a resource to people connected to this region. I am thrilled to have the station's work recognized on a national level."

The My Source Community Impact Award For Engagement was created by CPB to give recognition to stations for their commitment and responsive-

ness to their communities, providing innovative services that have measurable results.

Cook County Sheriff Mark Falk and Gunflint Trail resident Dave Seaton provided testimonials for their experience of WTIP's efforts during the Ham Lake Fire. Their testimonials can be heard on the WTIP website at [www.wtip.org](http://www.wtip.org).

*Congratulations!!*  
**Sawtooth Mountain Elementary School  
2008-09 5<sup>th</sup> Grade "A" and "B" Honor Roll Students\***

|                    |                          |
|--------------------|--------------------------|
| Haylie Anderson    | Owen Anderson            |
| Rory Bakke         | Ethan Barth              |
| Shauna Blake       | Sara Carman              |
| Bethany Derscheid  | Kim Dossey               |
| Madison Engelhaupt | Andrew Fenstad-Lashinski |
| Lily Gruber-Schulz | Leo Johnson              |
| Sam Kern           | Sean MacDonell           |
| Frankie Miller     | Kaitlin Maroney          |
| Joe Rauzi          | Madison Roy              |
| Roman Schnobrich   | Will Seaton              |
| Natassja Sheils    | Colton Thompson          |
| Isabel Whalers     |                          |

\*These students earned all A's and B's on their 2008-09 final grades.

## COLLEGE NEWS



### Jessica Nelson on St. Scholastica dean's list

**Staff reports**

Jessica Nelson of Grand Marais has been named to the 2009 spring semester dean's list at the College of St. Scholastica, Duluth.

Jessica is the daughter of Tom and Patty Nelson of Grand Marais, and is a 2007 graduate of Cook County High School.

St. Scholastica students must maintain a GPA of 3.75 or higher to achieve the honor.

### Rysdahl, Noyce named to St. Mary's dean's list

**Staff reports**

Bradlee Rysdahl of Tofte and Elliot Doherty Noyce of Grand Marais have been named to the second semester dean's list at St. Mary's University.

County High School.

Noyce is the son of Donald Noyce and Patricia Doherty of Grand Marais. He is also a 2008 graduate of Cook County High School.

In all, 341 undergraduate students earned a GPA of 3.60 or better and achieved the recognition.

### Sande earns degree, named to NDSU dean's list

**Staff reports**

Leif A. Sande of Grand Marais is among 1,300 students who graduated from North Dakota State University in Fargo this spring. Sande earned a Bachelor of Science degree in civil engineering, and graduated with honors.

2009 dean's list.

Leif is a 2005 graduate of Cook County High School He is the son of Nancy and Steve Sande of Grand Marais.

Students must earn a 3.50 grade point average or higher, and be enrolled in at least 12 credits to qualify for the dean's list.

### Gecas named to dean's list at the University of Minnesota, Morris

**Staff reports**

Paul Gecas of Grand Marais has been named to the University of Minnesota, Morris dean's list for Spring Semester. Paul is the son of Greg and Barb Gecas of Grand Marais.

must have earned a GPA of 3.67 for the semester, must be registered for a minimum of 12 credits for the semester, and have taken at least two-thirds of these credits on the A-F grading system. Students must also have completed all credits for which they were registered during the semester.

To be eligible for the dean's list, a student

### Bohnen, Larson earn honors at CLC

**Staff reports**

Victor Bohnen and Benjamin Larson are among 315 Central Lakes College students named to the 2009 spring semester dean's list.

and Lisa Larson of Grand Marais.

The list includes students who earned a grade-point average of 3.25-3.74.

Victor is a 2005 graduate of Cook County High School and is the son of Nonie Bohnen and Bill and Dawn Daniels Bohnen of Grand Marais.

Central Lakes College is a comprehensive community and technical college in the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system. CLC serves about 4,000 students annually in liberal arts and career education programs.

Ben is also a 2005 graduate of Cook County High School and he is the son of Marlo Larson

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