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SICK MOVES: Several winter sports teams overcome illness, opponents to pick up victories. **PAGE 8**

County Commissioners back staff amid social media ‘rhetoric’

BY BILL STICKELS III
EDITOR@COUNTYSTAR.COM

For the past several months, the Isanti County’s Health and Human Services Department in general, and specifically Child Protective Services, has been the subject of scrutiny by a small, but vocal, group of people over allegations made by the group pertaining to the removal and fostering of children from their families. This criticism was voiced during public comment at multiple board meetings but mostly took the form of numerous social media posts. According to County Administrator Amanda Usher, some of those posts have crossed the line and can be interpreted as threatening to certain current and former staff members.

“Last week, things unfortunately took a significant turn, where there were some threatening comments on social media,” Usher said.

As a response to those comments, Usher crafted a letter of support from all of the county commissioners to Child Protective Services.

“These professionals provide an essential service to our community by safeguarding children and ensuring their well-being in complex, difficult, and sometimes heart-wrenching situations,” began the letter. “We understand that child protection services can be challenging for all involved—families, social workers, and the community. The work done by social workers is never taken lightly and is always guided by the relevant state statutes and legal frameworks that dictate child welfare law. These statutes are designed to protect vulnerable children while also

‘It is disheartening to see disrespect directed to our county Health and Human Services workers, attorneys office, and previous board and employees on social media, direct attacks during public comment, and slander in the form of prayer.’

Bill Berg
Isanti County Commissioner

SEE RHETORIC, PAGE 2



BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR

Showing off

Jim Jaglo pops a wheelie as he approaches the finish line of the annual “Freezer Burn Fatbike Race” held at Springvale County Park on Saturday, Jan. 18. Nearly 30 riders braved the near-zero temperatures to participate in the event, which raises money for park improvements. Specifically, according to Isanti County Parks Director Barry Wendorf, the money that has been raised from the nine races throughout the years is earmarked to be used as matching funds for any grants the Parks Department is awarded.



BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR

Nicholas Pedersen is sworn in to his seat on the Isanti City Council immediately following the council’s vote to appoint him.

Isanti council appoints Pedersen to fill vacancy

BY BILL STICKELS III
EDITOR@COUNTYSTAR.COM

Borrowing from a well-known hockey game announcement, the Isanti City Council is now at full strength — again.

On a unanimous 3-0 written vote (Councilmember Steve Lundeen was absent), the Isanti Council has appointed Nicholas Pedersen to fill the remainder of Luke Merrill’s council seat, which opened after Merrill was appointed interim mayor at the beginning of January.

Pedersen was chosen after interviews with four of the five applicants. The fifth applicant, Kenneth Waldo, informed city staff he would be unable to attend the Jan. 21 meeting, when interviews took place.

The four remaining applicants each admitted they had limited government experience. The closest to having experience was Jacob Miller, who unsuccessfully ran against current council member Jeff Holmgren in last November’s special election.

In his interview, Pedersen said he moved to Isanti in 2018 from St. Paul due in large part to getting tired of the crime, which culminated with a police chase ending with a vehicle crashing into his neighbor’s house.

Pedersen admitted it wasn’t completely his idea to apply to be on the council. “Initially, I did not have a desire to be on the council,” he said. “But many people keep asking me to get involved in local government. So here I am.”

He said to prepare for the interview, he watched videos of the council meetings from the last three months.

“I heard many points where I agreed with the council, however, I do feel I have some input I can offer that wasn’t there.”

He added that he helped campaign “for a few candidates,” but beyond that, his only other government experience was being in the National Guard as an MP. He also said he had a “deep interest” in politics.

He said his top priorities are maintaining or decreasing taxes, “although with the city growing, that’s going to be difficult.” He added road maintenance and safety is another of his priorities.

Differing from the previous council appointments, Pedersen was immediately sworn in and took his seat for the remainder of the meeting. His term expires Dec. 31, 2026.



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North Branch to hire staff HR Director in midst of alleged HR turmoil

BY MOLLY WHELAN
NEWS@COUNTYSTAR.COM

As North Branch grapples with an apparent human resources issue, an attempt to outsource handling such situations is dead in the water.

Council member Peter Schaps again sought information on the cost difference in hiring an outside firm to do a job traditionally handled by city staff, echoing his earlier unsuccessful attempt to investigate whether hiring the Chisago County sheriff's office to handle some of the city's police work.

"We haven't even had a company come in here and lay it out," Schaps said. "What are we afraid of, here? I would think that we'd want to do that before we hire someone."

According to Mayor Kevin Schieber, the time has come.

"I see a need, and I've seen it now for several years," he said, before joining the 3-2 majority supporting hiring an in-house HR Director. Previously, Ragini Varma, who also served as city clerk and IT, was also tasked with HR duties. Varma resigned from all of her positions last November.

An immediate HR concern is an alleged conflict involving Angela Tveit, the city's public works administrative specialist who took over the duties of the city clerk last fall when Varma resigned after eight years with the city.

Tveit submitted her letter of resignation as deputy clerk effective Jan. 10, putting it to consideration of the council at its Jan. 14 meeting. According to the staff report, Tveit intends to continue her work for the Public Works Department.

During public comment at that same meeting, Lynn Wilson, a commissioner on the city's Parks, Trails and Open Spaces Commission, condemned city staff harshly over their treatment of Tveit, going so far as to call for the immediate removal of City Administrator, Matthew Hill, for failing to prevent or manage it.

"It is my understanding that the atmosphere in the offices of the city of North Branch has become so toxic and that other staff members were deliberately undermining Angela to such an extent that her remaining in the position of city clerk had become untenable," Wilson said in a letter to the mayor, which she read aloud during public comment.

Wilson went on to say that she was delighted, as a long-time election judge, when Tveit took over as clerk just before the 2024 general election. She said she has worked with Tveit in the past and praised her in glowing terms, calling the staff who allegedly mistreated her "small-minded and short-sighted."

Wilson said the city should take advantage of the fact Hill is still in his probationary employment period, and terminate him for failing "miserably" to properly handle the situation.

Wilson declined further comment on the matter,

directing inquiries to Tveit herself. Tveit did not respond to a request for comment.

For their part, the city voted to discuss the matter further in a special closed session, which had not been scheduled at press time according to the city's website.

At the mayor's suggestion, the council unanimously agreed to acknowledge Tveit's resignation without accepting it, and ask that she, Hill and Public Works Director Shawn Williams try to work out a solution.

Schieber declined to comment on the situation directly, citing personnel privacy, and pointed out that Wilson is not a city employee, and that any information she presented was of unclear origin and veracity to him.

"I will say, however, that the city of North Branch has experienced a few personnel matters over the past few years, in which personnel code of conduct and workplace standards have been compromised," Schieber said via email. "The city will wholeheartedly support our employees with their needs and challenges, but also hold them accountable when necessary. In my opinion, this is simply a common sense approach that all should understand and embrace."

In the meeting, Schieber used similar reasoning to support his vote to hire an in-house HR manager, saying in the past there were "some heartaches we could have saved, some funds we could have saved if we had someone guiding us."

RHETORIC: County Commissioners vow to not intervene in individual CPS cases

FROM PAGE I

respecting the rights of families, and they often leave little room for easy or quick decisions."

The letter goes on to say that while it is the county commissioners' job to oversee the Health and Human Services Department, "As commissioners, we do not and will not insert ourselves into individual child protection cases. Those cases are the purview of trained

professionals who work in conjunction with a range of experts including guardian ad litem, attorneys, judges/judicial staff, mental health professionals, and other caseworkers to make decisions in the best interest of children.

"We want to make it very clear that this type of behavior is unacceptable and we will continue to take aggressive steps to mitigate these behaviors and protect our staff," continued the letter. "Our social workers and staff work

under incredibly difficult circumstances to protect children and help families, and they deserve to be treated with respect. Threatening language or actions toward our dedicated public servants will not be tolerated."

Commissioner Bill Berg took the sentiments of the letter a step further.

"It is disheartening to see disrespect directed to our county Health and Human Services workers, attorneys office, and previous board and employees on

social media, direct attacks during public comment, and slander in the form of prayer," Berg said. "Constructive feedback is always welcome, but let's ensure it is delivered with respect that all professionals in our county deserve."

Editor's note: To read the entire letter of support from the commissioners to the Health and Human Services Department, see this article on our website at www.isanti-chisagocountystar.com.

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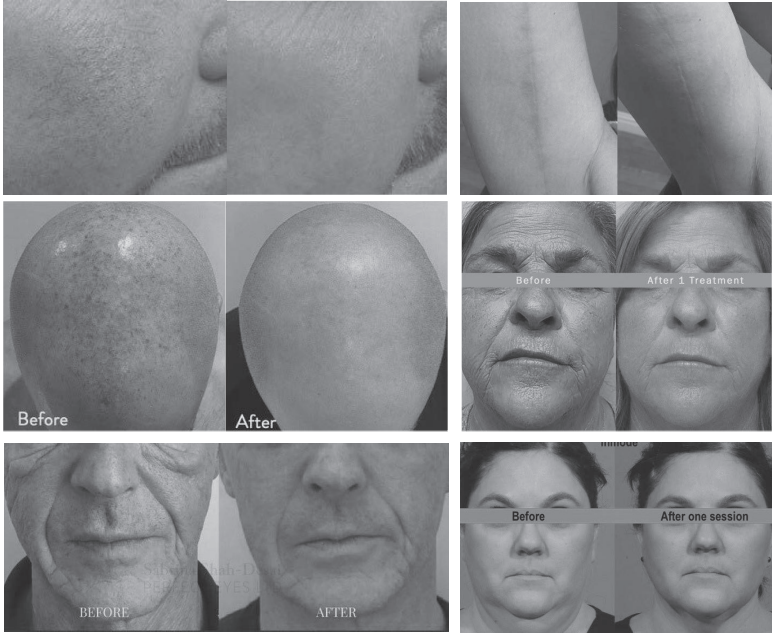
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 - Scar Reduction, Hair Removal



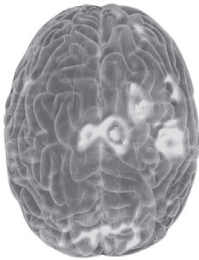
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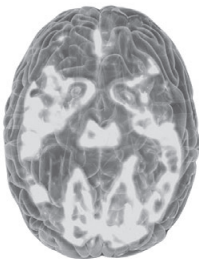
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MON, WED & FRI

Exercise with Connie

At the Chisago County Senior Center 38790 6th Ave., North Branch. From 10:30-11:30 a.m.

MON & WED

500 Cards

At the Chisago County Senior Center 38790 6th Ave., North Branch at 12:45 p.m.

MON & THUR

Alcoholics Anonymous

7p.m. Main Street Church 6500 Main Street, North Branch, MN. Enter east door. Informational Hotline is 763-312-1088

MON - FRI

Senior Dining

North Branch, Chisago County Senior Center 11:45 a.m. Diners need to pre-register at least one day in advance call 651-674-1956 between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. An annual registration form is required before dining.

MONDAYS

Bridge

1 to 3 p.m. at the Cambridge SAC, 140 Buchanan St, Cambridge

Scrabble (2nd Monday)

10 a.m. to Noon at the Cambridge SAC, 140 Buchanan St, Cambridge

Women's only Adult Children of Alcoholics and Dysfunctional Families

7 p.m. at Cambridge Lutheran Church , 621 Old Main St N, Cambridge Mn 55008 For more information contact Rebecca at 612-702-2844 or CoraJayne 612-210-1605

Mahjong

Noon to 3 p.m. at Cambridge SAC, 140 Buchanan St, Cambridge

Fresh Beginnings Alanon

Family Groups meets each Monday 7 - 8 p.m. at Access Church, 4359 - 392nd St.,



EXTENSION.UMN.EDU

Isanti County 4H info night is January 30 at 6 p.m. Learn about K-13 4H programs in the county.

North Branch. Visit minnesotanorth-al-anon.org for more information.

over. 1:30 p.m., at Cambridge Lutheran Church, 621 Old N. Main St, downstairs in the Choir Room. No auditions or fees required; new members always welcome. 612-619-2111.

TUES & THURS

Boxing for Those w/Parkinson's

Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10:15 a.m. and 5 p.m. at 115 Adams Street South, Cambridge. For more information, call 763-221-6883.

TUESDAYS

Music

Chisago County Senior Center 38790 6th Ave., North Branch Area musicians and vocalists donate their time and talents to provide music before the meal 11:15 a.m.

Dominos

At the Chisago County Senior Center 38790 6th Ave North Branch at 10 a.m.

Dominoes

10 a.m. to Noon at the Cambridge SAC

Square Dancing Lessons

6:45-8:30pm. Isanti Intermediate School. Call Kim 612-961-8128 or Community Ed 763-689-6189

PrimeTime Singers

Senior citizens, age 60 and

WEDNESDAYS

Cribbage

9 to 11 a.m. at the Cambridge SAC, 140 Buchanan St, Cambridge

Wizard

11 a.m. to noon at the Cambridge SAC, 140 Buchanan St, Cambridge

Pinochle

12:30 to 3 p.m. at the Cambridge SAC

Mahjong

12:30 to 2:30 p.m. at the Cambridge SAC, 140 Buchanan St, Cambridge

Alanon

7 p.m. at the Isanti Alano Club, 790 Heritage Blvd. Isanti. 763-444-4605

THURSDAYS

East Central Baby Cafe

Free drop-in breastfeeding support from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Adult Enrichment Center, 540 5th Ave NW, Cambridge, MN. For more info. call

763-689-1711.

Cambridge-Edgewood AFG

Cambridge-Edgewood Al-Anon Family Group meets from 7-8 p.m. at Cambridge Lutheran Church, 621 Old Main Street N. Visit minnesotanorth-al-anon.org for more information.

Parkinson's Support Group

Third Thursday of the month – 1-2:30 p.m. Walker Methodist Levande, 2011 6th Lane SE, Cambridge, MN for more info call 763-325-0100

Bingo

At the Chisago County Senior Center 38790 6th Ave North Branch at 10a.m.

Hand and Foot

At the Chisago County Senior Center 38790 6th Ave North Branch at 12:30p.m.

500

12:30 to 3 p.m. at the Cambridge SAC, 140 Buchanan St, Cambridge

Bunco (Third Thursday)

10 a.m. to Noon at the Cambridge SAC, 140 Buchanan St, Cambridge

Adult Children of Alcoholics/Dysfunctional Families

7 p.m. at Access Church, 4359 392nd St, North Branch. For more information call 612-251-6556 or email acanorth-branch@gmail.com

Fresh Beginnings Alanon Family Group

From 7-8 p.m. at Access Church, 4359 392nd Street, North Branch. Visit minnesota-al-anon.org for more information.

FRIDAYS

Cribbage

12:45 p.m. at the Chisago County Senior Center 38790 6th Ave., North Branch.

JAN. 23

Helping wild animals

Ruff Start Rescue is present-

ing how to safely interact with wildlife and how to reduce negative impacts on the environment. 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. at the Cambridge Public Library's Opportunity Room. No registration required.

JAN. 25

MN author visit

Cary J. Griffith will be at the Cambridge Public Library from 10 to 11 a.m. to talk about his most recent books.

JAN. 28

Jackson Pollock Day

Come to the Cambridge Library to celebrate American painter Jackson Pollock on his birthday. Participants will create own version of Pollock art with marbles and paint. Recommended for school aged kids and teens. Two sessions: 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. and 6 to 7 p.m. Registration required.

JAN. 29

Fishers in MN webinar

MNDNR webinar online. Michael Joyce, wildlife ecologist with the Natural Resources Research Institute, will share general information on fisher history and status in Minnesota, highlight factors contributing to their recent population decline, and describe ongoing research on the recent expansion of fishers into southern Minnesota. Register online mndnr.gov/discover

Soybean crop modeling

Seth Naeve, Extension soybean agronomist and Annibal Cerrudo, Visiting Professor (Argentina) To register, go to z.umn.edu/SF2025

JAN. 30

Isanti Co. 4H Info Night

6-8 p.m. at Isanti County Center, 208 ½ 1st Ave NW. Learn about K-13 programs in the county. Free Pizza while supplies last.

Now is the perfect time to start thinking about your garden

Now that we are in the doldrums of winter and our gardens are waiting to be woken up by the warmth of the spring sunshine, now is the perfect time to start thinking ahead to this year's produce garden.



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Wes
McDonald

It is always wise to rotate your crops in your garden. Different crops deplete the soil of different nutrients. Rotating crops helps to replenish the soil, helps cut down on diseases and insects, helps soil structure, and may help manage soil moisture. If you haven't come up with a crop rotation, this is a good time to plan it. Some people keep

a certain rotation in their head and others will draw out a diagram. Whatever works for you. The University of Minnesota Extension website has more information.

I love looking at various seeds in the

catalogs that are sent to me or going to my favorite online sites. There can be so much to choose from. I have my staples that I order every year, but I love looking at the different varieties of crops and thinking if I can fit them in my garden this year. I try to grow at least one new crop each year, or at the very least, something that you usually don't find. My kids got a kick out of the purple beans and cauliflower that I grew one year.

Have you had issues with growing produce in past years? Has your produce been small and not very bountiful? Your soil might be the problem. Soil has nutrients in it that are essential for plant growth. Most soils will have nitrogen, potassium, phosphorus, and other small amounts of micro-nutrients. Where you live in Minnesota and what your soil type is (i.e. sandy or clay) varies greatly. Proper organic material will help maintain these nutrients.

Soil has organic matter in it that is very important for plant growth. Organic matter is decomposing ma-

terial in different stages, plant roots, and microbes. If there is an issue with growing your produce, organic matter may well be the problem. Typically, your soil should have 3 to 6 percent organic matter in it. For true organic gardeners, you may need even higher levels. So how can you add organic matter? You need to add things like manure, grass clippings, and straw. Heck...you can throw fish guts in your garden. The University of Minnesota Extension website has some great information about organic matter. Just be careful not to throw anything in your soil that is toxic or bad for your health and obviously plastic is not an option. Having proper organic matter may also affect your acidity level in your soil.

Did you know your soil acidity is important? Certain plants like a more acidic soil to grow. Potatoes, strawberries, and corn like a more acidic soil. Blueberries like very acidic soil. Other plants like a more alkaline soil. Beans, asparagus, and garlic are some examples. You can amend your soil by using elemental sulfur to make your soil

more acidic, or lime to make your soil more alkaline.

How do you know what's going on with your soil? After the frost is out of the ground, you need to test it. The University of Minnesota Extension offers soil testing for a minimal cost. They provide results and give recommendations for your soil. Know that amending your soil is not an overnight process. This will take time and patience.

Whether it's planning your rotation, seed shopping, or testing/amending your soil in the early part of spring, the winter months give you ample time to make an action plan on your next produce garden. Your local University of Minnesota Extension office has qualified Master Gardeners standing by to answer your questions, give advice, and give you encouragement.

Chisago County Master Gardeners is part of a collaboration between Chisago County and The University of Minnesota Extension to deliver practical education and research you can use at home, at work and in your community. You can reach Chisago County Extension services by email at mnext-chisago@umn.edu or by phone at 651-277-0151.

Fantasy becoming reality, but not in a good way

As I view the ongoing battles between the Republican and Democratic parties — both at the national but even more so at the state level — I can't help but think of a "Star Trek" episode titled "Let That Be Your Last Battlefield."



Worth a Thousand Words
Bill Stickels III

Thanks to a reference in an episode of "Big Bang Theory," this episode is probably best known for Captain Kirk threatening to self-destruct the Enterprise in order to regain control of it. That, however, was actually a relatively small subplot to a much bigger theme.

For you non-Trekkies out there, this episode is about the crew coming across two men who are part of two groups who are almost identical to one another. The only physical difference is one group is all black on the right side and all white on the left, while the other group is all white on the right side and all black on the left. It is this seemingly

minor difference that is at the root of years of hatred between the two groups.

Ultimately, it is revealed the hatred of these two groups of each other led to their home planet being completely decimated to the point these two characters are the last of their people. Despite that, the hatred is so embedded in them they wind up destroying themselves battling over whose group was to blame for the planet's destruction.

Sound familiar? The episode originally aired in 1969, so my guess is the not-so-subtle message was aimed at racism. However, it applies as much, if not more, to today's political climate. As the world around us figuratively and sadly sometimes literally crumbles around us, all the two political parties seem interested in doing is blaming each other.

The current political environment also reminds me of a scene from "Star Wars: Revenge of the Sith." In it, Anakin Skywalker has just gone over to the dark side, when he is confronted by Obi Wan Kenobi. Obi Wan is trying to make Anakin realize he is being essentially brainwashed by the emperor. "You have allowed this dark lord to twist your mind," says Obi Wan.

"Don't lecturer me Obi Wan," responds Anakin. "I see through the lies of the Jedi."

Shortly later, Anakin proclaims "If you are not with me, then you are my enemy."

Again, sound familiar? As I have mentioned before, I am a political independent, agreeing with one party on some things and the other party on others. But, it seems like each time I say I agree with Democrats on something, I am immediately labeled as a "liberal." And when I say I agree with the Republicans, I am labeled as a "conservative."

The only difference between this "Star Wars" scene and current real life is Obi Wan reacts to Anakin's ultimatum by declaring, "Only a Sith deals in absolutes." Well, I guess that means the two political parties are actually differing subsets of Sith.

In both these examples, the inability to find any common ground ultimately led to everyone's demise. Let's hope reality doesn't follow fantasy in that aspect.

BILL STICKELS III is editor of the Isanti-Chisago County Star. He can be directly reached at 651-407-1245, through our main office number at 763-689-1181, ext. 156 or editor@countystar.com.



Minnesota bicyclists no longer required to stop at every stop sign

Question: I have seen numerous times where a bicyclist will not stop at a stop sign, if they are sharing the road with automobiles. I have seen a couple of close incidents where the bicyclist is almost hit as well. Are bicyclists under the same rules if they are sharing the road with automobiles?



Ask A Trooper
Jesse Grabow

Answer: There was a state law change back in August of 2023. It states, "a bicycle operator who approaches a stop sign must slow to a speed that allows for stopping before entering the intersection or the nearest crosswalk. If there is not a vehicle in the vicinity, the operator may make a turn or proceed through the intersection without stopping." Nothing in this subdivision changed

the right-of-way requirements. It is important to note that bicyclists must still stop at intersections controlled by a red light, a peace officer, or a person authorized to control traffic.

Essentially, the bicyclist can yield or perform a "rolling stop" at a stop sign if they don't violate anyone else's right of way. When approaching a stop sign, the bicyclist should be traveling slow enough to stop before the crosswalk if necessary. However, after yielding, if there is not a pedestrian crossing in front of them or other traffic approaching near enough to constitute an immediate hazard, they may continue without making a full stop.

A portion of state statutes were used with permission from the Office of the Revisor of Statutes. If you have any questions concerning traffic related laws or issues in Minnesota, send your questions to Trip. Jesse Grabow – Minnesota State Patrol at 1000 Highway 10 West, Detroit Lakes, MN 56501-2205. (You can follow him on X @ MSPPIO_NW or reach him at, jesse.grabow@state.mn.us).

LETTER GUIDELINES

The *Isanti-Chisago County Star* encourages readers to share their viewpoints of community issues by writing Letters to the Editor. Publishing decisions are made on questions of free speech, good taste, public interest and public sensitivity.

The *Star* reserves the right to edit for accuracy, clarity, libel and civility and reserves the right not to publish a letter or to hold a letter to a later edition. Personal complaints or attacks, plagiarized material, religious treatises or submissions from organized letter-writing campaigns will not be published.

GUIDELINES FOR ALL SUBMISSIONS

- Letters must be submitted by noon on Tuesdays to editor@countystar.com or via mail to 930 S. Cleveland St., Cambridge MN 55008. The *Star* reserves the right to extend its deadline in the interest of timeliness of letters and/or space availability.
- Letters to the editor must be 400 words or less.
- Each letter writer may have one letter published every 30 days, or four print cycles.
- Anonymous letters will not be published. Letter signatures must include the writer's first and last name, community of residence and phone

number. Phone numbers will not be published.

- Only letters originating from writers who live, work or have some other relevance to the *Star* circulation area will be published.
- An identification line may be added to the writer's letter identifying his or her occupation or title as it applies to the topic of the letter.
- Special rules apply during election season.

For questions about the *Star's* policies on letters contact the editor at 763-689-1181 ext. 107 or editor@countystar.com.

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Editor..... Bill Stickels III
editor@countystar.com
Editor Assistant..... Stacy Verdick Case
news@countystar.com
Publisher Jeff Andres
jeff@northstarmedia.net
Advertising Rep. Kellie Champion
sales@countystar.com
Classified Advertising..... Melissa Strand
starclass@countystar.com
Graphic Designer..... Kassie Goodroad
starcomp@countystar.com
Circulation Scott Kittelson
circulation@countystar.com



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NEWS DEADLINE:
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4 p.m. Tuesday

CLASSIFIED DEADLINE:
4 p.m. Tuesday

LEGALS DEADLINE:
Noon Monday



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Resilience and connection

As we welcome the new year, it is an opportune time to reflect on the past year’s achievements and challenges while looking ahead with optimism. This is my sixth year in the role of Superintendent, and as I reflect on all we’ve been through together over that span of time I can think of many examples of how “the people” of our school district have continuously demonstrated resilience, innovation, and a commitment to excellence in education. Our district Facebook page is a great place to visit to keep up with all that is happening in our schools each week. We have so much to be proud of and thankful for.

Together, we have navigated challenges and celebrated milestones that highlight the strength of our students, staff, and community. As we step into this new year, we are energized by the opportunities ahead and remain steadfast in our commitment to partnering with our community to foster a supportive, inclusive, and high-achieving learning environment.

One of the defining characteristics of our district is the power of human connection. The relationships among students, families, educators, and community members serve as the foundation for our success. We are deeply grateful for the partnerships that have sustained and strengthened our schools, and we look forward to building on these connections in the year ahead.



C-I School
News
Dr. Nate
Rudolph

STRATEGIC PLAN ANNUAL UPDATE

Our strategic plan, which was built through community input, continues to guide our efforts as we work toward achieving four core priorities: ensuring student academic growth, fostering positive relationships, improving mental health, and supporting district partnerships and growth. We are excited to report that over the past year, we have made significant strides in all of these areas.

This month we have the opportunity to meet together with our Strategic Plan Community Task Force to reflect on progress made in 2024 and identify priorities for 2025. Some of the highlights include measurable improvements in student achievement, strengthened partnerships with families, and the introduction of programs aimed at supporting the well-being of both students and staff. These accomplishments demonstrate our commitment to creating an environment where every student can thrive.

While setting future priorities, we will remain committed to our mission to partner with our community in order to educate, empower, and inspire every student every day to achieve their full potential. Community engagement and guidance is imperative to our continued success and we are thankful for all who have volunteered to participate in this task force.

ENROLLMENT AND REGISTRATION SEASON

January is a pivotal month for enrollment, and we are excited to welcome new families to Cambridge-Isanti Schools. Kindergarten and preschool registration is now open, offering families a variety of excellent options tailored to meet diverse needs. Our programs include Cambridge Primary School, Isanti Primary School, Cambridge-Isanti STEAM School, and C-I Schools Online. We encourage families to take advantage of early registration to secure a place in these outstanding programs. Information on enrollment can be found at www.c-ischools.org/enroll.

For families new to our district, we warmly invite you to join our community and explore the opportunities available at Cambridge-Isanti Schools. Our dedicated team is here to assist you every step of the way.

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH COMMUNITY

As we move forward together, we invite you to connect with Cambridge-Isanti Schools. Enroll your children, participate in one of our committees, volunteer, take a community education class, or follow us on social media to stay informed and involved. Together, we will continue to create an exceptional educational experience that prepares every student, every day for a bright future.

DR. NATE RUDOLPH is superintendent of Cambridge-Isanti Schools. He can be reached at 763-689-6202 or nrudolph@c-ischools.org.

Let your voice be heard.

Send letters to:
editor@countystar.com.

Honors come full circle: Celebrating NBAHS Alumnus Mitch Savage and his father, Mark Savage

SKOL and congratulations to NBAHS alumnus Mitch Savage, Class of 2001, for being named Colorado’s Golf Course Superintendent of the Year! This prestigious honor reflects his hard work, leadership, and dedication to sustainability in golf course management. But for Mitch, this journey all started right here in North Branch, on the greens of North Branch Golf Course during a summer job in high school.

Mitch’s years at NBAHS were marked by three key themes: exploration, curiosity, and service to others. He credits his success to embracing opportunities with an open mind. “How I found what I love to do so much was not on my radar,” Mitch reflected. “I approached the summer job at the golf course with an open mind, and it brought me to my passion.”



NB School
News
Sara
Paul

Many teachers and mentors left a lasting impact on Mitch. “My high school English teacher, Pat Brain, helped me view my quiet and reserved nature as an asset. She respected my introverted nature and knew I would find my voice one day.” Educators like Ted Martin and Bill Bowman also shaped his approach to leadership and hard work.

Mitch carries the Viking spirit wherever he goes. Growing up in North Branch, he was involved in athletics, playing varsity basketball and baseball, and experienced firsthand the strong sense of community and school pride.

His advice to current Viking students: Don’t be afraid to try new things. Embrace the power of YES. Explore different opportunities—you never know where they might lead.

Mitch added, “If you come through NBAPS and take advantage of the opportunities here, you will have done what you were supposed to do. Don’t let anything hold you back.”

After high school, Mitch attended community col-

lege before transferring to the University of Minnesota, earning his degree in Environmental Horticulture and Turfgrass Management. His education provided technical expertise, but his North Branch experiences laid the groundwork for his success.

Today, Mitch leads in sustainable course maintenance, balancing high-quality golf conditions with minimal pesticide use, water conservation, and grassland preservation.

Receiving this honor brought back memories of when Mitch’s dad, Mark Savage was selected for awards. Mark was a beloved teacher in NBAPS from 1985-2018 and was nominated for teaching awards throughout his tenure. At the time, Mitch had a hard time understanding why his dad hesitated to accept these honors. Now, standing in a similar position, he understands. Success is built on the foundation of peers, mentors, and colleagues who contribute to the journey- it’s not just about one individual. What Mitch’s dad came to realize, and what Mitch has also embraced, is that receiving an award is a vote of confidence from those who have witnessed his dedication and hard work firsthand.

Mitch isn’t stopping here. His next chapter involves stepping beyond the daily management of a golf course to becoming a spokesperson for the golf industry. He has found a passion for giving presentations and sharing his knowledge, ensuring the future of golf course management remains innovative and sustainable.

While he has built a successful career in Colorado, North Branch will always be home. Mitch, along with his wife Missy and their two children, Max and Bella, remain deeply connected to their Viking roots.

Mitch Savage’s journey from mowing fairways in North Branch to leading sustainability efforts in Colorado’s golf courses is a testament to the power of hard work, community, and Viking pride.

Congratulations, Mitch! Your Viking family is proud of you. SKOL!

SARA PAUL is superintendent of North Branch Area Public Schools. She can be reached at 651-674-1000 or spaul@isd138.org.

Skip the resolutions

Habits are hard to change, so skip the resolutions. It may be a good idea to have your spouse, children and other special friends help you make them. You know what I mean?



About the
Town
Gene
Johnson

Be gentle, be kind, be encouraging, and that’s not always easy.

In all our newspapers we try to celebrate success, years of service, and enter contests within the associations for quality of work.

The Press celebrates years of service of staff members. On a snowy day in December, Myrna Press reached the 17-year mark at the front desk as executive assistant to Carter and Gene. At the end of the day, she was presented a gift for being the first one at work that day, as a number of employees surrounded her with accolades of loyalty and competence. When asked, “What made you come in on this snowy day, or at least not come in until a little later?” she answered, “It’s just how I was raised.” She grew up on a farm in North Dakota where a strong work ethic was expected. Maybe by now you have found it interesting that her last name is Press.

LAST CALL FOR BALLOTS

I thought our November state and national elections were over. They are still counting ballots and there is likely to be some re-elections where ballots can’t be found right here in Minnesota.

On the presidential side, there were people who were surprised at the outcome. Maybe there were lessons learned. Minnesotans were frustrated with the spending that had been going on and the corruption in food programs for children, not holding construction and software companies to their bids, dealing with the safety of light rail and the overruns of the light rail construction in the southwest metro. The project is now delayed nine years.

People voted across the country and showed their displeasure with government leadership, the expansion of government, and the excessive programs affecting the economy.

The future challenges will include controlling medical costs, immigration, insurance rates, and inflation which far exceeds incomes.

It was another indication that every vote counts, if they got counted.

GENERATIONAL LIVING

A trend is emerging of multi-generational housing. Homes that have adult siblings, adult children over the age of 18, and parents and/or grandparents residing with the primary home

buyer. A local realtor, Joe Benson, sent me some information on this statistic. Between 2013 and 2024 it has been gaining traction. 17% of homes purchased last year were multi-generational households.

A number of factors bring this about, such as high interest rates and housing costs. It also points to the growth of condominiums and large rental units, especially near freeways, light rail and inner-city housing. Storms and fires caused many people to lose their homes.

MEMORY LANE

Conversations with friends who are of similar ages to this 88-year-old bring around words like fender skirts, steering knobs, curb feelers, emergency brakes, and a clutch or a dimmer switch.

What about running boards? Waiting in the driveway for your daddy to come home so you could ride up to the house on the running board on the outside of the car.

Do you remember the days when your home had hardwood floors and then you would cover them wall-to-wall with carpeting?

The coffee maker was a change-out from a percolator and we changed words for Dyna Flow and Electrolux vacuums. The word supper is on the way out, being replaced by dinner.

Try this in conversations. It can be fun.

GENE JOHNSON is Publisher Emeritus of Press Publications, owner of the Isanti-Chisago County Star. He can be reached at ppinfo@presspubs.com.

OBITUARIES

Betty Jane Louise Rod

Betty Rod, beloved wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and great-great-grandmother, died Jan. 3, 2025, at the age of 95, in Cambridge, Minn.

Born Oct. 4, 1929, to Herman and Emma Rose, and raised in Anoka County, Betty touched the lives of so many with her warmth and kindness. She was preceded in death by her parents, her sisters Shirley (James Curtis) and Dorothy (William Metz) and brother Russell Rose (Ione).

At age 16, Betty faced the difficult experience of being disowned by her parents. Taking on various jobs in factories and domestic work, Betty showed the resilience that would define her character throughout her life. Meeting Clifford Rod, a farmer's son from Isanti County transformed her world for the better. Welcomed into his family, Betty cherished the kindness of Clifford's parents who treated her as their own daughter.

Betty embraced the responsibilities that came with farm life. From milking cows to baking bread, gardening to canning, she managed the household while nurturing her five sons and daughter.

She will be remembered by her children for her encouragement to follow their passions in art, science, and faith, instilling in them the values of hard work and creativity.

Her family was her pride and joy, and she showcased her love through her hobby of photography, capturing countless portraits and serene landscapes that adorned the walls of her home.

Road trips to visit her sister, Shirley, in Washington state, and family reunions at the farm created treasured memories that hold a special place in the hearts of her loved ones. She had a gentle touch with animals, nurturing several dogs, cats and cows throughout her life, always remembering them fondly.

In the days leading up to her passing, Betty faced significant heartache, losing two dear friends within weeks. After a period of mourning, her inner light rekindled for those around her. On Christmas Day, during a family dinner filled with love, she began to feel unwell, but until then, she lived her life with remarkable vitality and spirit.

Betty was truly wonderful—95 years young, a talented photographer, and an incredible friend. As she rests now in the arms of love, we find comfort in knowing that her spirit will live on in the many lives she touched.

She is survived by her children: Steven (Ann) Rod, Gary (LuAnn) Rod, Jeffery (Debra) Rod, James (Laurie) Rod, and Kevan (Annette) Rod; and daughter Kathryn (Ward) Melenich. Her beloved grandchildren: Stephanie, Yancy, Nathan, Nicholas, Trent, Eli, Kyle, Kari Jo, Jeremy, and Larissa. Her great-grandchildren: Aiden, Indigo, Nevaeh, Livia, Bodhi, Kaden, Addalyn, and Mason. Her great-great-grandchildren: Roen James, Vera, and Ellis.

In accordance with her wishes, cremation has taken place by The Cremation Society of MN and a memorial event is being organized for the spring at the Duluth Rose Garden for family and friends. Details will be shared later. Donations in lieu of flowers can be made to the North Shore Animal League, <https://www.animalleague.org/>.

Rest in peace, dear Betty; you will be dearly missed and forever cherished.



James Gordon Engmark

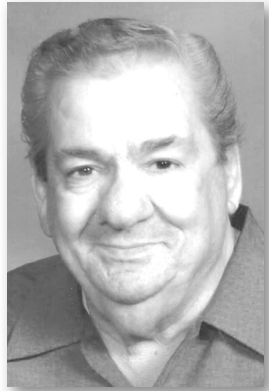
James Gordon Engmark, 84, of Cambridge, MN passed away on Jan. 16, 2025 at M Health Fairview Northland Hospital in Princeton.

James was born July 4, 1940 in Anoka, Minnesota to Theodore and Edith (Hawn) Engmark. He was preceded in death by sisters, Norma Swanson, Beverly Engmark, Bonnie Mills, Barbara Lorsung; brothers, Roger and Allen “Phil” Engmark.

Jim is survived by his beloved wife of 63 years, Betty Ann (Twingstrom); children, Julie Engmark (Laurie Pepin) of Shakopee, Michael (Vicki) Engmark of Foley, Susan Pulcher of Cambridge; three grandchildren, Shannon (Cory) Prybilla, Brandon Pulcher

and Jonathan Engmark; two great grandchildren, Weston and Aiden Prybilla; siblings, Kay Polzin, Eileen Miller, Charles Engmark and sister-in-law Judy Ellen (Darrell) Johnson.

Funeral Services 11 a.m., Friday, Jan. 24, 2025 at Cambridge Lutheran Church. Visitation one hour prior to the service. Interment in the church cemetery. Plants are preferred over flowers. Condolences at www.carlsonlillemoen.com. Arrangements by Carlson-Lillemoen Funeral Home and Cremation Services of Cambridge.



Julie Ann Grafenstein

Julie Ann Grafenstein, age 77, of Brook Park, passed away on Tuesday, Jan. 7, 2025 surrounded by family.

She was born on June 11, 1947 in Minneapolis to parents Milton and Sybil (Olson) Greenwold. Julie



was such a tiny preemie when she was born that her family held her on a pillow and she became their little princess and would make crowns for her. Julie attended school in Barron, Wisconsin where she graduated. After graduation, Julie became a medical transcriber which she loved doing and continued to do until she retired.

She lived in Cambridge, where she met Gale

Grafenstein and they were married on June 29, 2013. They moved to Brook Park in 2019. Even though Julie was a medical transcriber, her true passion was needlepoint and traveling abroad. During her travels, she would purchase a needlepoint from the area and go to work on them when she returned. She has many finished needlepoints from her travels hanging in their home. Julie also enjoyed reading her bible in the mornings along with a variety of others books she loved. Julie was always kind to the people around her and will truly be missed by all who knew and loved her.

Julie is preceded in death by her parents Milton and Sybil and sister Joyce (Greenwold) Woldahl.

Julie is survived by her three children, James Church, Michael Church and Michelle Church. She is also survived by her loving husband Gale Grafenstein; step-children, Jason and Sara (Boelman) Grafenstein, Jerimy and Margaret (Gustafson) Grafenstein and Scott and Amy (Corgard) Grafenstein; brother Larry Greenwold; sister Kathryn (Greenwold) Burns as well as grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews and other relatives and friends.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Friday Jan. 31, 2025 from 1-3 p.m. at the Cambridge Sidelines Bar and Grill (backroom). Arrangements are entrusted to Hamilton Funeral Homes- Akkerman Chapel of Mora. Condolences may be posted at www.hamiltonfhs.com.

John William Folkema

John William Folkema, passed away on Friday, Jan. 17, 2025, at GracePointe Crossing in Cambridge. He was 89 years old.

John was born on April 22, 1935, on the family farm in Greenbush Township, Mille Lacs County, Minnesota to parents Richard and Minnie (Weidenaar) Folkema.

John was preceded in death by his parents, infant brother William, sister Donna Spangberg; brothers-in-law, Larry Kleven and Ronnie Johnson, son-in-law Rollin Nelson, and step-son Robert Wiecks.

He is survived by his wife Kathy; children, Joanne Nelson, Joyce (Rick Keller, Jerome (Denise)

Folkema, Jim (Penny) Folkema, Joey (Stefanie) Folkema, Jill Folkema and Jeff Folkema; step-son Michael Wiecks; grandchildren, Cullen, Dan (Shana), Jamie, Kelly (Jeff), Leanna, Angie, Brent (Kinsey), Mike (Jess), Ashley, Dalton (Jenna), Grace Bella, Noah, Allie, Kelley and Shannon; many great grandchildren; sisters, Grace Kleven and Elise Johnson; brother-in-law Jim Spangberg; many nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

A Funeral Visitation will be held from 10 a.m. - noon on Saturday, Jan. 25, 2025, at the Hamilton Funeral Homes- Rock Chapel in Braham. A Prayer Service will be held at 11:45 a.m. Interment will be in the Rice Lake Cemetery in Braham. A Celebration of Life with food, music, and sharing will follow at the Braham Moose Lodge from 1-4 p.m. on Saturday. Arrangements are entrusted to the Hamilton Funeral Homes - Rock Chapel in Braham. Condolences may be posted at www.hamiltonfhs.com



Katherine M. Olson Ekstedt

Katherine M. Olson Ekstedt, 79, of Cambridge passed away on Jan. 17, 2025 at the Cambridge Medical Center. She was born Aug.27, 1945 in Princeton, MN to D. Reynold and Eleanor Olson.

Katie attended Karmel, Stark and Dowling country schools and graduated from Cambridge High School in 1963. She moved to Minneapolis after graduating and lived and worked there much of her adult life with the Wells Fargo Equipment leasing office. After taking early retirement, she enjoyed working as a bank teller in Taylors Falls and Almelund local banks.

Katie met her husband Dennis Ekstedt at Bethlehem Baptist church, and they married July 30, 1977.

Katie enjoyed traveling, especially on the back of Dennis' motorcycle, quilting and many activities with all of her family and friends. She also had multiple beloved pets. We were all blessed by her loving care and generosity.

She is survived by her son Quy (Kim) Nguyen, whom she and Dennis took into their family after the Vietnam war, granddaughters Anna and Emily Nguyen, daughter Megan Ekstedt, brother James (Judi) Olson, brothers-in-law Chuck (Rita), Phil (Ruth), Carl (Sabina) and Einar (Elaine) Ekstedt, 25 nieces and nephews, 60 great nieces and nephews, and many cousins and friends.

Katie was preceded in death by her husband, Dennis Ekstedt, parents D. Reynold and Eleanor Olson, mother-in-law Esther Ekstedt, brother David and his wife Deanna Olson, infant sisters Annette and Jeanette, and sister-in-law Becky Ekstedt.

A Celebration of Life will be held at Karmel Covenant Church, 5799 County Road 6, Princeton, MN Tuesday, January 28 at 11 a.m. with visitation beginning at 10 a.m. Lunch will follow the service at the church. Memorials are suggested for the Karmel Covenant Church Building Fund. Interment will be at Fort Snelling National Cemetery on January 29th. Arrangements by Carlson-Lillemoen Funeral Home and Cremation Services of Cambridge.



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Obituaries Continued on Page 14

Sign up for dodgeball tournament

STAFF REPORT
NEW@COUNTYSTAR.COM

Calling all youth groups. Assemble your 10-person team and sign up for the 2nd annual Middle school Dodgeball Tournament at the Cambridge Intermediate School Auditorium gym. Each team must include a minimum of

3 girls.
The tournament is from 6:15 to 8 p.m. on Feb. 1 and each team must have a “coach” (Youth leader/parent/responsible high school student) to participate. Sign-up by January 25 by filling out the form at tinyurl.com/Dodgeball2025 and secure your spot in the tournament.

Jackson Pollock Day at Cambridge Library

Join us at the Cambridge Library on Tuesday, January 28 to celebrate American painter, Jackson Pollock! Pollock was most well-known for his drip technique of abstract art. In this event, we will create our own version of Pollock art with marbles and paint. There are two sessions available, either 10:30am or 6pm. Please only register for one session.

All supplies provided by the Friends of the Cambridge Public Library. Registration is required for each artist. Register on ECRL's Events Calendar at ecrlib.org or by calling the library. Recommended for school aged kids and teens. ~ East Central Regional Library



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JANUARY 15 - 21 C-I, NB SCOREBOARD

January 15
C-I gymnastics 137.975, Chisago Lakes 133.325
*Zoe Klocksien - 1st place bars (9.225), beam (8.875)

January 16
C-I boys swimming & diving vs. Monticello - canceled
C-I wrestling 65, Chisago Lakes 6
C-I wrestling 30, St. Francis 38
C-I boys basketball 65, Zimmerman 90
Northern Tier girls hockey 0, Moose Lake 2
NB wrestling 20, Becker 53
NB wrestling 8, Big Lake 59
NB boys basketball 29, Monticello 98
NB gymnastics 140.85, Becker 140.075
*Dakota Esget - 1st place bars (9.0), floor (9.45), All-Around (36.6); Ella Dick - 1st place beam (9.1)
Northern Edge boys hockey 6, Moose Lake 1
NB girls basketball 39, Monticello 74
*Ella Kuhlman - 11 points

January 17
C-I wrestling 50, St. Cloud 18
C-I wrestling 20, Brainerd 42
C-I wrestling 34, Forest Lake 31
*Brady Anderson - team match-winning decision @ 285 pounds
C-I boys basketball 78, Coon Rapids 82
*Emerson Droubie - 34 points
C-I boys hockey 8, Princeton 5 (Rusty Skates Trophy game)
*Caleb Wisen, Jackson Ziebarth, Josh Sauro - 2 goals

January 18
C-I girls basketball 42, Sartell 67
*Bre Knight - 27 points
Northern Tier girls hockey 1, Osseo 1
NB wrestling @ St. Croix Lutheran Academy Invite
*Top finishers: Evan Pommier - 1st place (172 pounds), Ethan Kester - 2nd place (145 pounds)
Northern Edge boys hockey 0, Duluth Denfeld 11

January 21
Northern Tier girls hockey vs. Chisago Lakes - ppd
C-I boys hockey vs. Osseo - ppd
NB boys basketball 82, St. Francis 48
Northern Edge boys hockey 7, Bloomington Kennedy 1
*Ben Fruth - hat trick
NB girls basketball 49, St. Francis 54



Cambridge-Isanti's Caleb Wisen reaches for a rebound in front of the Princeton net during the Jackets' game against the Tigers.

BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR



JORGE PERALES | COUNTY STAR

North Branch's Jacob Knoespel puts up a shot from inside the paint during the Vikings' game against Princeton.

CAMBRIDGE-ISANTI, NORTH BRANCH HOME GAMES - JANUARY 23 - FEBRUARY 1

Below are the scheduled dates for the home competitions for each of the Cambridge-Isanti and North Branch winter sports. To see both schools' full schedules, go to www.mississippi8.org. Schedules are subject to change with minimal advanced notice based on weather, availability of officials, or other reasons. Note: Northern Tier girls hockey is a co-op between C-I, North Branch, and St. Francis. They split their home games at the Isanti and East Bethel arenas. Northern Edge boys hockey is a co-op between North Branch and St. Francis. They play their home games at the East Bethel arena.

- Thursday, Jan. 23**
- C-I boys basketball vs. Big Lake (7 p.m.)
 - NB wrestling vs. Somerset & St. Croix Lutheran (5 p.m.)
 - Northern Edge boys hockey vs. C-I (7 p.m.)
- Saturday, Jan. 25**
- C-I boys swimming & diving - Bluejacket Invite (9 a.m.)
 - C-I gymnastics - Bluejacket All-Around Invite (Noon)
 - NB boys basketball vs. Grand Rapids (1 p.m.)
- Tuesday, Jan. 28**
- C-I boys basketball vs. Princeton (7 p.m.)
 - Northern Tier girls hockey vs. Princeton/Becker/Big Lake @ East Bethel (7 p.m.)
 - C-I boys hockey vs. Becker/Big Lake (7 p.m.)

- NB boys basketball vs. Big Lake (5:15 p.m.)
 - NB gymnastics vs. Princeton (6 p.m.)
 - NB girls basketball vs. Big Lake (7 p.m.)
- Thursday, Jan. 30**
- C-I boys swimming & diving vs. Princeton (5:30 p.m.)
 - NB gymnastics vs. RPHF (6 p.m.)
- Friday, Jan. 31**
- C-I girls basketball vs. Monticello (7 p.m.)
 - NB wrestling - Home Invite (5 p.m.)
 - Northern Edge boys hockey vs. Monticello (7 p.m.)
- Saturday, Feb. 1**
- NB girls basketball vs. Cloquet (1 p.m.)



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RIDESMART 2025





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Tuesday, January 28, 2–3 pm

Welia Center
Fitness & Community Room
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Mora, MN 55051

Visit **WeliaHealth.org/SupportGroups** or scan the QR code for details on upcoming Heart to Heart Support Group dates, as well as all Welia Health Support Groups.



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Braham asks for county’s help with possible roundabout

BY BILL STICKELS III
EDITOR@COUNTYSTAR.COM

Over the last couple of years, both the cities of Isanti and Cambridge have set in motion the construction of a roundabout. Now, the city of Braham is joining in on the fun. However, it won’t be able to do it without the county’s help.

According to Braham Mayor Nate George, the city is in the early stages of looking into the construction of a roundabout at the intersection of Highway 107 and County Road 4. That intersection has become increasingly congested especially before and after school as it is the most direct route to get to the schools. Additionally, County Road 4 passes by the Braham Event Center.

“The goal would be to not only increase traffic safety, but pedestrian safety,” George said. “That is a primary pedestrian crossing for our schools. It would also help slow down traffic coming around the curve at 55 miles-per-hour.”

He added there has been an increase in crashes at that intersection as “impatient” drivers attempt to pass in the right turn lane a car making a left turn.

“In previous conversations with MnDOT, they have agreed that would be a good potential location for a roundabout,” George said.

George said the fact the intersection includes a



GOOGLE MAPS

The city of Braham is looking to Isanti County to help construct a roundabout at the intersection of Highway 107 and County Road 4, AKA 8th Street/413th Ave NE.

county road, it is necessary to include the county in any plans being made, “initiate discussions to see if the county would be interested in partnering with Braham.”

Chair Alan Duff asked if George had any traffic data for that intersection. George said he didn’t at that moment, however he could get the county that information.

Commissioner Bill Berg asked if a roundabout was possible at that intersection considering the close proximity of a railroad track crossing.

“MnDOT has already taken a look at that,” George

said. “Maybe the highway would have to be adjusted a little bit.”

Duff and the rest of the board agreed they were willing to explore a partnership with the city and suggested George contact the county engineer to help with a feasibility study, especially in terms of the proximity to the railroad crossing.

“That’s something we were looking at really closely with the city of Isanti,” Duff said, referencing the ongoing County Road 5 roundabout project. “I think our county engineer will have a really good grasp on what’s a reasonable distance from a railroad.”

W O R S H I P *guide*

Baptist

First Baptist Church
304 S. Main St., Cambridge,
763-689-1173. Call the church office or
visit our website for current service
times and programs.
firstbaptistcambridge.org

North Isanti Baptist Church
Lead Pastor: Travis Blake
2248 313th Ave. NE, Cambridge, MN
55008. www.nibchurch.com
Email: nibchurch@msn.com
763-689-3576.

8:30am Worship Service (traditional
style)
10:45am Worship Service (contempo-
rary style)

South Isanti Baptist Church
3367 Cty. Rd. 5 NE, Isanti.
763-444-5860, Pastor Bob Venneman.
Sunday Worship 9:30am. Wednesday
“Life & Light” Bible studies for all ages.
Adults & children. For info call or go to
southisantibaptist.org.

Springvale Baptist
Pastor Zane Hall
9:30am Sunday School
10:30am Sunday Worship
Wednesday: 6:00 pm Band of Brothers
Thursdays: 10:00 am Ladies Bible Study
410 County Road 6 NW
Stanchfield, MN 55080
763-689-1373
springvalechurchmn.org

Sunrise Bible Church
41300 Second St., North
Branch, Pastor David Stertz. Sunday
school for all ages
9:30am, Sunday morning Worship
10:30am, Sunday evening 6pm, Wed.
Kids 4 Truth & Bible studies for all
ages 6:30pm. More info at
sunrisebiblechurch.org
or 651-674-4107.

Catholic

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
207 Whiskey Rd NW, Isanti, MN.
763-444-4035
Email: annseton76@gmail.com. Mass:
Tues. & Wed. 8:30am. Sun. 8:30am.
stelizabeth-isanti.org.

Evangelical Covenant

Karmel Covenant Church
5799 County Road 6, Princeton, MN
763-389-3169
Lead Pastor: Jason Hovis
Pastor of Youth: Kohl Hanson
Sunday School for all ages 9:00 am
Sunday Worship Service 10:00 am
Wednesday AWANA 6:30 pm
Wednesday Youth Group 6:30 pm
Karmelcov.org

Evangelical Free

Dale Evangelical Free Church
45268 Brunswick Rd,
Harris, MN 763-689-5817
Pastor/Teacher Dr. Harvey Martin.
Sunday School – all ages 9am.
Sunday Service 10:25am.
www.daleefc.com

Kost Evangelical Free Church
37405 Kost Trail, North Branch, MN –
Jct. of CR 11 & CR 72
651-583-3281 · Kostchurch.org
Pastor Josh Jensen
Sunday worship service 9:30 am fol-
lowed by fellowship & Sunday School
Youth group Wednesdays 7 pm
Respawn Gaming Ministry for teen
boys – 2 Fridays per month.

Oxlip Evangelical Free Church
29237 Roanoke St NW, Isanti
(1 mile West of Cty 5 and Hwy 47)
763-444-5134 oxlip.org
9am Worship Service
10:45am Christian Education
Awana children’s ministry Wednesdays
6:30 to 8pm

Wyanett Evangelical Free Church
12 Miles West of Cambridge on Hwy 95
www.wyanettevangelicalfree.org
Pastor Bruce Talso 763-221-4469
Sunday School 9:30 am
Morning Worship 10:30 am
Mondays - Women’s Evening Bible
Study 6:00 pm
Tuesdays - Men’s Bible Study 5:00 pm
Wednesdays - Midweek Bible Study/
Prayer 2:00 pm
Thursdays - Women’s Morning Bible
Ministry, 403 1st St. Princeton
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LIVING MESSAGE!

Lutheran

**Braham Evangelical Lutheran
Church (ELCA)**
West Central Drive & County Road 4,
Braham
320-396-2755
Sunday: 10:00 a.m. Worship Service -
BELC
Sunday: 10:00 a.m. Worship Service
Live on Facebook
Office hours 9:00 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Tuesday thru Thursday

**Calvary Evangelical Lutheran
Church Of Rush Point (ELCA)**
Pastor Vicki Vandervegt.
320-358-4829, 600 Rush Point Dr.
10:30am Worship with Fellowship fol-
lowing
my.calvaryofrushpoint.org.
Office: calvaryrushpoint@gmail.com

**Cambridge Lutheran Church
(ELCA)**
621 Old North Main Street, Cambridge
763-689-1211
8:30 a.m. Traditional Service
9:15 & 10:30 a.m. Contemporary
Service
www.cambridgelutheran.org -
fb.com/CambridgeLutheran

Christ Ev. Lutheran Church (WELS)
32962 Vickers St. NE, Cambridge, 763-
689-5333
Pastor Samuel L. Biebert.
Sunday Worship 9am, Sunday School/
Bible Class 10:30am
www.christcambridge.com

Faith Lutheran Church (ELCA)
109 Second Ave NW, Isanti
763-444-9201
Pastor Daniel Shantu
Sunday School 8:30 a.m.
Sunday Service 9:30 a.m.
Home of Heavenly Sunshine Preschool
email: office@faithlutheranisanti.com

First Lutheran Church (ELCA)
43779 Gates Ave., Harris.
651-674-4498. Handicapped accessi-
ble.
Pastor Vicki VanderVegt
Sunday Worship 9:20am
Coffee & fellowship following service
Email: firstlutheran@q.com
www.firstlutheranharris.org

**Joy Lutheran Church
(Missouri Synod)**
1155 Joy Circle, Cambridge
763-689-4355
www.joylutheran.net
Pastor James Ritter
8:30 a.m. Traditional Service
10:30 a.m. Contemporary Service

**Living Branch Lutheran Church
(LCMS)**
6486 Elm St (PO Box 335), North
Branch
651-674-5576
Pastor Glen Kleppe
Sunday Worship 8am
Sunday School @ 9:15am
Sunday Adult Bible Study @ 9:15am
Tuesday Adult Bible Studies @ 1pm &
7pm
Wednesday Youth Group @ 6:30pm
www.livingbranch.org
(http://www.livingbranch.org)
office@livingbranch.org

Long Lake Lutheran Church (ELCA)
3921 277th Ave NW Isanti, MN 55040
763-444-5315
Pastor Sue Olson
All Are Welcome!
Sunday Schedule
Worship: 9:00 am
· 1ST & 3RD Sunday Traditional
· 2nd & 4th Hybrid- Traditional &
Contemporary
Sunday School: 10:30 am
Holy Communion: 1st and 3rd Sundays
Wednesday Schedule
5pm Wednesday Meal
6pm Worship
6:30pm Confirmation

Salem Lutheran Church
4638 381st Ave. NW, Dalbo, MN 55017.
763-689-1687
Join us for worship every Sunday at
9am
Sunday school for 3 yrs to 6th gr.
begins at 9:30am
Coffee fellowship after worship
www.salemlutherandalbo.com

**Spring Lake Lutheran Church
(ELCA)**
8440 Erickson Road, PO Box 958,
North Branch, MN 55056 (9 mi. E. of
Cambridge on Hwy. 95, North one
block on Erickson Road).

651-674-4606.
Pastor Vicki VanderVegt.sllchurch.org
Email: sll.church@gmail.com
8:15am Worship with fellowship fol-
lowing

**St. John Lutheran Church
(Missouri Synod)**
28168 Jodrell St. NE, North Branch
Located 6 mi. E. of Isanti on Co. Rd. 5;
(or 7 mi. W. of North Branch on Co. Rd.
5); then 1-1/2 mi. S. on Co. Rd. 12. 763-
444-5988, Paul Anderson, Pastor;
Sunday 9am Worship;
10:20am Adult Bible Study;
Thursday 6:30pm Bible study.
Email: stjohnlutheran@att.net

**St. John’s Lutheran Church
(Missouri Synod)**
980 West 4th Street, Rush City
320-358-3623
Sunday 8:45am Worship
Monday 10am Longer Look Bible Study
stjohnsrushcity.org

**St. Stephen’s Lutheran Church
(Missouri Synod)**
400 SE 8th St., (Isanti #4 E.), PO Box
37, Braham
320-396-3103
9:30am Sunday School & Adult Bible
Study.
10:30am Worship.
ststephensbraham.org

Trinity Lutheran Church (ELCA)
38460 Lincoln Trail, North Branch
651-674-7047 Pastor Paul Cannon
In person and online worship
8 am & 10 am worship
9 am Fellowship and Coffee Hour
9 am Sunday School
www.trinitynorthbranch.org
office@trinitynorthbranch.org

Methodist

**Common Ground - A United
Methodist Community**
404 Cypress St. North, Cambridge.
763-689-2071.
Pastors Amelia & Andrew Buschena.
Sunday 9:30am Worship.
Livestream of services and more info
at commongroundmc.org.
Everyone Counts!

Non-Denominational

Grace Gospel Church
37126 MN-65, Stanchfield, MN 55080
763-308-5618
Coffee fellowship: 9:45am
Service: 10:00am
Pastor: Tim Miller
www.gracegospelmn.org
info@gracegospelchurchmn.com
Located just north of Grandy on 65,
across from East Central Diesel, with
three large crosses near the road.
We look forward to having you!

Journey of Faith
Bible based worship.
651-600-9878.
faiththroughaction777@gmail.com
Sunday fellowship 9am
Worship & Youth Ministry 10am
Come as you are. All welcome.
Junction Bowl. 123 Cajima Street, NE,
Isanti. Refreshments served.

JustPassinThru IHS Ministries
Becoming Agape – Allowing the Holy
Spirit to
transform lives
763-228-0883
Meeting at Crossroads Commons
1001 1st Ave. E., Suite 100, Cambridge
MN
justpassinihs@gmail.com
JustpassinThru.net
Pastor Tom Bakke
Sunday mornings at 10 am
Sunday nights and Wednesdays

Pentecostal

The Journey New Life Church
601 Heritage Blvd NE, Isanti
Pastor David L. Willis.
Sunday 10am Worship &
the Word & Kids’ Church.
Sunday 6pm Family Worship.
Wednesday 7pm Family Breakout
Classes.
763-689-4471
Thejourneynlc.org

*This directory is paid for and made
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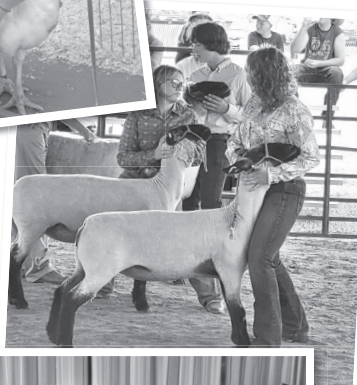
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4-H is an out-of-school, hands-on learning program for anyone in kindergarten through one year past high school (grade 13). Youth choose a project that's interesting to them and explore it with peers and caring adults. 4-H clubs are groups of youth who want to learn together and meet in every part of Minnesota.

Some of Our Events

Project Workshop Day
B-BOP (Animal Overnight)
Summer Day Camps
Regional Competitions
County Fair
State Fair
Share the Fun (group performance)
Project Knowledge Bowls
Residential Camp

Some of Our Projects

Aerospace
Clothing & Textiles
Dog Training
Crafts & Fine Arts
Engineering Design
Photography
Veterinary Science
Leadership
Animal Science
Drones
Shooting Sports & Wildlife
Indoor Gardening

Call with questions!

Isanti County 4-H Extension Educator,
Cora Rost • 763-689-1810
mnnext-isanti@umn.edu

<https://extension.umn.edu/local/isanti>

Chisago County 4-H Extension
Educator, Josiah Cole
colex300@umn.edu • 651-277-0150
<https://extension.umn.edu/local/chisago>

Plus many, many more projects for grades K through 13
(one year past high school)

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NOTICES

REQUEST FOR SEALED BIDS FOR BRIDGE PARK APARTMENTS

Please submit sealed bids to Caroline Moe, Executive Director, Cambridge Economic Development Authority at Cambridge City Hall—300 Third Avenue NE, Cambridge, MN 55008 no later than 10:00 am February 11, 2025. A public bid opening will take place at 10:00 am on February 11.

Summary of Scope of Work:

Replace roof at Bridge Park Apartments located at 121 South Fern Street, Cambridge, MN.

Detailed Plans and Specifications:

Detailed plans and specifications are available from William Waugh, Project Engineer for RSI Building Envelope by emailing him at billw@roofspec.com or calling him at 651-639-0644.

A guided tour of the existing building will be conducted at 10:00 am on January 29, 2025. The tour is encouraged, but not required.

All questions arising from the tour must be submitted by February 4, 2025, at 2:00 pm.

Project is funded in part from US Department of Housing and Urban Development. Davis-Bacon requirements apply for this project.

Details of required bid and performance bond are available in the detailed plans and specifications.

Bids received are expected to be awarded by the building owner, the Cambridge Economic Development Authority at its meeting at 5:45 pm on February 18, 2025.

All other questions related to this bid solicitation are to be directed to William Waugh, Project Engineer for RSI Building Envelope at by emailing him at billw@roofspec.com or calling him at 651-639-0644.

Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on January 16, 23, 2025

CAMBRIDGE PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE OF MEETING

The City of Cambridge Planning Commission will hold a regular

meeting on **Tuesday, February 4, 2025, at 7:00 pm** in the Council Chambers of Cambridge City Hall, 300 3rd Avenue NE, Cambridge, Minnesota 55008, to discuss the following public hearing items and other items on the agenda.

1. PUBLIC HEARING – A request by the City of Cambridge, 300 3rd Ave NE, Cambridge, MN 55008; for a Preliminary Plat of New Pathways Addition. The legal description is Outlot A, Heritage Townhomes, Isanti County, Minnesota.

2. PUBLIC HEARING –A request by the City of Cambridge, 300 3rd Ave NE, Cambridge, MN 55008, to amend Title XV Land Use, Chapter 156 Zoning, Section 156.062 Residential Outdoor Parking and Storage; to create an IUP process to allow vehicles of over 12000 lbs to park in residential zoned areas.

More information is available at Cambridge City Hall, 300 3rd Avenue NE, Cambridge, MN 55008, including full legal descriptions. Cambridge Planning Commission Meetings are typically scheduled on the 1st Tuesday of every month and

are open to the public.

Marcia Westover
Community Development Director
Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on January 23, 2025

CAMBRIDGE SELF STORAGE AND ISANTI SELF STORAGE

This is notice of intent to sell items located at Cambridge Self Storage and Isanti Self Storage. If Ashly Armstrong J46, Josh Scurry-Handy A75, Charles Anderson B19, Travis Green J62, Taylor Johnson J44, Lawrence Hopkins N66, Keith Pearson E54&E55, Robert Schiller Blake E72, Ashley Wellman E158, and Brandon Barrow E71 do not pay their balances in full by February 10, 2025 at 9AM, online auctions will be held February 11, 2025 at 9AM at www.storageauctions.net. The units appear to contain household and garage items.

Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on January 23, 30, 2025

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-01

SUMMARY OF AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING A FEE SCHEDULE

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HARRIS, CHISAGO COUNTY, MINNESOTA ORDAINS:

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 412.191, in the case of a lengthy ordinance, a summary may be published. While a copy of the entire ordinance is available without cost at the office of the City Clerk, the following summary is approved by the City Council and shall be published in lieu of publishing the entire ordinance: the City of Harris Fee Schedule is hereby repealed and replaced with a new fee schedule.

Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on January 23, 2025

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING NORTH BRANCH PLANNING COMMISSION

Notice is hereby given that the North Branch Planning Commission will hold Public Hearing on Tuesday, February 4, 2025, at 6:30 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter

may be heard, at North Branch City Hall, 6408 Elm Street, North Branch, Minnesota. The purpose of this public hearing is to allow for public testimony regarding a proposed minor subdivision on the property known as Sherwood Pines.

Applicant(s)/Property Owner(s) MaKe Properties, LLC

General Location(s)

41623 Flink Ave; East side of Flink near 417th Street

PID(s)

11.00070.00

Pertinent information about this request is on file at City Hall. Persons interested in providing comment as to this request may do so in writing at or before the public hearing. Comments may be sent to: Nate Sondrol at nathans@ci.north-branch.mn.us.

Nate Sondrol

nathans@ci.north-branch.mn.us (651) 674-8113

Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on January 23, 2025

NORTH BRANCH ORDINANCE NO. 391-25

STATE OF MINNESOTA

COUNTY OF CHISAGO

CITY OF NORTH BRANCH

ORDINANCE NO. 391-25

SUMMARY ORDINANCE AMENDING THE NORTH BRANCH CITY CODE CHAPTER 2, ADMINISTRATION; ARTICLE V, BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH BRANCH DOES ORDAIN THAT

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH BRANCH, MINNESOTA ORDAINS:

SECTION 1: FEE SCHEDULE

After consideration and review, the City Council hereby adopts the 2025 Fee Schedule attached to this ordinance as Exhibit A.

SECTION 2: EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance shall take full effect on January 14, 2025 and be in full force after its passage and publication according to law.

Passed by the City Council of North Branch, Minnsota this 14th Day of January, 2025

Kevin A. Schieber, Mayor

Attested:

Matthew A. Hill, City Administrator



2025 Fee Schedule

Service	2025 Fee Schedule
Building Department	
3 Season Porch	Based on Valuation* \$50.00/Sq. Ft.
Basement Finish	\$156.00
Building Department Fees	As Outlined on page 2
Building Moving Review	\$100.00 + Expenses
Building Permit	Based on Valuation*
Deck - Residential	Based on Valuation* \$20.00/Sq. Ft.
Demolition Permit	\$75.00
Detached Accessory Structure - Residential	Based on Valuation* \$20.00/Sq. Ft.
Manufactured Home Installation	\$250.00*
Mechanical Permit - Commercial	Based on Valuation*
Mechanical Permit - Commercial Replacement	\$99.00/Unit*
Mechanical Permit - New Residential	\$89.00*
Mechanical Permit - Replacement Residential	\$89.00*
Other Building (Misc) Permits	\$89.00*
Plan Review Fee	65% of Permit Fee
Plumbing Permit - Commercial	Based on Valuation*
Plumbing Permit - Commercial Replacement	\$99.00/Unit*
Plumbing Permit - New Residential	\$89.00*
Plumbing Permit - Replacement Residential	\$89.00*
Reroof - Commercial	\$208.00*
Reroof - Residential	\$89.00*
Septic -Tank Set/Common Sys Connection/Repair/Operating Permit/Land App'l	\$60.00
Septic Permit	\$300.00
Septic Pumping Fee	\$5.00
Sewer Access Fee (SAC) ***	\$2,471.00/Unit
Sewer Connection Inspection Fee	\$60.00
Site/Location Inspection (Fence, Ag Bldg, Swimming Pool, etc)	\$80.00
Temporary Certificate of Occupancy	Escrow based on estimated cost of delayed site improvements. Can be in the form of cash or letter of credit issued by a bank.
Water Access Fee (WAC)	\$1,700.00/Unit
Water Connection Inspection Fee	\$60.00
Water Meters - Residential **	Actual Cost to City
- Irrigation (Residential) **	Actual Cost to City
- Commercial/Industrial **	Actual Cost to City

* State Surcharge Applies

** Contact NB Public Works for cost

*** Multi-family, rental residential units without individual services, fee is reduced an additional 20%

2025 Fee Schedule

2025 Fee Schedule
NORTH BRANCH BUILDING FEE SCHEDULE

This is a "valuation" based permit schedule

Total Valuation	Fee
\$1.00 - \$500.99	\$23.00
\$501.00 - \$2,000.99	\$23.50 for the first \$500.99 plus \$3.05 for each additional \$100.00 or fraction thereof, to and including \$2,000.99
\$2,001.00 - \$25,000.99	\$69.25 for the first \$2,000.99 plus \$14.00 for each additional \$1,000.00 or fraction thereof, to and including \$25,000.99
\$25,001.00 - \$50,000.99	\$391.25 for the first \$25,000.99 plus \$10.10 for each additional \$1,000.00 or fraction thereof, to and including \$50,000.99
\$50,001.00 - \$100,000.99	\$643.75 for the first \$50,000.99 plus \$7.00 for each additional \$1,000.00 or fraction thereof, to and including \$100,000.99
\$100,001.00 - \$500,000.99	\$993.75 for the first \$100,000.99 plus \$5.60 for each additional \$1,000.00 or fraction thereof, to and including \$500,000.99
\$500,001.00 - \$1,000,000.99	\$3,233.75 for the first \$500,000.99 plus \$4.75 for each additional \$1,000.00 or fraction thereof, to and including \$1,000,000.99
\$1,000,001.00 and up	\$5,608.75 for the first \$1,000,000.99 plus \$3.15 for each additional \$1,000.00 or fraction thereof.

Other Inspections and Fees:

Inspections outside of normal business hours	\$50.00 per hour *
Re-inspection fees	\$50.00 per hour *
Additional plan review required by changes, additions or revisions to plans	\$50.00 per hour *
Investigation fee - work commencing before permit issuance (not to exceed the permit fee)	\$50.00 per hour *
For use of outside consultants for plan checking and inspections, or both	Actual Cost **
* These fees have a one-hour minimum charge	
** Actual costs include administrative and overhead costs.	

Building Permit Refund Policy :

Permit fees are refundable up to 80%.

The City does not refund any fees if:

- work has been started,
- the permit is over 180 days old, or
- the permit fee is less than \$100.00.

All refund requests must be in writing, signed by the permit holder, and submitted to the building department.

Please note the following are never eligible for refund:

- Plan review fees
- State surcharge fees
- Re-inspection fees
- Any services that have previously been rendered

2025 Fee Schedule

Service	2025 Fee Schedule
City Clerk's Office	
Affidavit of Candidacy	\$5.00
Assessment Search	\$25.00
Bad Check Fee	\$30.00
Certification of Delinquent Bills to Taxes (City Services, Sewer, Stormwater & Water)	\$20.00 per unpaid, delinquent service
Club License	\$500.00
Paper or Digital Copies	\$0.25/Page if 100 pages or under, actual cost if over 100 pages (per MN Statute)
Data Request Retrieval	Actual Cost *
Liquor License Investigation Fee - Partnership, Corporation	\$125.00
Liquor License Investigation Fee - Single Person	\$50.00
Notary Service	\$5.00 per document
Ordinance Amendment	\$300.00
Small Wireless Annual Rental Fee per structure	\$150.00
Small Wireless Annual Maintenance Fee per structure	\$25.00
Small Wireless Monthly Electrical Service Fee	Metered w/service fee and usage fees - monthly
Special Meeting Fee	\$300.00
Service	2025 Fee Schedule
Miscellaneous	
City Parking Lot Overnight Parking Permit/ Winter Parking	\$20.00 per season
Conduit Bonding Fee	0.50% of Amount Borrowed
Required Staff Time (oversee projects/misc inspections, etc)	\$75.00 per hour/1 hour min

* Actual Costs = lowest paid, qualified employee time, copies, certifications, electronically transmitting the copies or data. (MS 13.03, Subdivision 3 (c))

NORTH BRANCH ORDINANCE NO. 391-25 CONTINUED

2025 Fee Schedule

Service	2025 Fee Schedule
Business Licenses:	
Dance License	\$100.00
Dance License - Temporary	\$20.00 per day
Display & Consumption License (Set-Up) (State fee of \$250 Incl)	\$500.00
Dog Kennel License	\$125.00
Garbage Hauler's License	\$156.00
Massage License (Business)	\$150.00
Massage License (Therapist)	\$25.00
Off-Sale 3.2% Malt Liquor License	\$125.00
Off-Sale Intoxicating Liquor License	\$150.00
On-Sale 3.2% Malt Liquor License	\$100.00
On-Sale Intoxicating Liquor License	\$2,500.00
Right of Way Access (Excavator's) License	\$100.00
Sunday Liquor License	\$200.00
Temporary Liquor License	\$50.00 per day
Temporary Sunday Liquor License	\$25.00 per day
Tobacco License	\$250.00
Transient Merchant - Group (30 Day)	\$260.00
Transient Merchant License - Group (3 Day)	\$130.00
Transient Merchant License (30 Days)	\$78.00
Transient Merchant License (6 months)	\$234.00
Transient Merchant License (Annual)	\$400.00
Wine License	\$750.00
Yard Waste Composting Site License	\$500.00 application fee \$2,000.00 annual/renewal fee
License Late Fee	10% of License Fee or \$25.00, whichever is greater
Mobile Food Units (Food Trucks)	\$100.00 per year
Mobile Food Units (Food Trucks) Event License	\$30.00 per event (1-3 days)
Background Check (Ice Cream Vendors Only)	\$50.00 per business

Service	2025 Fee Schedule
Miscellaneous Permits:	
Right of Way Excavation Permit	\$100.00
Right of Way Obstruction Permit	\$100.00
Small Wireless Facility Permit	\$100.00
Grading Permit - 50 cubic yards<100 cubic yards or distrubution area >1,000 sq ft	\$100.00
Shoreland zone or 100cubic yards and more or 20,000 sq ft distrubution area	\$500.00 plus engineering escrow for Inspections ^A

^A Escrow can be in the form of either:
- Cash
- Letter of Credit issued by a financial institution

2025 Fee Schedule

Service	2025 Fee Schedule
Fire Department	
Response Car or Grass Fire (Plus Foam If Used)	\$200.00 \$85.00
Response Rate - Extrication	\$400.00 to Respond
Standby Emergency Rate	\$100.00
Plus Fire Fighter Rate (Gas Leak or Other Activity)	\$15.00/Person/Hour, After First Hour
False Alarm - 0-3 per calendar year at no charge. 4th & each subsequent alarm charged.	\$75.00 Each Per Calendar Year
Non-Emergency Lift Assistance - 0-3 per calendar year at no charge. 4th & each subsequent incident charged.	\$75.00 Each Per Calendar Year

Service	2025 Fee Schedule
Police Department	
Animal Impound Fee	\$85.00/animal
Animal Kennel Boarding	\$ 25.00/Day
Copy of Police Report	No Charge Less Than 10 Pages \$0.25/Page Over 10 Pages
Dog License:	
Annual Fee	\$10.00/dog
Annual Fee (Senior Discount 62+)	\$7.00/dog
Microchipped Dog Fee - life of dog	\$35.00/dog
Microchipped Dog Fee - life of dog (Senior Discount 62+)	\$18.00/dog
Dangerous Dog Registration	\$200.00 annually
State Accident Report	\$2.00
False Alarm - 0-3 per calendar year at no charge. 4th & each subsequent alarm charged.	\$75.00 Each Per Calendar Year
Officer Contract Rate	\$80.00/Hr/2 Hr Min.
Photos	Actual Cost
Vehicle Impound Charge (Max 30 Days Storage)	\$10.00/Day/30 Day Maximum + Towing

2025 Fee Schedule

Service	2025 Fee Schedule
Public Works Department	
Address Sign & Post	\$50.00
Air Compressor Rental w/ Labor	\$100.00 per hour/2 Hr Min
Asphalt Patching	\$300.00 per 20 Sq Ft Min
Public Works Labor/Construction Observation	\$75.00 per hour/1 Hr Min
Grader Rental ¹	\$175.00 per hour/2 Hr Min
Leaf Pick-up Rental ¹	\$275.00 per hour/2 Hr Min
Leaf Truck Material	\$30.00 per Load
Loader Rental ¹	\$175.00 per hour/2 Hr Min
Mailbox Post	\$80.00
Mowing & Sidewalk Clearing	\$100.00 per hour/2 Hr Min
Pickup Truck Rental ¹	\$75.00 per hour/2 Hr Min
Portable Generator Rental ¹	\$175.00 per hour/2 Hr Min
Salt	Actual Cost
Salt Sand - 3:1 Mix	\$80.00 per ton
Septage Dumped at Sewer Plant	\$60.00 per 1,000 Gallons
Sewer Jetter Rental ¹	\$275.00 per hour/2 Hr Min
Skidsteer Rental ¹	\$125.00 per hour/2 Hr Min
Snow Plowing	\$175.00 per hour/2 Hr Min (Tandem Axle, Single Axle, Grader or Loader)
Street Sign	Cost of Sign plus 20%
Street Sign with Installation	\$65.00 per Sign plus Cost of Sign & Materials
Street Sweeper Rental ¹	\$300.00 per hour/2 Hr Min
Tractor Rental ¹	\$150.00 per hour/2 Hr Min
Dump Truck Rental - Single Axle ¹	\$125.00 per hour/2 Hr Min
Dump Truck Rental - Tandem Axle ¹	\$150.00 per hour/2 Hr Min
Water Tanker Truck w/1,250 Gal Water ¹	\$125.00 per hour/2 Hr Min plus cost of water

¹ Equipment only - Staff Time is additional Cost



2025 Fee Schedule

Community Development & Zoning		2025 Fee Schedule	
Land Use & Zoning		Fee	Escrow*
Amendment to Comprehensive Plan		\$300.00	\$1,000.00
Concept Plan Review		\$150.00	\$1,000.00
Conditional Use Permit		\$300.00	--
Interim Use Permit		\$300.00	--
Lot Split, Combination & Line Adjustment		\$300.00	--
Park Dedication			
		Residential (<i>Per Unit</i>)	\$1,800.00
		Commercial/Industrial (<i>Base</i>)	\$1,800.00
		Commercial/Industrial (<i>Per Acre</i>)	\$1,000.00
Site Plan			
		Multi-Family	\$350.00
		Commercial/Industrial	\$350.00
		Amendment	\$200.00
Subdivision & Planned Unit Development			
		Minor Subdivision	\$500.00
		Per Lot	\$40.00
		Preliminary Plat	\$500.00
		Per Lot	\$40.00
		Final Plat	\$300.00
		Subdivision (<i>1-50 Lots</i>)	--
		Subdivision (<i>51+ Lots</i>)	--
Vacation (Rights of Way/Easements)		\$500.00	--
Variance		\$300.00	--
Zoning			
		Amendment - Map / Rezoning	\$300.00
		Amendment - Text	\$300.00
Zoning Appeal		\$300.00	--
Zoning Letter		\$75.00	--
Development Fees		Fee	Escrow*
Economic Development Assistance			
		TIF/Abatement Concept Analysis	--
		TIF/Abatement Application	\$1,000.00
Grant Application Assistance		--	\$1,000.00
Transportation Review (AUAR/EIS/EAW)		--	\$3,000.00
Permitting		Fee	Escrow*
Home Occupation / Home-Based Business			
		Administrative Review (<i>No Hearing</i>)	\$250.00
		Operational Review (<i>Public Hearing</i>)	\$300.00
Signs			
		Permanent	\$75.00
		Temporary	\$30.00
Enforcement		Fee	Escrow*
Nuisance Abatement (<i>Fee + Actual Abatement Expense</i>)		\$30.00 + Actual	--

* Escrow - All escrow amounts listed are considered initial deposits. Additional deposits may be required by the City to cover expenses in excess of an escrow paid at the time of application.

2025 Fee Schedule

Service	2025 Fee Schedule
Engineering and GIS Departments	
Aerial Photos - Digital	\$10.00 per acre
Digital Topography	\$10.00 per acre
Engineering Service Fee	Actual Cost
GIS Service Fee	\$50.00 per hour
Map-City or Zoning (2' x 3') - Black & White	\$5.00
Map-City or Zoning (2' x 3') - Color	\$10.00
Map-City or Zoning (3' x 4') - Black & White	\$10.00
Map-City or Zoning (3' x 4') - Color	\$20.00
Map Custom	Actual cost
Lot Survey Review Fee	\$20.00 per lot
Driveway Permit Fee	\$25.00 per driveway

Service	2025 Fee Schedule
Parks Department	
Special Events, Park Reservations and Deposits	
Harder Park Ball Field Lights:	
Season	Actual City Cost
One-Time	\$10.00 per hour
Harder Park and Northwood Park Concession Building Damage Deposit	\$1,000.00

Park Reservation Fees:				
# of People	Permit Fees		Refundable Damage-Deposit	
	Resident	Non-Resident	Resident	Non-Resident
0-100	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$100.00	\$250.00
100+	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00

2025 Fee Schedule

2025 Public Utility Fees			
RATE DESCRIPTION	FEE	BASE	USAGE
Franchise Fees Electric (Monthly):			
Residential/Small Commercial	\$ 3.50		< 5,000kWh hours
Medium Commercial FF	\$ 8.75		5,000-10,000kWh hours
Large Commercial FF	\$ 17.50		> 10,000kWh hours
Franchise Fees Gas (Monthly):			
Residential	\$ 2.00		All
Small Commercial/Industrial	\$ 3.00		< 1,500 therms/YEAR
Large Commercial/Industrial			> 1,501 therms/YEAR
Small Volume Interruptible	\$ 5.00		
Large Volume Interruptible			
Transportation			
Irrigation Water Fees:			
C-Irrigation Water		\$ 20.00	\$5.70 / 1K GALS
R-Irrigation Water		\$ 20.00	\$5.70 / 1K GALS
Miscellaneous Fees:			
AMR Meter Reading Fee	\$ 25.00		
Certification Of Delinquent Utilities	\$15/Utility		
Door Hanger Reminder	\$ 25.00		
Food Truck	\$ 55.88		
Hydrant Meter Deposit	\$ 1,500.00		
Late Fees	10%		
NSF/Bank Return Fee	\$ 30.00		
Reconnect Fee	\$ 50.00		
Reconnect Fee After Hours	\$ 250.00		
Sewer Fees:			
Sewer - 1" Service (Cs)		\$ 14.50	\$8.80/1K GALS
Sewer - 2" Service (Cs)		\$ 46.40	\$8.80/1K GALS
Sewer - Commercial		\$ 14.50	\$8.80/1K GALS
Sewer - MFU 1 1/2" (Rs) Pricing Per Unit		\$ 29.00	\$8.80/1K GALS
Sewer - MFU 1" (Rs) - Pricing Per Unit		\$ 14.50	\$8.80/1K GALS
Sewer - MFU 2" (Rs) Pricing Per Unit		\$ 46.40	\$8.80/1K GALS
Sewer - MFU 4" (Rs) Pricing Per Unit		\$ 145.00	\$8.80/1K GALS
Sewer - Residential		\$ 14.50	\$8.80/1K GALS
Trunk Sewer Fee Commercial	\$4,966.40/Acre		
Trunk Sewer Fee Residential	\$1,656/Unit		
Sewer - 1 1/2" Service (Cs)		\$ 29.00	\$8.80/1K GALS
Sewer - 3"Commercial Service (Cs)		\$ 87.00	\$8.80/1K GALS
Sewer - 4" Service (Cs)		\$ 145.00	\$8.80/1K GALS
Sewer - 6" Service (Cs)		\$ 290.00	\$8.80/1K GALS
Stormwater Fees (Monthly):			
Storm Sewer - Apartments 4+ Pricing Per Unit	\$ 4.42		
Storm Sewer - Business Acreage	\$ 6.23		
Storm Sewer - Manufactured Housing Pricing Per Unit	\$ 4.66		
Storm Sewer - Residential/Business Pricing Per Unit Up To 3	\$ 6.23		
Storm Water Connection Fee	\$.44 / Sq Ft		
Rural Stormwater Fees (Annual):	\$ 74.76		

NORTH BRANCH ORDINANCE NO. 391-25 CONTINUED

2025 Fee Schedule

2025 Public Utility Fees			
Water Fees:			
Commercial 3" Service		\$ 127.00	\$5.70 / 1K GALS
Bulk Water Rate - Connection Fee per Fill	\$ 50.00		
Bulk Water Rate - Charge per Fill			\$5.70 / 1K GALS
Commercial 1 1/2" Service		\$ 32.00	\$5.70 / 1K GALS
Commercial 1" Service		\$ 26.00	\$5.70 / 1K GALS
Commercial 2" Service		\$ 35.00	\$5.70 / 1K GALS
Commercial 4" Service		\$ 157.00	\$5.70 / 1K GALS
Commercial 6" Service		\$ 233.00	\$5.70 / 1K GALS
Commercial Water		\$ 20.00	\$5.70 / 1K GALS
Residential Water		\$ 20.00	\$5.70 / 1K GALS
Trunk Water Fee Commercial	\$6,350/Acre		
Trunk Water Fee Residential	\$3,500/Unit		
Water Deposits - Comm	\$ 100.00		
Water Deposits - Res	\$ 50.00		
Water Meters - Commercial	Cost + 10%		
Water Meters - Residential	Cost + 10%		
Water MFU Pricing Per Unit		\$ 20.00	\$5.70 / 1K GALS

Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on January 23, 2024

OBITUARIES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

Jean Deanna (Linder) Reineccius

Jean Deanna (Linder) Reineccius, of Mora, passed away at 5:06 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 18, 2025, at the St. Clare Living Community in Mora. She was 81 years old.

Jean Deanna Linder was born Aug. 13, 1943, in Rush City to Leonard and Cecilia (Swdeen) Linder. She was the youngest of six and a full Swede.

At 16, Jean married John Alan Reineccius. They wed on Sept. 26, 1959, in Calvary Lutheran Church in Rush Point

and were happily married for 58 years. They lived in several places around central Minnesota before settling in Henriette. They lived in their Henriette home for more than 35 years, raising their four children and later enjoying their 11 grandchildren.

Jean was a fire lookout in Cambridge for a time before going to Anoka-Ramsey Community College and earning a degree in nursing. She had a 21-year career as an LPN at Cambridge Medical Center until her retirement. She and John moved to Redfield, SD in 2003 where they remained until John passed away. A couple of years later, Jean sold their home and moved to Isle where she stayed until relocating to Mora last year.

Jean was a fire lookout in Cambridge for a time before going to Anoka-Ramsey Community College and earning a degree in nursing. She had a 21-year career as an LPN at Cambridge Medical Center until her retirement. She and John moved to Redfield, SD in 2003 where they remained until John passed away. A couple of years later, Jean sold their home and moved to Isle where she stayed until relocating to Mora last year.

In her spare time, Jean was in a bowling league, went on family road trips, spent many days at “The Shack,” traveled to threshing shows, dabbled in the Red Hat Society, played Pinochle, and enjoyed reading and doing word searches.

Her family will remember her as a warm, loving woman with a gift for making them feel special. Jean never missed a birthday, always remembered their favorite foods, and loved to give gifts for no reason. She was the definition of unconditional love, leaving an indelible mark on each and every one of her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. She smelled like joy and her hugs were heaven. She was a treasure never to be forgotten.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; her son, Dana Reineccius; her infant great-grandson, Marshall Krona; two brothers and two sisters.

Jean is survived by her son, Daniel (Jean) Reineccius of Hibbing; two daughters, Denise Harms of Mora and Diana (Donny) Soderquist of Redfield, SD; 11 grandchildren; 26 great-grandchildren; and sister Willette Engstrom of Placerville, CA; and many other relatives and friends.

A Memorial Service was held on Tuesday, Jan. 21, 2025, at the Hamilton Funeral Homes- Akkerman Chapel in Mora. A Private Family Inurnment will be held in the summer of 2025 at the Greenlawn Cemetery in Redfield, South Dakota. Arrangements were entrusted to the Hamilton Funeral Homes - Akkerman Chapel in Mora. Condolences may be posted at www.hamiltonfh.com.



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<http://ts.la/carter53772>

102 Services

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Duties include: Maintenance of sewer, water, and stormwater infrastructure, plowing snow, maintaining public buildings and parks, and other related tasks. Sewer and Water system operator licensure and commercial driver license is required or may be obtained within one year of employment. For application visit City Hall or online at www.centervillemn.com

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157 Part Time

Female PCA needed in Cambridge for wheelchair bound male. 763-227-0971.

201 Child Care

Deb's Tiny Tots experience. Infant thru school ages. Certified CPR/First Aid. Braham. 763-333-4990.

305 Pets/Services

Puppies for Sale! Mixed breed: Mountain Cur/Black Mouth Cur/Catahoula/Pit Bull. 10 weeks old. Asking \$100. Call/text 320-247-1633.

351 Antiques

Buying antiques and some collectibles. Mora, MN 651-238-0909.

358 Firewood

16-inch Seasoned, Mixed Hardwood. Two cord loads for \$475 delivered. Delivery charge over 25 miles. 320-679-1815.

358 Firewood

16-inch seasoned, mixed hardwood. Two cord loads- \$475. 20-inch outdoor stove wood, mixed hardwoods. Two cord loads- \$450. Delivery charge over 25 miles. 320-679-1815.

20-inch outdoor stove wood, mixed hard wood – 2 cord loads for \$450. Delivery charge over 25 miles. 320-679-1815

Dry oak and maple firewood, \$10 per pickup load, you cut. \$100/5 cords. 320-364-0176.

For sale: Aspen firewood. Seasoned, fire-place size. \$150/cord. Green red oak \$200/cord. 320-496-3904.

For sale: Seasoned oak firewood. \$150 per large pickup load. Free local delivery. 320-224-9878

362 Miscellaneous

Old convertible cars, pickups, signs, gas pumps, motorcycles, bikes, Kitty Cat snowmobile. 218-372-8758

For Rent: 2 bedroom apartment on Fish Lake, Mora. Available February 15, \$1200/month plus electric. Qualified applicants only. 320-412-6114

362 Miscellaneous

Looking for that perfect gift for an anniversary or birthday? Think about giving a subscription to the Kanabec County Times. Call our office today (320)679-2661 to start delivery – we accept Visa or Mastercard!

369 Want to Buy

451 Rentals/Commercial

Mora Studio Apartments \$750/month, includes utilities. Washer/Dryer on-site. No pets, no smoking/vaping/e-cigs. 612-470-3319, moratroveproperty@gmail.com

452 Rentals/Residential

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502 Real Estate For Sale by Owner

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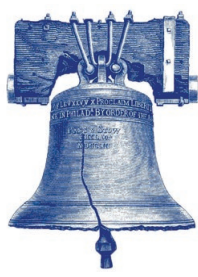
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