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**POMP & CIRCUMSTANCE: C-I, NB Class of 2026 celebrated during graduation ceremonies. PAGE 2**



BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR

**Cambridge-Isanti's Jackson Ziebarth gets off to a fast start in his preliminary heat of the 100 meter dash. The senior went on to break the state's all-time record time for the event in the finals.**

## We are the champions, my friend Bluejacket boys track and field wins state team title

BY BILL STICKELS III  
 EDITOR@COUNTYSTAR.COM

The Cambridge-Isanti boys track and field team had a meet for many record books during the Class AAA state meet, capturing three event championships and launching the Jackets to the top of the team points standings.

"We felt good that we had a chance at a top-three finish if all things went right," Bluejacket boys track and field head coach Kent Viesselman said about their prospects for a team title. "We thought we could score 52 points, and some years that wins it. We ended up scoring 62."

The path to the school's first-ever team title began during the prelims, which also included the finals for pole vault. There, senior Calvin Piescher repeated his second-place finish from last year by clearing 16 feet, even. Senior

teammate Wesley Kennedy also medaled in the event, taking fifth place by clearing 14 feet, 6 inches.

Those results proved to be the appetizers to the main course on Saturday during the finals. Senior Jackson Ziebarth not only topped his personal best and school record in the 100 meters, his 10.37 seconds goes down as Minnesota's all-time fastest time in the event. Roughly an hour later, Ziebarth, Simeon Porta, Knox Andrus, and Anders Lillemo repeated that record-breaking feat, this time in the 4x100 relay with a Minnesota best-ever time of 41.19 seconds.

At the same time as all that hoopla was happening on the track, Piescher was adding to his and the Bluejackets' medal count with a sixth-place finish in the long jump with a personal best distance of 22 feet, 6



BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR

**Cambridge-Isanti's Hunter Jacobson keeps pace with Eden Prairie's Simeon Donaldson before passing him in the home stretch during the 800 meter finals.**

SEE STATE CHAMPIONS, PAGE 12

## North Branch Midsummer Days turns 100

BY MOLLY WHELAN  
 NEWS@COUNTYSTAR.COM

For at least the hundredth time in North Branch's history, Midsummer Days will welcome the community to celebrate the longest days of the year — and some families have been around since the beginning.

Take Paul Johnson, retired Air Force and commander of the North Branch American Legion Post 85, whose grandparents were likely at the first official celebration.

Johnson's nephew, Kyle Johnson, puts the origins of the North Branch party back to June 23, 1907, with a community picnic on John Elmgren's property after service at the Swedish Lutheran Church of North Branch, which is still active in the community and is now called Trinity Lutheran Church.

This was the same year John E. Alvin dedicated land in town known as Village

Park — what we know today as Central Park, and where people enjoy the Midsummer Days midway.

Elmgren emigrated from Sweden, settling in North Branch in 1869, hence the name of the festival echoing the Swedish holiday of Midsommar.

"With a few exceptions, the annual picnic continued until it was decided by North Branch's newly formed Legion Post to hold an Americanized version of the celebration within the village," Kyle Johnson writes.

In 1925, the year of the first Legion-hosted Midsummer Days festival, North Branch was in a transition period. The country was between the Great War and World War II, and the local economy was shifting away from potato farming and toward dairy farming, according to local historian Max Malmquist's four-volume

SEE MIDSUMMER DAYS, PAGE 9



CONTRIBUTED

**The 1984 Midsummer Queen, Val Lunde-Anderson waves to the camera. The photo was taken on the north end of Main St. Between 6th and 7th Avenues in North Branch.**

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# Class of 2026 revels in graduation glory



CONTRIBUTED

North Branch graduate Evan Carlson recreates the ceremonial cap toss in front of the North Branch Area High School following the graduation ceremony.



BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR

Cambridge-Isanti graduate Tucker Mulder grabs a quick selfie as he crosses the stage during CIHS's graduation ceremony.



BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR

A CIHS graduate poses with the Jack, the school district's therapy dog... and oh, yeah, school resource officer and school board member Kevin Gross.



CONTRIBUTED

North Branch graduates Jocelyn Meyer, Abby Pfifer, and Kaytlin Hammond show off their mortarboard artwork.



BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR

CIHS graduate Evan Puck didn't let having to walk across stage on crutches lessen the enjoyment of his moment in the spotlight during the graduation ceremony.



CONTRIBUTED

North Branch graduate Madisyn McNamara waves to family in the audience at the conclusion of the graduation ceremony.

For more photos from both graduation ceremonies, go to [www.isanti-chisagocountystar.com](http://www.isanti-chisagocountystar.com).

## CAMBRIDGE Minnesota's Opportunity Community® SUMMER ACTIVITIES FUN & FREE

<b>DISCOVER DOWNTOWN</b> <b>CAMBRIDGE CONCERTS</b> <b>(STREET DANCES)</b> 5:30pm-8:30pm Downtown Cambridge		<b>ANNUAL ARTS &amp; CRAFTS</b> <b>FAIR &amp; CHALK ART</b> <b>CONTEST</b> Saturday, August 15 <sup>th</sup> 10am-3pm City Center Mall		
June 18	Bad Jack	Classic, southern and party rock		
July 16	Jonah & The Whales	70's, 80's, 90's, 00's and more		
Aug 20	Ragtown	Country to classic rock		
<b>CONCERTS IN THE PARK</b> 5pm-7pm Cambridge City Park		<b>KIDS' EVENTS</b> 10am-2pm Cambridge City Park		
June 26	Big Shots	Tribute to Billy Joel	June 25	Bounce Houses in the Park
July 31	American Heartland	Tribute to CCR, Bob Seger, Tom Petty, John Mellencamp, Bruce Springsteen	July 23	Art in the Park
Aug 28	The Culture Collective	Tribute to Prince	Aug 27	Little Blue's Traveling Zoo & Snake Discovery

All events have a backup location for bad weather. More info available on the city website.



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**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**  
**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

**Fresh Beginnings Alanon**  
 Family Groups meets Monday's 7 - 8 p.m. at Access Church, 4359 - 392nd St., North Branch. Visit minnesotanorth-al-anon.org

**Book Club**  
 Third Monday 11 a.m. to noon at Isanti SAC, 140 Buchanan St., N. #164 Cambridge. Isanti County Library lends the books and there is no cost to participate. For info: sacs@midco-network.com

**TUES & THURS**  
**Exercise for Those w/Parkinson's**  
 Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10:15 a.m., 3:45 p.m. and 5 p.m. at 115 Adams Street South, Cambridge. For more information, call 763-

221-6883.

**TUESDAYS**  
**Braham Parkinson's Support**  
 3 p.m. third Tuesday of the month. Braham Evangelical Lutheran Church, 905 Central Drive W., Braham. For info. call Lonnie Anderson at 612-423-1863.

**Alzheimer's Support**  
 Third Tuesday of each month from 10-11 a.m. at GracePointe Heritage Center, 322 River Hills Place North, Cambridge. For info call McKenna Dold 763-691-6172.

**Memory Cafe**  
 First Tuesday of every month, 10 - 11:30 a.m. at GracePointe Crossing Heritage Center, 322 River Hills Place North, Cambridge. Contact Julie at 763-306-5066 for info.

**Grief Share**  
 Faith Lutheran Church, 109 2nd Ave. NW, Isanti. Meets 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 2 p.m. 763-444-9201.

**Celebrate Recovery**  
 At First Baptist in Cambridge(304 Main St S.) every Tuesday. There is a light meal at 5:45 p.m., large group at 6:30 p.m., and small groups at 7:30 p.m. Visit Celebraterecovery.com for more info.

**Knitting Night**  
 Hosted by the North Branch Library. 6:30 to 7:45 p.m. All forms of needlework welcome. Recommended for adults. No registration required.

**WEDNESDAYS**  
**Alanon**  
 7 p.m. at the Isanti



COYOTEWILDBAND.COM

Isanti Street Dance's kick of June 13 with Coyote Wild.

Alano Club, 790 Heritage Blvd. Isanti. 763-444-4605

**Chisago County Drop-In Center**  
 Open 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Main Street Church, 6500 Main Street, North Branch. For individuals 18 yrs or older living with mental illness. Info: 651-213-5600 or Adult-mentalhealth.org.

**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 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 info.

**Parkinson's Support Group**  
 Third Thursday of the month - 1-2:30 p.m. The Levande, 2011 6th Lane SE, Cambridge, MN for info call 763-325-0100

**ACA Adult Children of Alcoholics/ Dysfunctional Families Meeting**  
 7 p.m. at Access Church, 4359 392nd St, North Branch. For info. call 612-251-6556 or email acanorthbranch@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 info.

**Medicare and Medicaid 101 Open House**  
 Third Thursday of the month from 1-3 p.m. Get your questions answered by trained agents. (763) 689-7390 or eclib.org for info.

**Baby Storytime**  
 co-hosted by Cambridge Library and ECFE. Begins at 9:30 a.m. at Cambridge Library through May 21. Recommended for ages birth to 23 months. No registration necessary.

**Spring bowling with We R Able**  
 We R Able offers drop-in bowling every other Thursday evening from 4 to 6 p.m. at JJ's Bowl and Lounge, 6427 Ash St., North Branch. The spring season dates are: May 14, 28, June 11, and 25. Balls and shoes are included in the fee. For more information call 320-358-3616.

**SATURDAY**  
**Joyful Walking Club**  
 The 1st Saturday of each month, from 9-10 a.m., around the perimeter of Joy Lutheran's ball field in Cambridge. Contact Mary Schuett, 561-222-3347, for more information.

**JUNE 13**  
**Isanti Street Dance**  
 Coyote Wild performs from 7 to 11 p.m. on Main Street in Isanti.

**JUNE 16**  
**Color with Deb**  
 We R Able hosts coloring and a meal from 5-7 p.m. at the SCRED Building, 425 S. Dana Ave., Rush City. Suggested donation \$5-10. Info: 320-358-3616.

**JUNE 18**  
**Third Thursday**  
 Bad Jack performs 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. as part of Discover Downtown, at the intersection of 2nd Ave S and Main St S in; the bad-weather backup location is the Cambridge City Center Mall

at 140 Buchanan St N.

**JUNE 20**  
**Peace Walk**  
 9:00 am. The group meets in the parking lot at 95 and Birch, and the walk takes about half an hour. Anyone is welcome to join.

**SENIOR CENTER WEEKLY EVENTS**

**CAMBRIDGE**  
 140 Buchanan Street  
**Mondays**  
 Bridge - 1 to 3 p.m.  
 Mahjong - noon to 3 p.m.  
**Tuesdays**  
 Dominoes - 10 a.m. to noon  
 Coloring - 9 a.m.  
 Hand and Foot - 12:30 to 3 p.m.  
**Wednesdays**  
 Cribbage - 9 to 11 a.m.  
 Wizard 11 a.m. to noon  
 Pinochle 12:30 to 3 p.m.  
 Mahjong noon to 3 p.m.  
**Thursdays**  
 500 - 12:30 to 3 p.m.  
 Bunco - 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. (Third Thursday of month)

**CHISAGO COUNTY**  
 38790 6th Avenue, North Branch  
**Mon, Wed, Fri.**  
 Exercise with Connie 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.  
**Monday & Wednesday**  
 500 - starting at 12:45 p.m.  
**Tuesdays**  
 Music - provided before the meal - 11:15 a.m.  
 Dominoes - starting at 10 a.m.  
**Thursdays**  
 Bingo - starting at 10 a.m.  
 Hand and Foot - starting at 12:30 p.m.  
**Fridays**  
 Cribbage - starting at 12:45 p.m.

## Minnesota Starwatch for June 2026

BY DEANE MORRISON  
 MORRIO29@UMN.EDU

In June the nights are short, but this year they pack plenty of astronomical action.

The month opens with Jupiter plummeting toward Venus above the sunset horizon. The planets pass each other between the 5th and 8th, but come closest on the 9th. Nearby are the Gemini twin stars Pollux and Castor. On the 16th and 17th, a thin young moon appears close to Jupiter and Venus, respectively. Continuing on eastward, the moon waxes as it glides by Regulus, in Leo, the lion; then Spica, in Virgo, the maiden; and Antares, the red heart of Scorpius.

Now high in south at nightfall, brilliant Arcturus shines down on the moon and planets. Above Arcturus, the body of its constellation — Bootes, the herdsman — looks like the sail of a kite bearing its radiant cargo across the night sky.

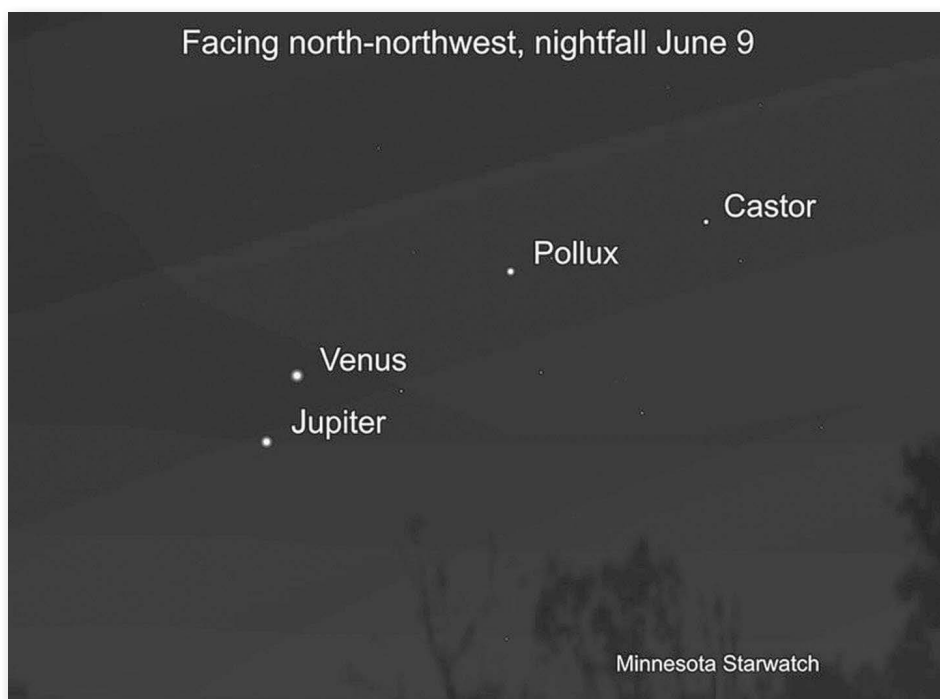
In the east, the large Summer Tri-

angle of bright stars is gaining altitude. Brightest of the three is Vega, in Lyra, the lyre. The other two are Deneb, in Cygnus, the swan; and, at the lowest point of the Triangle, Altair, in Aquila, the eagle.

In the morning sky, a last quarter moon shimmers before dawn on the 8th. On the 10th, the moon appears above Saturn.

Summer arrives with the solstice at 3:25 a.m. Sunday, June 21, when the sun reaches a point above the Tropic of Cancer. At that moment, the sun appears to pause before reversing course and heading south. This phenomenon gave rise to the word "solstice," which comes from the Latin for "sun standing still." If we could observe this solstice from space, we would see Earth lighted from the Antarctic Circle up to the North Pole and beyond to the Arctic Circle on the dark side of the planet.

June's full moon rises in twilight on Monday, the 29th. Round and lovely, it traces a low arc across the night sky.



## We love our readers!

Ten years ago, when I took on the editor job, I was obsessed with covering everything photographically. The way I figured it, lots of great photos were going to be what put the Star under my leadership above the competition. And with no offense intended to Rachel over at the News-Review, I was absolutely right. Heck, she even admits that.



**Worth a Thousand Words**  
Bill Stickels III

During the course of the years, I frequently heard the comment, "Bill, you are everywhere." Every time I heard this, it just fueled that obsession. And it wasn't like I didn't enjoy covering almost every event, too. I was getting to attend so many different, fun events and sometimes getting special access to them as well.

It was also so much easier getting to all these events compared to when I was working full-time in retail. I had the freedom to adjust my work schedule in order to be "everywhere" and still only rack up around 40 hours of work a week.

Alas, time has a way of catching up with a person. I started discovering that even though I was still working the same number of hours, the timing of the work schedule sometimes would mean "working" for at least an hour or two every day for something like two weeks straight. With that, I began to truly understand the expression "The mind is willing, but the flesh is weak."

With this realization, I started being more frugal with my time. It started out as, "Well, the Bluejacket (insert any sport here) has three home games in the next ten days, so I can afford to miss one or two of them. Still, that wasn't quite enough as there always seemed to be so many events I just couldn't bear to miss.

Most recently, my "flesh" started to become "weaker." I've been battling uncooperative knees and ankles. And while I've learned to accept a little help from my friends, I still hated personally missing some of the events others were able to cover.

This past weekend, though, it all came to a head. There was state track for both Cambridge-Isanti and North Branch, plus graduation ceremonies at both. And while I really enjoy covering all of that, after being outside in 80-degree heat for about 10 hours, plus two hours of commute time for a thrilling state track meet, I realized I just couldn't summon enough energy to make it to the final event, North Branch's graduation ceremony.

And to make matters worse, my usual go-to people weren't going to be going to it either. So, I had to swallow my pride and ask our readers for photos. This is actually a common thing to do for newspapers. But it's something I only like doing as a last resort.

Well, our readers came through big time. Within minutes of making a Facebook post, my inbox chimed with multiple people making multiple submissions. A mere 24 hours later, and we have more graduation photos than we know what to do with. You will see our favorites in this issue and more on our website.

So, while I don't think I will ever fully embrace crowd-sourcing over personally covering events, at least I am comforted in knowing that if "being everywhere" isn't possible, I can count on our awesome readers to pick up the slack.

**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.**



### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Those who sacrificed for us

To the editor,

We are in the season of celebrating those who sacrificed their lives for us; we are remembering how their sacrifices have benefited our lives. Memorial Day we just celebrated all Armed Forces who gave their lives defending all of us so we can enjoy all the freedoms we now have.

On June 6 was D Day the turning point of WWII in 1944. This was such a massive invasion that had penetrated the Germans hold on Western Europe, it basically ended the War. The cost was monumental 10,000 casualties on the first day alone, 4,000 confirmed dead. Less than 11 months later, Nazi Germany surrendered. What a sacrifice and think of all the men and women who had a part in this, plus ships, air power, tanks and weapons of war.

There is a quote, "Those who have long enjoyed such privileges, as we enjoy, forget in time that men died to win them." (Franklin D. Roosevelt).

With the 4th of July and 250th Anniversary coming up, we have so much to be grateful for, so many sacrificed for us to enjoy the privileges we now have. We also fought a Civil War to end Slavery.

The Bible has a scripture that shows this princi-

ple. John 15:13—"Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for his friends".

We actually have many in this country, besides the military, who every day who put their lives on the line, put others before themselves. Just think of our police officers who are available to tackle dangerous situations whenever they are called upon. Also firemen who do very dangerous work to protect us all. How about emergency workers who must act quickly to save lives when called upon.

In last week's paper was an article about deputy sheriffs, firemen, family members and others, coming together to save a man's life, all heroes. A wonderful article about reaching out to help others. All of our police, sheriffs, highway patrol, border patrol, so many more do much every day to protect and try to keep us safe.

I just appreciate all law enforcement so much, they are there for us all. So sad some hate and want to defund the police. Another Quote Romans 5:8 "But God demonstrates His own Love towards us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us".

God Bless America.

Judy Hansen  
Cambridge

### 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. 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 5 p.m. Mondays to editor@countystar.com or via mail to 930 S. Cleveland St., Cambridge MN 55008
- 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 (exceptions made for rebuttals).

- 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.

#### PAID ENDORSEMENT POLICY

The *County Star* accepts election letters endorsing or advocating for or

against a ballot measure, party or candidate as paid advertising announcements. The fee is \$25 for the first 250 words, plus 10 cents per additional word; no word limit. This policy is only in effect during election season (from the candidate filing date through election day.)

Like other letters to the editor, the writer's name, address and phone number are required. Phone numbers are not published. The *Star* has the right to reject letters which don't meet publishing standards and will determine if the letter qualifies as a paid endorsement.

Paid letters will be identified with a label and may or may not appear on the opinion/letters page.

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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Noon Tuesday

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4 p.m. Tuesday

**CLASSIFIED DEADLINE:**  
4 p.m. Tuesday

**LEGALS DEADLINE:**  
Noon Monday



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# Congratulations, Class of 2026!

As another school year comes to a close, we celebrate the accomplishments of our students, staff, families, and community. Earlier this month, we had the privilege of honoring the Cambridge-Isanti High School Class of 2026 at graduation — a remarkable group of young people who have left a lasting impact on our schools.



**C-I School News**  
**Dr. Nate Rudolph**

One of the most meaningful moments of this graduation season was our annual Legacy Walk. Members of the Class of 2026 returned to the primary and secondary schools that helped shape their journey, where they were greeted by younger students, former teachers, and staff members who had supported them along the way. It was a powerful reminder that graduation is not simply an individual accomplishment, but the result of years of encouragement, learning, and relationships built throughout a student's time in Cambridge-Isanti Schools.

This class is also record-setting in many ways:

- Through the generosity of our local community and the Cambridge-Isanti Dollars for Scholars organization, the Class of 2026 received \$286,100 in scholarships—the highest total in our school's history.
- They earned a combined 5,514 college credits and 98 vocational welding credits through career and technical education partnerships.
- These opportunities represent nearly \$2 million in college tuition savings for students and families.

Academic excellence defines this group:

- Nine students earned a perfect 4.0 GPA and share the title of Valedictorian.
- 59 seniors graduated with Honors (3.33 GPA or higher), and 87 earned Honors with Distinction (3.67 GPA or higher).
- Jackson Ryberg earned the prestigious distinction of being named a National Merit Finalist, an honor that ranks him among the top one percent of seniors graduating across the country.

Additional highlights from this remarkable senior class include:

- 31 seniors were inducted into the National Honor Society, recognized for their scholarship, leadership, character, and service.
  - 12 graduates have committed to serving our country by enlisting in the United States Armed Forces. We thank them for their courage and dedication.
- This class also excelled in co-curricular and extra-curricular activities:
- Our athletic programs earned twenty Mississippi 8 Conference Silver and Gold Academic Awards, demonstrating success both in competition and in the classroom.
  - Four teams won Conference Championships: Girls Tennis, Softball, Speech, and Boys Track and Field
  - Girls Tennis and Gymnastics both won section championships and advanced to state. This was the 31st state appearance for Bluejacket Gymnastics.
  - Additionally, eleven seniors showcased their talents on the state stage, earning medals in diverse individual competitions.
  - The track season reached new heights with Jackson Ziebarth's state-record victory in the 100-meter dash, alongside his contribution to our state-champion 4x100 relay team, which also established a new state record.
  - Four seniors advanced to the adapted bowling state tournament, showcasing their skill and perseverance.
  - Students shined in academics and the arts:
  - The CIHS Speech Team advanced to the state competition, with Lilia Osei-Dankwah earning a state championship in Extemporaneous Reading.
  - The Mock Trial Team achieved a historic milestone for our district, securing a fourth-place finish at the state competition—the highest ranking in school history.
  - Model United Nations participants earned multiple state and national honors.
  - The Economics and Math Leagues maintained their tradition of success at the state level.
  - Our Robotics Team garnered national recognition for their creativity, technical professionalism, and commitment to safety.

In SkillsUSA, seniors placed in the top three in the categories of MIG Welding, ARC Welding, and Carpentry.

- The ProStart culinary team earned its highest-ever state finish, placing 5th overall.
  - Our FCCLA participants demonstrated exceptional leadership, securing five gold medals at their State Leadership Conference and earning several students the opportunity to compete at the national level.
- In the performing and visual arts:
- Our theatre department saw remarkable success as the production of Prince of Egypt was invited to the Historic State Theatre by the Hennepin Arts Spotlight Education Program, garnering an Honorable Mention for Achievement in Musical Theatre.
  - Our music department continues to demonstrate artistic excellence, with nine seniors recognized as Mississippi 8 All-Conference Honor Choir members, while others earned prestigious positions in the all-state choir, band, and orchestra.
  - Visual artists earned Superior Ratings and Special Honors at the Mississippi 8 Visual Arts Festival.
- Our Triple-A Award nominees, Wesley Kennedy and Jovie Ebertowski, were recognized for excellence in Academics, Arts, and Athletics.
- This is just a glimpse of what these graduates have accomplished. Their diverse achievements are a direct reflection of the outstanding support system that surrounds them—from dedicated staff and teachers to community partners and families. These results reflect the many strengths of our district that we are proud to celebrate—from the exceptional range of opportunities available to our students, to the dedicated staff and strong community partnerships that help make such success possible.
- To the Class of 2026—congratulations! You've made us proud. We look forward to watching you continue to grow, lead, and make a difference. Always a Bluejacket.
- Go Big Blue!
- DR. NATE RUDOLPH** is superintendent of Cambridge-Isanti Schools. He can be reached at 763-689-6202 or nrudolph@ci-schools.org.

## Motorcycle safety in focus

**Q**uestion: With summer being upon us, can you get some information out in regards to motorcycle safety?  
**A**nswer: Operating a motorcycle requires different skills than driving a car, so there are some additional requirements for motorcycle riders:



**Ask A Trooper**  
**Jesse Grabow**

- Motorcyclists are entitled to the full use of their lanes and have all the rights and duties of other drivers.
  - Operators must have a valid license with a motorcycle endorsement or instruction permit.
  - Riders must wear eye protection, such as a face shield, goggles or glasses. Windshields do not meet legal requirements.
  - Careless and reckless driving applies to motorcyclists and includes "wheelies," "stoppies," standing on the seat, etc.
  - Riders and passengers under the age of 18 must wear a Department of Transportation-approved helmet.
  - A motorcyclist may only ride on a permanent seat. Passengers may ride on a passenger seat or in a sidecar.
  - Motorcyclists are provided with an affirmative defense when proceeding through an unchanging red light that has shown red for an unreasonable time if no vehicle or pedestrian is approaching the street.
- Equipment**
- The headlight must be on at all times when riding.
  - At least one brake is required, either front or rear, which may be operated by hand or foot.
  - A rear-view mirror and horn are required equipment.
  - If the bike has a passenger seat, it must also have passenger footrests.
  - The muffler shall blend the exhaust noise into the overall vehicle noise and the exhaust system shall not emit or produce a sharp popping or crackling sound.
  - The license plate must be securely fastened to prevent swinging and be in an upright position. It must be displayed horizontally or vertically with letters and numbers facing outward from the motorcycle.
  - Motorcyclists may use hand signals.
  - Turn signals must be visible 100 feet to the front and rear during daytime and nighttime.
  - Motorcycles are required to have at least one but not more than four headlights with both high and low beam.
- 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).

## Water saving strategies for a hot, dry summer

**W**ith the National Weather Service predicting an El Nino with dryer and warmer conditions during the 2nd half of 2026, I thought it would be good to share some tips on watering wisely and water conservation.



1. Plant in groups. When planting, group together plants that have similar growing conditions. Research the plant's light and moisture requirements. Group Mediterranean herbs together or native plants that are more drought tolerant. This can result in certain sections of the garden requiring less water and no over-watering of some plants or causing root rot.
2. Amend your soil. Add compost to improve the soil's ability to hold water. It also increases water infiltration and promotes health root growth.
3. Mulch Everything! Mulch is one of the easiest & most effective ways to conserve soil moisture. A layer of mulch helps the soil retain water longer, regulates the soil temperature on hot days and reduces evaporation caused by sun & wind. For a free mulch I bag up the clippings when mowing the lawn (pesticide and herbicide free). Use the clippings from early in the season before anything has gone to seed. Another cost-effective option is wood chips from the local compost site or shredded paper (works best if it is moist when you put it down).
4. Collect rainwater. Collecting water in rain barrels is a sustainable way to supplement watering needs. I use collected rainwater to primarily water my flowerpots and flower beds. Rainwater harvested from an asphalt shingle roof is generally considered safe for irrigating vegetables IF its only applied to the

soil. (Contamination is from bird and animal droppings on the roof mixing in the water rather than chemicals from the shingles).

5. Water in the morning. Morning watering reduces evaporation and allows the plants to dry before evening. (Wet plants at night are more likely to develop fungal diseases.) Water between 5 and 9 am for ideal absorption time/temps.
6. Take your time. Watering slowly gives plants a chance to absorb moisture. Water deeply rather than just wetting the topsoil. The plants will develop a deeper root system and be healthier.
7. Water the roots. Plants absorb moisture through their root system, not their leaves. Wet leaves promote fungal disease. Set up drip or trickle hoses for a low and slow watering that allows moisture to soak deeply into the soil where the roots can access it.
8. Mowing Matters. Set the mower height at 3 inches or higher. Taller grass is healthier, more drought tolerant grass. Taller grass promotes a deep root system and helps it retain moisture during hot dry periods. Let your grass go dormant during the hot, dry summer. It's actually what cool season grasses are designed to do. If you don't like the "brown look", plan to provide at least 1 inch of water per week. Underwatering is harder on the grass than dormancy.

Much of my information from this article came from Gerten's Toolkit and the UMN Extension Water Wisely information.

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.

## OBITUARIES

### Janice M. Sundberg

Janice M. Sundberg, 85, of Cambridge, MN, passed away on Thursday, June 4, 2026, at Abbott-Northwestern Hospital.

She was born April 26, 1941, in Fosston, MN, to Bennie and Mildred (Aasen) Rud. She was the first of twin girls and spent a lifetime of shared memories with her sister Jeanne (Rud) Erickson. Jan grew up in Fosston MN and later moved to St Paul to further her education.



Jan attended Mounds-Midway School of Nursing and graduated in September of 1962. Throughout her life she worked with all ages in her nursing career, as well as serving in ministry with her beloved husband Adrian.

She was a school nurse, managed pre K testing, switched to elder care and worked at Walker Plaza in Anoka as well as Presbyterian Homes in Cambridge.

On November 10, 1962, she was united in marriage to Adrian Sundberg at North Isanti Baptist Church. Adrian and Jan moved to Aitkin, where Adrian served as Pastor of his first church, Glory Baptist Church, at which time their first son Ken, was born. They lived there until 1965, when they moved to Houston, MN, to serve at Houston Baptist Church, at which time their second son Greg, was born. Jan and Adrian also served at Henning Baptist Church and Elk River Baptist Church before moving to Walker Plaza in Anoka where they retired in 2005.

They came home to North Isanti Baptist Church where their story had begun, and Jan was a strong presence as a greeter and Church Elder where she demonstrated her faith in daily examples of kindness and grace.

Since 2005, Jan and Adrian had made their home in Cambridge beginning at Pine Village, and then more recently at GracePointe Crossing. They had many friends, and family, that live there. She loved "coffee" with family and friends, traveling, baking and sharing time with others. She always watched out for anyone that was uncomfortable or new and would make them feel welcome.

Adrian passed to his eternal home in heaven on

March 30, 2024.

Janice had a strong faith in God, and it guided her throughout her life. She put all trust in Him and often prayed with others to help find their way. She was a loving, devoted wife, mother and grandmother and loved working with children. Vacation Bible School and Mothers of Preschoolers were special programs that were dear to her heart.

She is survived by her sons, Ken (Kit) Sundberg of Cottage Grove, Greg (Jill) Sundberg of Stillwater; five grandchildren, Christopher Sundberg, Brandon Sundberg, Alicia Sundberg, Sarah (Hunter) Christian, Suzy (Josh) Godbout; twin sister, Jeanne (Bob) Erickson; brother, Donovan Rud of Cambridge, other relatives and friends.

Family and friends take comfort knowing that she also is in her eternal home in heaven, still singing "Jesus loves me, this I know!"

Memorial Service 11 a.m., Friday, June 19, 2026 at North Isanti Baptist Church. Visitation one hour prior to the service. Private Graveside Service was held at North Isanti Baptist Cemetery. Condolences at [www.carlsonlillemoen.com](http://www.carlsonlillemoen.com) Arrangements by Carlson-Lillemoen Funeral Home and Cremation Services of Cambridge.

### James E. "Bud" Luther

James E. "Bud" Luther, age 92 of Cambridge, passed away peacefully, surrounded by family, on Saturday evening, June 6, 2026, at Mercy Hospital.

Bud was born on September 4, 1933, to parents Edwin and Helen Luther in Brewster. He was the second of seven children, preceded in death by sisters Carol, Lois and Mary. John, Alan and Alice are his surviving siblings.



On October 20, 1956, Bud married Doreen Sheehan at St. Mary's Church in Minneiska. Left to honor his life and mourn his death are his wife Doreen and their four children: Denise, Jodell, Jamie and Kurt. He will be dearly missed by 11 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

Camping, fishing and gardening were Bud's lifelong pleasures. For many years his family owned a beautiful log cabin, built in 1919, along the Wahkon Bay of Lake Mille Lacs. He loved to read science-fiction books and watch movies about the Wild West. As an Army veteran he also enjoyed playing WWII videos on his computer.

Bud's final employment was as a machinist at Remmele Engineering, a job that called him on trips all over the world, including Puerto Rico, Mexico City and Saudi Arabia. After 28 years, he retired and began traveling with his spouse on People's First Bank tour group. His favorite event was a European River Cruise.

Funeral services 10:30 a.m. Monday, June 15, at StrikeLife Tributes in Cambridge. A visitation will be held one hour prior to the service. Interment will be in St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery in Minneiska. In lieu of flowers donations be sent to American Cancer Society. Online condolences can be placed at [StrikeLifeTributes.com](http://StrikeLifeTributes.com).

### Margaret Jaques Celebration of Life

Family and friends are invited to celebrate the life of Margaret Jaques on Saturday, June 13, from noon to 4 p.m. at Isanti Township Hall, 2281 301st Ave. NE, Isanti, MN 55040.

Please join us as we gather to share memories, stories and fellowship in honor of Margaret's life and legacy.

### Diane E. Appelhof (Carlson)

Diane E. Appelhof, 85, of Edina / Independence / Bloomington / Cambridge, died May 28, 2026, at Founder's Ridge.

She was born on April 14, 1941, to Oscar and Lenore Carlson in Cambridge, Minnesota. Diane is one of five children; her sister (Karin) and three brothers (Stanley, Paul & Charles).



Diane attended Cambridge Highschool, Bethel University and graduated from the University of MN Duluth, with a degree in Education.

She married Bruce Johnson and they had two children, Derek and Grant.

In 1976, God connected her with the love of her life, David Appelhof and

they enjoyed 49 years of marriage together. Dave's two children, Greg and Lee completed the blended family.

Diane loved teaching her students as an elementary teacher in Roseville and Apple Valley. Diane was blessed by two long term friend groups. "The Club" included five of her teaching colleagues. They met regularly for more than 60 years. The second group included women from Christ Presbyterian Church

who met regularly for breakfast for over 45 years.

Diane loved to sew, knit and sing in various choirs. She had a great passion for the outdoors enjoying skiing, tennis, long walks and gardening. She had a gift for hospitality making her home welcoming and beautiful. Her greatest joy was family and spending time with her grandkids. Her grandkids all have lasting memories of: hand knit sweaters, special games, story time, picture books and bedtime prayers.

Diane is survived by her sister Karin McKinney, her brother Paul (Becky) Carlson, her husband David, her son's Derek Johnson, Grant (Michelle) Johnson, David's son Greg (Lisa) Appelhof, David's Daughter Lee (Mark) Earle. Twelve Grandchildren: Wesley, Jackie, Blake, Ryan, Annie, Ben, Cooper, Blake, Kylie, Madelyn, Dylan & Evelyn. Four Great Grandchildren: Aiden, Oliver, Easton & Marilyn.

She was preceded in death by her parents Oscar & Lenore, brother's Stanley & Charles.

Funeral services will be Thursday, June 18, 2026 - 11 a.m. at Christ Presbyterian Church in Edina, MN. A second gathering will be held on Friday, June 19, 2026 - 10 a.m. at Leader in Cambridge, MN with a burial service at noon at North Isanti Baptist Church, Isanti, MN.

The family has asked that Memorial Contributions be made to the Presbyterian Homes Foundation 2845 Hamline Ave. N, Ste. 200, Roseville, MN 55113

### Mary J. Hultman

Mary J. Hultman, age 71, of Cambridge and formerly of North St. Paul, passed away June 6, 2026.

Mary Jane Hultman was born August 10, 1954 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. She was adopted by Joe and Maureen (Clancy) Gallagher.



Mary graduated from Holy Angels High School in Richfield. She married Jim Hebner and they had two sons, Patrick and Daniel. On May 4, 1985 she married George Hultman and they had a daughter, Laura. They lived in Fridley until 1992 when they moved to North St. Paul. In 2021 they moved to Cambridge. Mary was honored as a WCCO radio Good

Neighbor for her volunteer work at the humane society. Mary was also nominated for best garden in North St. Paul. She enjoyed gardening, traveling the world, her pets and especially time with her family and grand kids.

She will be lovingly remembered by her husband, George; children, Patrick Hebner, Daniel Hebner (Amber Waxon) and Laura Hultman; brothers, Bill Miller and Brian Gallagher; sister-in-law, Michelle Norton; grandchildren, Hayden, Isabelle, Sophia, Nolan and Cecilia; and by many other relatives and friends. She was preceded in death by her parents and by a brother, Bill Norton.

Mass of Christian Burial 10:30 a.m. Saturday, June 13 at Christ the King Catholic Church in Cambridge with a visitation one hour prior at the church. Interment will be in Royalton Memorial Cemetery. Online condolences can be made at [StrikeLifeTributes.com](http://StrikeLifeTributes.com).

## STUDENT NAMES IN THE NEWS

### Student Achievement Lists

**Sophia Williams**, of Cambridge (Dean's) from Minnesota State University Moorhead.

**Isaiah Maydole**, of North Branch (Dean's) from Milwaukee School of Engineering.

**Elinor Tetzlaff**, of North Branch (Dean's) from Central Lakes College.

**Helen Pust** of North Branch, (Dean's) from Elmhurst University.

**Laci Leverty** and **Reese Wilking** of Isanti; **Hunter Rami** of Stacy; and **Jorja Brown** of Stanchfield, (Dean's) from South Dakota State

### Scholarship

**David Maguire**, of Cambridge, Onan Family Scholarship, Northwood Tech Foundation.

**Jamie Schneider**, of Rush City, E. Jean Bruegl Scholarship, Northwood Tech Foundation.

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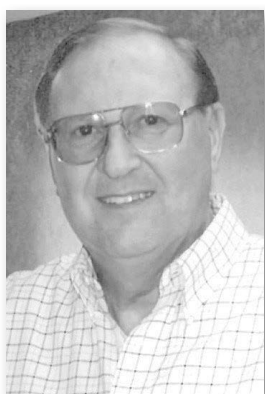
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NEWS

**OBITUARIES CONTINUED**

**John L. Nelson**

John L. Nelson, age 86, of Wild Rose, WI, passed away on Sunday, May 31, 2026, at his home surrounded by his loved ones. He was born at home, in Wautoma Township, on October 10, 1939, a son of the late Raymond and Dorothy (Kresal) Nelson.



John graduated from Wild Rose High School in 1957, following HS, John took forestry classes and graduated from Oshkosh Tech. He then went on to Michigan Technological University, where he received a BS in Forestry. He became a DNR forester for the State of MN later becoming a District DNR Supervisor. From where he retired after more than 36 years.

John raised his two boys in Cambridge, MN, surrounded by good family, friends and neighbors. He was their hockey coach for many years. He was very instrumental in building the Cambridge-Isanti Ice Arena. Back in WI he was a contributing member of the We Really Kare Fishing Club. John was a devoted and loving husband, proud father, kind and generous grandfather and dear friend to many.

John was known for his passion for the outdoors, and stewardship of its gifts; he loved to fish, hunt and camp at many state and national parks; then sharing his experiences and lessons with others. He was quick to a game of cards and even quicker to a one-liner!

Survivors include his wife: Judith Jensen Nelson, Wild Rose, WI; sons Christopher (Danielle) Nelson; Nicholas (Emily) Nelson; Step-children: Heidi (Neal) Maciejewski; Mark (Mary) Jensen; Paul (Christine) Jensen; Laura (Kantrell) Jensen, Karen (Levi) Spann; Nancy Jensen; Grandchildren: Rea-

gan and Bennett Nelson; Hazel and Waylon Nelson; Step-Grandchildren: Kira (Wyatt) and Lily Jensen; Max Jensen; Jack and Leah Maciejewski. Brothers Ronald Nelson and Daniel Nelson, and many Nelson nephews and nieces. He was preceded in death by his parents, Raymond and Dorothy Nelson; his first wife Catherine (Chavez) Nelson; sister Barbara and brother-in-law Donald Hasselquist; nephew Rory Hasselquist.

John was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Waupaca, WI where a Memorial Service will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, June 12, 2026. Visitation will be held on Friday, June 12th at the church from 8:30 a.m. until the time of the Memorial Service, at 11am. Interment of cremains will take place at West Holden Lutheran Cemetery with family, at a later date. A luncheon to follow the service will be held at Mt. Morris Town Park. The Holly Funeral Home of Waupaca is assisting the family with arrangements.

**2026 ELECTION CANDIDATE FILING NOTICES**

**Schibilla running for Cambridge Council seat**

CONTRIBUTED  
NEWS@COUNTYSTAR.COM

I am excited to announce my candidacy for Cambridge City Council.



Tom Schibilla

As your neighbor and an active member of this community, I am committed to ensuring that every voice is heard. I am able to listen to diverse

perspectives and am committed to open communication. I

believe that everyone's voice should be heard, respected, and represented. I am ready to advocate for you.

I will make sure our taxpayer dollars are spent efficiently and transparently. I promise to lead with integrity, transparency and respect for all members of our community. I will maintain our small town values.

I encourage everyone to contact myself and other members of the Cambridge City Council with all questions or concerns. I look forward to meeting you over the coming months to listen to you and earn your vote. I am eager to hear from you.

You can contact Tom at [t.schibilla@gmail.com](mailto:t.schibilla@gmail.com)

**Schmidt running for MN House District 28B**

CONTRIBUTED  
NEWS@COUNTYSTAR.COM

My name is Daniel Colten Schmidt and I am running for MN House of Representatives



Daniel Colten Schmidt

for two reasons: I'm tired of politicians prioritizing billionaires over hard working families; and our constitutional rights need protection now more than ever.

I have three simple goals:

1. A stable funding stream for our public schools. Since 2020, public school revenue has not kept up with inflation. I will advocate for direct grants from the State to fill the gaps in our school's budget without increasing your taxes.

2. Affordable healthcare for everyone. The cost of healthcare has increased by over 20% since 2025, and will continue to increase through 2027 due to new federal policies. Essential health workers in our County are already losing their health ben-

efits because of increased costs. This is unacceptable. I will work across the aisle to create an affordable, universal healthcare system in Minnesota.

3. State investments in our local economy: Minnesota has \$160 billion managed by investment companies like BlackRock and others. This means that Minnesota's tax dollars support big tech companies, oil companies, and others. I would author legislation that brings our tax-dollars back to Minnesota where it can support locally-owned businesses and jobs.

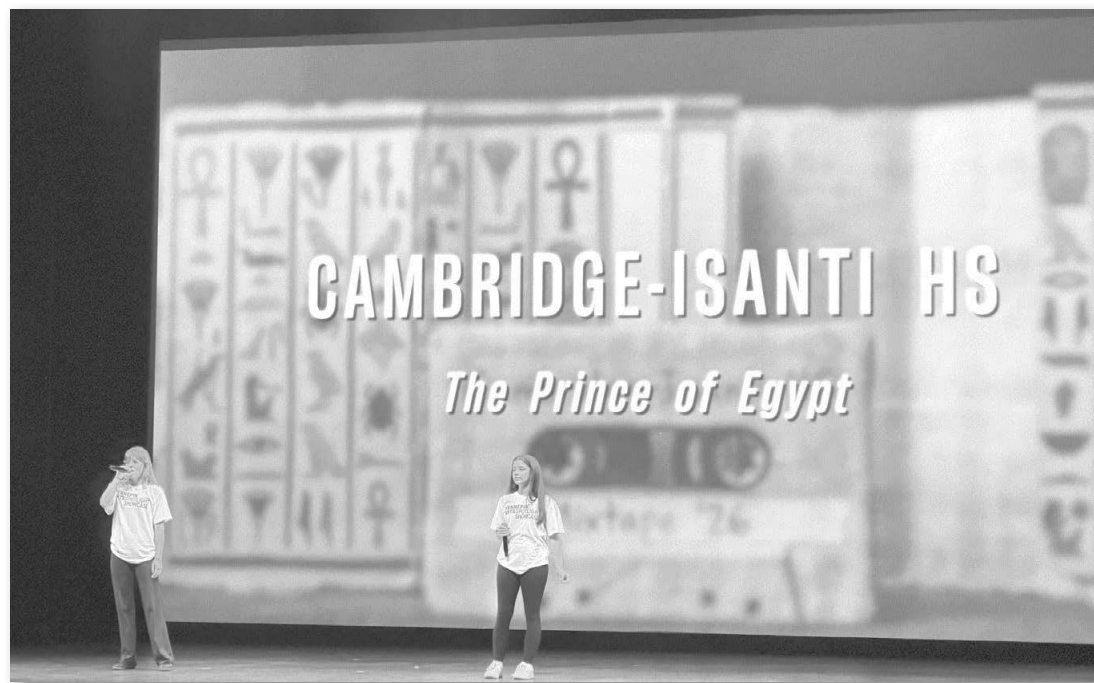
I will:  
•Be a stronger advocate for bringing taxpayer dollars to our district.

•Protect our public schools and agencies from budget cuts.

•Not support increased federal power in Minnesota, nor attacks to our constitutional rights.

Now is the time for an ethics of care and compassion to be put in charge so that we can ensure that the economy serves working families.

Visit [www.elect-schmidt.org](http://www.elect-schmidt.org) to sign up for my newsletter, follow me on social media, and learn about upcoming events! Contact me with any questions at [campaign@elect-schmidt.org](mailto:campaign@elect-schmidt.org).



STACY VERDICK CASE | COUNTY STAR



STACY VERDICK CASE | COUNTY STAR

**Spotlight shines on Cambridge-Isanti Theatre**

Members of the Cambridge-Isanti High School Theatre program perform on the stage of the historic State Theatre in Minneapolis on June 8 during Hennepin Arts' Spotlight Showcase. Cambridge-Isanti was selected to participate in the statewide celebration of high school theater, marking the school's first appearance at Spotlight Showcase, which featured more than 1,200 students from across Minnesota..

**A Minnesota** ISANTI-CHISAGO **COUNTY STAR**  
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**MINNESOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION**

# New Pathways' new building offers much-needed breathing room

BY BILL STICKELS III  
EDITOR@COUNTYSTAR.COM

New Pathways Community Engagement Coordinator Jenny Henthorn can't help but smile every time she comes to her office as she gives a tour of the organization's new building.

Henthorn has every right to feel that way. Currently, her "office" in what they are already calling the "old" building on Ashland Street serves multiple purposes.

"At the current facility, I am right up front," Henthorn said. "When you walk in, I am bam, right there next to the copier, scanner, fax machine."

Now, with the new facility, not only do staff have spaces of their own, but so do every other service and function of the organization. The highlight of the first floor is the large community room and commercial kitchen, where clients will eat at least one prepared meal a day. The evening meals will typically be shared with community church volunteers who will join the families in fellowship.

Just inside the main doors is a lounge area, complete with a fireplace, for families to relax after they come into the program. This space will also allow members of the public to come in to help families, such as having recovery groups and tutors come in to help the kids.

"We currently have a wellness advocate that works with our families," Henthorn said. "We will have two mental health therapists who will come in and work with our families, and even after (the families) leave, they will follow them a little bit."

On the family (non-public) side of the first floor, there is a "marketplace" where families can grab groceries for meals or snacks they can prepare in their own apartments, or they can get other everyday essentials.

Next to that is a storage area for all sorts of other supply donations, specifically for when families are ready to move out.

"We like to send them with a basket full of essentials such as cleaning supplies, toilet paper, bedding, that kind of stuff," Henthorn said.

There are two washer/dryer rooms in the facility. The one on the first floor is for staff, and the one on the second floor is for families.

Finally, on the first floor is a computer room for families to use the internet, a family room, and an adjacent small kids' library decorated in the theme of Dr. Seuss.

## SECOND FLOOR

The main purpose of the new facility is located on the second floor: the apartments. As has been well documented, currently New Pathways can only serve five families, and those families are sleeping in multiple churches on a rotating basis and then being driven to the daytime facility on Ashland Street. With the new facility, they can serve up to 10 families or 33 people 24/7.

Because of this, there will be someone staying overnight, just in case.

"They'll come in after dinner," Henthorn explained. "They're not here to be 'babysitters,' but we just want to make sure we have staff on site. We just want to make sure our families are safe."

The apartments come in varying sizes to accommodate different sized families. Some of the apartments do have an adjoining door for larger families. Henthorn said most families are a mother and kids escaping domestic violence. However, they have had some mother/father families and even a few multi-generational families. The largest family they've taken in was 14 members. She said the only precursor is there must be at least one family member under 18 years-old.

Each apartment comes with a kitchenette area with a fridge, microwave, and sink. For families wanting to cook a full meal, there is a common kitchen on the second floor.

Also in each apartment is a full bathroom, complete with a tub/shower combination. One apartment's bathroom is a shower only for individuals with mobility issues. Henthorn emphasized the Ashland location only has a single shower.

The main area of each apartment features space for twin and/or bunk beds, plus a storage area.

## SURPRISE ADDITIONS

To top it all off, the new facility will feature two un-



BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR

The only thing that remains on the outside of New Pathways' new facility is a little landscaping, a final layer on the parking lot, and moving the playground equipment from the Ashland Street location.



BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR

The small kids library is designed in a Dr. Seuss theme.

expected amenities. First, the playground at the Ashland location is being relocated to the new facility.

"That playground holds deep meaning to New Pathways," Henthorn said. "Ray Magnuson from the Memorial Hospital Foundation was a huge part of putting in that playground. He is no longer with us, but he was a huge New Pathways fan. So just the fact we can move it over to our new location is really cool, because we didn't think it was going to happen and the kids love it."

The second surprise addition also came courtesy of the Memorial Hospital Foundation — a gazebo that includes extra storage space for patio furniture and other outdoor items.

## PROJECT COMPLETED QUICKLY

The organization can also breathe easier now that the whirlwind of the past two years — first in raising enough money to begin construction and then for the construction itself — is behind them. Henthorn gives a large chunk of the credit for the entire process being accomplished in a fraction of the anticipated time to two people: Chris Miller for leading the fundraising effort and BJ Baas for the construction of the facility.

"She (Miller) raised \$3.5 million dollars in around nine months, with an amazing team," Henthorn said. "They've (BJ Baas Builders) been tremendous from the beginning. We just really appreciate the BJ Baas team. They made it come together so quickly. We broke ground on Aug. 6 last year."

**'It took a lot of amazing people to make this happen. This was not funded by any state or federal (money).'**

Jenny Henthorn

New Pathways Community Engagement Coordinator

Through it all, though, the staff can't thank the community enough.

"It took a lot of amazing people to make this happen, Henthorn said. "This was not funded by any state or federal (money)."

"This community totally paid for this place," Miller added. "We aren't naming rooms (because) we want every donation, whether it was five dollars or five hundred thousand dollars, everyone feels responsible for this place."

## OPEN HOUSE AND RIBBON CUTTING

The general public is invited to an open house for the new facility, which will be held from noon to 4 p.m. on Friday, June 26. There will be a ribbon cutting ceremony at 11:30 a.m. The new facility is located at 1615 Garland Street South in Cambridge.

# MIDSUMMER DAYS: Gold Star families will be honored in the anniversary parade

FROM PAGE 1

history. Paul Johnson's father was born in 1929 on a farm east of town, he said.

"A usual Midsummer program during the late 1920s and 1930s included free acts such as performances by the Rush City band, NB Drum & Bugle Corp., professional clowns and a 'parade in the forenoon,'" Kyle Johnson writes. "Other entertainment mainstays were merry-go-rounds, Ferris wheels, and evening dances."

Over the years, the celebration extended from one day to a weekend-long event. This year, as in recent years, the party begins Wednesday and runs through Sunday.

Paul Johnson remembers fondly his own time coming to the festival, beginning when he was a young child.

"I can remember back to about 1965," Johnson said, and later years when he participated in the kiddie parade on his bicycle, hoping to emulate Peter Fonda in "Easy Rider."

Johnson's grandmother ran the kitchen at the American Legion "with an iron fist," he laughs. His parents would later go on to volunteer in similar roles at Midsummer Days and other Legion and Auxiliary events during his youth. His father and two uncles have also served as the commander.

Years later, he began taking his own children, and remembers his parents putting the children to work at the free lunch tent, a tradition that continues to this day. Johnson's children and grandchildren will return to town for the 2026 celebration, just as his great aunt must have as a toddler in 1925.

Some things have changed, Johnson said. He remembers a "battle of the bands" on a flatbed semi-trailer, for example, and is enjoying bringing back the "water fights" between local fire departments in recent years after a hiatus.

From 1957 to 2018, the winners of the Midsummer Ambassador pageant for high school girls were crowned at the celebration, and the Chamber of Commerce hosted a North Branch Sings!

Competition for several years beginning in 2015.

However, the parades, the midway, the street dances, free lunch and the spirit of local celebration remain.

"There's really a groundswell of excitement because it is the hundredth," Paul Johnson said, "and for as I guess I would call them old families like mine, who were, you know, most likely here from the beginning, it made that week-end kind of a hallmark weekend."

"You had Christmas, you had Midsummer, and that's when all the relatives cousins and we all got together, and you know, same with a lot of other families in this area to do the exact same thing."

Johnson says one of the special elements of the centennial will be the Legion honoring two local "Gold Star Families" in the parade, meaning an immediate family member has died during military combat.

The celebration will also emphasize the new Veterans' Memorial planned for Central Park, Johnson said, which is progressing nicely.

"We are working hard to give the community back via this memorial, as a keystone piece of Central Park, as a constant reminder of what kind of town we have here," Johnson said. "Just good, down-to-earth people who are willing to fight and potentially die for what we have here."

But the Legion works beyond honoring veterans in North Branch, Johnson said, aiming to support the whole community.

"Midsummer is kind of one way, a very large way, where we can serve the entire community over the course of a weekend," Johnson said.

The 100th North Branch Midsummer Days is scheduled for June 17 through 22 in Central Park, on Main Street and at the American Legion. More information can be found on the legion's Facebook page.



CONTRIBUTED

John Elmgren (front row, second from left) and family hosted the first Midsummer Picnic on behalf of the Swedish Lutheran Church of North Branch on June 23, 1907. Elmgren is often credited as the first resident of the North Branch area.



CONTRIBUTED

The 1959 Midsummer Parade, looking northeast at Central Park. Carnival tents can be seen within the park.

## Free Park Day set for June 13

June is Great Outdoors Month, making it an ideal time to get outside and explore Minnesota's outstanding outdoor recreation opportunities. A perfect day to do so is Free Park Day on Saturday, June 13, which also coincides with National Get Outdoors Day. On this date, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources will waive vehicle permit fees at all 73 state parks and recreation areas.

"Great Outdoors Month is the perfect time to get outside and experience everything Minnesota's state parks and recreation areas have to offer," said Ann Pierce, DNR Parks and Trails Division director. "Free Park Day gives everyone an even better opportunity to discover a new favorite place, spend time with family and friends, and enjoy the physical and mental health benefits of being outdoors. We encourage everyone to get outside and explore Minnesota's incredible natural resources."

In addition to offering popular activities such as

hiking, biking, picnicking, swimming, paddling and birding, a variety of state park programs are open to all visitors. There are 23 programs scheduled for June 13. These programs are free, but some require pre-registration. These naturalist-led events include:

- Games
- Information on plants, animals, and geologic features
- Exploration of state parks and recreation areas

- Instruction on outdoor recreation activities

Find state park programs online at the state parks and trails events calendar ([mndnr.gov/pt-calendar](http://mndnr.gov/pt-calendar)).

To help plan a Free Park Day outing, the DNR offers these tips:

- Find a state park or recreation area by using the ParkFinder tool on the DNR website ([mndnr.gov/parkfinder](http://mndnr.gov/parkfinder)).

- Always check visitor alerts before leaving home. These notifications about things that might impact visits can be found at the top of each state park website. Start at the

DNR's A to Z park list ([mndnr.gov/park-list](http://mndnr.gov/park-list)).

Check the weather forecast before leaving home and bring clothing and footwear appropriate for the forecasted conditions.

Pack enough water and snacks for everyone in the group, a first aid kit, insect repellent and sunscreen.

For those bringing pets, don't forget a leash, water, snacks, and bags to clean up after them.

June 13 is one of four free days during the year. The vehicle permit waiver for Free Park Day does not cover amenity or user fees for activities like camping or watercraft rentals. Details are on the Free Park Day web page ([mndnr.gov/freeparkday](http://mndnr.gov/freeparkday)).

If people can't make it on Free Park Day, seven-day vehicle permits are also available for check out at participating libraries through the DNR's State Parks Library Program ([mndnr.gov/library-pass](http://mndnr.gov/library-pass)).

For more information on recreational opportunities in Minnesota state parks and recreation areas, visit [mndnr.gov](http://mndnr.gov). - MNDNR

## No Registration Weekend set for ATV riders

Minnesotans with an all-terrain vehicle registered for private or agricultural use won't need to pay the additional registration fee (\$60 for three years) to ride the state's public ATV trails June 13-14. Out-of-state riders can explore Minnesota's ATV trails this weekend as well without the need for a nonresident ATV trail pass (\$31 for one year).

This annual No Registration Weekend gives riders access to more than 3,000 miles of state forest and grant-in-aid trails. The event falls on the second weekend of June each year and occurs during Great Outdoors Month.

"We see this weekend as a great opportunity to showcase the wide variety of state and grant-in-aid trails across Minnesota," said Joe Unger, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources OHV program consultant. "There are a large number of ATV riders across the state who, during this weekend, can try the public trails without paying the additional registration fee."

Some great places to start, according to Unger, include:

- Iron Range Off-Highway Vehicle State Recreation Area, a 1,200-acre OHV park in Gilbert, with over 45 miles of scenic trails for riders of all abilities.

The 100-mile trail system in Nemadji State Forest, which connects to the Matthew Lourey State Trail and

the Gandy Dancer Trail for more riding opportunities.

The 167-mile Prospector's Loop near Ely, which follows forest roads and trails connecting the North Shore of Lake Superior to the Voyageur Country ATV Trail System for more riding opportunities. This trail is now connected to Lake Vermilion-Soudan Underground State Park's new Pyrite Campground, which is designed for campers with OHVs.

The 200-mile Northwoods Regional Trail System in Aitkin and Itasca counties, where riders can use the Soo Line Trail to connect to great communities and trail loops.

All other ATV laws and regulations remain in place during the weekend. The DNR reminds riders to be safety-minded when on the trails. Safety training is recommended for everyone who operates an ATV and required for ATV riders born after July 1, 1987. Youth under age 18 must wear a DOT-certified helmet. Riders age 16 and under must fit the ATV they are operating and be able to properly reach and control the handlebars and reach the foot pegs while sitting upright on the ATV.

Maps, updates on trail conditions, ATV safety training resources and other OHV information can be found on the DNR's OHV riding webpage ([mndnr.gov/ohv](http://mndnr.gov/ohv)). - MNDNR

# Cambridge Council to decide on conduit financing for apartment complex

BY BILL STICKELS III  
NEWS@COUNTYSTAR.COM

Reuter Walton, the housing developer who is proposing a 180-unit affordable apartment complex to be located just to the north of the former Perkins site, is going forward with a request for conduit financing in the amount of \$17 million from the city of Cambridge despite the council rejecting its tax increment financing request for the same project last month.

In a nutshell, conduit financing is where the city acts as a “middleman” in issuing bonding for a private party’s project. This enables the developer to receive a more favorable interest rate, plus, in certain

circumstances, the interest on the bond is tax-exempt. In the case of this project, the tax-exempt status is a prerequisite for Reuter Walton to obtain state grants for affordable housing development.

In acting as the conduit, the city bears no financial liability if the developer were to default on the bond or if the project is not completed. Additionally, according to Finance Director Caroline Moe, issuing bonds as a conduit does not negatively impact the city’s bond rating or its ability to obtain its own bonding for city projects such as the ongoing street improvement plan. Finally, Moe said issuing conduit financing does not take up significant staff time.

Unlike TIF, conduit financing does not utilize local property tax money. According to City Administrator Evan Vogel, the property of the proposed complex, which has sat vacant for “decades,” generates a total of about \$5,000 per year in property taxes — split between the city (until last month, the property was in Cambridge Township, but was requested by the owner to be annexed into the city), Isanti County, and Cambridge-Isanti Schools. Once the complex is completed, it is projected to generate approximately \$82,000 total per year. Vogel acknowledged that the affordable housing designation does slightly decrease its property taxes compared to a mar-

ket-rate apartment complex. However, he was quick to add that, based on the reaction of previous potential developers over the years, the likelihood of market-rate apartments being constructed on the site in the near future was slim.

“There are market-rate units that may pay a higher amount in taxes, but none of them are asking to build on this site, and none of them have asked to build on this site for the past several decades because of the added infrastructure costs,” Vogel said. “The anticipated extension of utilities and road (at the site) is approximately \$1 million. Those are things other developers have not wanted to take on in order to build on that site. Because of some of

the tax advantages that exist with this project, it is feasible for this developer in this time.”

Additionally, Vogel said the city would receive approximately one percent of the bond amount, in this case around \$170,000, in fees from the developer for acting as the conduit.

According to Vogel, the council had previously given preliminary approval of the conduit financing back in June 2025. Since Reuter Walton is still attempting to go forward with the project, the council will consider final approval of the request during its June 15 meeting, starting at 6 p.m. The council vote will be preceded by a mandatory public hearing.



BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR

The owners of Isanti Eye Clinic as well as representatives from BJ Baas construction and The Bank of Elk River held a groundbreaking ceremony June 9.

## Groundbreaking held for new Isanti eye clinic

STAFF REPORT  
NEWS@COUNTYSTAR.COM

A groundbreaking ceremony was recently held for the future home of Isanti Eye Clinic, a new optometry clinic expected to open in Isanti by the end of 2026.

The clinic will be the second location for Blaine Eye Clinic and will provide eye care services to residents of Isanti and surrounding communities.

The project marks an expansion for Blaine Eye Clinic, which is owned by Dr. Breann Forliti. Forliti is a second-generation optometrist who purchased the practice from her father, Dr. Lynn Sulerud, and his longtime

business partner, Dr. Georgiann Jensen, after their retirements.

Forliti is partnering with Sulerud and her brother, Nate Sulerud, as investors in the new clinic property.

“This project is especially meaningful because it brings together multiple generations of our family,” Forliti said.

Also attending the groundbreaking were Jensen; representatives of BJ Baas Builders, including Brian Baas, James Todd, Jordan Beecher and Rick Fromm; and Becky Moritz of The Bank of Elk River, which is financing the project.

Construction is underway, with the clinic expected to open by the end of 2026.

## A new model for predicting plant resistance can help prepare for climate change

A recent Minnesota Pollution Control Agency report found that climate change could cost Minnesotans more than \$20 billion a year by 2040. This is just the local cost of a worldwide problem. Ecosystem stability is essential to agriculture, forestry, safe housing and infrastructure, carbon storage and more, but identifying which ecosystems are most vulnerable to climate shocks remains difficult. Anticipating climate change impacts and predicting recovery will be critical to minimizing human and economic disruptions.

When an extreme drought hit central Minnesota in 2021 — the first one-in-a-decade dry spell in nearly 30 years of measurements at the Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve — a team of ecologists already had predictions on file for how each of their experimental grassland plots would respond. The forecasts proved accurate to within roughly 3%.

The resulting study, newly published in *Nature*, is one of the first demonstrations that long-term records of an ecosystem’s natural ups and downs can be used to forecast how strongly it will resist a future climate extreme. Until now, ecologists have largely measured ecosystem responses after the fact.

The team developed a mathematical framework showing the relationships between four aspects of ecosystem stability. Resistance describes how little an ecosystem changes during a disturbance, such as a drought. Recovery describes how quickly it returns toward normal afterward. Temporal stability describes how little it fluctuates over many years. Resilience describes how close it is to normal soon after a disturbance. How these dimensions relate to one another has been an open question since the 1980s.

The research team found:

Using stability data from 1996 to 2020, the researchers forecasted drought resistance at the ecosystem level with an average error of about 3%.

Long-term stability is largely governed by an ecosystem’s short-term resistance to disturbance. Resilience, by contrast, often depends more on recovery.

The two components are not interchangeable: an ecosystem cannot trade away its resistance and make up for it with faster recovery without consequences for its temporal stability and resilience.

Long-term ecosystem stability over a quarter century could often be predicted based on resistance to a single extreme wet climate event that occurred in 2002.

This model may help land managers and farmers prevent the worst impacts of drought and extreme weather.

“Ecologists have long measured how ecosystems respond after droughts and other climate extremes,” said Forest Isbell, lead author and associate professor at the University of Minnesota College of Biological Sciences. “What is exciting here is that we can begin to forecast which ecosystems are more likely to withstand a future drought before it happens — offering a powerful tool for management and planning in the future.”

The framework requires further development across a variety of ecosystems. Forecasts depend on knowing which disturbances matter most for a given system, and the approach will need to be tested in forests, agricultural systems and other ecosystems beyond grasslands. The forecast also performed best at the ecosystem scale.

Even so, the findings suggest that long-term ecological monitoring has practical, forward-looking value for the climate era. With refinement, the model could make our forests, grasslands, farms and aquatic ecosystems more resilient.

“Long-term ecological data are often seen as records of the past,” said Isbell. “Our results show they can also help us look forward.” — The College of Biological Sciences

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# Addressing burnout in rural healthcare workers through online courses

For many rural Minnesotans, the local hospital is more than just a place for a check-up — it's where you are born, have your kids and visit sick family members. Most of us don't realize the toll placed on our healthcare staff or see that the neighbors who care for us are burning out.

In a survey of more than 200 people working at rural hospitals in north-eastern Minnesota, researchers found that significant staffing shortages and job vacancies are part of the reason for high burnout rates, so the researchers from the University of Minnesota Duluth (UMD), supported by the Center for Urban and Regional Affairs and the Institute for Advanced Study pressed on, past the statistics, into the essential question: How do we fix it? Their answer began with the development of new online courses tailored to support healthcare workers' well-being.

**'One [healthcare] worker might fulfill the roles of security, registration, dietary help and nursing in one shift ... We talked with one nurse who was required to snowblow the emergency bay after hours.'**

**David Beard**  
Northeast RSDP board member

the rural healthcare system of north-eastern Minnesota.

Through Beard's connections with RSDP the research team connected with two ClimateCorps Vista members, Natalie Lavenstein and Faye Duster, who joined the team to support outreach, data collection and interpretation.

Lavenstein and Duster led the focus group at one of the partner hospitals. The group included all staff ranging from nursing assistants and accountants to facilities workers. Staff talked about what it felt like to be "in the zone" at work. Lavenstein and Duster then asked what kept them from experiencing joy or flow in their work. Even more importantly, they helped identify themes and analyze the data emerging from the focus group data.

Together, the team identified that one in four rural hospital workers they interviewed spent their entire career at one hospital, and one in five was born in the hospital where they work today.

High personal investment in a hospital's success, caring for patients who are neighbors, constant multi-tasking, and a shortage of staff to fill crucial roles all contributed to the feeling of being stretched too thin.

"Universally, everyone was incredibly welcoming and very proud to be working at these institutions that are

the lifeblood of the communities," says Dauner. "But they're wishing they had more ability to provide the services people come in expecting."

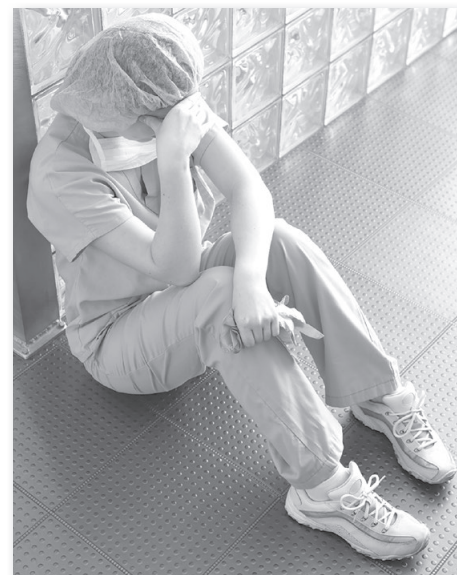
For example, rural hospitals often lack the record-sharing systems found in metropolitan areas making medical records difficult to access in a timely manner, if at all.

"If you're going on a fishing trip, you probably didn't think to bring your insurance card," says Beard, "but fishing hooks don't always end up in the fish, and now you're at the hospital without an insurance card, ID or medications. This puts a lot of stress on the staff who want to help you, but don't have the necessary information."

On top of paperwork stressors, staff routinely step up for their neighbors by handling duties well outside their official job descriptions. "One worker might fulfill the roles of security, registration, dietary help and nursing in one shift," Beard says. "We talked with one nurse who was required to snowblow the emergency bay after hours."

**ONLINE TOOLS TO REDUCE BURDEN**

Based on their conversations with the healthcare workers, the team developed two free online courses, available at <https://cahss.d.umn.edu/articles/online-health-course>, to support healthcare workers' well-being. The short,



flexible courses take approximately 60 to 75 minutes to complete and are ideal for anyone working in rural healthcare.

These brief courses address well-being, purpose and resilience at work while being short and digestible; they build leadership skills and help staff adjust their roles to match their strengths.

Protecting the rural healthcare workforce requires community-wide support. For the visiting public, you can ease the burden on staff by carrying your insurance card, ID and medication information.

Ultimately, the greatest support comes from recognizing the dedication of the professionals who have given their lives — from day one — to the health of our communities serving neighbors and strangers alike. -University of Minnesota Extension

**FEELING DISCONNECTED: DEEP-LOYALTY IN RURAL HOSPITALS CAN'T STOP BURNOUT**

"The job is hard," says David Beard, a University faculty member, a board member of the University of Minnesota Extension Northeast Regional Sustainable Development Partnership (RSDP) and part of the team investigating why rural hospital staff are struggling.

"Caring for others is meaningful, but it can also be exhausting. Long shifts, work-force shortages and the emotional weight of serving the entire community can lead dedicated professionals to feel stretched thin or disconnected from their work," says Kim Dauner, a professor of healthcare management at UMD.

University researchers Dauner, Beard and Julie Slowiak partnered with Wilderness Health, a collaborative network of independent healthcare providers, to set up listening sessions in the many small hospitals that make up



BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR

## Curtains up at North Dance Studio

Kristy Guss the owner of North Dance Studio along with family, friends, and members of the North65 Chamber of commerce cut the ribbon on their new facility on Ashland Street S in Cambridge on June 9. Kristy says her goal in opening this new studio is, "I want every student that walks through our doors to leave stronger, more confident, and more in love with dance than when they came in."

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# STATE CHAMPIONS: Team title is Cambridge-Isanti's first for boys track & field

FROM PAGE I

inches.

Capping off the event championships was senior Hunter Jacobson, who ran a stellar 800-meter race, drafting off two other runners for a majority of the race before passing them along the final straightaway for a personal best time of 1 minute, 51.87 seconds.

Ziebarth had one more medal to claim, coming in fourth in the 200-meter dash with a season-best time of 21.5 seconds. That finish, which earned six team points, was enough to beat team runner-up Moorhead by 4.5 points.

The three-event championships in one state meet are easily a school record. According to Viesselman, there was previously a total of five state champions in the history of the boys' team. Viesselman also said he is pretty sure the 4x100 relay team's victory is the first-ever relay state championship for the boys.

Also competing for the Bluejacket boys, but not able to add team points, was Deven Olson (19th place) in the discus and Kaiden Alcock, who un-

fortunately was unable to clear the opening height in the high jump. In his defense, that opening height was a mere three inches lower than the freshman's personal best height.

## TWO OUT OF THREE AIN'T BAD

The Bluejacket girls made the best out of their three state meet berths, earning two medals — both in pole vault.

Freshman Annabelle O'Brien finished in sixth place by clearing a personal best 11 feet, even, on her first attempt. Senior Aubrey Wilson also cleared 11 feet, even. However, it took her two attempts, so she finished in eighth place.

C-I's other competitor, junior Lilly Gravem, finished in 11th place in the triple jump, coming up a mere half-inch short of her personal best with a jump of 36 feet, 9.25 inches.

## NORTH BRANCH SENIOR TOPS AMONG ALL CLASSES

Not only did North Branch senior Ella Dick easily claim the Class AA girls pole vault championship, her final clearing height of 12 feet, 6 inches would have given her the gold medal in

any of the three classes.

Dick had a near-perfect meet, clearing her first four heights on her first attempt. After clearing 12 feet, even, the senior simply sat back and watched as all four remaining competitors failed all three attempts at that height.

With the championship secured, Dick went on to break her personal best and North Branch's school record by first clearing 12 feet, 4 inches on her second attempt, and then 12 feet, 6 inches on her third attempt.

The rest of the North Branch Vikings state meet competitors didn't have as satisfying of results. Senior Brooke Giese finished just off the medal stand in the pole vault, placing tenth. The girls' 4x100 relay team finished in 11th place in the prelims. Junior Nolan Weidenhamer finished in 20th in the boys long jump, while sophomore Amelia Lattimore finished 31st in the girls long jump.

Most heartbreaking of all was junior Sophia Thorsen's state meet. She finished in 30th place in the long jump and failed to make the finals in the 100 meters, finishing 13th. The only event

Thorsen advanced to the finals in was the 200-meter dash. However, an injured leg left her hobbling through the finals for a ninth-place finish.

## HELBERG STATE RUNNER-UP IN TENNIS

North Branch's Wyatt Helberg capped off his season with a second place finish in the Class A first singles tournament.

The Viking junior easily won his first two matches by scores of 6-0, 6-1 in the opening round and 6-3, 6-1 in the second round. Things got just a little bit tougher in the semifinals, with the #3-seeded Helberg defeating #2-seed Joshua Cook from Minnehaha Academy 6-4, 6-2.

In the championship, Helberg and Rochester Lourdes' Evan Ritter engaged in a classic, marathon match, with two of the three sets going to a tie-breaker. Helberg won the first set 7-6(5), but then dropped the second set 4-6. In the third and deciding set, Ritter controlled the play, only allowing Helberg a single tie-breaker point to record the 7-6(1) win.

# 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](http://firstbaptistcambridge.org)

### North Isanti Baptist Church

Lead Pastor: Travis Blake  
2248 313th Ave. NE, Cambridge, MN 55008. [www.nibchurch.com](http://www.nibchurch.com)  
Email: [nibchurch@msn.com](mailto:nibchurch@msn.com)  
763-689-3576.  
8:30am Worship Service (traditional style)  
10:45am Worship Service (contemporary style)

### 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](http://sunrisebiblechurch.org) or 651-674-4107.

## Catholic

### Christ the King

305 Fern Street N  
Cambridge, MN 55008  
763-689-1221  
Friday 8:30am  
Saturday 4pm  
email [brigitte@isantiacc.org](mailto:brigitte@isantiacc.org)  
Website: [isantiacc.org](http://isantiacc.org)

### St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

207 Whiskey Rd NW, Isanti, MN.  
763-444-4035  
Email: [brigitte@isantiacc.org](mailto:brigitte@isantiacc.org)  
Mass: Tues. & Wed. 8:30am.  
Sun. 8:30am.  
[isantiacc.org](http://isantiacc.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 (school year only): 9-10 a.m.

Sunday Worship (in person & online): 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Wednesday Programming (school year only):  
Family meal at 5:30 p.m. with AWANA and Youth Group from 6:30-8 p.m.

## 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](http://www.daleefc.com)

### Kost Evangelical Free Church

37405 Kost Trail, North Branch, MN – Jct. of CR 11 & CR 72  
651-583-3281 · [Kostchurch.org](http://Kostchurch.org)  
Pastor Josh Jensen  
Sunday worship service 9:30 am followed 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](http://oxlip.org)  
9am Worship Service  
10:45am Christian Education  
Awana children's ministry Wednesdays 6 to 7:30pm

### Wyanett Evangelical Free Church

12 Miles West of Cambridge on Hwy 95  
[www.wyanettevangelicalfree.org](http://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 Study 9:30 a.m. at Heart Matters Ministry, 403 1st St. Princeton  
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## Lutheran

### Braham Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA)

Dr. Suzanne Begin, Minister  
905 Central Drive West  
320-396-2755  
[www.brahamlutheran.org](http://www.brahamlutheran.org)  
9:30 a.m. Worship Service  
In-person & Live on Facebook  
Community Campfire Gathering June 3, July 1, Aug 5; 5:00-7:00 p.m.  
Bring lawn chair and singing voice  
All Are Welcome!

### Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church Of Rush Point (ELCA)

Pastor Vicki Vandervegt.  
320-358-4829, 600 Rush Point Dr.  
10:30am Worship with Fellowship following  
[my.calvaryofrushpoint.org](http://my.calvaryofrushpoint.org).  
Office: [calvaryrushpoint@gmail.com](mailto:calvaryrushpoint@gmail.com)

### Cambridge Lutheran Church (ELCA)

621 Old North Main Street, Cambridge  
763-689-1211  
Traditional/Sanctuary: 8:30 a.m.  
Contemporary/Commons: 9:30 a.m.  
KidZone 9:30 a.m.  
[www.cambridgelutheran.org](http://www.cambridgelutheran.org)  
Facebook: [fb.com/Cambridgelutheran](http://fb.com/Cambridgelutheran)  
YouTube: [tinyurl.com/Cambridgelutheran](http://tinyurl.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](http://www.christcambridge.com)

### First Lutheran Church (ELCA)

43779 Gates Ave., Harris.  
651-674-4498. Handicapped accessible.  
Pastor Vicki VanderVegt  
Sunday Worship 9:20am  
Coffee & fellowship following service  
Email: [firstlutheran@q.com](mailto:firstlutheran@q.com)  
[www.firstlutheranharris.org](http://www.firstlutheranharris.org)

### Joy Lutheran Church (Missouri Synod)

33525 Jefferson Street NE, Cambridge  
763-689-4355  
[www.joylutheran.net](http://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 10am  
VBS! June 21-25th 6-8pm  
[www.livingbranch.org](http://www.livingbranch.org)  
email: [office@livingbranch.org](mailto:office@livingbranch.org)

### Long Lake Lutheran Church (ELCA)

3921 277th Ave NW Isanti, MN 55040  
763-444-5315  
Pastor Sue Olson & Pastor Rebecca Holland  
All Are Welcome!  
Sundays  
9 am Worship & 10 am Sunday School  
Holy Communion: 1st and 3rd Sundays  
Wednesdays 6 pm Confirmation

### Salem Lutheran Church

4638 381st Ave. NW, Dalbo, MN 55017.  
763-689-1687  
Join us for worship every Sunday at 10:30  
Sunday School 11:00 resuming in the Fall  
Coffee fellowship after worship  
[www.salemlutherandalbo.com](http://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.[slchurch.org](http://slchurch.org)  
Email: [slchurch@gmail.com](mailto:slchurch@gmail.com)  
**8:15am** Worship with fellowship following

### 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](mailto: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](mailto:stjohnsrushcity.org)

### St. Stephen's Lutheran Church (Missouri Synod)

400 SE 8th St., (Isanti #4 E.), Braham  
320-396-3103  
9:15 am Sunday School & Adult Bible Study.  
8am Worship.  
[ststephensbraham.org](http://ststephensbraham.org)

### Trinity Lutheran Church (ELCA)

38460 Lincoln Trail, North Branch  
651-674-7047 Pastor Paul Cannon  
In person and online worship  
9 a.m. Worship  
10 a.m. Coffee Hour/Fellowship  
[www.trinitynorthbranch.org](http://www.trinitynorthbranch.org)  
[office@trinitynorthbranch.org](mailto: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 [commongroundumc.org](http://commongroundumc.org).  
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*This directory is paid for and made possible by the participating churches listed. Proud to sponsor and salute our local churches*

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# Many medals collected during state track and field meets



BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR

North Branch senior Ella Dick won the Class AA girls pole vault championship, along with breaking the school record by clearing 12 feet, 6 inches.



BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR

Bluejacket senior Aubrey Wilson finished in eighth place in the Class AAA girls pole vault.



BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR

The Bluejacket boys 4x100 relay team also broke the all-time state record time.



BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR

Bluejacket senior Calvin Piessler again finished in second place in the Class AAA boys pole vault. He also medaled in the boys long jump by finishing in sixth place.



BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR

Bluejacket senior Wesley Kennedy finished in fifth place in the boys Class AAA pole vault.



BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR

Bluejacket freshman Annabelle O'Brien finished in sixth place in the Class AAA girls pole vault, clearing a personal best 11 feet, even.



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\*Offer ends 6/30/2026. Available at participating and eligible dealers only. Offers may vary by product type, series, model, and select units in a dealer's current inventory. Customer must take delivery from dealer stock by 6/30/2026. Offers available on new equipment in the U.S. and Canada only. Some restrictions apply. Contract length and interest rate may vary. Monthly payment amounts are subject to change. Prior purchases are not eligible. See dealer for details. Financing is subject to credit approval by authorized Bobcat finance providers for well-qualified buyers. All finance programs and rates are subject to final approval and may change at any time without notice. Administrative fees may apply. Offer not available to government accounts, national accounts, or municipal/utility bid customers. Bobcat Company reserves the right to modify, extend, or discontinue these programs at any time without prior notice.



ADVERTISEMENT

# More Than a Place to Live

## Staying active, involved, and engaged with Vivie



People often worry that moving into a senior living community means giving things up—independence, hobbies, community involvement, or an active lifestyle. But communities like The Rushseba by Vivie in Rush City, The Levande by Vivie in Cambridge, and Timber Pines by Vivie in Pine City are creating spaces where people form new friendships, explore interests, and stay connected to the area they call home.

For many residents, daily life feels less like slowing down and more like staying involved. Calendars are filled with opportunities to gather with neighbors, try something new, spend time outdoors, participate in wellness programs, and welcome local residents and community groups.

In smaller communities especially, familiar faces, local traditions, and community events continue to play an important role in everyday life. Senior living communities throughout the area are finding ways to strengthen those relationships while creating opportunities for residents to stay active and engaged.

### Bringing generations together.

Some of the most memorable moments happen when generations spend time together.

At Timber Pines, a monthly program called Little Hands and Golden Hearts Art Hour brings young children together with residents to create art side by side. During one gathering, residents and their young guests learned about spring

hatchings before making colorful bird nests filled with baby birds, feathers, and googly eyes. Another celebration featured handmade maracas, music, dancing, and a festive Cinco de Mayo theme.

The events are intentionally simple and welcoming, giving residents, children, parents, and grandparents opportunities to spend time together in a relaxed environment.



### Welcoming families and neighbors.

That same spirit carries into other gatherings across the region.

At The Levande, the annual trick-or-treat event welcomes local families into the community each fall, as residents hand out candy to children. During the holiday season, a local church choir visits to share Christmas hymns, while students from the same church brighten the season by bringing gifts for residents.

At The Rushseba, an outdoor playground creates a gathering place for residents and visiting children. Shared outdoor spaces

like walking paths, gardens, and patios help make visits feel active and welcoming for all ages.

### Keeping family traditions close.

For many residents, family life remains an important part of community living. Sharon Jaques and her husband, Lowell, moved to The Rushseba when Lowell started needing more support. For Sharon, maintaining family traditions and staying active in her community have remained important parts of her life.

“We have five kids and nine grandchildren,” Sharon said. “They’re used to coming and being fed, so I can still do that here. We one time had one of our Thanksgiving meals here.”

Moments like those help communities feel welcoming not only for residents, but also for the families and friends who continue sharing in everyday life and celebrations.

### Staying curious and involved.

Life in senior living communities today often includes opportunities to continue longtime hobbies, rediscover interests, or try something entirely new.

door to conversation, reflection, and self-expression.

Creativity also takes center stage at The Rushseba, where residents participated in a Paint and Sip class led by a local artist. Guided through a spring-themed painting featuring daisies and ladybugs, residents added their own imaginative touches while enjoying time together.

Programs like these offer opportunities for residents to continue learning while building friendships around shared interests.

### Traveling without leaving home.

At Timber Pines, one of the most popular activities is Armchair Travel, a resident-led experience that transforms common spaces into destinations around the world. Residents receive “passports” and airline “tickets” before setting off on virtual adventures to places like Greece, Ireland, Italy, Australia, Alaska, and the Old West.

Team members join the fun by dressing as flight attendants or in styles inspired by the featured location. Meals prepared by the culinary team reflect the distinctive foods of the destination, while residents and



At Timber Pines, residents took part in a weeklong artist residency led by artist Teresa Cox. Throughout the residency, residents explored color, pattern, and design while creating artwork that reflected their own personalities and experiences. The process meant more than painting alone—it opened the

family members share stories and memories from their own travels.

The experience blends entertainment, storytelling, food, and social connection in a way that encourages participation from residents and team members alike.

## Enjoying the outdoors.

Outdoor activities remain an important part of life throughout the year. Residents from all three communities enjoy opportunities to fish at local lakes, spend time on walking paths, or participate in gardening activities during the warmer months.

Gardening spaces have become especially popular gathering places. Residents plant flowers, vegetables, and herbs they can continue tending throughout the season.

## There's always something happening.

For residents concerned that they might run out of things to do, Kathy Lentz's experience tells a different story.

Kathy moved to Timber Pines after downsizing and quickly became an active part of community life. She founded the popular Armchair Travel presentations and regularly leads a weekend exercise class for residents at the wellness center.

"There's a monthly schedule, we get of all the daily activities, and there is anything you can imagine from playing cards to bingo, musical entertainment," Kathy said. "We have movies every Friday night. There's happy hour on Friday. So there's just something for everyone here."

Music, entertainment, clubs, games, and social gatherings all help fill community calendars throughout the year. "I do enjoy many of the activities they have here," Sharon Jaques said. "We like when they have music groups come in and there's several of them that we really enjoy."

Amenities across the communities help support an active lifestyle. Libraries, art studios, game rooms, entertainment spaces, outdoor spaces, and welcoming lounges provide places for residents to stay engaged and spend time together throughout the day.

## Wellness beyond exercise.

Wellness means more than simply staying physically active. It also includes maintaining social relationships, staying mentally engaged, building routines, and continuing to participate in activities that bring enjoyment and purpose.

At Timber Pines and The

Levande, wellness fairs invite both residents and members of the public to connect with health-care professionals, explore local resources, attend demonstrations, and participate in educational presentations.

## Supporting well-being in everyday life.

All three communities also feature wellness centers equipped with exercise equipment and staffed by wellness specialists who help residents work toward their individual goals. Group classes often include chair yoga, balance classes, stretching, strength training, and flexibility programs designed to support residents at different activity levels.

The goal is not simply exercise for exercise's sake — it's helping people continue doing the things they enjoy most.

For some residents, that may mean maintaining strength and balance so they can continue favorite activities and hobbies. For others, it means participating in social events, group outings, or spending time with children and grandchildren.

Across The Rushseba, The Levande, and Timber Pines, wellness increasingly focuses on helping residents maintain independence and continue leading a fulfilling life.

## Bringing the community together.

Many of the traditions residents enjoy throughout the year extend beyond walls of the communities themselves.



Seasonal events regularly bring together residents, family members, neighbors, and visitors from surrounding towns.

At The Levande, the annual Berry Festival and Classic Car Show welcomes guests for live music, cake and berries, refreshments, and a showcase of classic cars

from throughout the area. In the fall, the community hosts a Harvest Festival and Tractor Show featuring seasonal treats, live music, and family-friendly activities.



## Gathering around local history.

At Timber Pines, monthly presentations from the Pine City Area History Association have become a popular occasion to gather for residents and local community members. Each presentation explores a different topic connected to the area's history.

One presentation highlighting the history of Canoe Derby Days drew the largest audience in the series so far. Residents and guests who had participated in Canoe Derby Days years ago shared their own memories and experiences, turning the event into both a history lesson and a community conversation.

The Rushseba also finds ways to stay connected with the surrounding Rush City community. Residents have access to the adjoining

community center, creating additional opportunities to participate in local activities and events.

## Celebrating community life.

Community celebrations remain another important part of life. The Rushseba marked its fifth anniversary last year with

a gathering that welcomed residents, families, team members, and neighbors for live music, treats, and a petting zoo.

Events like these reflect something important about senior living communities in our area: they're closely connected to the larger communities around them.

Residents aren't separated from local communities. They remain part of the traditions, celebrations, volunteer efforts, friendships, and everyday moments that continue to shape life across the region.

And for many people, that sense of belonging matters just as much as any amenity or activity calendar.

## Looking at senior living differently.

Today's senior living communities are evolving alongside the people who call them home.

In our area in particular, communities like The Rushseba, The Levande, and Timber Pines are offering ways for residents to remain active, curious, socially engaged, and connected to the communities they know and love.

Whether it's sharing stories about local history, tending a garden, trying a new hobby, gathering with neighbors, or connecting across generations, daily life for residents often centers around participation and relationships.

For people considering senior living for themselves or a loved one, those experiences are helping redefine what community living can look like—not as a step away from life, but as another way to continue living it fully.



Scan the QR code or reach out to our team to learn more.

**Donna Robinson**  
The Levande  
(763) 325-0102

**Kristine Heninger**  
Timber Pines and The Rushseba  
(612) 357-9509

[connect.vivie.org/experience-ec-communities](https://connect.vivie.org/experience-ec-communities)

# MN physicians stress sun safety

Now that summer weather has arrived, Minnesota physicians are urging their fellow Minnesotans to take the summer sun seriously and take precautions to prevent skin cancer.

“Skin cancer is one of the most common forms of cancer in the United States,” said MMA President Lisa Mattson, MD. “Ultraviolet (UV) radiation is a proven human carcinogen, and we must all take the steps necessary to limit our exposure and decrease the risk of skin cancer.”

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) report that each year, about 6.1 million adults are treated for basal cell and squamous cell carcinomas, the two most common types of skin cancer, at a cost of about \$8.9

billion. According to CDC data in 2021, 90,365 people were diagnosed with melanoma, and 8,224 died from that form of cancer.

The CDC recommends taking the following steps to prevent skin cancer:

- Stay out of the sun as much as possible between 10 am and 4 pm
  - Wear clothing that covers arms and legs
  - Wear a hat with a wide brim to shade face, head, ears, and neck
  - Wear sunglasses that wrap around and block both UVA and UVB rays
  - Use sunscreen with SPF 15 or higher
  - Avoid indoor tanning machines
- The Minnesota Medical Association



# PUBLIC NOTICES

## PUBLIC HEARING

### CITY OF EAST BETHEL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE: The City of East Bethel Planning Commission will hold a public hearing to review the following:

Consideration of a Concept Plan for development of approximately 26.56 acres located south of 185th Avenue NE, west of Highway 65, and north of Whispering Pine Drive. The concept plan includes a proposed multi-tenant commercial / light-industrial employment-oriented building and associated future development areas.

The Planning Commission will review the concept and provide comments and recommendations regarding planning, zoning, infrastructure, and land use considerations. Concept Plan review is advisory only and does not constitute approval of any future land use applications.

The hearing will be held in the East Bethel City Hall located at 2241 221st Ave NE on Tuesday June 23rd, 2026, at or about 7:00 pm

Owner/Applicant: T&G Land Inc. / Final Approach Development. PID# :323323310008

If you desire to be heard in

reference to this matter, you are encouraged to attend the scheduled public hearing or submit written comments to City Hall prior to the hearing.

Comments can be emailed to Eric.Johnson@ci.east-bethel.mn.us or via US MAIL to City of East Bethel, 2241 221st Street, East Bethel, MN 55011

SIGNED: Eric Johnson, Senior Planner  
Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on June 11, 2026

## PROBATE

### STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF ISANTI DISTRICT COURT TENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT PROBATE DIVISION

Court File No.:  
**ORDER AND NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION OF INTESTACY, DETERMINATION OF HEIRSHIP, APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

In Re: Estate of Karl William Kriesel a/k/a Karl W. Kriesel, Decedent.

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND CREDITORS:

It is Ordered and Notice is hereby given that on June 30 2026 at 2:00 PM, a hearing will be held remotely

by this Court at the Isanti County Government Center, 555 18th Avenue SW, Cambridge, Minnesota, for adjudication of intestacy and determination of heirship of the Decedent, and for the appointment of Diane A. Kriesel, whose address is 7466 313th Avenue NE, North Branch, MN 55056, as personal representative of the estate of the Decedent in an UNSUPERVISED administration. Any objections to the petition must be filed with the Court prior to or raised at the hearing. If proper, and no objections are filed or raised, the Personal Representative will be appointed with full power to administer the Estate, including the power to collect all assets, to pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, to sell real and personal property, and to do all necessary acts for the Estate.

Notice is also given that (subject to Minn. Stat. §524.3-801) all creditors having claims against the Estate are required to present the claims to the Personal Representative or to the Court Administrator within four (4) months after the date of this Notice or said claims will be barred.

Judge of District Court: Klossner, John (Judge)

Court Administration: Erin Boettcher

Nathan Fuglestad Attorney for

Petitioner  
FUGLESTAD LAW OFFICE  
P.O. Box 277,  
6349 Main St.  
North Branch, MN 55056  
(651) 674-6259  
Att. Reg. No. 223839  
Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on June 4, 11, 2026

### STATE OF MINNESOTA ISANTI COUNTY DISTRICT COURT 10TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

File Number: 30-PR-26-34  
Case Type: Formal Unsupervised  
**Notice and Order for Hearing on Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy, Determination of Heirship, and Appointment of Personal Representative and Notice to Creditors**

In Re The Estate Of Dennis James Frovarp, Deceased

It is ordered and notice is given that on June 30, 2026 at 2:00PM (REMOTE) hearing will be held at 555 18th Avenue SW, Cambridge, MN 55008 for the formal adjudication of intestacy and determination of heirship of the Decedent, and for the appointment of:

Name: Audrey L. Frovarp  
Address: 1637 323rd Ave NW, Cambridge MN 55008

as Personal Representative of the Estate of the Decedent in: an

unsupervised administration. Any objections to the petition should be filed with the Court prior to or raised at the hearing. Note: You will need to pay a filing fee when you file the objection. If you cannot afford the fee, you can ask for a fee waiver (see Minnesota Judicial Branch website (mncourt.gov/forms).

If proper and if no objections are filed or raised, the personal representative will be appointed with full power to administer the Estate including the power to collect all assets, to pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, to sell real and personal property, and to do all necessary acts for the Estate.

Notice is also given that (subject to Minn. Stat. S 524.3-801 ) all creditors having claims against the Estate are required to present the claims to the personal representative or to the Court Administrator within four months after the date of this Notice or the claims will be barred.

By the Court: Judge Carrie Doom  
Judge of District Court or Court Administrator

Dated: Attorney for Personal Representative

Name: Randolph W. Johnson  
Firm: Attorney at Law Address: PO Box 490433 Blaine, MN 55449

Attorney License No.: 01286107  
Email: rwjohnsonlaw@hotmail.com

Telephone: 612-309-4940  
Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on June 11, 18, 2026

## NOTICES

### SUMMARY PUBLICATION OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING – JUNE 1, 2026

The complete minutes are available for public inspection at the office of the City Administrator, 300 3rd Ave. NE, Cambridge, Minnesota.

Members Present: Mayor James Godfrey; Council Members Aaron Berg, Bob Shogren, Molly Christian, and Mark Ziebarth.

- Called meeting to order at 6:00 pm
  - Swore in Sergeants Tanner Peetz, Peter Erickson and Samantha Vigstol
  - Approved Consent Agenda Items A through F
  - Approved R26-040 Approval of 2026A Bonds
  - Approved Downtown Grant Application - 115 S Adams St
- Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on June 11, 2026

## CITY OF ISANTI ORDINANCE 842

### ORDINANCE NO. 842

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 840 ADOPTED ON DECEMBER 16, 2025, ORDINANCE NO. 831 ADOPTED ON JANUARY 6, 2025, ORDINANCE NO. 823 ADOPTED ON DECEMBER 17, 2024; ORDINANCE NO. 809 ADOPTED ON MAY 7, 2024; ORDINANCE NO. 797 ADOPTED ON 9-19-2023; ORDINANCE NO. 765 ADOPTED ON 12-21-2021; ORDINANCE NO. 727 ADOPTED ON 4-7-2020 TITLED ENUMERATION OF FEES.

### THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ISANTI DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1 - Amendment. Ordinance No. 840; Ordinance No. 831; Ordinance No. 823; Ordinance No. 809; Ordinance No. 797; Ordinance No. 765; Ordinance No. 727 Enumeration of Fees, B. Building Permits and Inspections shall be hereby amended as follows:

#### B. Building permits and inspections.

(1) Table 1: Valuation fee schedule. Permit and inspection fees for residential building, commercial building, fire suppression, fire alarm, commercial mechanical, and commercial plumbing. The minimum fee for processing these permits is \$75.

Value of Work	Fee
\$0 to \$2,000	\$75
\$2,001 to \$25,000	\$83.50 for first \$2,000 + \$16.55/each additional \$1,000 or fraction thereof, to and including \$25,000
\$25,001 to \$50,000	\$464.15 for first \$25,000 + 12/each additional \$1,000 or fraction thereof, to and including \$50,000
\$50,001 to \$100,000	\$764.15 for first \$50,000 + \$8.45/each additional \$1,000 or fraction thereof, to and including \$100,000
\$100,001 to \$500,000	\$1,186.65 for first \$100,000 + \$6.75 each additional \$1,000 or fraction thereof, to and including \$500,000
\$500,001 to \$1,000,000	\$3,886.65 for first \$500,000 + \$5.50/each additional \$1,000 or fraction thereof, to and including \$1,000,000
\$1,000,001+	\$6,636.65 for first \$1,000,000 + \$4.50/each additional \$1,000 or fraction thereof

(2) Plan review fees.

(a) Table 2: Miscellaneous plan review fees.

Type of Plan Review	Fee
Minimum plan review fee	\$50
Plan review for building, fire suppression, and fire alarm permits	Refer to Table 1. A 65% plan review may apply.
Plan review for all commercial mechanical permits	10% of permit fee for project valuation over \$30,000
Plan review for similar plans	Set forth in Minnesota Rules 1300.0160

In the event an applicant submits an application that requires plan review and decides not to proceed with the building project after the plan review has been completed, the plan review fee will be billed by the jurisdiction to the permit applicant.

(b) Table 3: Plumbing plan review. Plumbing system plans and specifications that are submitted to the City of Isanti for review shall be accompanied by the appropriate plan examination fees, which shall be paid prior to plan approval. The City of Isanti shall charge the following fees for plan reviews and audits of plumbing installations for public, commercial, and industrial buildings:

Systems with both water distribution and drain, waste and vent systems and having:	
25 or fewer drainage fixture units	\$150
26 to 50 drainage fixture units	\$250
51 to 150 drainage fixture units	\$350
151 to 249 drainage fixture units	\$500
250 or more drainage fixture units	\$3 per drainage fixture unit to a maximum of \$4,000
Interceptors, separator, or catch basins	\$70 per interceptor, separator, or catch basin design
Building sewer service only	\$150
Building water service only	\$150
Building water distribution system only, no drainage system	\$5 per supply fixture unit or \$150, whichever is greater
Storm drainage system	A minimum fee of \$150 or \$50 per drain opening, up to a maximum of \$500 and 70 per interceptor, separator, or catch basin design

Manufactured home park or campground, 1 to 25 sites \$300

Manufactured home park or campground, 26 to 50 sites \$350

Manufactured home park or campground, 51 to 125 sites \$400

Manufactured home park or campground, more than 125 sites \$500

Revision to previously reviewed or incomplete plans:

Review of plans for which the City has issued 2 or more requests for additional information, per review \$100 or 10% of the original fee, whichever is greater

Proposer requested revision with no increase in project scope \$50 or 10% of original fee, whichever is greater

Proposer requested revision with an increase in project scope \$50 plus the difference between the original project fee and the revised project fee

**CITY OF ISANTI ORDINANCE 842 CONTINUED**

- (c) State surcharge on building, mechanical, and plumbing permits. In addition to the permit fees established in this fee schedule, a surcharge fee shall be collected on all permits issued for work governed by the Minnesota State Building Code in accordance with Min. Stat., § 326B.148.
- (d) Refunds. The jurisdiction may refund up to 80% of the permit fees in which no work has been done and no inspections have been made. Requests for refunds must be made by the permit applicant in writing within 180 days of issuance. Within 10 business days of receipt, the Contractor must review the refund request and determine the amount to be refunded or deny the refund request for cause. No refunds will be approved or granted for the following: plan review fees, re-inspection fees, or any other services that have previously been rendered.
- (e) Work without a permit. Work commenced without a permit may result in additional fees as specified in Minnesota Rules 1300.0160, Subpart 8. Investigative fees are identified in Table 6 of this Fee Schedule.
- (f) Validity, expiration and suspension or revocation of permits. The validity, expiration, and suspension or revocation of permits shall be as provided by Minnesota Rules 1300.0120, Subparts 10, 11, and 12.

(3) Table 4: Residential Mechanical permit fees for structures regulated under the MN Residential Code.

Permit	Fee
New construction mechanical (includes HVAC system, mechanical ventilation system and gas lines)	\$125 per unit
Addition, alteration, remodel or replacement	\$100
Basement finish mechanical	\$100
Fireplace	\$100
Garage Heater	\$100
Gas Lines	\$100
Miscellaneous mechanical appliance	\$100
All other minor mechanical work	\$100
Furnace, fireplace, air conditioner units, garage heater, gas lines, miscellaneous mechanical appliance, or other minor mechanical work installed and inspected, simultaneously	\$157 per dwelling unit

(4) Table 5: Residential Plumbing Permit fees for structures regulated under the MN Residential Code.

Permit	Fee
New construction plumbing	\$125 per dwelling unit
Addition, alteration, remodel or replacement	\$100
Basement finish	\$100
Water heater	\$112
Water conditioning system	\$112
Miscellaneous plumbing fixtures	\$112
Municipal sewer connection	\$87
Municipal water connection	\$87
Sewer or waterline repair	\$102
Irrigation system	
Backflow prevention	
Water heater, water conditioning system, municipal sewer connection, municipal water connection, irrigation system, backflow prevention, or minor plumbing work installed and inspected simultaneously	\$167

(5) Table 6: Other permits and fees.

Permit	Fee
Residential Accessory structure > 200 square feet	Refer to Table 1. A 65% plan review may apply. Max fee \$850 includes plan review.
Structure additions, alterations	Refer to Table 1. A 65% plan review may apply.
Structure remodel	Refer to Table 1. A 65% plan review may apply.
Basement finish*	\$150
Deck	A 65% plan review may apply
Fence over 7 feet high	Refer to Table 1. A 65% plan review may apply
Fence over 7 feet high	Refer to Table 1. A 65% plan review may apply
Residential roofing	\$102
Residential Siding	\$102
Residential window/door replacement (same size)	\$102
Commercial demolition	Refer to Table 1. A 65% plan review may apply
Residential demolition	\$150 A 65% plan review may apply
Manufactured home setup (foundation and connections only)	\$175
Solar/photovoltaic systems residential (up to 3.5kW)	\$175
Solar/photovoltaic systems residential (over 3.5kW)	Refer to Table 1. A 65% plan review may apply
Solar/photovoltaic systems commercial	Refer to Table 1. A 65% plan review may apply

Association, commercial, industrial, multifamily irrigation system	Refer to Table 1. A 65% plan review may apply
Miscellaneous commercial or residential building permits for which no fee is specifically indicated	Refer to Table 1. A 65% plan review may apply
Temporary heating equipment	\$150
Inspections which no fee is specifically indicated	\$125 per hour
Additional plan review required by changes, additions, or revisions to previously approved plans	\$95 per hour (minimum charge of 1 hour)
Reinspection fees	\$95 per hour/inspection, whichever is greater (minimum charge of 1 hour)
<b>Permit</b>	<b>Fee</b>
Inspections outside of normal business hours	\$150 per hour (minimum charge of 2 hours)
Change of use/occupancy	Refer to Table 1. A 65% plan review may apply
In-ground pool	Refer to Table 1. A 65% plan review may apply
Investigative review	100% of permit fee
Temporary certificate of occupancy	Residential \$250, Commercial \$450
Septic system — residential new or replacement	\$350
Septic system — commercial new or replacement	Refer to Table 1. A 65% plan review may apply
Septic system — tank replacement/holding tank	\$175
Operating permit	\$200 annually
Maintenance/pumping permit	\$10/triennial

\*Basement finishes that have rough-in and final inspections conducted concurrently (covering framing, insulation, mechanical, plumbing and building aspects) will be charged a \$150 permit fee plus 65% plan review. Separate permits for mechanical and plumbing. Additional inspections will be subject to reinspection rates.

(6) Table 7: Rental licensing fees.

Biennial Inspection and Fee	
Condo	\$150 per dwelling unit
Single family	\$250 per dwelling unit
Duplex	\$300 per building
Triplex	\$450 per building
Multifamily (4+ units)	\$250 per building + \$25 per unit
Reinspection fee for multi-family	\$95 per hour/inspection — whichever is greater (one hour minimum charge)
1 to 15 days late fee for all licenses	50% of license fee
16+ days late fee for all licenses	100% of license fee
Point of conversion fee (existing homes converting to a rental property)	\$500

**B. Fees for Services Administered by the City of Isanti's Designated Building Official**

The administration and issuance of permits, along with the collection of fees and services administered by the City's Designated Building Official shall be conducted in accordance with the Code of the City of Isanti, Minnesota Statutes and Administrative Rules, and as provided by in this Ordinance. Fees are to be commensurate with the service provided. Permit fees not specifically identified within this Ordinance are based on valuation determined in, Subdivision 8.

**Subd. 1. Fee Multiplier Table (FMT).** The following table establishes permit and inspection fees for all projects that require plan review or are not otherwise specifically identified within this fee schedule, including non-residential and multi-family mechanical permits. The minimum fee for these permits is \$125. The cost of plan review is separate, if applicable.

Valuation	Permit Fee
\$1 to \$4,000	\$125.00
\$4,001 to \$25,000	\$125.00 for the first \$4,000 plus \$16.55 for each additional \$1,000 or fraction thereof, to and including \$25,000
\$25,001 to \$50,000	\$464.15 for the first \$25,000 plus \$12 for each additional \$1,000 or fraction thereof, to and including \$50,000
\$50,001 to \$100,000	\$764.15 for the first \$50,000 plus \$8.45 for each additional \$1,000 or fraction thereof, to and including \$100,000
\$100,001 to \$500,000	\$1,186.65 for the first \$100,000 plus \$6.75 for each additional \$1,000 or fraction thereof, to and including \$500,000
\$501,000 to \$1,000,000	\$3,886.65 for the first \$500,000 plus \$5.50 for each additional \$1,000 or fraction thereof, to and including \$1,000,000; and
\$1,000,001 and up	\$6,636.65 for the first \$1,000,000 plus \$4.50 for each additional \$1,000 or fraction thereof

**Subd. 2. Plumbing Permit Fees for Non-residential or Multi-Family Structures Regulated under the Minnesota State Building Code and Minn. R. 1305.** The following permit fee table is based upon the construction valuation of the plumbing system. The cost of plan review is separate, if applicable.

Valuation/Project Details	Permit Fee
\$0 to \$1,500	\$135.00
\$1,501 to \$2,500	\$135.00 for the first \$1,500, plus \$43 for each additional \$500 or fraction thereof, to and including \$2,500;
\$2,501 to \$5,000	\$221.00 for the first \$2,500, plus \$28 for each additional \$500 or fraction thereof, to and including \$5,000;



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**CITY OF ISANTI ORDINANCE 842 CONTINUED**

Valuation/Project Details	Permit Fee
\$5,001 to \$25,000	\$361.00 for the first \$5,000, plus \$53 for each additional \$1,000 or fraction thereof, to and including \$25,000;
\$25,001 to \$50,000	\$1,421 for the first \$25,000, plus \$51 for each additional \$1,000 or fraction thereof, to and including \$50,000;
\$50,001 to \$500,000	\$2,696 for the first \$50,000, plus \$47 for each additional \$10,000 or fraction thereof, to and including \$500,000;
\$500,001 to \$3,000,000	\$4,811 for the first \$500,000, plus \$61 for each additional \$50,000 or fraction thereof, to and including \$3,000,000; or
\$3,000,001 and over	\$7,861 for the first \$3,000,000, plus \$51 for each additional \$100,000 or fraction thereof;
Manufactured home park or campground	\$25 for each site, minimum charge of \$135
Single fixture permit	\$210.00

**Subd. 3. Plumbing Permit Fees for Structures Regulated under the Minnesota Residential Code.** The following table establishes plumbing permit fees for one and two-family residential structures.

Type of Plumbing Permit	Permit Fee, Per Dwelling Unit
New construction	\$150.00
Addition, alteration, remodel, or replacement	\$125.00
Basement finish – Owner-occupied, non-rental (owner performed work)	Included with building permit provided inspections are performed together (e.g. framing, rough-in plumbing and mechanical)
Basement finish – Rental property and/or contractor-performed work	\$125.00
Water heater, conditioning system, sewer or water connection, irrigation, backflow prevention, miscellaneous plumbing improvement	\$125.00 each
Two or more improvements installed and inspected at the same time: Water heater, conditioning system, sewer or water connection, irrigation, backflow prevention, other miscellaneous plumbing improvements	\$185.00

**Subd. 4. Mechanical Permit Fees for Structures Regulated under the Minnesota Residential Code.** The following table establishes mechanical permit fees for one and two-family residential structures:

Type of Mechanical Permit	Permit Fee, Per Dwelling Unit
New construction (HVAC, mechanical ventilation system, and gas lines)	\$150.00
Addition, alteration, remodel, or replacement	\$125.00

Type of Mechanical Permit	Permit Fee, Per Dwelling Unit
Basement finish – Owner-occupied, non-rental (owner performed work)	Included with building permit provided inspections are performed together (e.g. framing, rough-in plumbing and mechanical)
Basement finish – Rental property and/or contractor-performed work	\$125.00
Furnace, fireplace, air conditioner, garage heater, gas lines, miscellaneous appliance, miscellaneous HVAC improvement	\$125.00 each
Two or more improvements installed and inspected at the same time: Furnace, fireplace, air conditioner, garage heater, gas lines, miscellaneous appliance, other miscellaneous HVAC improvement	\$185.00

**Subd. 5 Fire Protection System Permits.** The following table establishes permit and inspection fees for administration of fire protection permits as regulated according to Section 105.7.1 through 105.7.25 of the Minnesota State Fire Code (MSFC). The cost of plan review is separate, if applicable.

Valuation/Project Details	Permit Fee
\$0 to \$1,500	\$135.00
\$1,501 to \$2,500	\$135.00 for the first \$1,500, plus \$43 for each additional \$500 or fraction thereof, to and including \$2,500;
\$2,501 to \$5,000	\$221.00 for the first \$2,500, plus \$28 for each additional \$500 or fraction thereof, to and including \$5,000;
\$5,001 to \$25,000	\$361.00 for the first \$5,000, plus \$53 for each additional \$1,000 or fraction thereof, to and including \$25,000;
\$25,001 to \$50,000	\$1,421 for the first \$25,000, plus \$51 for each additional \$1,000 or fraction thereof, to and including \$50,000;
\$50,001 to \$500,000	\$2,696 for the first \$50,000, plus \$47 for each additional \$10,000 or fraction thereof, to and including \$500,000;
\$500,001 to \$3,000,000	\$4,811 for the first \$500,000, plus \$61 for each additional \$50,000 or fraction thereof, to and including \$3,000,000; or
\$3,000,001 and over	\$7,861 for the first \$3,000,000, plus \$51 for each additional \$100,000 or fraction thereof;
Operational permits	\$350.00, duration of permit determined by the Fire Code Official or their designee
Minor Fire Protection (sprinkler/fire alarm)	\$265.00, includes plan review and shall apply: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Relocation or installation of 20 sprinkler heads or fewer</li> <li>Modification or replacement of a fire alarm control panel</li> </ul>

**Subd. 6. Plan Review Fees.** The following fees apply when an administrative or technical plan review is completed for all projects that are not otherwise specifically identified within this fee schedule. Plan review is determined by the Designated Building Official or their designee. A permit applicant will be assessed one hundred percent (100%) of the plan review fee, for plan review and processing services, whether or not a permit is issued.

**(a) Building & Mechanical Permit Plan Review.**

- (1) 65% of the permit fee as calculated in the FMT in Subd. 1.

- (2) Plan review fees for similar plans are set forth in Minn. R. 1300.0160.
  - (3) Where a plan review fee is performed and charged for residential, the minimum fee for plan review is \$81.25.
  - (4) Where a plan review fee is performed and charged for non-residential and multi-family, the minimum fee is \$150.00.
- (b) Plan Revisions.** Applicant-submitted changes or incomplete plans for all projects:
- (1) Review of plans for which the Designated Building Official or their designee has issued two (2) or more requests for additional information: \$95 per hour with a minimum of one-half (1/2) hour.
  - (2) Additional plan review required for changes, additions, or revisions to previously approved plans: \$95 per hour with a minimum of one-half (1/2) hour.
  - (3) Applicant-requested revision with an increase in project scope. \$50 plus the difference between the original project fee and the revised project fee.
- (c) Abandoned Permit Applications.** If an application requiring plan review is submitted, and the applicant elects not to proceed following completion of the plan review or the Contractor deems the application abandoned pursuant to Minn. R. 1300.0120, Subp. 9, plan review services rendered shall be billed in accordance with this fee schedule.

**(d) Non-Residential or Multi-Family Plumbing and Fire Construction Permit Plan Review:** the following table establishes plan review and audit fees, unless otherwise indicated. These fees are based on the construction valuation of the performed work. This does not include the cost of the permit.

Valuation/Project Details	Plan Review Fee
\$0 to \$1,500	\$135.00
\$1,501 to \$2,500	\$135.00 for the first \$1,500, plus \$28 for each additional \$500 or fraction thereof, to and including \$2,500;
\$2,501 to \$5,000	\$191.00 for the first \$2,500, plus \$25 for each additional \$500 or fraction thereof, to and including \$5,000;
\$5,001 to \$25,000	\$316.00 for the first \$5,000, plus \$33 for each additional \$1,000 or fraction thereof, to and including \$25,000;
\$25,001 to \$50,000	\$976 for the first \$25,000, plus \$31 for each additional \$1,000 or fraction thereof, to and including \$50,000;
\$50,001 to \$500,000	\$1,751 for the first \$50,000, plus \$23 for each additional \$10,000 or fraction thereof, to and including \$500,000;
\$500,001 to \$3,000,000	\$2,786 for the first \$500,000, plus \$41 for each additional \$100,000 or fraction thereof, to and including \$3,000,000; and
\$3,000,001 and over	\$3,811 for the first \$3,000,000, plus \$33 for each additional \$100,000 or fraction thereof;
Manufactured home park or campground (plumbing only)	One to 25 sites: \$300 26 to 50 sites: \$350 51 to 125 sites: \$400 More than 125 sites: \$500

**Subd. 7. Industrialized Modular or Prefabricated Buildings.** The following fees apply to plan review and inspections for industrialized or modular buildings as defined in Minn. Stat. § 326B.103, Subd. 8a, and prefabricated buildings as defined in Minn. Stat. § 326B.103, Subd. 10a:

- (a) **Inspections and Audit Fees.** Inspection and audits for industrialized modular or prefabricated buildings shall be billed at \$125.00 per hour, with a one (1) hour minimum per inspection or audit.
- (b) **Plan Review Fees.** Plan review of building plans, specifications, installation instructions, quality-control manuals, systems manuals, and other documents reasonably necessary for review shall be billed at \$125.00 per hour, with a one (1) hour minimum per review.

**Subd. 8. Project/Construction Valuation Determination.** Valuation shall be assessed in accordance with Minn. R. 1300.0160. Valuation is determined using information published by the State of Minnesota, the International Code Council (ICC), and as outlined in the following Building Valuation Data (BVD) table based on regional market conditions.

Description	Value Per Square Foot
Slab on grade	\$17.00
Crawl space	\$22.00
Unfinished basement (new home or addition)	\$31.50
Basement finish (new home)	\$56.50
Basement finish (existing home)	\$25.00
Main/first floor area (new home or addition)	\$150.00
Second floor area (new home or addition)	\$125.00
Attached garage	\$75.00
Detached garage (slab on grade or frost protected footings)	\$60.00
Post & beam accessory structure, interior finished	\$60.00
Post & beam accessory structure, unfinished shell	\$25.00
Lean-to	\$25.00
Carport or gazebo	\$50.00
Garage conversion to living space	\$75.00
Porch, open	\$55.00
Porch, 3-season	\$130.00
Porch, 3-season on existing deck	\$100.00
Porch, screened or breezeway, non-conditioned area	\$90.00
Deck	\$45.00

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**CITY OF ISANTI ORDINANCE 842 CONTINUED**

Description	Value Per Square Foot
Roof over existing deck	\$50.00
In-ground pool	\$40.00
Above-ground pool	\$15.00
Remodel, repair, alteration, other	Depends on the scope of work and required plan review and inspections

**Subd. 9. Other Permits and Fees.** The following table identifies costs for permits or fees associated with administration of either the Minnesota State Building Code or the Code of the City of Isanti. The minimum fee for the following permits is \$125. Plan review is charged according to Subd. 6 of this fee schedule, unless otherwise identified.

Description	Cost (FMT = Fee Multiplier Table)
Accessory structure building permit, residential	Refer to the FMT in Subd. 1 Maximum fee: \$850, includes plan review
Addition, alteration, remodel, or repair building permit	Refer to the FMT in Subd. 1
Agriculture permit exemption administrative application	\$250, includes preliminary site plan review
Basement finish building permit	Refer to the FMT in Subd. 1 Maximum fee: \$500, includes plan review
Change of use/occupancy	Refer to the FMT in Subd. 1 Minimum fee: \$300
Consultants, cost for service	If the actual cost to the City of Isanti for service provided by a contracted consultant is greater than indicated by this fee schedule, the greater rate shall be paid by the applicant.
Deck building permit	Refer to the FMT in Subd. 1 Maximum fee: \$675, includes plan review (pertains only if a residential deck is attached to the primary dwelling)
Demolition building permit, residential, non-residential, or multi-family	\$300, includes two (2) site inspections and administrative plan review
Fence building permit, over seven (7) feet high	Refer to the FMT in Subd. 1
Inspection, no fee specifically indicated	\$95 per hour, one (1) hour minimum
Inspection, outside normal business hours	\$150 per hour, two (2) hour minimum
Inspection, reinspection	\$95 per hour, one (1) hour minimum
Investigation	In addition to, but not to exceed, the original permit fee.
Manufactured home set-up building permit	\$375, includes mechanical and plumbing inspections and plan review
Mechanical single appliance permit, non-residential or multi-family	\$210.00

Description	Cost (FMT = Fee Multiplier Table)
Mechanical temporary heating equipment, non-residential or multi-family	\$210.00
Miscellaneous building permit, no fee specifically indicated	Refer to the FMT in Subd. 1
Moved-in structure building permit, residential	\$250 if the structure being moved is within the City of Isanti; or \$250 plus \$95/hour plus mileage at the current IRS standard rate if the structure is located outside the City of Isanti
Reissuance or renewal of a permit	Refer to the FMT in Subd. 1 and determined based on the remaining work to be completed. Minimum fee: \$50.00
Roof building permit, one and two-family residential	\$125.00
Siding building permit, one and two-family residential	\$125.00
Solar/Photovoltaic system building permit, one and two-family residential up to 3.5kW	\$175.00
Solar/Photovoltaic system building permit, one and two-family residential over 3.5kW	Refer to the FMT in Subd. 1
Solar/Photovoltaic system building permit, non-residential or multi-family	Refer to the FMT in Subd. 1
Window same size replacement building permit, one and two-family residential	\$125.00 per dwelling unit

**Subd. 10. State Surcharge.** In accordance with Minn. Stat. § 326B.148, a state surcharge shall be charged on all permits, if applicable.

**Subd. 11. Refunds.** The Designated Building Official may authorize refunds of up to eighty percent (80%) of the issued permit fee when no work has commenced and no inspections have been performed.

- (a) Requests must be submitted in writing by the permit applicant within one hundred eighty (180) days of permit issuance.
  - (1) Within (10) business days of receipt, the Designated Building Official or their designee shall review the request and determine the amount to be refunded or provide written justification if the request is denied.
- (b) Fees retained shall cover expenses incurred for services rendered by the city and/or its consultant(s).
- (c) Refunds shall only be issued to the original payee.
- (d) No refunds shall be granted for the following:
  - (1) Plan review fees;
  - (2) Re-inspection fees;
  - (3) State surcharge fees;
  - (4) Fraudulent applications;

(5) Expired, revoked, suspended, or invalid permits;

(6) Technology Service Charge, unless canceled within the same business day; or

(7) Contractor license verification.

**Subd. 12. Work Without a Permit.** If work requiring a permit under state law, rule, or the Code of the City of Isanti has commenced without first obtaining a permit, an investigation shall be conducted before a permit may be issued. Investigation fees are identified in Subd. 10 of this fee schedule. This fee is in addition to the permit fee and is due whether or not a permit is ultimately issued.

**Subd. 13. Abandonment, Expiration, Revocation/Suspension, or Validity.** The validity, expiration, suspension, and revocation of permits shall be governed by Minn. R. 1300.0120 and the following:

- (a) An application for a permit for any proposed work shall be considered abandoned one hundred eighty (180) days after the date of filing, except in the following cases:
  - (1) The application has been actively pursued in good faith by the applicant, as determined by the Designated Building Official or their designee; and
  - (2) A written request for an extension, not to exceed one hundred eighty (180) days, has been submitted with justifiable cause demonstrated, and the extension has been approved by the Designated Building Official or their designee.
- (b) Every permit issued shall expire unless the authorized work is commenced within one hundred eighty (180) days of issuance. The Designated Building Official or their designee may grant written extensions of time, not to exceed one hundred eighty (180) days, if the applicant demonstrates justifiable cause.
- (c) The Designated Building Official or their designee may suspend or revoke a permit if it was issued in error, if the application contained incorrect, inaccurate, or incomplete information, or if there is a violation of any state law, rule, or ordinance.
- (d) The issuance of a permit, or the approval of plans, specifications, or computations, shall not be construed as authorization for any violation of this code or any other ordinance of the City of Isanti. Any permit purporting to authorize work in violation of the code or other ordinances shall be invalid. A permit also becomes invalid if the authorized work is suspended or abandoned for more than one hundred eighty (180) days, commencing on the first day the work was suspended or abandoned.

**Subd. 14. Subsurface Sewage Treatment System (SSTS) Fees.** The following table identifies costs associated with SSTS administration and permits.

Description	Fee
SSTS: Type I, II, or III (new or replacement)	\$450.00 (includes soil verification)
SSTS: Type IV or V (new or replacement for performance or engineered systems)	\$375.00 + Actual Cost
Holding Tank (additional maintenance and operating permits required)	\$350.00 (includes first years' operating permit)
Soil Site Review (charged in addition to the land use application)	\$250.00 + \$100.00 per lot
SSTS Abandonment/Removal	\$125.00
SSTS Alteration or extension	\$200.00
Operating Permit	\$200.00 annually, or as determined by the Designated Building Official or their designee

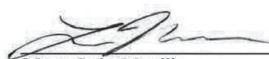
Description	Fee
Maintenance Permit	\$20.00
SSTS Reinspection	\$95.00 per hour, 1 hour minimum

**Subd. 15. Triennial Rental Licensing.** The following table identifies costs associated with administration of the City of Isanti's rental licensing program.

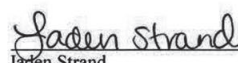
Type of Dwelling	License Fee
Condo	\$150.00 per dwelling unit
Townhome (attached or detached)	\$200.00 per dwelling unit
Single family dwelling	\$250.00 per dwelling unit
Duplex	\$300.00 per building
Multi-family (3+ units)	\$400.00 per building + \$25.00 per unit
Reinspection for condo, townhome, single family, or duplex	\$95.00 each, after the first reinspection
Reinspection for multi-family	\$95.00 per hour, one (1) hour minimum
Late application fee (following the expiration of the license)	1 – 15 days: 50% of the license fee 16+ days: 100% of the license fee
Point of conversion (existing homes)	\$500.00
Inspections requested outside of the rental licensing cycle (e.g. tenant concerns)	\$95.00 per hour, one (1) hour minimum
License reinstatement fee	Cost of the initial license, not to exceed \$500.00

**Section 2. Effective Date.** This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and publication according to law.

Adopted by the City Council this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of June 2026.

  
Mayor Luke Merrill

Attest:

  
Jaden Strand  
City Clerk/ Deputy HR Director

Posting Date: May 22, 2026  
Reading Date: June 2, 2026  
Publication Date: June 11, 2026  
Effective Date: June 11, 2026

Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on June 11, 2026



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**PUBLIC NOTICES CONTINUED**

**CITY OF ISANTI ORDINANCE 843**

ORDINANCE NO. 843 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 445 ADOPTED OCTOBER 21, 2008, ORDINANCE NO. 461 ADOPTED AUGUST 18, 2009, ORDINANCE NO. 470 ADOPTED NOVEMBER 17, 2009, ORDINANCE NO. 486 ADOPTED JUNE 15, 2010, ORDINANCE NO. 564 ADOPTED SEPTEMBER 17, 2013, ORDINANCE NO. 567 ADOPTED NOVEMBER 19, 2013, ORDINANCE NO. 608 ADOPTED MAY 19, 2015, ORDINANCE NO. 623 ADOPTED SEPTEMBER

15, 2015, ORDINANCE NO. 647 ADOPTED JUNE 21, 2016, ORDINANCE NO. 736 ADOPTED JULY 7, 2020, ORDINANCE NO. 748 ADOPTED DECEMBER 15, 2020, ORDINANCE NO. 775 ADOPTED OCTOBER 18, 2022, ORDINANCE NO. 798 ADOPTED NOVEMBER 8, 2023, ORDINANCE NO. 813 ADOPTED JULY 16, 2024 AND TITLED: FENCING, SCREENING AND LANDSCAPING. THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ISANTI DOES ORDAIN: Chapter 350

Section 1- Amendment. An Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 813; Ordinance No. 798; Ordinance No. 775; Ordinance No. 748; Ordinance No. 736; Ordinance No. 647; Ordinance No. 623; Ordinance No. 608; Ordinance No. 567; Ordinance No. 564; Ordinance No. 486; Ordinance No. 470; Ordinance No. 461 Ordinance 445, Titled: Article 15: Fencing, Screening, and Landscaping Subdivision 6, Table 8 shall be hereby amended as follows:

**TABLE 8: Prohibited Trees**

Not allowed to be planted within the City	
Acer negundo	Boxelder
Betula pendula	'Dalecarlica' Birch (aka – cut leaf weeping)
Rhamnus	Buckthorn
Ulmus pumila	Siberian Elm
Populus	Poplar
Populus deltoids	Cottonwood
All Fraxinus Species	All trees in the "Ash" species including but not limited to Green Ash, White Ash, Black Ash and Blue Ash

**Section 2- Effective Date.** This Ordinance takes effect upon its passage and publication in the official newspaper of the City of Isanti. Adopted by the City Council this 2nd day of June 2026.

Mayor Luke Merrill  
Attest: Jaden Strand  
City Clerk / Deputy HR Director  
Posting Date: May 20, 2026  
Reading Date: June 2, 2026  
Publication Date: June 11, 2026

Effective Date: June 11, 2026  
**Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on June 11, 2026**

**CITY OF ISANTI ORDINANCE 844**

**ORDINANCE NO. 844**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 445 ADOPTED OCTOBER 21, 2008, ORDINANCE NO. 446 ADOPTED NOVEMBER 18, 2008, ORDINANCE NO. 465 ADOPTED SEPTEMBER 15, 2009, ORDINANCE NO. 470 ADOPTED NOVEMBER 17, 2009, ORDINANCE NO. 491 ADOPTED OCTOBER 19, 2010, ORDINANCE NO. 501 ADOPTED MARCH 15, 2011, ORDINANCE NO. 505 ADOPTED APRIL 19, 2011, ORDINANCE NO. 512 ADOPTED JULY 5, 2011, ORDINANCE NO. 541 ADOPTED NOVEMBER 20, 2012, ORDINANCE NO. 564 ADOPTED SEPTEMBER 17, 2013, ORDINANCE NO. 568 ADOPTED NOVEMBER 19, 2013, ORDINANCE NO. 574 ADOPTED APRIL 1, 2014, ORDINANCE NO. 583 ADOPTED AUGUST 19, 2014, ORDINANCE NO. 592 ADOPTED JANUARY 20, 2015, ORDINANCE NO. 594 ADOPTED FEBRUARY 17, 2015, ORDINANCE NO. 595 ADOPTED MARCH 17, 2015, ORDINANCE NO. 609 ADOPTED MAY 19, 2015, ORDINANCE NO. 644 ADOPTED MAY 17, 2016, ORDINANCE NO. 714 ADOPTED JUNE 18, 2019, ORDINANCE NO. 734 ADOPTED JULY 7, 2020, ORDINANCE NO. 735 ADOPTED JULY 7, 2020, ORDINANCE NO. 751 ADOPTED JANUARY 5, 2021, ORDINANCE NO. 756 ADOPTED FEBRUARY 16, 2021, ORDINANCE NO. 782 ADOPTED JANUARY 17, 2023, ORDINANCE NO. 808 ADOPTED MARCH 14, 2024, ORDINANCE NO. 833 ADOPTED JANUARY 21, 2025, ORDINANCE NO. 834 ADOPTED JANUARY 21, 2025 AND ARTICLES TITLED ESTABLISHMENT OF DISTRICTS USE REGULATIONS, TIER ONE ZONING, AND SIGNS.

**THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ISANTI DOES ORDAIN:**

**Section 1- Amendment.** Ordinance No. 834; Ordinance No. 833; Ordinance No. 808; Ordinance No. 782; Ordinance No. 756; Ordinance No. 751; Ordinance No. 735; Ordinance No. 734; Ordinance No. 714; Ordinance No. 644; Ordinance No. 609; Ordinance No. 595; Ordinance No. 594; Ordinance No. 592; Ordinance No. 583; Ordinance No. 574; Ordinance No. 568; Ordinance No. 564; Ordinance No. 541; Ordinance No. 512; Ordinance No. 505; Ordinance No. 501; Ordinance No. 491; Ordinance No. 470; Ordinance No. 465; Ordinance No. 446; Ordinance No. 445 codified in Chapter 350 Zoning of City Code shall be hereby amended as follows:

**Chapter 350  
Zoning**

**ARTICLE 3: ESTABLISHMENT OF ZONING DISTRICTS**

**Subdivision 1: Intent**

The following Zoning Districts are hereby established to meet the intent and purposes of the Comprehensive Plan. The Comprehensive Plan and the Zoning Ordinance are created for the purpose of protecting the public health, safety, and general welfare of the of the City of Isanti. For the purposes of this Ordinance, the City of Isanti is hereby divided and classified into the following zoning districts:

**Residential Districts**

- R-1 Single Family Residential District.
- R-1A Rural Residential District (*Ord No. 735*)
- R-2 Single Family Residential District.
- R-3A Low Density Multiple Family Residential District.



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**CITY OF ISANTI ORDINANCE 844 CONTINUED**

R-3B Medium Density Multiple Family Residential District. R-4 Multiple Family Dwelling District.

**Business Districts**

- B-1 Central Business District (CBD)
- B-2 General Business District (GBD)
- B-3 Neighborhood Business District (NB)

**Industrial Districts**

- I-1 Industrial Park District

**Special Purpose Districts**

- RC Recreational Commercial District
- CBT Central Business Transitional District
- PUD Planned Unit Development District

**Overlay Districts**

- D-1 Downtown Overlay District
- S-1 Rum River Scenic Overlay District
- FP Flood Plain Overlay District
- OSP Open Space and Parks Overlay District
- H65 Highway 65 Corridor Overlay District

**Tier One Zoning Districts**

- T1-R Tier One: Residential District
- T1-C Tier One: Highway Commercial District
- T1-I Tier One: Industrial District

**Subdivision 2: Zoning Map**

The location and boundaries of the districts established by this Ordinance are hereby set forth on the zoning maps entitled the "City of Isanti Zoning Map", a copy of which is on file with the Zoning Administrator. Said maps and all of the notifications, references, and other information shown thereon shall have the same force and effect as if fully set forth herein and thereby made a part of this Ordinance by reference.

**Subdivision 3: Zoning of Annexation or Detachment Areas**

- A. In the event of changes to the City limits that remove territory from the City, district boundaries shall be constructed as to move with City limits.
- B. In the event of annexation of new areas to the City or in the event the City is given exclusive zoning jurisdiction of an area which is not annexed or within the City limits, such areas shall be considered to be in the "R-1" Single Family Residential District, unless the Ordinance annexing such property designates otherwise. If the area is not designated at the time of annexation, such "R-1" Single Family Residential Zoning shall be maintained, until such time as the property owner requests a rezoning of the property. A public hearing before the Planning Commission requesting a particular zoning designation shall be held upon proper application to the City with final approval granted by the City Council.

**Subdivision 4: Zoning District Boundaries**

- A. Boundaries indicated as approximately following the center lines of streets, highways, alleys, or railroad lines shall be construed to follow such center lines.
- B. Boundaries indicated as approximately following platted lot lines shall be construed as following such lot lines.
- C. Boundaries indicated as following shorelines shall be construed to follow such shore lines, and in the event of change in the shore line shall be construed as moving with the actual shore line; boundaries indicated as approximately following the center lines of streams, rivers, lakes, or other bodies of water shall be construed to follow such lines.
- D. Boundaries indicated as approximately following the city limits shall be construed as following such city limits.
- E. Where a zoning district boundary divides a lot, resulting in differing and non-uniform requirements (split-lot zoning) for two or more portions of the lot, each portion shall be subject to the regulations applicable to the specific zoning district shown for that portion of the lot.
- F. The exact location of all district boundaries shall be interpreted by the Zoning Administrator, subject to appeal as provided in Section 21 of this Ordinance.

**ISANTI COUNTY COURT REPORT**

**The following felony charges were filed in Isanti County Court on May 24 - June 6. All individuals are presumed innocent until proven guilty.**

**Charles Michael Haglund** (DOB 10/11/1971) of Cambridge, was charged May 26 with two counts of Threats of Violence -Reckless Disregard Risk.

**Blake Adam Delage** (DOB 03/23/1979) of Cambridge, was charged May 28 with Drugs - 5th Degree - Possess Schedule 1,2,3,4 or paraphernalia residual - Not cannabis/hemp.

**Kasandra Louise Blake** (DOB 09/11/1992) of Pine City, was charged June 3 with Drugs - 5th Degree - Possess Schedule 1,2,3,4 or paraphernalia residual - Not cannabis/hemp.

**Kelly Ann Tinnel** (DOB 04/14/1973) of Mora, was charged May 26 with two counts of Damage to Property - 1st Degree - Foreseeable Risk Bodily Harm; one count of Damage to Property - 1st Degree - Value Reduced Over \$1000; and two counts of Assault - 4th Degree - Peace Officer - Throws/transfers bodily fluids or feces at or onto officer.

**CHISAGO COUNTY COURT REPORT**

**The following felony charges were filed in Chisago County Court on May 24 - June 6. All individuals are presumed innocent until proven guilty.**

methamphetamine. **Jeffrey Keith Liljander** (DOB 06/24/1961) of Isanti, was charged May 29 with Stalking - Engages in Stalking.

**Amanda Marie Greer** (DOB 09/18/1986) of North Branch, was charged June 1 with Fugitive from Justice from Other State - extradition waived.

**Zachariah Daniel Johnson** (DOB 01/04/1978) of La Crosse, WI, was charged June 3 with Fleeing a Peace Officer in a Motor Vehicle.

**Dylan Victor Walker** (DOB 07/13/1994) of Burnsville, was charged May 26 with one count of Traffic - DWI - Operate Motor Vehicle Under Influence of Controlled Substance; and one count of Drugs - 5th Degree - Possess Schedule 1,2,3,4 or paraphernalia residual - Not cannabis/hemp.

**Forrest Edward Ravinski** (DOB 02/20/1995) of Duluth, was charged May 29 with Drugs - 2nd Degree - Possess 25 grams or more cocaine or

**Alexis Ann Berg** (DOB 05/04/2002) of Roseville, was charged June 5 with Fleeing a Peace Officer in a Motor Vehicle.

# CITY OF ISANTI ORDINANCE 844 CONTINUED

## ARTICLE 12: TIER ONE ZONING DISTRICTS

### SECTION ONE: "T1-R" TIER ONE RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT

#### Subdivision 1: Purpose

The purpose of the "T1-R" Tier One Residential District is to protect low density areas from premature urbanization and to discourage residential development without city services. The Tier One Residential District will permit existing agricultural uses to continue until such time, as the property is annexed into the City and is serviced by City services and infrastructure.

#### Subdivision 2: Permitted Uses

The following are permitted uses:

- A. Agriculture.
- B. Essential services.
- C. Farming.
- D. Golf courses.
- E. Licensed home day care. Facility shall comply with Minnesota State Statutes and Rules.
- F. Nursery, wholesale.
- G. Public open space.

#### Subdivision 3: Permitted Accessory Uses

The following are permitted accessory uses:

- A. Accessory buildings, to include accessory farm structures, in accordance with the setback and height restrictions as provided within this Article.
- B. Decks and patios.
- C. Decorative landscaping features, fencing, and screening as permitted and regulated by this Article.
- D. Permitted home occupations as regulated by Section 13 of this Ordinance. *Ord.No. 541*
- E. Residential kennels, as defined in Section 2 of this Ordinance. Shall meet the registration and licensing requirements as provided within Chapter 87, Article II Dogs of the Isanti City Code.

#### Subdivision 4: Conditional Uses

The following are conditional uses within the "T1-R" Tier One Residential District and shall require a Conditional Use Permit based upon the procedures set forth and regulated by Section 21 of this Ordinance. Additional specific standards and criteria may be cited for respective conditional uses and a request shall be evaluated based upon those additional standards and criteria.

- A. Cemeteries.
- B. Community recreation.
- C. Dwellings, Single-family detached. Foundation shall meet building code requirements.
- D. Recreation support facilities may be permitted as an accessory use to commercial recreation facilities.
- E. Religious institutions.
- F. Residential facility, Licensed (Group Home) serving 6 or fewer persons. Under Minnesota Statutes Chapter 144D, 462.357.
- G. Telecommunication towers and antennas. Standards as provided in Section 13 of this Ordinance shall be met.

#### Subdivision 5: Interim Uses

The following are interim uses within the "T1-R" Tier One Residential District and shall require an Interim Use Permit based upon the procedures set forth and regulated by Section 21 of this Ordinance.

- A. Archery ranges.
- B. Commercial kennels, as defined in Section 2 of this Ordinance and accessory to a single-family detached dwelling, meeting the registration and licensing requirements as provided within Chapter 87, Article II Dogs of the Isanti City Code.
- C. Special home occupations, which is accessory to a residential dwelling; subject to the requirements provided in Section 13 of this Ordinance.

#### Subdivision 6: Lot Requirements and Setbacks

##### A. Lot Requirements:

Maximum Density	4 units per 40 acres
Lot Size	1 acres (43,560 square feet)
Minimum Lot Frontage	170 feet
Minimum Lot Depth	250 feet

1. A plat of the entire forty (40) acres shall be submitted prior to the issuance of a conditional use permit.
2. Such plat shall show how the property can be subdivided in the future while maintaining compliance with all City Ordinances.
3. Remaining property shall be platted as an outlot.

##### B. Setbacks and Height Restrictions Principal Building:

The minimum principal structure setbacks for a one (1) acre lot are as follows: Center of County and State Roadways — 100 feet

Minimum Front Yard Setback	30 feet
Minimum Rear Yard Setback	30 feet
Minimum Side Yard Setback	20 feet, each side
Maximum Height	35 feet

##### C. Setbacks Accessory Buildings:

Regulations for Accessory Structures are provided in Section 13 of this Ordinance. Rear Yard Setback — 5 feet

Side Yard Setback	5 feet
Street Side Yard Setback	20 feet

##### D. Garage Requirements:

With the exception of dwelling units constructed prior to the effective date of this Ordinance, all dwelling units shall include an attached garage. All such garages shall be attached and constructed to accommodate two (2) vehicles parked side-by-side. Tandem garage spaces are permitted providing the required number of side-by-side parking spaces are met.

Minimum Floor Area	400 square feet
Minimum Width	20 feet
Minimum Depth	20 feet

##### E. Driveway Requirements:

1. Driveways shall be constructed of bituminous, concrete, Class Five Aggregate, rock, or equivalent material suitable to control dust and drainage subject to approval of the City Planner, as said surfacing shall be harmonious with improvements in the area.
2. Upon annexation to the City and a bituminous or concrete roadway is adjacent to the home, the property owner has six (6) months to upgrade the driveway surface to bituminous or concrete.
3. Driveways shall be installed before a Certificate of Occupancy is issued.
4. Driveways shall be placed a minimum of three (3) feet from the adjacent property line.
5. Driveways beginning at the home shall be paved a minimum of twelve (12) feet in width and a minimum of thirty (30) feet in length.
6. Driveway culverts shall be addressed within the plat. The City Engineer shall provide approval prior to the issuance of a building permit.

#### Subdivision 7: Special Regulations

A. All proposed new uses shall submit a plat to the City Planner for review of compliance with all City Ordinances.

B. No buildings of pole type construction are permitted, unless approved as a conditional use for agriculture purposes.

C. All dwellings must have a minimum of nine hundred twelve (912) square feet of livable floor space above grade. The minimum square footage may be reduced by a conditional use permit for a planned unit development. All dwellings must have foundations and frost footings, which shall meet building code requirements.

D. For the purpose of this Ordinance, a frost footing shall be any footing placed at the required depth to avoid the accepted frost line as determined by an engineer of soil mechanics, and absent an engineer's report, placed at a depth of at least three and one-half feet.

E. No residence shall be less than twenty-four (24) feet in width.

F. All dwellings within the corporate city limits shall have one (1) year from the date on which City water and sewer services are made available to the area, to connect to such services. No variances from this policy will be permitted.

G. All waste, material, debris, refuse, garbage, or materials not currently in use for construction purposes shall be stored indoors and screened from eye level view of public streets and adjacent properties, or be kept in covered trash containers.

#### Subdivision 8: Landscaping and Fencing

A. Lawns. All lots shall have seeded or sodded lawns. The lawn is required to cover the area surrounding the home and shall extend thirty (30) feet from the front and rear of the home and shall extend ten (10) feet on both sides of the home.

B. Fences. As permitted and regulated by Section 15 of this Ordinance.

C. Landscaping. A minimum of two (2) trees per 10,000 square feet of land or one (1) tree per 50 feet of road frontage, whichever is greater is required in the front yard. Four (4) inches of topsoil is required within landscaped areas.

### SECTION TWO: "T1-B" TIER ONE BUSINESS DISTRICT

#### Subdivision 1: Purpose

This district is designed and intended to promote the development of commercial uses which are predominately auto-oriented in nature. The district caters to highway-oriented businesses as well as to businesses that provide basic shopping and service needs to the community. While the types of uses (permitted, conditional and interim) are similar to those found within the "B-2" General Business District, the Tier One Business District takes into consideration the unique location of parcels identified within this district. These parcels have not yet been annexed into the corporate limits of the City; however, they are located within the immediate growth boundary of the City and may become part of the community in the near future. When designing a commercial site within the Tier One Business District, compatibility with adjacent uses and buildings are required. Site design, building sizes and materials, and screening/landscaping are still considered important when creating and maintaining a thriving commercial base.

#### Subdivision 2: Permitted Uses

The following are permitted uses within the "T1-B" Tier One Business District:

A. Any permitted use as listed within Section 7: Business Districts, Article 2: "B-2" General Business District.

#### Subdivision 3: Conditional Uses

The following are conditional uses allowed in the "T1-B" Tier One Business District and shall require a Conditional Use Permit based upon the procedures set forth and regulated by Section 21 of this Ordinance.

A. Any conditional use as listed within Section 7: Business Districts, Article 2: "B-2" General Business District.

#### Subdivision 4: Interim Uses

The following are interim uses allowed in the "T1-B" Tier One Business District and shall require an Interim Use Permit based upon the procedures set forth and regulated by Section 21 of this Ordinance.

A. Any interim use as listed within Section 7: Business Districts, Article 2: "B-2" General Business District.

#### Subdivision 5: Uses By Administrative Permit

The following are uses permitted by Administrative Permit within the "T1-B" Tier One Business District and shall require an Administrative Permit based upon the procedures set forth and regulated by Section 21 of this Ordinance.

A. Any use by administrative permit as listed within Section 7: Business Districts, Article 2: "B-2" General Business District.

#### Subdivision 6: Permitted Accessory Uses

The following are permitted accessory uses within the "T1-B" Tier One Business District:

- A. Accessory buildings and uses customarily incidental to any of the permitted uses. Accessory buildings are subject to the regulations as provided within Section 13 of this Ordinance.
- B. Outdoor patios and decks, as an accessory use to a bar, restaurant, club or other assembly.

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use with liquor or food sales, providing the requirements as listed in Section 13 are met.

- C. Outdoor smoking shelters, as an accessory use to a bar, restaurant, club, or other assembly use with liquor or food sales, providing the requirements as listed in Section 13 are met.
- D. Fencing, Screening, and Landscaping in accordance with Section 15 of this Ordinance.
- E. Signs, in accordance with Section 16 of this Ordinance.
- F. Trash receptacle enclosures, in accordance with the regulations provided within Section 14, Subdivision 3 of this Ordinance.

### Subdivision 7: Lot Requirements and Setbacks

- A. Lot Requirements:
  - Lot Size \_\_\_\_\_ 1.5 acres
  - Lot Width \_\_\_\_\_ 160 feet
  - Lot Depth \_\_\_\_\_ 250 feet
- B. Setbacks and Height Restrictions - Principal Building, Roadway Setback \_\_\_\_\_ 100 feet
  - Side Yard Setback \_\_\_\_\_ 15 feet, each side
  - Front Yard Setback \_\_\_\_\_ 30 feet
  - Rear Yard Setback \_\_\_\_\_ 30 feet
  - Maximum Building Height \_\_\_\_\_ 35 feet
- C. Off-Street Parking and Driveway Requirements:

Parking lots, driveways, and loading/unloading areas shall meet the requirements for Off-Street Parking and Loading, as provided in Section 17 of this Ordinance.
- D. Parking Lot Setbacks:

Setbacks double in areas adjacent to Residential Districts. Front Yard Setback \_\_\_\_\_ 10 feet

  - Rear Yard Setback \_\_\_\_\_ 10 feet
  - Street Side Yard Setback \_\_\_\_\_ 10 feet
  - Side Yard Setback \_\_\_\_\_ 5 feet

### Subdivision 8: Site Plan Approval Required

All applications for a building permit or an occupancy permit shall be accompanied by a site plan that meets the criteria listed in Section 18 of this Ordinance. Approval of the site plan by the City Council is required prior to issuance of a building permit.

### Subdivision 9: Building Materials

- A. Building materials shall be attractive in appearance, durable with permanent finish, and of a quality that is both compatible with surrounding structures and consistent with City standards for the District in which the structure is located.
- B. Major exterior surfaces, on all walls, shall consist of entirely face brick, stone, glass, stucco, architecturally treated concrete, cast in place or precast panels, or decorative block. Wood and metal may be used as accent materials, provided that they are appropriately integrated into the overall building design and not situated in areas that will be subject to damage associated with heavy use.
- C. Alternate exterior building materials may be considered during the site plan review process, with recommendation by the Planning Commission and final approval by the City Council.
- D. Accessory structures shall be constructed of the same or similar building material as the principal structure.

### Subdivision 10: Fencing, Screening, and Landscaping

- A. Fencing and Screening. Fencing and screening of the following shall be in accordance with Section 15 of this Ordinance.
  1. The ground level view of mechanical utilities shall be completely screened from adjacent properties and streets, or designed to be compatible with the architectural treatment of the principle structure.
  2. External loading and service areas shall be completely screened from the ground level view of adjacent residential and commercial properties, and adjacent streets.
  3. When abutting or directly across the street from a Residential District, a fencing and/or screening is required.
  4. Refuse and Garbage receptacles shall be stored within the principal structure, within an attached structure accessible from the principle structure, or totally fenced or screened in accordance with this ordinance.
  5. Light from automobile headlights and other sources shall be screened when adjacent to a residential district.
- B. Landscaping. The site shall be landscaped in accordance with an approved landscape plan. All lots shall be sodded with four (4) inches of topsoil. One (1) tree shall be provided for every 10,000 square feet of lot or one (1) tree per fifty (50) feet of road frontage, whichever is greater.

### Subdivision 11: Special Regulations

- A. All businesses within the corporate city limits have one (1) year from the date City water and sewer is extended to the property to connect to City services. Variances from this stipulation are prohibited.
- B. Pole type buildings are prohibited.
- C. Properties along Highway 65 are subject to the regulations presented in Section 11, Article 5: "I65" Highway 65 Corridor Overlay District. (Ord. No. 657)

## SECTION THREE: "T1-I" TIER ONE INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT

### Subdivision 1: Purpose

The "T1-I" Tier One Industrial District is established, in an effort to expand upon employment opportunities within the community as well as to provide for future land area in which to develop industrial uses. The purpose of the Tier One Industrial District is allow for the continued grouping of industrial uses in locations that have adequate and convenient access to major streets, highways and the railroad line. While the City is predominately residential in character, industrial uses are an important part of the City's land use pattern and will continue to be so in the future. While the types of uses (permitted, conditional, and interim) are similar to those found within the "I-1" Industrial Park District, the Tier One Industrial District takes into consideration the unique location of parcels identified within this district. These parcels have not yet been annexed into the corporate limits of the City. Regulations within the Tier One Industrial District continue to encourage the development of industrial uses that are compatible with surrounding and abutting land uses. In order to accomplish this compatibility, development within the district is intended for administrative, wholesaling, manufacturing, warehousing, office, and related uses which can maintain high standards of appearance, through building design, site design, and landscaping/ screening, and not require a high level of public services. With proper control, these areas should be compatible with commercial or residential areas.

### Subdivision 2: Permitted Uses

The following are permitted uses within the "T1-I" Tier One Industrial District:

- A. Any permitted use as listed within Section 8: Industrial Districts, Article 1: "I-1" Industrial Park District.

### Subdivision 3: Conditional Uses

The following are conditional uses allowed in the "T1-I" Tier One Industrial District and shall require a Conditional Use Permit based upon the procedures set forth and regulated by Section 21 of this Ordinance.

- A. Any conditional use as listed within Section 8: Industrial Districts, Article 1: "I-1" Industrial Park District.

### Subdivision 4: Interim Uses

The following are interim uses allowed in the "T1-I" Tier One Industrial District and shall require an Interim Use Permit based upon the procedures set forth and regulated by Section 21 of this Ordinance.

- A. Any interim use as listed within Section 8: Industrial Districts, Article 1: "I-1" Industrial Park District.

### Subdivision 5: Uses By Administrative Permit

The following are uses permitted by Administrative Permit within the "T1-I" Tier One Industrial District and shall require an Administrative Permit based upon the procedures set forth and regulated by Section 21 of this Ordinance.

- A. Any use by administrative permit as listed within Section 8: Industrial Districts, Article 1: "I-1" Industrial Park District.

### Subdivision 6: Permitted Accessory Uses

- A. Accessory buildings and uses customarily incidental to any of the permitted uses. Accessory buildings are subject to the regulations as provided within Section 13 of this Ordinance.
- B. Off-street parking and loading, in accordance with Section 17 of this Ordinance.

- C. Outdoor smoking shelters, in accordance with Section 13 of this Ordinance.

- D. General Retail, provided that:
  1. The retail sales area is accessory to the principal use.
  2. The retail sales area is indoors.
  3. The retail sales area does not exceed ten (10%) percent of the gross floor area of the building in which the sales area is situated.
  4. No additional signage has been provided identifying the retail sales activity.

- E. Signs, in accordance with Section 16 of this Ordinance.

- F. Trash receptacle enclosures, in accordance with the regulations as provided within Section 14, Subdivision 3 of this Ordinance.

### Subdivision 7: Minimum Lot Size

- A. Every individual lot, site, or tract shall have an area of not less than two and one-half (2.5) acres.
- B. Every lot or tract shall have a width of not less than one hundred sixty (160) feet abutting a public right-of-way.
- C. Every lot or tract shall have a minimum lot depth of two hundred fifty (250) feet.
- D. There shall be a required minimum of twenty five (25) percent reservation of the total lot area for landscaping purposes. A landscaping plan must be submitted to and be approved by the Planning Commission or its designee.

### Subdivision 8: Front, Side and Rear Yard Requirements

- A. Front Yard. From the center of all roads is one hundred (100) feet and from the right-of-way is sixty-seven (67) feet.
- B. Side Yard. There shall be two (2) side yards, one on each side of the building. Each side yard shall be not less than fifteen (15) feet.
- C. Rear Yard. There shall be a rear yard setback of thirty (30) feet.

### Subdivision 9: Transitional Yard Requirements

When any lot line coincides with a lot line of an adjacent residential district, the setback from the lot line shall be at least thirty (30) feet.

### Subdivision 10: Maximum Impervious Surface Coverage

The sum total of ground area covered by all structures and uses (permitted, accessory, interim, and conditional, including parking lots) on the zoning lot which the structures and uses are located shall not exceed seventy five (75) percent. The applicant must prove to the City, the ability to meet or exceed City, County, and/or State stormwater holding requirements as part of their project and/or site plan approval.

### Subdivision 11: Off-Street Parking and Loading/Unloading Facilities

Off-street parking and loading/unloading facilities shall meet the requirements as established in Section 17 of this Ordinance. All off-street parking and loading/unloading spaces shall be located on the same lot as the principal use.

### Subdivision 12: Performance Standards

All buildings, structures, and uses shall meet the performance requirements as established within Section 14 of this Ordinance.

### Subdivision 13: Building Design and Construction

- A. All proposed new uses must submit a plat to the City Planner for review for compliance with this Ordinance.
- B. Each building located on a lot shall be built in a good and work-like manner with high quality, first-class building materials. The design and location of the buildings constructed on a lot shall be attractive and shall compliment existing structures and the



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surrounding natural features and topography with respect to height, design finish, color, size, and location.

- C. Load bearing structural components shall be steel or structural concrete. Other materials of greater strength may be used if expressly allowed by the City Council.
- D. Architecturally and aesthetically suitable building materials shall be applied to, or used on, all sides of all buildings that are adjacent to other existing or future structures or roadways. Exterior walls of iron, aluminum, or wood will be permitted only with the specific written approval of the City Council. Exterior walls of masonry, concrete and glass are encouraged. Colors shall be harmonious and compatible with colors of the natural surroundings and other adjacent buildings.
- E. All exterior wall finishes on any building shall be comprised of at least fifty (50) percent of one (1) or a combination of the following materials:
  1. Face brick
  2. Natural stone
  3. Glass
  4. Specially designed pre-cast concrete units, if the surfaces have been integrally treated with an applied decorative material or texture.
  5. Factory fabricated, finished 26 Ga. Metal panel
  6. Decorative concrete block approved by the City Council.
  7. Architectural metal accent panels, generally with a value greater than pre-cast concrete units, and as specifically approved by the Board.
  8. Other materials as approved by the Board and in conformance with existing design and character of the property.

### Subdivision 14: Fencing and Screening

Fencing and Screening for industrial uses shall be accomplished through the use of either a screening fence or planting screen, which meets the requirements as stipulated within Section 15 of this Ordinance. The Planning Commission shall review and make a recommendation with final approval granted by the City Council.

### Subdivision 15: Site Plan Approval Required

All applications for a building permit or an occupancy permit shall be accompanied by a site plan that meets the criteria listed in Section 18 of this Ordinance.

## ARTICLE 13: USE REGULATIONS

### SECTION THREE: USE REGULATIONS IN ALL ZONING DISTRICTS

#### Subdivision 1: Land Alterations

- A. City approval shall be required in all cases where excavation, grading, and filling of any land would result in a substantial alteration of existing ground contour or would change existing drainage or would cause flooding or erosion or would deprive an adjoining property owner of lateral support and would remove or destroy the present ground cover resulting in less beneficial cover for present and proposed development. Substantial alteration shall be defined as the extraction, grading or filling of land involving movement of earth and materials in excess of twenty-five (25) cubic yards. The Zoning Administrator or Building Official may exempt cubic yard restrictions for foundation excavation and grading for new residential units and for the landscaping requirements for residential units per City ordinance.
- B. The City Engineer shall review all cases in which more than twenty-five (25) cubic yards of land is altered. In matters of land alteration related to a preliminary plat, final plat or site plan review the Planning Commission will review and recommend to the City Council and the City Council will make a final determination on the grading within the entire development request. A grading permit will be issued upon the City Engineers review of the items detailed in B, C & D below and any other additional information that is requested to ensure that all City, State and other laws and regulations are met. The grading permit will be issued to the property owner after City Council approval of a preliminary plat, final plat or site plan review. The grading permit will be signed by the City Engineer and City Clerk.
- C. In all other requests to alter land in excess of twenty-five (25) cubic yards a conditional use permit shall be required. The application shall be submitted with the required items as detailed in B, C & D below for review along with any other requested additional information, including, but not limited to the requirements of a Conditional Use Permit section of ordinance. The required items are to ensure that all City, State and other laws and regulations are met. The Planning Commission will review and recommend to the City Council and City Council will make the final determination on the request. The signed Conditional Use Permit shall constitute the grading permit.
- D. Applications for a grading permit shall contain the following additional information:
  1. Legal description of land to be altered.
  2. Nature of proposed alteration and future use of the property.
  3. Starting date and approximate completion date of the operation.
  4. The names of all owners of the land to be altered.
  5. The names and addresses of all owners and occupants of the adjoining land that may be effected by said land alterations.
  6. A construction plan showing existing and proposed elevations.
  7. The City Council may require adequate proof of bonding in the form of a performance bond, sufficient in value to cover the expense of the completion of the development plan or to bring such portion of the completed project to safe grade and elevation so as to be healthful and safe to the general public and to provide safe and adequate drainage to the site.
- E. If, during the land alteration work, it becomes necessary for the person altering the land to create a condition of grade or drainage not in the interest of health or safety, it shall become the person's duty to correct, immediately, the dangerous situation created, as well as fence or screen the area from the public upon order of the City Engineer.
- F. The person responsible for the proposed land alteration shall agree to replace cover that has been removed, by seeding or sodding, such cover to be replaced in accordance with the MPCA NPDES Phase 2 Permit requirements after completion of grading. The City will require an escrow or letter of credit to cover development related activities before a grading permit will be issued unless the escrow or letter of credited amount is covered within in a Development Agreement and its associated escrow or letter of credited amounts. Where construction of homes or buildings is being done over an extended period of time, the City may require replacement of ground cover on a portion of the area before the entire project is complete.

#### Subdivision 2: Community Gardens (Ord No. 491)

- A. Zoning districts.  
Community gardens are permitted in those zoning districts as designated, which include: R-1 Single Family Residential District, R-2 Single Family Residential District, R-3A Low Density Multiple Family District, R-3B Medium Density Residential District, R-4 Multiple Dwelling District, B-1 Central Business District, B-2 General Business District, B-3 Neighborhood Business District, RC Recreational Commercial District, CBT Central Business Transitional District, T1-R Tier One Residential District, and T1-B Tier One Business District.
- B. Operation standards.
  1. Community gardeners shall have an established set of operating rules addressing the governance structure of the garden, hours of operation, maintenance and security requirements and responsibilities, funding plan, and garden design plan. The garden design plan shall identify the layout and dimensions of garden plots, location of water sources, parking and access locations to the garden, and locations of other buildings, fencing, and obstructions.
  2. A garden coordinator to perform the coordinating role for the management of the community garden shall be identified. The name and contact information of the garden coordinator and a copy of the operating rules and other associated materials identified within (B)(1) shall be kept on file with the City of Isanti Parks and Recreation Department.
  3. Community gardens are required to have a non-profit entity or neighborhood association group to act as the garden coordinator.
  4. The City of Isanti is not responsible for the garden itself; or to anything pertaining to the garden. Each member of the community garden must sign a waiver of liability.
  5. Should the community garden group decide to no longer maintain their space, the group is responsible for proposing a plan to restore the area to the satisfaction of the City.
- C. Site standards.
  1. Overhead lighting is prohibited.
  2. A garden must be located within one hundred (100) feet of a functioning water source, to include the public water system or private sand point well. The use of fire hydrants or drinking fountains is not permitted.
  3. The site shall be designed and maintained so that water and fertilizer will not drain onto adjacent properties.
  4. Nets or other similar types of shade structures are not permitted within the garden area.
  5. There shall be no retail sales on-site.
- D. Signage.  
All signs shall meet the requirements of the zoning district in which the sign is located and shall meet the requirements of Section 16 Signs of the Zoning Ordinance.
- E. Accessory Buildings, Structures, and Fences.

No fence or building shall be constructed without review and approval by the City Council, so that best efforts can be taken to ensure that the fence and/or structure are compatible in appearance and placement with the character of surrounding properties.

1. Sheds for the storage of tools limited in size to one hundred seventy (170) square feet.
2. Greenhouses that consist of buildings made of glass, plastic, or fiberglass in which plants are cultivated shall not exceed five hundred eighty (580) square feet in floor area.
3. Benches, bike racks, raised/accessible planting beds, compost or waste bins, picnic tables, and rain barrels or water reservoir systems are permitted on-site.
4. Setbacks for accessory buildings and fencing as defined within this Ordinance are applicable.
5. Fences shall not exceed four (4) feet in height, shall have an opaqueness of no greater than 50%, and shall be constructed of wood or ornamental metal.

## ARTICLE 16: SIGNS

### Subdivision 1: Purpose and Findings (Ord No. 574)

- A. Purpose.
  1. It is the purpose of this Section to: (1) regulate the number, location, size, type, illumination and other physical characteristics of signs within the City in order to promote the public health, safety, and welfare of the community; (2) maintain, enhance, and improve the aesthetic environment of the City by preventing visual clutter; (3) improve the visual appearance of the City while providing for effective means of communication, consistent with constitutional guarantees and the City's goals of public safety and aesthetics; and (4) provide for fair and consistent enforcement of sign regulations set forth herein under the zoning authority of the City.
  2. It is not the purpose of this Section to regulate the message displayed on any sign; nor is it the purpose of this Section to regulate any building design or any display not defined as a sign, or any sign which cannot be viewed from outside a building.
- B. Findings.  
The City Council hereby finds it necessary for the promotion and preservation of the public health, safety, and general welfare as well as the aesthetics of the community that the construction, location, size, and maintenance of signs be controlled. Further, the City finds that:
  1. Permanent and temporary signs have a direct impact on and relationship to the image of the community;
  2. The manner of installation, location, and maintenance of signs affects the public health, safety, and general welfare as well as the aesthetics of the community;
  3. An opportunity for visible identification of community businesses and institutions must be established;
  4. The safety of motorists, cyclists, pedestrians, and other users of public streets and property is affected by the number, size, location and appearance of signs that unduly divert the attention of drivers;
  5. Uncontrolled and unlimited signs adversely impact the image and aesthetic attractiveness of the community and thereby undermine economic value and growth;
  6. Uncontrolled and unlimited signs, particularly temporary signs which are located within or adjacent to the public right-of-way or are located at driveway/street intersections, result in roadside clutter and obstructions of views of oncoming traffic. This creates a hazard to drivers and pedestrians and also adversely impacts a logical flow of information; and
  7. The right to express noncommercial opinions in any zoning district must be protected, subject to reasonable restrictions on size, height, location, and number of signs.

### Subdivision 2: Measurement Standards (Ord No. 574)

- A. Sign Area and Dimensions.
  1. Wall Signs.
    - a. For signs that are framed, outlined, painted or otherwise prepared and

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**CITY OF ISANTI ORDINANCE 844 CONTINUED**

intended to provide a background for a sign display, the area and dimensions shall include the entire portion within the frame or background.

- b. For signs comprised of individual letters, figures, or elements on a wall or similar surface of the building or structure, the area and dimensions of the sign shall encompass a regular geometric shape (rectangle, triangle, square, circle, etc.) or a combination of regular geometric shapes, which approximate, the perimeter of all elements of the sign, the frame and any applied background that is not part of the building architecture. Minor appendages to a particular regular shape, as determined by the Zoning Administrator or their designee shall not be included in the total sign area.
- 2. **Freestanding Signs.**  
The sign area shall include the face of the sign panel and the sign frame, if any, but shall not include: (1) a pole or other structural support unless the pole or structural support is internally illuminated or otherwise so design to constitute a display device, or a part of the display device and (2) architectural features that are either part of the building or part of a freestanding structure and not an integral part of the sign, and which may consist of landscaping, building or structural forms complementing the site in general. (Ord No. 714)
- 3. **All Other Signs.**  
The area in square feet of all faces of a sign panel, including the frame shall be used to calculate the square footage.

**B. Sign Height.**  
The height of the sign shall be calculated as the vertical distance measured from the base of the sign at grade to the top of the highest attached component of the sign.

**C. Sign Setback.**  
Signs shall be setback a minimum of ten (10) feet from the property line. Signs should not be in locations that would interfere with safe vehicular and pedestrian circulation or public safety signals. Signs shall meet the provisions of Section 4, Subdivision 3 with regards to the Vision Clearance Triangle.

- D. **Building Frontage Determination. (Ord No. 808)**
  - 1. The length of any primary or secondary building frontage shall be the sum of all wall lengths parallel or nearly parallel to such frontage. The Zoning Administrator or their designee shall determine it such wall meets the criteria to be considered frontage.
  - 2. For buildings that are identified as having two or more frontages, the length of the wall and allowable sign area shall be calculated separately for each such building frontage.
  - 3. The building frontage for a building unit shall be measured from the centerline of the party walls defining the building unit.

**Subdivision 3: Establishment of Sign Overlay Districts (Ord No. 574)**

**A. Findings.**  
The City has determined that property zoned "B-2" General Business District have frontage along the Heritage Boulevard and Trunk Highway 65 corridors; each of which present a unique set of conditions that may be distinguished from all other similarly

intended to provide a background for a sign display, the area and dimensions shall include the entire portion within the frame or background.

- b. For signs comprised of individual letters, figures, or elements on a wall or similar surface of the building or structure, the area and dimensions of the sign shall encompass a regular geometric shape (rectangle, triangle, square, circle, etc.) or a combination of regular geometric shapes, which approximate, the perimeter of all elements of the sign, the frame and any applied background that is not part of the building architecture. Minor appendages to a particular regular shape, as determined by the Zoning Administrator or their designee shall not be included in the total sign area.
- 2. **Freestanding Signs.**  
The sign area shall include the face of the sign panel and the sign frame, if any, but shall not include: (1) a pole or other structural support unless the pole or structural support is internally illuminated or otherwise so design to constitute a display device, or a part of the display device and (2) architectural features that are either part of the building or part of a freestanding structure and not an integral part of the sign, and which may consist of landscaping, building or structural forms complementing the site in general. (Ord No. 714)
- 3. **All Other Signs.**  
The area in square feet of all faces of a sign panel, including the frame shall be used to calculate the square footage.

**B. Sign Height.**  
The height of the sign shall be calculated as the vertical distance measured from the base of the sign at grade to the top of the highest attached component of the sign.

**C. Sign Setback.**  
Signs shall be setback a minimum of ten (10) feet from the property line. Signs should not be in locations that would interfere with safe vehicular and pedestrian circulation or public safety signals. Signs shall meet the provisions of Section 4, Subdivision 3 with regards to the Vision Clearance Triangle.

- D. **Building Frontage Determination. (Ord No. 808)**
  - 1. The length of any primary or secondary building frontage shall be the sum of all wall lengths parallel or nearly parallel to such frontage. The Zoning Administrator or their designee shall determine it such wall meets the criteria to be considered frontage.
  - 2. For buildings that are identified as having two or more frontages, the length of the wall and allowable sign area shall be calculated separately for each such building frontage.
  - 3. The building frontage for a building unit shall be measured from the centerline of the party walls defining the building unit.

**Subdivision 3: Establishment of Sign Overlay Districts (Ord No. 574)**

**A. Findings.**  
The City has determined that property zoned "B-2" General Business District have frontage along the Heritage Boulevard and Trunk Highway 65 corridors; each of which present a unique set of conditions that may be distinguished from all other similarly

zoned property within the City because of increased roadway capacity in terms of design, size, and traffic volume and speed. As a result, the City finds that it is in the public interest to create a Heritage Boulevard Sign Overlay District and a TH 65 Sign Overlay District; in order to provide for special regulations that allow appropriate sign dimensions and types as well as to encourage economic development that fits the character of the roadway and protects the overall character of the community.

- B. **Establishment of the Heritage Boulevard Sign Overlay District.**  
The Heritage Boulevard Sign Overlay District is hereby established and consists of those parcels or lots that are located within the "B-2" General Business District of the City, as shown on the Zoning Map, as amended, which have frontage on Heritage Boulevard also known as County Road 5.
- C. **Establishment of the Trunk Highway 65 Sign Overlay District.**  
The Trunk Highway 65 Overlay District is hereby established and consists of those parcels or lots that are located within the "B-2" General Business District and "I-1" Tier One Business District of the City, as shown on the Zoning Map, as amended, which have frontage on Trunk Highway 65.
- D. For those properties having frontage along both Trunk Highway 65 and Heritage Blvd; the more restrictive requirements will take effect.
- E. For properties having no frontage on either corridor (Heritage Blvd or TH 65), the standard requirements provided for the "B-2" General Business District shall be met.

**Subdivision 4: Permitted and Conditional Signs (Ord No. 574)**

	R	B-1	B-2			B-3	I-1	RC	CBT	POS
			Standard	Heritage	TH 65					
Awning/Canopy		P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	
Billboard					C					
Changeable Copy		P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Dynamic	C		P	C	P		P	C		C
Exempt	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Freestanding	P		P	P	P	P	P	P		
Ground	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Monument	P		P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Off-Premise			P	P	P		P			
Projecting		P	P	P	P	P		P	P	
Pylon			P		P		P			
Temporary Wall	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Mural		C								

\*\*The sign would be generally permitted within the zoning district designation as provided. In multiple tenant centers, each business is not entitled to its own freestanding sign. In those instances, the freestanding sign would identify the entire center or development.

**Subdivision 5: Development Standards (Ord No. 808)**

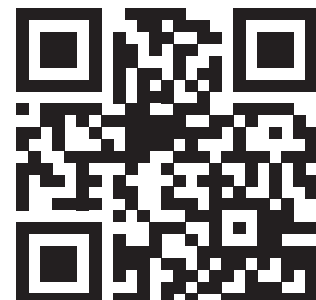
- A. **Wall signs.**
  - 1. Wall signs shall be located a minimum of one (1) foot from the side of the building or unit line.
  - 2. The minimum sign area for each building or tenant shall be not less than twenty-five (25) square feet.
  - 3. The maximum wall sign area is to be no greater than three hundred (300) square feet per business or unit regardless of wall size.
  - 4. One (1) wall sign per building or unit is permitted on the primary frontage. Additional wall signage may be permitted on the secondary frontage.
  - 5. Wall signs shall not exceed the number of square feet for every lineal frontage of building or unit wall in which the sign is to be located, for the district in which it is located, as provided:

Zoning District	Square feet of Sign Area
B-1	1 x 1 Lineal Foot of Frontage
CBT, B-3, RC, POS	1.5 x 1 Lineal Foot of Frontage
Heritage Blvd Overlay, I-1	1.75 x 1 Lineal Foot of Frontage
B-2	2 x 1 Lineal Foot of Frontage
TH 65 Overlay	2.5 x 1 Lineal Foot of Frontage

- 6. Wall signs shall not project more than eighteen (18) inches from the façade of the building.
- 7. **Illumination.** The light source shall be either internal or shielded external to minimize glare and light spilling unto neighboring properties. The illumination of signs shall not interfere with surrounding uses.
- B. **Projecting Signs.**
  - 1. The maximum area of a projecting sign is twelve (12) square feet.
  - 2. The sign shall not project more than four (4) feet from the wall or 2/3 the width of the sidewalk, whichever is greater.
  - 3. The minimum spacing between projecting signs is twenty (20) feet.
  - 4. A minimum eight (8) foot clearance must be between the sidewalk and the bottom of the sign.
- C. **Freestanding Signs.**
  - 1. Two (2) freestanding signs are permitted. One (1) freestanding sign per one hundred fifty (150) feet of zoning lot frontage may be located not less than one hundred fifty (150) feet from any other freestanding sign for the same center.
  - 2. The maximum area and height of a freestanding sign are shown below for the zoning district in which the sign is located.



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**CITY OF ISANTI ORDINANCE 844 CONTINUED**

Zoning District	Square feet of Sign Area	Height
R-1, R-2, R-3A, R-3B	8	4
R-4	24	4
B-2	120	35
TH 65 Overlay	200	45
B-3, RC	100	12
I-1	100	25
Heritage Overlay	110	30

3. No part of a freestanding sign shall be within ten (10) feet of the property line.

D. Pylon Signs. Pylon signs must meet the requirements as defined for freestanding signs for the district in which the sign will be located. (Ord. No. 595)

E. Awnings. When permitted within the zoning district, awnings shall meet the following requirements:

1. An awning may project over a public sidewalk provided that it is at least eight (8) feet above grade and does not project more than two-thirds (2/3) the width of the public sidewalk as measured from the building.
2. Awnings and canopies should be made of high-quality materials that complement the overall design, colors, and materials of the building. Brightly colored awnings shall be compatible with the colors used on the main building.
3. Awnings must be constructed of a durable, water-repellent material such as canvas or metal. Plastic or fiberglass awnings are not permitted.
4. Retractable or fixed awnings may be used.
5. Awnings shall not extend across multiple storefronts and/or multiple buildings. Long expanses of awnings should be broken into segments that reflect the door or window openings located beneath.
6. Awnings and canopies deteriorate over time; regular maintenance and replacement is required.
7. Signage on awnings is permitted. Lettering size shall be proportional to the space available and shall meet the requirements as provided for wall signs.
8. Color renderings showing the location, size, color, and any proposed signage shall be submitted for review by the Planning Commission. Awnings that encroach within or above the public right-of-way shall receive approval by the City Council prior to construction of the awning.

F. Ground sign (sandwich board signs). A sign mounted at ground level, the face of which is no more than thirty-six (36) inches wide. Ground signs must be brought inside each evening at the completion of business hours. Ground signs may not be located in such a way to impede pedestrian traffic. If

G. Billboards. Off-premise signs which are generally for hire. Billboards shall meet the following conditions:

1. Billboard shall only be allowed in the commercial and industrial zones, provided that they are adjacent to the right-of-way of Highway 65 or a Highway 65 frontage road. No billboard shall be allowed within a "B-1" district.
2. The applicant must provide written permission from the property owner where the billboard is proposed to be located, at the time of making application for a conditional use permit.
3. The applicant must provide proof of having obtained a permit from the Minnesota Department of Transportation, prior to being issued a conditional use permit.
4. Billboards located a minimum of 100 ft. from the nearest advertising device as outlined in Minnesota State Statute Chapter 173 and shall follow all requirements set forth.
5. Billboards along HWY 65 require additional permitting from the Minnesota Department of Transportation.

H. Off-Premise Signs. The signs shall meet the requirements for the property and district in which the sign is located. The permit must be accompanied by written documentation from the owner of the property on which the sign is located.

I. Monument Sign. When permitted within the zoning district, the following requirements shall be met:

1. Signs constructed in commercial, industrial, mixed use and overlay areas shall not exceed the square feet of sign area and height requirements as shown for freestanding signs.
2. Signs intended to permanently identify a single-family residential development or a multi-family residential development shall be permitted with the following conditions:
  - a) Signs shall not exceed one hundred (100) square feet in sign face area and shall not exceed 8 feet in height as measured from natural grade.
  - b) Signs shall be either single-faced or double-faced.
  - c) The total number of signs permitted shall be subject to review by city staff depending upon the number of entryways into the development.
  - d) The location of the sign shall not interfere with the safe movement and visibility of traffic or street maintenance operations. Signs shall be setback a minimum of five (5) feet from all property lines. Size, location, and configuration of the sign may result in a greater setback requirement.
  - e) The City shall not be responsible for the maintenance of the sign. An entity shall be established to the satisfaction of the City such as a homeowner's association or a dedicated permanent easement with a homeowner's association shall be identified as responsible for perpetual maintenance of the sign.
  - f) Signs may be externally illuminated.

J. Murals. When permitted within the zoning district, murals shall meet the following requirements:

- a) Murals are solely permitted by conditional use permit within the "B-1" Central Business District
- b) Color renderings showing the location, size, and color shall be submitted for review by the Planning Commission.

**Subdivision 6: Dynamic and Changeable Copy Signs (Ord No. 808)**

A. Dynamic Signs. Any characteristics of a sign that appear to have movement or that appear to change, caused by any method

other than physically removing and replacing the sign or its components, whether the apparent movement or change is in the display, the sign structure itself, or any other component of the sign. This includes display that incorporates a technology or method allowing the sign face to change the image without having to physically or mechanically replace the sign face or its components. This also includes any rotating, revolving, flashing, blinking or animated display and any display that incorporates rotating panels,

LED lights manipulated through digital input, "digital ink" or any other method of technology that allows a sign face to present a series of images or displays.

1. Findings. Studies show that there is a correlation between dynamic displays on signs and the distraction of highway drivers. Distraction can lead to traffic accidents. Drivers can be distracted not only by a changing message, but also by knowing that the sign has a changing message. Drivers may watch a sign waiting for the next change to occur. Additionally, drivers are more distracted by special effects used to change the message, such as fade-ins and fade-outs. Time and temperature signs appear to be an exception to these concerns because the messages are short, easily absorbed, and become inaccurate without frequent changes. Despite these public safety concerns, there is merit to allowing new technologies to easily update messages. Except as prohibited by state or federal law, sign owners should have the opportunity to use these technologies with certain restrictions. The restrictions are intended to minimize potential driver distraction and to minimize proliferation in residential districts where signs can adversely impact residential character. The City finds that dynamic displays should be allowed on signs but with significant controls to minimize their proliferation and their potential threats to public safety.

2. Permitted sign type and locations. Dynamic displays are solely permitted as freestanding signs and only within the "T1-B" Tier One Business District, "B-2" General Business District, "B-3" Neighborhood Business District, "RC" Recreational Commercial District, "T1-I" Tier One Industrial Park District, and "I-1" Industrial Park District.

3. Duration of Image. A dynamic display image, or any portion thereof, may not change more than once every twenty (20) seconds, except one for which changes are necessary to correct hour-and-minute, date, or temperature information. A display of time, date, or temperature must remain for at least twenty (20) seconds before changing to a different display, but the time, date, or temperature information itself may change not more often than once every three (3) seconds.

4. Transition. If a dynamic display's image or any portion thereof changes, the change sequence must be instantaneous without any special effects.

5. Prohibition on Video Display. No portion of a dynamic display may change any part of its sign face by a method of display characterized by motion or pictorial imagery, or depict action or a special effect to imitate movement, or display pictorials or graphics in a progression of frames that gives the illusion of motion of any kind.

6. Prohibition of fluctuating or flashing illumination. No portion of a dynamic display image may fluctuate in light intensity or use intermittent, strobe or moving light, or light that changes in intensity in sudden transitory bursts, streams, zooms, twinkles, sparkles or any other manner that creates the illusion of movement.

7. Audio. Dynamic displays shall not be equipped with audio speakers.

8. Malfunctions. Dynamic displays must be designed and equipped to freeze the sign face in one position if a malfunction occurs. Dynamic displays must be equipped with a means to immediately discontinue the display if it malfunctions and the sign owner or operator must immediately turn off the display when notified by the City that it is not complying with the standards of this Ordinance.

9. Brightness. All dynamic displays shall meet the following brightness standards:
- a) No dynamic display may exceed a maximum illumination of 5,000 nits (candelas per square meter) during the daylight hours and a maximum illumination of 500 nits (candelas per square meter) between dusk to dawn as measured from the sign's face at maximum brightness.
  - b) All dynamic displays having illumination by means other than natural light must be equipped with a dimmer control or other mechanism that automatically controls the sign's brightness to comply with the requirements of this Section.
  - c) No dynamic displays may be of such intensity or brilliance that it interferes with the effectiveness of an official traffic sign, device, or signal.
  - d) The owner or controller of the dynamic display must adjust the sign to meet these brightness standards in accordance with the City's instructions. The adjustment must be made immediately upon notice of non-compliance from the City.
  - e) A written certification from the sign manufacturer that light intensity has been preset to conform to the brightness levels established by code and that the preset level is protected from end user manipulation by password protected software or other method. This would offer the advantage of ensuring that electronic signs at a minimum cannot exceed the standards.

B. Changeable Copy Signs. Changeable copy signs must meet the requirements as defined for wall or freestanding signs for the district in which the sign will be located.

**Section 2- Effective Date.** This Ordinance takes effect upon its passage and publication in the official newspaper of the City of Isanti.

Adopted by the City Council this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of June 2026.

  
Mayor Luke Merrill

Attest:  
  
Jaden Strand  
City Clerk / Deputy HR Director

Posting Date: May 20, 2026  
Reading Date: June 2, 2026  
Publication Date: June 11, 2026  
Effective Date: June 11, 2026

Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on June 11, 2026



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## Green Thumb

### Lawn & Garden Guide

#### TREES AND SHRUBS FOR POLLINATORS

Annual and perennial flowers are popular choices to attract pollinators to our yards and gardens. But there are many trees, shrubs and vines that are also favorites of bees, butterflies and other pollinators.

You can add seasonal interest to your landscape while providing food and habitat for beneficial insects and birds.

#### SHRUBS

Shrubs can be planted in close groups to form a hedge or stand on their own to lend their wide variety of textures, sizes and colors to any landscape. Some provide dense habitat for pollinators while others are great sources of food and pollen. Fruiting varieties may rely on pollinators for reproduction.

#### TREES

If you have space in your yard, there are many trees that are attractive to pollinators. These recommendations will provide you with seasonal interest throughout the year: flowers in the spring, leafy shade in the summer, fruit or seeds in the fall, and interesting color and texture in winter.

Apple, crabapple and pear trees all produce lovely and fragrant blooms that attract many different pollinators. Most varieties rely on bees for pollination and to produce fruit.

The Prunus family includes cherries, plums, peaches and almonds. They are grown for their fruit and their beautiful spring blossoms.

Many other fruiting and flowering trees are suitable for attracting pollinators to your yard.

#### VINES AND CLIMBERS

Vines can add drama and whimsy to a landscape or patio. Decorative trellises or simple stakes can keep them from taking over your garden. They can attract hummingbirds and pollinating flies as well as bees.

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# CLASSIFIEDS

<h3>55 Motorcycles</h3> <p><b>For Sale.</b> 1985 Honda Classic 700 Night Hawk. Runs great! With title. \$1800 OBO. 320-496-0199.</p>	<h3>109 Lawn Care</h3> <p><b>P&amp;G Outdoor Seniors' Lawn Cleanup Special.</b> Lawn mowing, rough terrain mowing, tree branch waste removal, pole saw work, trail grooming, odd jobs. 320-679-3375 or 608-547-3054.</p>	<h3>150 Help Wanted</h3> <p><b>PROJECT COORDINATOR (Part-time)</b> Burnett County Tourism Coalition seeks organized, detail-oriented candidate to support tourism promotion, administration &amp; communications. Submit cover letter &amp; resume to <a href="mailto:bctc548@gmail.com">bctc548@gmail.com</a> by June 15. Find this ad and others at <a href="http://www.applylocal.jobs">www.applylocal.jobs</a></p>	<h3>150 Help Wanted</h3> <p><b>SIREN SCHOOL DISTRICT</b> seeks PreK-12 Principal starting July 2026. Master's degree &amp; valid WI Administrative Certificate required. Full benefits package. Apply via <a href="http://wecan.waspa.org">wecan.waspa.org</a> or call 715-349-7392. Find this ad and others at <a href="http://www.applylocal.jobs">www.applylocal.jobs</a></p>	<h3>150 Help Wanted</h3> <p><b>WEBSTER SCHOOL DISTRICT</b> is hiring! Teaching, support staff &amp; coaching positions available including 3rd Grade Teacher, Special Ed Teacher, Early Childhood/4K Teacher, HS Math Sub, Instructional Assistants &amp; Asst. Football Coach. Apply: <a href="http://webster.k12.wi.us">webster.k12.wi.us</a> Find this ad and others at <a href="http://www.applylocal.jobs">www.applylocal.jobs</a></p>	<h3>358 Firewood</h3> <p><b>2 cord loads</b> of 16" mixed hardwood, oak, or birch \$475. 2 cord loads of 20" oak \$450. Delivery charge over 25 miles. 320-679-1815.</p>	<h3>401 Auctions</h3> <p><b>Saturday, June 20, 9 a.m.</b> Live &amp; Online Auction. Mrs. Fred Hartog, Owner. 1514 Hwy. 47, Ogilvie, MN. 1998 Ski Doo Bombardier, Allis Chalmers Parade Tractor, 7710 John Deere, 2001 Featherlite 5<sup>th</sup> Wheel Trailer, 2007 Springdale 5<sup>th</sup> Wheel 25' Camper, Many Tractors &amp; Farm Equipment, Outdoor &amp; Misc., Farm, Shop, &amp; Parts. Auctions by Robyn, <a href="mailto:robyn2229@gmail.com">robyn2229@gmail.com</a>, <a href="http://midwestauctions.com/robyn">midwestauctions.com/robyn</a>, <a href="http://auctionsbyrobyn.com">auctionsbyrobyn.com</a>, 320-291-9566, Lic.#33-21.</p>	<h3>404 Garage Sales</h3> <p><b>Big Yard Sale.</b> Quilting material, yarn, and much more. June 25-27<sup>th</sup>, 8-5, 1956 Olympic St., Mora.</p> <p><b>CLEAR OUT SALE:</b> Patio furniture, bakers rack, Harmon-Kardon, Omega speakers, plus size clothing, laptops, Will&amp;Bear hats, Webber grill and miscellaneous. June 12-13, 2240 Red Pine Drive, Cambridge</p>	<h3>452 Rentals/ Residential</h3> <p>North Branch 1 Br. \$760 per month. Clean, quiet 7 unit bldg. No smoking, no pets. 612-772-6416</p>
<h3>102 Services</h3> <p><b>Alterations and</b> clothing repairs, 25 years experience. 320-396-4152 Contact Rosemary, Braham</p>	<h3>150 Help Wanted</h3> <p><b>CARDINAL LG (Amery, WI)</b> is hiring Maintenance Technicians &amp; Production Team Members ? all shifts available. No experience required. Competitive pay, monthly profit sharing &amp; outstanding benefits. Apply: <a href="http://shatterproofcareers.com">shatterproofcareers.com</a> or call 715-268-8111. Find this ad and others at <a href="http://www.applylocal.jobs">www.applylocal.jobs</a></p>	<h3>150 Help Wanted</h3> <p><b>PUBLIC WORKS EMPLOYEES (2) ?</b> Village of Clayton, Polk County. FT with full benefits. Water/wastewater systems, streets, parks &amp; equipment maintenance. CDL &amp; certifications required or obtainable within 1 year. Pay DOQ. <a href="mailto:Vclaytonct@amerytel.net">Vclaytonct@amerytel.net</a> Find this ad and others at <a href="http://www.applylocal.jobs">www.applylocal.jobs</a></p>	<h3>305 Pets/Services</h3> <p><b>For Sale</b> Japanese Chin, 1 male, 1 female, born 4/7/26. \$450. Call or text 320-362-0022.</p>	<h3>362 Miscellaneous</h3> <p><b>Buying sports card</b> collections call Tom 612-701-7396</p>	<h3>362 Miscellaneous</h3> <p><b>Looking for that perfect gift</b> 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!</p>	<h3>401 Auctions</h3> <p><b>Tuesday, June 16, 10 a.m.</b> Estate Auction. Estate of Dawn &amp; Jack (Rocky) Metso, PR Melissa Akurugo. 6606 Metso Rd., Kettle River, MN. Tractors, Hayting &amp; Farm Machinery, Firearms &amp; Sporting, Dozer, Trailers, Farm &amp; Shop, Primitives, Household. Reinhardt Auction Service, <a href="http://www.reinhardtuctions.com">www.reinhardtuctions.com</a>, 218-845-2260. Auctioneer, Steve Reinhardt, Lic. #01-12.</p>	<h3>404 Garage Sales</h3> <p><b>Quamba Lake</b> Garage Sales. 10+ garage sales within 1 mile of each other. Thurs.-Sat., 6/18-20/2026. 8-6 Thurs./Fri., 8-12 Sat. Maps available @ 2141 Stafford St., Quamba.</p>	<h3>501 Real Estate Wanted</h3> <p><b>Recently married</b> Army Veteran looking to buy 10+ acres to build a home or purchase an existing home to raise a family. Preferred location Isanti or Chisago County. Call or text 651-278-5882</p>

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CLASSIFIEDS

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# NORTH 65 CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



*Our Mission: North 65 Chamber of Commerce, led by its members, promotes business growth, provides resources, and enhances partnerships to support a thriving community.*

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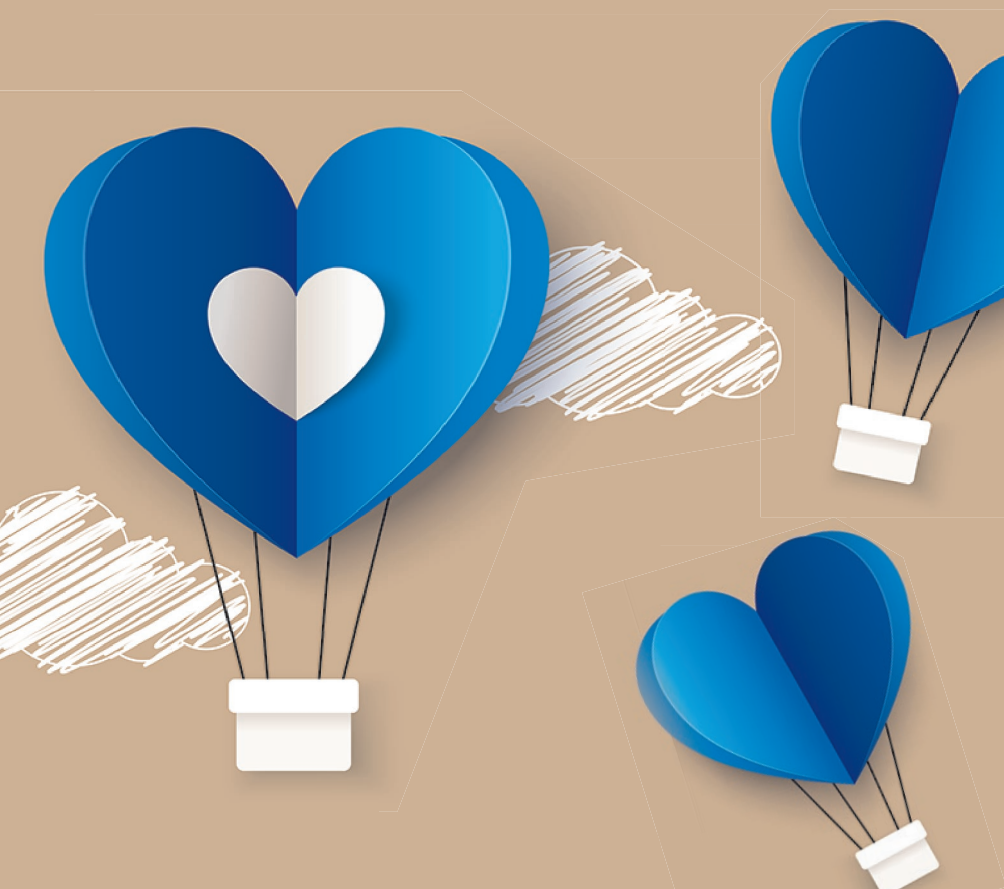
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# Father's Day

## GIFT GUIDE



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Sunday, June 21



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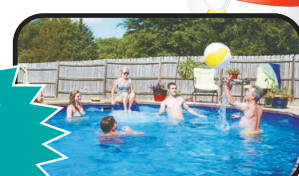


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