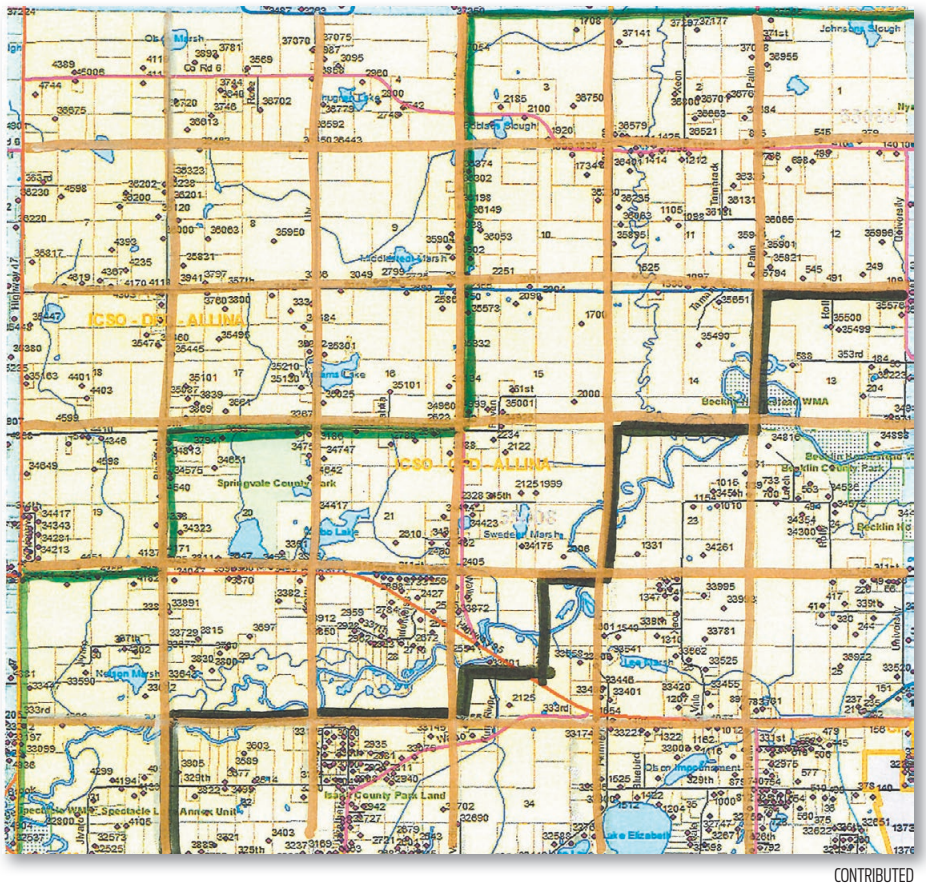
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ISANTI-CHISAGO COUNTY STAR

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2026
VOL. 120 NO. 44 COUNTYSTAR.COM

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GOTTA GO BACK IN TIME: Remember to set your clocks back one hour at 2 a.m. on Sunday, Nov. 1.



CONTRIBUTED

The green line represents the current fire service boundary in Springvale Township. The black line is the new boundary line the Dalbo Fire Department first suggested.

Drawing a line in the sand

Springvale Township's revised service boundary request pits Cambridge, Dalbo Fire Departments against each other

BY BILL STICKELS III
EDITOR@COUNTYSTAR.COM

Some Springvale Township residents are finding themselves in the middle of a tug-o-war between the Cambridge and Dalbo Fire Departments — courtesy of the Township Council.

For the better part of 2026, the council has held discussions regarding the service border within the township for both fire departments. Currently, fire and other emergency services in Springvale is shared between the two departments. The township is broken up into 36 square grids, with Cambridge being the primary responder for 26 of those grids and Dalbo being the primary responder for the other 10.

According to Cambridge Deputy Fire Chief and Emergency Management Director Ross Benzen, Cambridge typically draws up three-year service contracts with neighboring townships. The most recent contract was set to expire a year ago, and instead of simply renewing the contract, the Springvale Council requested a one-year contract in anticipation of the possible border adjustment.

At some point last winter, the council asked Dalbo to draw up a map "with a border they were comfortable with." Dalbo's map moved the border to the

SEE **SPRINGVALE,** PAGE **2**

Isanti modifies allowable livestock ordinance

BY BILL STICKELS III
EDITOR@COUNTYSTAR.COM

Residents of the city of Isanti may need to break out their calculators to figure out how many ducks, chickens, sheep, or other livestock animals they are allowed to keep on their property.

For several months, the Isanti City Council has been hammering out a revised ordinance outlining how many of certain animals a resident can keep on their property. The end result is a system that designates a certain "animal unit factor" for each type of animal and designates a maximum total animal unit for different sized properties.

For example, a property less than a half-acre can have 25 quail — which has an animal unit factor of 0.002. Or, that same property could have 10 chickens (0.005 animal units) or five ducks (0.01 animal units).

On the other hand, a two-acre property — which has a maximum total animal unit of point-three (0.3) — can have one goat (0.1 animal units), one duck, six chickens and up to eight quail.

"To find the total number of animals allowed per lot, divide your total allowed animal units by the number of animal units required per animal. Animals can be combined not to exceed the total number allowed," reads the new ordinance. (See chart).

This ordinance pertains to animals designated as "livestock," and does not include traditional household pets such as dogs, cats, hamsters, etc. The ordinance also prohibits the keeping of turkeys, roosters, or guineafowl within city limits. It also prohibits activities such as animal fighting, selling of honey, eggs, milk, or meat commercially in residential districts, slaughtering of animals in view of the public, livestock animals on properties with multifamily structures, or housing of animals in principal structures.

The ordinance also spells out the housing, structure, and setback requirements for such animals (see full ordinance in this edition's Public Notices pages).

According to Community Development Director Stephanie Hillesheim, the catalyst for the original ordinance's repeal and replacement was a resident's request to keep quail on their property.

"Discussions revealed that (the ordinance) had been adopted and amended many times over the years, prompting a comprehensive reorganization to create a more consistent and user-friendly

SEE **ISANTI LIVESTOCK,** PAGE **2**



BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR

A leap of faith

A youngster enjoys the stump steps at the newly opened Woodland Park in Isanti during the park's grand opening.



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BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR

Kids at play

Representatives of the city of Isanti, North 65 Chamber of Commerce and Isanti Ambassadors, along with area residents and other users of the park hold a ceremonial ribbon cutting to commemorate the opening of Woodland park, located at 905 Triumph Trail NE. The park is unique in that it uses mostly natural structures for its equipment including stumps, rocks and a hill. The entire park was constructed by Isanti Public Works employees. The name was the winner of a naming contest and was suggested by multiple kids.

SPRINGVALE: Reason behind change is financial; new contract has 40% increase

FROM PAGE I

southeast, making Dalbo the primary responder to 25 grids, and Cambridge the primary responder for 10, with one grid dissected in half. According to Benzen, this change would affect 387 parcels, approximately 200 of which have single-family houses on them.

At some point after, the council asked Dalbo to redraw its map with a "50/50 split" of the grids. Benzen states similar requests were not made to Cambridge, and Cambridge has been kept in the dark about a majority of the discussions.

All three parties came together to try and hash out some of their differences during a special meeting held on Monday, Oct. 26. And while both fire departments proclaimed they held no animosity towards each other, and the council stating it was very grateful to have the services of two excellent departments, there was a noticeable tension in the room that wasn't alleviated by the meeting's conclusion.

WHY THE CHANGE?

While a specific reason for asking for a possible boundary change wasn't openly stated, the council indicated the driving force was financial.

"We have to be good stewards of our taxpayers' money," Supervisor Todd Moos said at one point.

The council also mentioned how Cambridge's most recent proposed contract called for a 40% increase in the amount Springvale would be charged. Benzen corrected that statement, saying that increase was over a longer period of time and not from the most recent contract to the proposed new contract. He said the actual increase was 24%. He also stated the amount Cambridge charges is based on a League of Minnesota Cities formula that took into account the township's property values, call volume, and population.

"These calculations are nothing that Cambridge made up," Benzen said. "They are directly from the League of Minnesota Cities model fire contract."

Putting all financial considerations aside, Cambridge's primary concern is the quality of service provided to residents in need. Cambridge Assistant Fire Chief Corey Bustrom provided a response comparison of the two departments from Jan. 1, 2025 through Oct. 13, 2026. During that time, Cambridge was called to respond to some form of incident in Springvale Township 52 times, compared to 21 by the Dalbo Fire Department. These calls could be anything from an alarm going off to a medical emergency, to a traffic incident, to an actual fire.

> **'You can't afford 17-minute responses, and you can't afford nonresponses.'**
>
> **Corey Bustrom**
> Cambridge Assistant Fire Chief

Bustrom said for those calls, Cambridge's average response time was just over 7 minutes, while Dalbo's was over 17 minutes. Bustrom added of those 21 calls for Dalbo, eight were classified as "nonresponses" by Dalbo for various reasons. He also said dispatch wound up calling Cambridge to respond to a couple of those incidents.

"These guys (Dalbo firefighters) are great at fighting fires," Bustrom said. "They are well trained. I would trust them with my life. But this thing has gone from a personal relationship with the Dalbo Fire Department to being more of a business side of things. It's almost political — at least that's how I see it. So this stuff is going to come out, because these are the facts."

Bustrom also brought up the difference in the size of the crews for each department, saying Cambridge has an average of 12 members respond to a call, "whether it's during the middle of the day or three o'clock in the morning.

"That is what this is all about," Bustrom concluded. "You can't afford 17-minute responses, and you can't afford nonresponses."

A representative from the Dalbo Fire Department didn't dispute there was one call Dalbo missed that Cambridge had to respond to.

"It was on a weekend, and it turned out to be a CO detector, and nothing came of it. It probably needed new batteries," he said.

He also disputed the eight nonresponses, saying those were "non-emergency" calls that the department could tell didn't require a response.

"If we get a call that says, 'stomach ache, need transportation to hospital,' Dalbo's just not always gonna go. Everyone knows, people call 911 to get a ride to the hospital. There's many firefighters who are capable of looking at it and saying, 'it doesn't work like that.' If it's CPR or heart attacks, we don't miss those."

And while he didn't have any data of his own, he stated he was certain Dalbo's average response time wasn't 17 minutes.

The two departments also have a mutual aid agreement with each other, meaning if a call is too big for one department to handle, the other department will respond as reinforcement.

"Cambridge Fire, over the past five years, have not had to ask for mutual aid assistance from Dalbo Fire," Benzen said, while indicating the same can't be said of Dalbo asking for Cambridge's assistance.

Ultimately, Benzen said if Cambridge had been asked to provide a boundary line it was comfortable with, it would keep the boundary where it currently is.

"With all due respect, the line that has been in place for many, many years, is the line that we stand with," Benzen concluded. "We are confident with this line and ask that it does not change."

As a final pitch, Cambridge City Administrator Evan Vogel told the council if the rate increase is the controlling factor in the council's final decision, Cambridge is willing to consider a contract with a lower percent increase in each of the three years rather than one big increase right from the start.

"There are contract-smoothing things the city can do to make any disruption or change in cost less disruptive between year three and year one of a contract," Vogel said.

At the conclusion of the special meeting, the council said there will be further discussion at its next regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 4. The public will be allowed to provide their input, however, a final decision might not be made by the council.

ISANTI LIVESTOCK: Council disagrees on the complexity of point system

FROM PAGE I

ordinance," Hillesheim said.

Council member Steve Lundeen vehemently disagreed with the "more user-friendly" portion of that statement.

"This animal thing is getting blown way out of proportion," Lundeen said. "I'll tell you what, if you want to do it right, you should eliminate animal units. Plain and simple. You have to make it as plain and simple for people as you can. If you give them a hard number they can't go over, it is that simple. As soon as you start adding math, you're going to have twenty different people standing in a room giving you twenty different ways to do that math equation."

Despite his disdain for the animal units, Lundeen still made a motion to approve the ordinance as it was written — mainly in order to just be done with it.

"Approve it and let's move forward from it," Lundeen said, "because it's never going to be the same. You all wanted this animal unit, and I told you it was too confusing for people."

"I guess we disagree," Mayor Luke Merrill said.

"That's why I said, 'motion to approve, let's move forward,'" Lundeen concluded.

Ultimately, Lundeen's motion was approved 5-0.

NEW (TO ISANTI) PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT

Mayor Luke Merrill informed the council that the city of Isanti will be the recipient of used playground equipment at no cost for the equipment itself from the city of Bloomington. At a previous council meeting, Merrill told the council he had come across the equipment for sale, and he received permission from council to negotiate on a final price not to exceed $15,000, which would include the cost to disassemble and move the equipment to Isanti.

"I talked (my contact) down to $1,000 (for just the equipment), and I asked if, to save costs on another removal aspect, we could leave concrete on site," Merrill said. "Eventually, he came back and said, 'We'll just give you guys the park.' So, we are getting it for zero dollars."

Merrill said he had an inspector look at the equipment, and he estimated the equipment could last another five to 10 years, plus replacement parts were still easy to come by.

Merrill said a member of Isanti Public Works will go down and help with disassembly in order to get a better idea of how to reassemble it. The most recent price for disassembly and transporting the equipment to Isanti is $8,600.

Merrill said one of the two pieces will probably be placed in Isanti Hills Park, with the other piece's placement to be determined by the Parks Committee.

The removal will take place this fall. However, it hasn't been established when it will be reassembled, since Public Works may wish to do a power wash and some minor repairs first.

Animal	Animal Unit Factor	Minimum Lot Size (acres)	Permitted Districts
Cattle	1	5	R-1A
Horse	1	5	R-1A
Mini horse/cattle	0.5	5	R-1A
llama	0.5	5	R-1A
Swine	0.4	5	R-1A
Alpaca	0.25	5	R-1A
Sheep	0.1	5	R-1A
Goat	0.1	1	R-1, R-1A, R-2
Pot-bellied pig	0.1	1	R-1, R-1A, R-2
Duck	0.01	0.5	R-1, R-1A, R-2
Rabbit	0.008	0.25	R-1, R-1A, R-2, R-3A
Chicken/Fowl	0.005	0.25	R-1, R-1A, R-2, R-3A
Racing pigeon	0.002	5	R-1A
Quail	0.002	0.25	R-1, R-1A, R-2, R-3A
Honeybees	**	0.25	R-1, R-1A, R-2, R-3A

**Honeybees are permitted at 2 colonies for every 0.25 acres to a maximum of 10 colonies

Parcel Lot Size (acres)	Maximum Total Animal Units per lot
<0.5	0.05
0.5-1	0.075
1-2	0.1
2-5	0.3
5-10	2
10-20	5
20+	10

CONTRIBUTED

The above chart show the calculations for the keeping of livestock in the Isanti City Limits.

MON & THUR

Alcoholics Anonymous

7p.m. Main Street Church 6500 Main Street, North Branch, MN. Enter West 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 minnesotan-orth-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.

PrimeTime Singers

The PrimeTime Singers meet Tuesday's at 1:30 p.m. in the Choir Room at Cambridge Lutheran Church, 621 Old N. Main St., Cambridge. Community choir for singers 60 and older. No membership fee or audition. Coffee and fellowship follow. Call 612-619-2111.

WEDNESDAYS

Alanon

7 p.m. at the Isanti 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 Adultmentalhealth.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 ecrlib.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.

OCT. 31

Operation Community Connect

11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at First Baptist Church, 304 S. Main St., Cambridge. Meet, ask questions and learn about resources available through Isanti County. The event will offer free resources, flu vaccines, lunch, bike helmets and winter gear for adults and youth, while supplies last. Hosted by Isanti County Health and Human Services and First Baptist Church. Free and open to all Isanti County residents.

Trunk or Treat

5 to 7 p.m. at River of Life Church, near the corner of 16th Avenue S. and Opportunity Boulevard, near Joe's Lake Road. Children and families can visit decorated cars, play games and collect treats. For more information, visit riveroflifehome.com or call 763-689-5115.

NOV. 1-2

Young Life Jumpstart

Young Life Jumpstart meetings will be held in the evening at the Cambridge Public Library.

NOV. 1

Cash bingo in Cambridge

2 p.m. at the Christ the King Parish Hall on Fern Street. Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Council 12813. Pizza, snacks and beverages will be available for a freewill donation. Proceeds will benefit the Lex Specialty Clinic.

NOV. 3

Pork dinner, bake sale and silent auction

4 to 6:30 p.m. at Fish Lake Lutheran Church, 43353 Cedarcrest Trail, Harris. The menu includes roast pork, mashed potatoes and gravy, corn, coleslaw, pickled beets, rolls, dessert and beverages. Cost is $15 for adults, $5 for children ages 6-12, and free for children 5 and younger. Families can eat for $40.



The Knights of Columbus Council 12813 is hosting a cash Bingo night on Nov. 1.

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.

ECRDC November entrepreneur workshop Nov. 4

CONTRIBUTED
NEWS@COUNTYSTAR.COM

Local entrepreneurs, small business owners, and aspiring business owners are invited to participate in an upcoming Entrepreneur Workshop Series, featuring practical topics designed to help businesses grow and succeed.

The November workshop, "Customer Service That Keeps Them Coming Back!", will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 4, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Isanti Community Center, located at 208 1/2 1st Ave NW in Isanti.

Featured speakers include Grant Wilsey, Walmart Manager, and Amy Rockstad of Rockstad and Co. Relics and Wares. They will share practical insights, ideas, and perspectives on creating positive customer experiences that encourage customer loyalty and keep customers coming back.

Providing excellent customer service is an important part of building a successful business. Attendees will gain useful ideas they can apply to their own customer interactions and business practices, whether they are launching a new business or looking to strengthen an established one.

For more information about the Entrepreneur Workshop Series and upcoming workshops, visit the City of Isanti's website at www.cityofisanti.us.

The series continues in December with "Protecting Your Idea: Trademarks, Copyrights and Patents". This workshop will focus on understanding the different ways businesses can protect their ideas, creative works, brands, and inventions. Entrepreneurs will have an opportunity to learn more about intellectual property and why it matters when developing and growing a business.

This workshop will be held Tuesday, Dec. 1, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Isanti Community Center.

The next TikTok celebrity?



BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR

Isanti-Chisago County Star publisher Jeff Andres gives a tour of the press area to students from Barnum and Moose Lake High Schools.

On Wednesday, we ran into a little bit of a delay in putting this edition of the Star together. Fortunately, it wasn't anything bad.



Worth a Thousand Words

Bill Stickels III

A group of about 20 or so students from Barnum and Moose Lake came down to tour our offices and pressroom.

The group was mixed between kids in a journalism class and kids who are on the yearbook staff. The tour started as most do. This certainly isn't our first tour. Our most recent one before this was the North 65 Chamber of Commerce's "Morning Perks" series. In fact, we welcome anyone — no matter the size of the group — to see the inner-workings of our newspaper and pressroom. Watching the press run is actually quite mesmerizing. And it really is fascinating to see how a newspaper goes from InDesign to newsprint.

Anyway, these kids were very nice, although they seemed to be a little reserved at first. As an example of what I just said, they definitely perked up once they entered the press area. But not as much as immediately following the tour when they had a few minutes waiting for their bus to come back.

Stacy and I had gone back to her desk to resume putting pages together when a bunch of the kids wandered back. Thinking we could give them a sample of our work, we started talking about layout and graphics programs. But they apparently had other plans for us.

A couple of kids asked me my age (I had mentioned when I graduated from high school earlier). Another couple noticed Stacy's "Best of" certificates. It was about then; things really took an unexpected turn.

They started complimenting me on my smile. Others noticed my office and my assorted Minnesota Newspaper Association awards. They started asking to take photos with me, and even doing a TikTok video. I admitted I wasn't super familiar with what they were asking me to do, but apparently it was some sort of new TikTok fad.

As some of you may remember, I still consider myself an introvert. So, I will say all of this attention was a little overwhelming. There was also a slight concern that what they were asking me to do would come back to haunt me. At the same time, I do have experience being around teenagers and have witnessed and even been a part of some of their social media-based antics. So, I'm fairly confident it was all good fun.

And, who knows, maybe it will lead to me becoming the next TikTok celebrity. But, at the risk of dating myself, in the immortal words of Wayne Campbell, "Sh'yeah, and monkeys might fly out of my butt."

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.



LETTER GUIDELINES

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

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

GUIDELINES FOR ALL SUBMISSIONS

- Letters must be submitted by noon on Tuesdays to editor@countystar.com or via mail to 930 S. Cleveland St., Cambridge MN 55008. The Star reserves the right to extend its deadline in the interest of timeliness of letters and/or space availability.
- Letters to the editor must be 400 words or less.
- Each letter writer may have one letter published every 30 days, or four print cycles.
- Anonymous letters will not be published. Letter signatures must include the writer's first and last name, community of residence and phone number. Phone numbers will not be published.
- Only letters originating from writers who live, work or have some other relevance to the *Star* circulation area will be published.
- An identification line may be added to the writer's letter identifying his or her occupation or title as it applies to the topic of the letter.
- Special rules apply during election season.

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

Your Best Source for Community Information

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NEWS DEADLINE: *Noon Tuesday*

ADVERTISING DEADLINE: *4 p.m. Tuesday*

CLASSIFIED DEADLINE: *4 p.m. Tuesday*

LEGALS DEADLINE: *Noon Monday*

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The Newspaper shall not be liable for slight changes or typographical errors that do not lessen the value of the advertisement.
The Newspaper shall not be liable or responsible for any error in any advertisement except to give the Advertiser credit for so much of the space occupied by the advertisement as is materially affected by the error; credit shall be by refund or republication of the advertisement at the election of Newspaper. Such credit shall not be given for more than one incorrect insertion unless the Publisher is notified in writing of the error before the repetition of the insertion.
When the Advertiser wishes to correct or change copy submitted as a "proof," the Newspaper shall not be liable for the changes or corrections unless they are received by the Newspaper within a reasonable length of time before the deadline for publication.
If an advertisement is requested to run after copy deadline, the Newspaper will not honor an adjustment request if an error occurs.
No specific page or position shall be guaranteed.
The Advertiser or Agency shall indemnify the Newspaper for any attorney 's fees incurred in defending against claims, pay any judgments against the Newspaper, and pay associated expenses and losses that are caused by the publication of any advertisement submitted by or published at the direction of the Advertiser or Agency, including claims for libel, copyright infringement, and invasion of privacy.

Cybersecurity and school safety



NB School News
Sara Paul

October is National Cybersecurity Awareness Month, a timely reminder of how important it is to protect our information and the technology systems we depend on every day. At North Branch Area Public Schools (NBAPS), technology supports nearly everything we do, from classroom instruction and communication to managing student records, maintaining building security, and keeping our schools operating efficiently.

Cyberattacks have affected school districts across Minnesota, disrupting operations and creating significant challenges for students, staff, and families. Beyond exposing sensitive information, cyber threats can also affect essential building systems and result in costly recovery efforts. The cybersecurity challenges facing schools today are far more complex than they were a decade ago. Staying ahead of emerging threats is essential to cost-effective operations, safe schools, and quality learning environments.

Our responsibility to protect information extends well beyond the students currently attending our schools. NBAPS maintains educational records, including transcripts, for generations of graduates. A cybersecurity incident could affect people who attended our schools decades ago, making the protection of these records an ongoing responsibility.

Just this month, the Minnesota School Safety Center issued an urgent alert about newly discovered software vulnerabilities. Our technology team, led by Darin Marcussen, responded by taking additional precautions to protect district systems. I appreciate the expertise and dedication of our technology team as they monitor emerging threats, maintain security protections, and keep our systems operating.

Over the past decade, our focus has shifted from providing a device for every student to ensuring technology is used purposefully, in balance with other learning experiences, and with a strong emphasis on digital citizenship and online safety. Our media specialists and classroom teachers play an important role in helping students use technology responsibly, recognize online risks, and protect their personal information. These are important life skills that extend well beyond the classroom. Using strong passwords, thinking twice before clicking unfamiliar links, keeping devices updated, and being cautious about sharing personal information are steps that help protect us at home, at work, and at school.

Technology will continue to change, and so will the challenges that come with it. Our commitment remains the same: protecting our students, caring for our schools, and using our resources wisely.

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

Minnesota DNR, conservation organizations calling for WMA photos

Whether visitors to wildlife management areas are hunters, wildlife watchers or hikers, they can witness stunning beauty and take these experiences home as memories — and even capture them in great photos.

One of the many ways the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and several conservation organizations are celebrating the 75th anniversary of WMAs in Minnesota is to invite people to share their WMA photos in a statewide photo contest.

"This is a great opportunity to share some photos to celebrate the benefits WMAs bring to wildlife and Minnesotans," said David Trauba, DNR wildlife section manager. "We've seen a lot of excitement generated around WMAs this year as we celebrate 75 years, and part of that is reminding people why our WMAs matter and the importance of preserving and enhancing this legacy for future generations to enjoy."

By sharing photos, participants can help highlight the beauty, diversity, and purpose of these lands. People are free to share as many photos as they like, whether it's a snapshot of wildlife, a meaningful family tradition, a successful day afield, or a favorite quiet corner of a WMA.

People can submit the photos on the Minnesota DNR website (mndnr.gov/wmas/photo-contest.html). The contest will run through Friday, Jan. 2, 2027.

Sponsoring organizations include Ducks Unlimited, Backcountry Hunters & Anglers, Pheasants Forever, Ruffed Grouse Society and the American Woodcock Society, National Wild Turkey Federation, Minnesota Deer Hunters Association, Minnesota Wildlife Federation, Minnesota Outdoor News, and Delta Waterfowl.

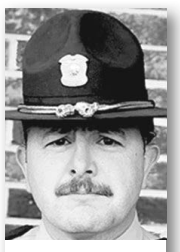
"Thank you to our partner organizations for helping develop and promote this photo contest," Trauba said. "Of course, this is just the tip of the iceberg — these organizations contribute so much to support conservation work that improves habitat and enhances people's outdoor experiences on Minnesota's public lands, year-in and year-out."

ABOUT WMAS

In 1951, a small group of Minnesota conservationists launched the "Save the Minnesota Wetlands" program with an audacious goal: permanently protect 250,000 acres of land and preserve it for wildlife habitat. That vision became Minnesota's WMA system, which today encompasses more than 1,500 areas and 1.4 million acres.

WMAs are habitat-rich areas that provide havens for wildlife and recreational opportunities for hunters, hikers, nature watchers and trappers. More information and an online tool to find nearby WMAs is available on the Minnesota DNR WMA finder webpage (mndnr.gov/wmas).

Golf cart rules of the road



Ask A Trooper
Jesse Grabow

Question: I have been seeing more golf carts driving around this summer and wondering about their regulations regarding their use on the streets.

Answer: Motorized golf carts are not titled or registered with the Department of Public Safety, and ordinarily they cannot be operated on public roads. However, Minnesota law does allow local units of government, such as counties and cities, to authorize via a special permit golf cart operation on streets and highways under that local government's jurisdiction. The Minnesota Department of Transportation cannot issue the permit for use on trunk highways (including the interstate system).

A rearview mirror is required. The mirror must provide a view to the rear for at least 200 feet. Golf carts must also display a triangular slow-moving vehicle emblem.

Insurance requirements must be established as part of the local ordinance and must match that of motorcycles.

Drivers of golf carts are subject to the same traffic laws and duties as operators of other motor vehicles, although additional limitations apply. The vehicles can only be operated on designated roadways, although they may cross other roads and highways. The vehicles can only be operated between sunrise and sunset unless original equipment includes headlights, taillights, and brake lights. They cannot be used in bad weather unless the authorizing ordinance provides an exception for emergencies, or if there is not enough visibility to see people and other vehicles from 500 feet away.

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 Trp. 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).

Most of Banning State Park to temporarily close for construction beginning Nov. 9

Starting Monday, Nov. 9, most of Banning State Park in Sandstone will close to the public as construction begins on important accessibility updates in day-use areas of the park and continues in the park's campground.

"Our annual visitation has tripled since 2020. We love sharing Banning with so many people, but our current park infrastructure is really straining to support those numbers," said Clarissa Payne, Banning State Park supervisor. "The improvement projects will expand our capacity and improve the visitor experience."

The day-use area project will upgrade amenities, including:

Accessible picnic areas

An expansion of the current parking lot and an additional parking lot at one of the trail crossings

Improved accessibility on trails and in parking areas

New accessible vault toilets

Accessible water spigots

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources closed the park's campground on Sept. 8 (mndnr.gov/news) to initiate work on that project, which includes replacement of the existing shower facility and upgrades to several campsites to improve accessibility for campers.

To protect visitor safety during this extensive construction work, most recreation opportunities at Banning State Park will close to the public starting Nov. 9. The designated snowmobile trail on the north and west sides of the park will remain open, although no trail parking will be available in the park. The Eldon climbing area will also remain open, with parking available on the south end of the park in Sandstone. While the public water access on the Kettle River within the state park will be closed during construction, boaters and paddlers can continue to use nearby public water accesses to access the river, including the one on the north end of the park at Highway 23 and the landing at Robinson Quarry Park in Sandstone, just south of Banning State Park.

The day-use area is planned to reopen in October 2027. The campground will reopen in May 2028. The Minnesota DNR will look for opportunities to open portions of the park for day use in summer 2027 as construction activities allow. Visitors should always check the visitor alerts on the park webpage (mndnr.gov/banning) before visiting for the latest information.

"We appreciate the public's patience during this construction closure, and we look forward to sharing these park improvements with visitors when construction is complete," Payne said.

Construction updates can be found at mndnr.gov/state-parks/banning-state-park-construction.html.

Day-use area improvements are made possible with $500,000 in Get Out MORE (Modernize Outdoor Recreation Experiences) funding. The campground project is funded with $2 million from the Parks and Trails Legacy Fund. ~MNDNR

CORRECTION

•American Legion Post 290 Commander Mark Witter's last name was initially spelled correctly, however was incorrectly spelled in the remainder of the article in last week's edition. We apologize for the error.

•The section listing precinct locations was labeled with the incorrect date for election day. It should have read "Where to go to vote on Nov. 3. We apologize for any confusion this may cause.



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ISANTI-CHISAGO COUNTY STAR

MILESTONES

Beverly Seafolk

October 2, 1939 - September 19, 2026

Beverly was born on October 2, 1939 in Forest Grove Township, MN.

Beverly and her three sisters grew up in Mizpah, MN and Cloquet, MN.

Bev's family was always important to her along with many friends she met throughout her life. Bev worked many jobs starting at a nursing home in high school, waitressing and even blackjack dealer in Las Vegas. In her later years she worked in the Pine County Assessors office.



Bev was proceeded in death by her parents Merrill and Anna Bengson. Sisters: Deanna, Dorothy and Kathy.

She is survived by: daughter Donna, son Chuck (Tammy) and brother-inlaw Dick Hambly.

Grandchildren: Alex (Raechel), Jessica, Matthew (Nicole), Michael (Samantha), Luke (Sophie), and Brianna.

Great Grandchildren: Gabe, Emma, Knox, Benjamin, Mollie, Jameson, and Hank. Numerous nieces and nephews.

Celebration of Life details:

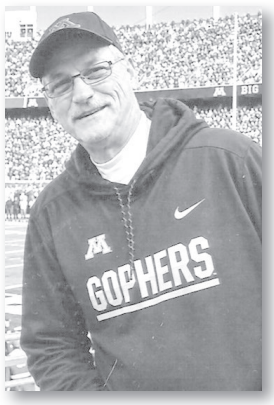
October 29, 2026. Visitation 11 to 11:30 a.m. with service to follow. Luncheon following service.

Location: New Hope Community Church
33030 Vickers St NE, Cambridge MN

Joe Langerud

Our beloved son, Joe Langerud, age 55, died at his home in Carroll, Iowa on October 17, 2026.

He is preceded in death by infant sister, Tammy Jo and his grandparents. He is survived by his parents, John and Karen Langerud of Cambridge, Minnesota; brothers, Cory (Julie) of Bloomington, Minnesota, Jeremy (Michele) of Waukee, Iowa, Jonny (Allison) of Bloomington, Minnesota; nephews, Keegan, Caleb, Vinny and Jacob all of Bloomington, Minnesota; Jack Brinkhaus whom he loved as a son for 25 years of Bloomington, Minnesota; and many aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.



Joe was born in Brainerd, Minnesota on May 4, 1971. His family moved to Carroll, Iowa in 1978. He attended St. Lawrence Grade School and Kuemper Catholic High School. He received a degree from DeVry and pursued a career in telecommunications in Nevada, Iowa and Minnesota. His last position was with Nuvera Communications in Prior Lake.

From an early age, Joe loved the outdoors; whether throwing a football with his brothers on the front lawn, shooting baskets with Dad or playing baseball with his brothers and neighborhood friends. During high school he was very active in sports, loving every moment of it and looked forward to the start of each new season. Most recently he loved fishing on Minnesota lakes. We loved him and are missing him dearly.

Memorial Mass will be held at 10:30 am on Friday, Oct. 30 at Christ the King Catholic Church in Cambridge. A visiting time will be held 1 hour prior at the church. Online condolences can be placed at StrikeLifeTributes.com or to the Langerud Family at 2140 Black Pine Dr. Cambridge, MN 55008.

Glenda Lee Hasser

Glenda Lee Hasser, of Isanti, passed away on Wednesday, October 21, 2026, at Abbott Northwestern Hospital in Minneapolis. She was 74 years old.

She was born January 16, 1952, in Dallas, Texas, to John Ervin and Virginia Delores (Simon) Boyd.



She had three siblings: Elaine Goswick, Vicki Yarbrough and John Matthew (Matt) Boyd. She had three children: Stephen (Steve) Beise and Bradley, (Brad) Beise and Jeremy Hasser. She lived in Texas until 1974, when she moved to Minnesota. She married Tom Hasser in March 1984. Glenda enjoyed working at the Brass Rail in Grandy for a number of years. A significant part of her life was marked by rheumatoid arthritis. Her condition became so extreme in the later years that it was very apparent to anyone that she was consumed by pain. She tried to live through the pain, but often it was very hard for her to do. Tom was a loving husband and devoted caregiver that never left her side and did all he could to make her life easier.

The chains are now broken. Glenda is home with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Glenda was preceded in death by her parents, brother John Matthew Boyd, grandparents, E. E. and Mary Etta Simon and Ross and Prula Boyd, uncles, R.D., Ren, James Boyd, and father-in-law Henry Hasser.

She is survived by her husband Tom; children, Steve (Lynn) Beise, Brad (Lynn) Beise, and Jeremy Hasser (Nykkia); grandchildren, Spencer, Conrad, Bethany, Caleb, Haylee (Cody), Alex, Hannah, Jaxon, and Victor; sisters, Elaine Goswick and Vicki Yarbrough; mother-in-law Lenore Hasser; many nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

A Funeral Service was held on October 26, 2026 at the South Isanti Baptist Church. Interment was in the Isanti Union Cemetery. Arrangements were entrusted to the Hamilton Funeral Homes – Rock Chapel in Braham. Condolences may be posted to www.hamiltonfhs.com.

Gary Michael Dudrey

Gary Michael Dudrey, 55, of San Antonio TX, (formerly of Cambridge, MN), was born September 15, 1970, in Rush City MN. Gained his angel wings September 2, 2026.

Gary graduated Cambridge High School in 1989.



He went on to Century College later in life, where he graduated with a 2-year degree in computer science. Right after graduation he found a job which eventually led him to move to San Antonio TX, in 2009. Gary had a love of music and played bass guitar in several bands throughout his life. He was also an avid Dungeons and Dragons player. He is greatly missed by his family and friends.

He is survived by his wife Lydia of 23 years, mother Dorothy, brother Robin (Jody), brother Scott(Maritt), sister in-law Melody, and nieces and nephews.

Preceded in death by father Robert, brother Mitchell, and brother Marcus



CONTRIBUTED

Post 85 honors former commander

Past Commander Rick Hals, center, receives an award recognizing his service to North Branch American Legion Post 85 during the post's monthly membership meeting. Hals was the longest-serving commander in the post's history. He also received a flag flown at the post July 4 in honor of the nation's 250th anniversary. From left are Post Adjutant Alex Marie, Hals and current Commander Paul Johnson.



CONTRIBUTED

Room to grow

Isanti County Master Gardeners and volunteers are building 14 new raised garden plots at the Cambridge Community Garden to meet growing demand. Seven plots were built recently, with funding for most of the new plots provided by Shalom Thrift Shop. From left are Gary Steffenson, Steve Johnson, Paul Moberg, Poppy Irwin, Diane Larrabee and Ken Schroepfer. The photo was provided by John Nordin.

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Production company films movie at abandoned sanatorium Pine Shores

BY ERIK VAN RHEENEN
PINE CITY PIONEER

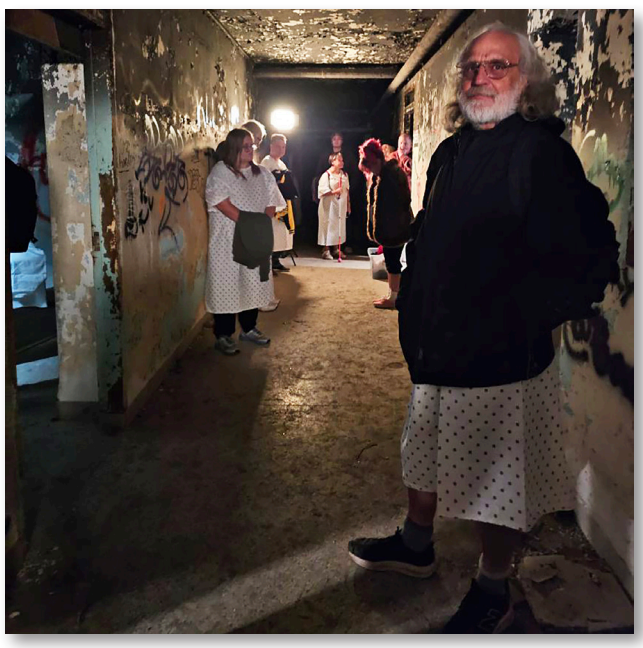




T.A. LEBRUN | PINE CITY PIONEER

Above and right the production staff for the movie 'Case 47' assemble at Pine Shores for filming in late September. Below, long-time Duluth news anchor Michelle Lee, of Moose Lake, works on her part as an extra in the film.





It was raining when Tate Mohlenkamp first arrived at the former Pokegama Sanatorium in Pine City.

The director and assistant director Carson Knecht arrived at the abandoned building on Tuesday, Sept. 29, ahead of a five-day shoot for a found footage feature film project titled "Case 47."

Armed with iPhone flashlights to navigate the unfamiliar hallways, Mohlenkamp said the duo's pre-shoot scouting was scored by the sound of echoing raindrops.

"The whole time we kept thinking, 'this is what you're not supposed to do,'" Mohlenkamp said. "This is the worst possible idea we've had in a while."

"It eventually turned into the best," Knecht added.

Over a marathon shoot – spanning 60 hours over five days – the long-vacant brick building now owned by Pine Shores was recast in "Case 47" as an abandoned asylum under investigation by a government property assessor and a pair of amateur documentarians.

The schedule saw members of the cast and crew putting in close to 14-hour days, from about 10 a.m. until 4 a.m.

"We were probably getting a solid six hours of sleep a day," Mohlenkamp said. "Maybe an hour to dump footage, and then pass out."

FINDING FOOTAGE

Mohlenkamp said he and actor Max Hardyk had wanted to make a found footage film for some time before "Case 47."

The movie is the first foray into found footage for Mohlenkamp, Knecht, and Hardyk, all film major graduates of Dakota State University.

Hardyk previously worked with actor Luke LeBrun, a 2018 Pine City High School graduate, on a rom-com feature film, and in February, the indie filmmakers started writing the movie's script.

Hardyk plays a documentarian named Alex in "Case 47," with the dual responsibility of operating a camera while in character.

"The audience sees through his eyes for most of the film," Hardyk explained.

LeBrun first came up with the idea for the film and presented it to the team back in February of this year, and it is the first film by the production company he started, Stone Arch Entertainment, LLC.

The team spent months riffing on ideas – the original plan was to set the film in an office building – and LeBrun said the final script was a "night and day" difference.

"By the end of it, all of us have put some kind of ourselves into the script," said Mohlenkamp, who also makes a cameo appearance as a mental patient in one scene.

A couple of months into the writing process, LeBrun kicked around the idea of the abandoned sanatorium as the setting, since it fit the desired creepy aesthetic.

"It felt like kind of a waste to not make use of the building," he said, having grown up just a couple miles from the property.

The filmmakers worked with the property owner to secure a location agreement; LeBrun said she was easy to work with and offered invaluable insights about navigating the interior.

"It's the first feature to be filmed there," said LeBrun, who plays Daniel Jensen, a bureaucratic property assessor who helps discover an anomaly with the building while searching for a missing government worker, in "Case 47."

Shooting on location at the long-dormant building, sprawling over 12,700 square feet and without electricity, was not without its challenges.

Mohlenkamp, who has previously directed one feature and about a dozen short films, said the only lighting was what the crew brought with them.

Instead of spending an hour or two lighting a scene, Mohlenkamp said that time was instead devoted to blocking out extended one-take sequences.

LeBrun said "Case 47" was unlike any set he'd been on before. A generator was brought in to supply limited power, and cast and crewmates alike waved flashlights around to avoid spooking each other in the dark.

"Indie sets are never laid back, but usually you're in more actor-friendly conditions," LeBrun said. "But we all knew what we were getting into when we agreed to be a part of it."

The team also made use of rentable office space at Snake River Sharespace in downtown Pine City, where they were able to shoot their office scenes.

'IF YOU CAN BE AN EXTRA, DO IT'

One of the extras cast in "Case 47" is no stranger to being on-screen.

Moose Lake resident and longtime Duluth news anchor Michelle Lee saw an ad seeking extras posted on Facebook.

"And I just thought, 'gosh, that would be fun,'" Lee said.

Lee arrived at the boat landing that served as a rendezvous point for extras on a "very dark and chilly" Friday night around 8 p.m., before being shepherded over to the set.

"I'm in my seventies, and I don't scare easily, but it was still a little spooky," Lee said.

Lee's role sported long hair and a terrible bruise – and, in what she called her "big Hollywood moment," had a minor speaking part.

While still being in front of the camera, Lee said being an extra tapped into a totally different mindset from her career in television journalism, especially when it came to not having to be in control.

She approximated that she was one of about two dozen extras, some of whom came from the Twin Cities, Duluth area, and St. Cloud to be part of the movie.

"If you can be an extra in a scene, do it," Lee said. "I recommend being in a local movie."

WHAT'S NEXT?

"Case 47" is currently in post-production, which LeBrun explained is typically about a nine-month process for most Indie films, but expedited due to the lack of traditional editing in a found-footage movie.

The filmmakers are also reviewing behind-the-scenes footage to begin the work of eventually rolling the film out on select platforms.

"I'm excited for people to see it," LeBrun said. "It's very real, very raw, and very authentic."







PHOTOS ABOVE BY TRAVIS TIMM, OTHERS BY T.A. LEBRUN | PINE CITY PIONEER

Above left, actor and cameraman Max Hardyk stands with director Tate Mohlenkamp. Above right, Luke LeBrun, Pine City local and creator of the film, stands with cast and actors. At left is Pine Shores as it stands today. At right, are two 'secret service' extras on the film.





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Diabetes SUPPORT GROUP

NOVEMBER 5

Thursday, November 5
1:30-2:30 PM
Welia Health–Mora | Conference Room 2
301 Highway 65 South | Mora, MN 55051

Managing diabetes is daily work—support can make it easier.

Welia Health's **Diabetes Support Group** offers a welcoming space to connect, learn, and share experiences with others living with diabetes and their loved ones. Led by healthcare professionals, discussions focus on practical, real-life topics to support day-to-day diabetes care. **You're welcome here—no matter where you are on your diabetes journey.**

Have questions or want to learn more?
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Scan the QR code for more upcoming dates or visit **WeliaHealth.org/SupportGroups** to explore all Welia Health Support Groups.

welia HEALTH

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LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
Friday & Saturday • 8pm

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JORGE PERALES | COUNTY STAR

Bluejackets Jeremiah Guldseth (left photo) and Esther Larson (right photo) were the top finishers at the Mississippi 8 Conference Championships held at North Branch Golf Course. Guldseth finished in fourth place in the boys race and Larson finished in 13th place in the girls race. Both Bluejacket teams will be competing in the Section 7AAA Meet on Thursday, Oct. 29 at Anoka High School. The boys race begins at 11:30 a.m. and the girls race begins at 12:10 p.m.



BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR

Cambridge-Isanti's Mason McKinnon gets a fieldgoal kick off before Irondale's Colin O'Brien could make the block during the Bluejackets' game against the Knights. With their 46-22 win over Irondale, the Jackets finished the regular season with a 4-4 record. They received a quarterfinal bye in the Section 7AAAAA tournament and will face Elk River at Elk River at noon on Sunday, Oct. 31 in the semifinals.

Changes coming to deer hunting CWD sampling, shotgun zone, license purchasing

More than 400,000 Minnesota hunters are expected to participate in the 2026 firearms deer season, which opens Saturday, Nov. 7. Ahead of the season, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources encourages hunters to review the updated hunting regulations and ensure they complete their license purchase well in advance.

Here are some important changes for this season and where hunters can find more details:

A four-year statewide rotational surveillance plan for CWD begins this year, with sampling required for deer harvested in southwest Minnesota on Nov. 7-8. In any CWD management zone statewide (any 600-series DPA), a new rule makes it easier to move harvested deer out of those zones, as long as disposal requirements are met. Details are on the CWD webpage (mndnr.gov/cwd). Voluntary sampling is also available when sampling is not required, statewide, and those options are detailed on the CWD testing options webpage (mndnr.gov/cwd/cwd-testing.html).

For more about CWD changes this deer season, see Minnesota DNR's previous news release (mndnr.gov/news/2026/10/12/dnr-reminds-firearms-deer-hunters-prepare-chronic-wasting-disease-sampling).

The state's shotgun zone for deer hunting has been eliminated, leaving individual counties in the former shotgun zone with the option of adopting county-level restrictions. Details on this change and other general regulation updates are under "new for 2026" on the deer hunting webpage (mndnr.gov/hunting/deer).

A modernized electronic licensing system has changed how hunters buy licenses and register harvests. Online license sales, license agent locations, and resources for help with using the new system are available on the Minnesota DNR buy a license webpage (mndnr.gov/buyalicense).

Minnesota DNR's regional wildlife managers have developed the following outlooks for deer hunters in their regions. Maps of regions referenced are available on the Minnesota DNR website (mndnr.gov/aboutdnr/regions.html).

SOUTHERN REGION HUNTING OUTLOOK

Deer populations continue to be stable or increasing in southern Minnesota. This is largely due to a series of mild winters that created favorable conditions for increased survival and reproduction. Populations will be similar to 2025.

Although most of the summer was dry, it appears trees producing nuts, seeds and berries — especially bur oak — have had a good production year. Later rains increased cool-season green-up that could produce late-season deer food. With recent rainfall, some wetlands have begun to refill.

Multiple deer permit areas that had one-deer limits last year have designations that have increased bag limits for this year.

NORTHWEST REGION HUNTING OUTLOOK

Deer populations throughout the northwest region are in very good condition. Three relatively mild winters combined with conservative bag limits for most DPAs in the region are the primary reasons deer herds have rebounded.

Deer have also had opportunities for healthy grazing. The acorn crop this year was fair to good in some areas of the region. When abundant, acorns are one of the most important and nutritious foods for deer and other wildlife. Additionally, prolonged warm temperatures, timely rainfall and relatively late frosts, grass and forbs have remained green throughout much of fall. This helps deer enter winter in very good physical condition.

As a result of rebounded deer herds, bag limits for many DPAs in the region for this fall's deer hunting season are less restrictive. Hunters will have more opportunities to harvest additional antlerless deer in almost two dozen DPAs in the northwest region. More DPAs than last year in northwest Minnesota have two- or three-deer harvest limits, and DPA 203 remains the only DPA in the northwest region limited to bucks-only harvest. Some DPAs continue to have lower harvest limits, with the objective of returning local deer herds to established population goals.

NORTHEAST REGION HUNTING OUTLOOK

Deer populations in the northeast region of the state are variable. This year was favorable for reproduction, and hunters should see more deer. However, populations in the far northeast portion of the region remain low, and winter severity was high, with snow remaining into spring. In these areas, bag limits remain conservative to give local deer populations a chance to grow.

The best deer harvest opportunities will be in the southern portion of this region, where deer numbers are higher and winter conditions were mild. Hunters should look for a mix of cover types and scout ahead of time for the best success.

Changes to DPAs in this region include a shift from bucks-only to lottery in DPAs 169, 176 and 199. Additionally, there were increased numbers of lottery permits available in many DPAs in the southern portion of the region.

CENTRAL REGION HUNTING OUTLOOK

Deer populations in the central region continue to increase due to strong overwinter survival, good reproduction and great habitat. Most DPAs show upward population trends, with a few stabilizing near goal levels.

The region's mix of forest, prairie and agricultural edges has provided excellent forage and cover throughout the year, contributing to healthy deer herds. Habitat conditions are favorable heading into fall. Food and cover availability remain strong across both forest-transition and prairie landscapes with reports of a good acorn crop this year.

Deer reports from agricultural lands and metro municipalities reflect higher local populations. There are ample deer harvest opportunities due to high localized deer populations and multiple-deer bag limits in many DPAs. Area wildlife managers encourage hunters and landowners to take advantage of all available hunting seasons and opportunities to help manage deer populations. ~ MN DNR

Minnesota DNR reminds off-highway vehicle riders of steps for safe rides

With six reported off-highway-vehicle-related fatalities in the state in October, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources reminds all riders to prioritize safety as they enjoy the outdoors. Before October, there were 12 reported fatalities in 2026.

"Our goal is that every rider returns home safely at the end of every ride," said Capt. Jon Paurus, education program coordinator for the DNR Enforcement Division. "The likelihood of that occurring increases when safety is top-of-mind before and during any ride."

THE DNR OFFERS THE FOLLOWING TIPS:

Wear a helmet. Wearing a helmet and other safety gear reduces the risk of serious injury in the event of an accident. Riders under the age of 18 are required to wear a DOT-approved helmet anytime they're riding an OHV, and helmets are strongly recommended for all riders.

Buckle your seatbelt. All occupants of Class 2 ATVs that are manufactured with a seatbelt must wear it when they're on public roadways or rights-of-way. The DNR urges all OHV riders to wear a seatbelt if their machine is equipped with them, even when riding on trails where the law doesn't require it.

Complete safety training. Safety training is required for all ATV operators born on or after July 1, 1987, and is recommended for all riders. Safety training material can be found on the DNR's recreational vehicle safety training (mndnr.gov/safety/vehicle) website.

Stay on designated trails. Designated trails are designed for OHV use, and riding OHVs in non-designated areas can be dangerous. Most deadly crashes with other vehicles occur along roadways. OHV trail maps are available online (mndnr.gov/ohv/az.html).

Drive sober. Driving an OHV under the influence of alcohol or drugs is not only dangerous, but also a crime. Anyone convicted of operating under the influence – whether they're operating a recreational vehicle, boat, or motor vehicle – loses their privilege to operate any of them.

Ride together. Riding together is key to riding safely. When minutes matter, having people nearby to help if things go wrong can be critical. If someone must ride alone, they should make sure someone knows where they're going and when they plan to return.

Ride to abilities and for the conditions. If a trail appears to be too challenging, turn around. And pay attention to the conditions and the weather. It's more hazardous to ride when it's icy, muddy, or wet, for example; and riders should adjust their riding style and speed to reduce risks.

Monitor young riders. Active supervision of young riders is key. Youths under the age of 16 need permission from a parent or guardian to operate an OHV.

For more OHV safety tips, visit the DNR website (mndnr.gov/ohv/atv-safety.html). ~ MN DNR

Talking migraine with University of Minnesota

Migraine is more than a headache — it is a genetic neurological disorder that often involves severe pain and symptoms such as sensitivity to light or sound, nausea and vomiting.

Abby Metzler, MD, and Monique Montenegro, MD, with the University of Minnesota Medical School and M Health Fairview, talk about the different types of migraine, triggers and treatment options.

Q: What are the different types of migraine?

Dr. Metzler: Migraine is classified into two main types: migraine with aura and migraine without aura. Migraine without aura is the most common and involves a headache that is typically one-sided, throbbing, moderate to severe and worsened by activities. It may be accompanied by light and sound sensitivity, nausea or vomiting. Migraine with aura affects about one-third of individuals with migraine and involves additional symptoms, including visual disturbances, sensory changes, speech difficulties and less commonly, weakness or vertigo that occurs up to an hour before the headache begins. Episodic migraine is defined as having fewer than 15 headache days per month, while chronic migraine is diagnosed when headaches are present 15 or more days each month.

Q: What are common triggers for migraine?

Dr. Montenegro: Migraine triggers can vary widely between individuals, but some common triggers include stress, lack of sleep, hormonal changes like menstrual cycles or perimenopause, dehydration and skipping meals. Sensory inputs, such as bright or flashing lights, loud sounds, strong smells and motion, can also be provoking. Weather changes and certain foods may also trigger attacks. Environmental factors also contribute to migraines, influencing how and when migraines develop. It also helps to understand that certain medications can promote migraines. Identification of personal triggers can be helpful in managing attacks and preventing future attacks. It should be noted that while triggers are provoking factors for an individual migraine attack, they are not the underlying cause of the disorder. The underlying cause of migraine is genetic.

Q: Why do some people experience migraine flare-ups in the summer?

Dr. Metzler: Some people have more migraine attacks in the summer due to exposure to environmental and lifestyle triggers that are more prevalent during warmer months. Higher temperatures can lead to dehydration, which is a common trigger. More sunlight exposure, along with increased outdoor activity and longer days, can also lead to more attacks. Similarly, an increase in outdoor time can bring more exposure to allergens and poor air quality, including smoke, which may worsen migraines in sensitive individuals. Finally, our daily routines often change in summer — altered sleep patterns due to longer days, more traveling and more physical activity can provoke more migraine attacks.

Q: How can migraine be treated?

Dr. Montenegro: Migraine attacks are managed by both avoiding triggers and using acute medications to relieve symptoms once an attack begins. For individuals who experience frequent or severe migraine attacks that significantly impact their life, treatments to prevent the onset of migraine attacks are also recommended. These can include daily medications or supplements, injection therapies like CGRP inhibitors or botulinum toxin injections and non-drug options like neuromodulation devices. Combining lifestyle modifications to avoid triggers with medical treatments is often most effective.

Q: What work are you doing at the University of Minnesota to advance knowledge around migraine?

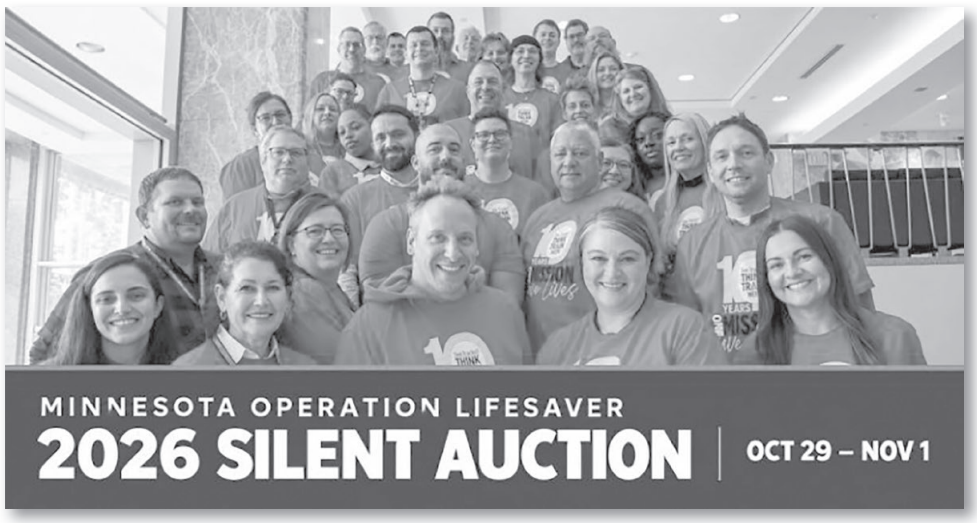
Dr. Metzler: The University of Minnesota is advancing migraine research through a comprehensive approach that integrates multidisciplinary clinical care, innovative treatments and cutting-edge research. Our headache clinic provides specialized care, offering patients access to the latest therapies, including advanced medications and clinical trial opportunities.



We recognize that migraine triggers and treatment responses vary from person to person, so we tailor management plans accordingly, sometimes collaborating with specialists across different fields. This personalized approach aims to improve outcomes and quality of life for people living with migraine. By combining clinical expertise with ongoing research, the University of Minnesota is enhancing understanding of migraine and creating more effective, patient-focused treatment options.

Dr. Monique Montenegro is an assistant professor of neurology at the University of Minnesota Medical School and a neurologist with M Health Fairview. She specializes in headache medicine.

Dr. Abby Metzler is an associate professor of neurology at the University of Minnesota Medical School and a neurologist with M Health Fairview. She specializes in headache medicine. ~The University of Minnesota Medical School



Minnesota Operation Lifesaver Online Silent Auction Opens Oct. 29

Bids support free rail safety education and volunteer outreach across Minnesota

Minnesota Operation Lifesaver invites the public to bid for a safer Minnesota during its online silent auction, October 29–November 5, 2026. Funds raised will support the organization's rail safety education and volunteer outreach, helping people make safer decisions around railroad tracks and crossings.

The auction offers a chance to find a unique gift or collectible while supporting education for schools, driver education programs, professional drivers, first responders and communities throughout Minnesota.

Donated items include Bell Museum admission passes valid for a planetarium show, reproductions of vintage railroad notepads and Operation Lifesaver challenge coins. Visitors can browse the auction page for available items, descriptions, restrictions and bidding details.

View the auction and participate at:

https://givebutter.com/minnesota-operation-lifesaver-2026-silent-auction-dzu0qi

Community members can also help by sharing the auction link with friends, family, coworkers and fellow rail enthusiasts. ~Minnesota Operation Lifesaver

A Minnesota Newspaper Association AWARD-WINNING publication.
ISANTI-CHISAGO COUNTY STAR
MINNESOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

ISANTI COUNTY COURT REPORT

The following felony charges were filed in Isanti County Court on Oct. 18 - 24. All individuals are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

Logan Mitchell Kruger (DOB 10/14/1997) of Princeton, was charged October 19 with Drugs - 3rd Degree - Possess 10 grams or more a narcotic drug other than heroin.

Jack Michael Tansey (DOB 11/26/2007) of River Forest, IL, was charged Oct. 19 with Fleeing a Peace Officer in a Motor Vehicle.

Nils Anthony Njus (DOB 09/15/1964) of Zimmerman, was charged Oct. 19 with one count of Drugs - 3rd Degree - Possess 10 grams or more a narcotic drug other than heroin; and one count of Fleeing a Peace Officer in a Motor Vehicle.

Cody Lawrence St. Hilaire (DOB 12/05/2001) of Isanti, was charged Oct. 20 with Assault - 4th Degree - Peace Officer - Demonstrable bodily harm.

Lisa Marie Mendoza (DOB 12/28/1982) of Ogilvie, was charged Oct. 21 with Drugs - 5th Degree - Possess Schedule 1,2,3,4 or paraphernalia residual - Not cannabis/hemp.

Tanya Nadine Reno (DOB 03/01/1974) of Cambridge, was charged Oct. 21 with one count of Drugs - 3rd Degree - Sale - Narcotic; one count of Drugs - 3rd Degree - Possess 10 grams or more a narcotic drug other than heroin; and one count of Drugs - 4th Degree - Possess Schedule 1/2/3 Except Marijuana with Intent to Sell.

CHISAGO COUNTY COURT REPORT

The following felony charges were filed in Chisago County Court on Oct. 18 - 24. All individuals are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

Misty Marie Presler (DOB 12/30/1985) of Anoka, was charged Oct. 20 with one count of Traffic - DWI - Operate Motor Vehicle Under Influence of Alcohol; and one count of Traffic - DWI - Operate Motor Vehicle - Alcohol Concentration 0.08 Within 2 Hours.

Cody Roy Moose (DOB 05/15/2001) of Isle, was charged Oct. 20 with Drugs - 5th Degree - Possess Schedule 1,2,3,4 or paraphernalia residual - Not cannabis/hemp.

Angela Jane Zwack (DOB 10/25/1985) of Robbinsdale, was charged Oct. 21 with Fugitive from Justice from Other State - extradition ordered.

Max Robert McEachern (DOB 07/16/1987) of Big Lake, was charged Oct. 23 with Traffic - DWI - Operate Motor Vehicle Under Influence of Controlled Substance.



Minnesota sees decrease in opioid overdose deaths over past three years

A new data report from the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) shows that Minnesota saw another small decrease in opioid-involved deaths in 2025, which is the third year with a decrease. Opioid-involved overdose deaths have gradually declined from a high of 1,039 in 2022 to 671 in 2025.

Fentanyl-involved deaths in Minnesota saw a 6% decrease from 602 to 564 between 2024 and 2025. All opioid-involved overdose deaths dropped from 678 to 671 during that year, and nonfatal opioid-involved overdose hospitalizations fell from 3,685 to 3,617 between 2024 and 2025, according to MDH's Statewide Trends in Drug Overdose.

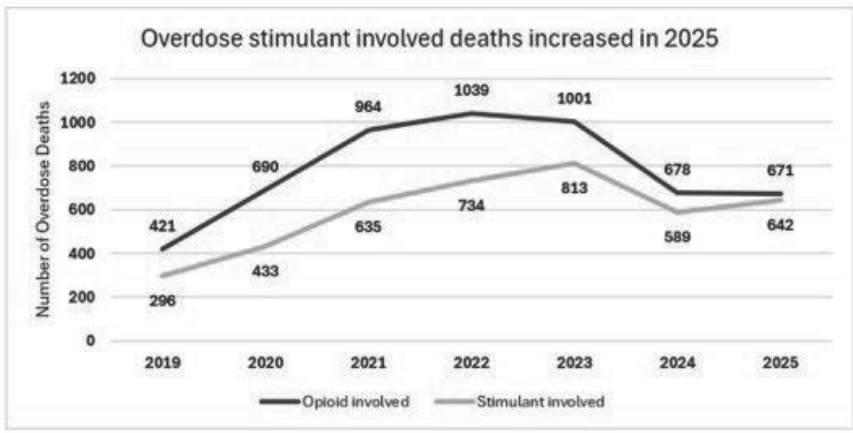
While opioid overdose deaths decreased, the latest data show a 3% increase among all drug overdose deaths (from 994 in 2024 to 1,025 in 2025), which was driven by an increase in stimulant-involved deaths. Hospitalizations for nonfatal overdoses involving stimulants such as methamphetamine and cocaine also increased. For every one Minnesotan who died of a drug overdose in 2025, 14 were treated in a Minnesota hospital and survived a drug overdose.

"We continue to see progress on preventing deadly opioid overdoses with our comprehensive public health approach involving prevention, naloxone, treatment, harm reduction and recovery services," said Minnesota Commissioner of Health Dr. Brooke Cunningham. "We must continue to advance these efforts, while applying our learnings to address the growing health impacts of increased use of stimulants like cocaine and methamphetamine."

As part of Minnesota's opioid prevention efforts, on Oct. 1, MDH, in partnership with the Minnesota Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS), launched the MN-OD-ALERTS (Minnesota Overdose Alert, Local Engagement, Response, and Tracking System), a statewide overdose response system that detects spikes, clusters and novel drug threats in near real-time. This important tool was made possible by a proposal brought forward by Governor Walz and funded by the legislature.

MN-OD-ALERTS uses emergency medical services (EMS) data from OEMS to track opioid overdose trends. Once a potential opioid overdose spike is detected, MDH staff review patient-level details and other data, such as hospital visits and community partner reports, to assess whether the spike reflects a meaningful change in overdose activity at the county level. If so, local and Tribal public health partners are notified and can launch a local response with support from the MN-OD-Alerts Community Response Guide (PDF). Counties have shown strong interest in MN-OD-ALERTS with 76 of Minnesota's 87 counties providing a contact for the alert system.

"Emergency medical services (EMS) providers are often the first to see when something is changing in a community," said Dylan Ferguson, director of Office of Emergency Medical Services. "By using EMS data to identify emerging overdose trends, MN-OD-ALERTS gives public health and community partners an opportunity to act earlier, before a concerning trend becomes a larger crisis. This is an important example of how the information collected by EMS can be used not only to care for individual patients, but also to help protect the health of entire communities."



During the Gov. Tim Walz administration, Minnesota employed a public health plan focused on prevention, treatment and recovery. The state has made naloxone, which reverses many opioid overdoses, more accessible to first responders and easier to get in places like schools, libraries, shelters and community organizations. Minnesota has also improved real-time tracking of overdoses so communities can respond faster, through efforts such as MN-OD-ALERTS and the Minnesota Drug Overdose and Substance Use Surveillance Activity (MNDOSA).

Additionally, Minnesota expanded access to medication for opioid use disorder (MOUD) in clinics, jails and Tribal health programs. Minnesota's Comprehensive Drug Overdose and Morbidity Prevention Act and opioid settlement funds were also used to support effective programs such as linking to culturally specific treatments and care, prevention programming, peer recovery services and syringe service programs.

"Programs like these make a difference and are needed to protect communities as we see new threats and substances emerge," said Commissioner Cunningham. "We can all play a role in preventing overdoses and substance use disorder and supporting recovery, whether we are policy makers, healthcare workers or community members."

The new data report also highlights steps that groups like policy makers, healthcare professionals, public health and prevention professionals, and every day Minnesotans can take to decrease overdose deaths and substance use. Those include enhancing local data collection, educating patients and residents, carrying naloxone, and calling 988 Minnesota Lifeline for free support related to mental health, alcohol or drug use.

For more information, see MDH's Drug Overdose Prevention website.

-MDH-

Nordenstrom sentenced in Pine County for identity theft

STAFF REPORT
NEWS@COUNTYSTAR.COM



Kimberly Sue Nordenstrom

Kimberly Sue Nordenstrom, the Isanti woman who plead guilty to swindling $100,000 from the Isanti County Sheriff's Foundation, has been formally sentenced for attempted identity theft charges in Pine County she also plead guilty to.

During an Oct. 19 sentencing hearing, Pine County Judge Fason Steffen sentenced Nordenstrom to 25 months at the Minnesota Correctional Facility in Shakopee, plus a $10,000 fine.

The attempted identity theft charges stem from an incident in which Nordenstrom tried to use the personal information of one of the owners of Brook Park Auto & Recycling to obtain a $140,000 online loan. The attempted identity theft was made at the same time as Nordenstrom was under investigation in the theft-by-swindle case.

Nordenstrom was later transferred from the Isanti County jail to Shakopee, where she was held after a second theft-by-swindle charge on Sept. 14, involving her again stealing money from the now-defunct Sheriff's Foundation (see article in the September 17, 2026 edition of the Star). Those 36 days in the Isanti County jail will count as time served toward the 25-month sentence.

Nordenstrom's next court appearance in Isanti County for the second theft-by-swindle charge is scheduled for 10 a.m. on Nov. 4.

State's solar energy model could lead to budget relief for country

Between skyrocketing grocery bills and gas prices, keeping up with basic household expenses may feel harder than ever. Making matters worse, utility bills are surging coast to coast as major electricity companies raise prices to fund multibillion-dollar grid overhauls.

Nationwide, electric utility providers are in a bind. Surging demand driven by electric vehicles, massive data center expansions and severe weather events is pushing aging power infrastructure to its limits. Utilities routinely pass massive capital investment costs straight to rate payers, squeezing household budgets at a time when families can least afford it.

When every dollar counts, waiting for energy prices to magically drop simply isn't a strategy. That urgency is why many states are looking at how Minnesota became the nation's premier model for localized, affordable clean energy.

Rather than waiting on regional grid updates, thousands of Minnesota households are taking advantage of the state's pioneering Community Solar Garden program. Originally created in 2013 and subsequently updated, Minnesota's community solar program is now named in honor of Melissa Hortman. The program serves as a policy blueprint for lawmakers across the country.

Minnesota consistently ranks as one of the largest community solar markets in the nation, boasting more than 800 megawatts of active community solar capacity2. The modern legislation ensures that everyday families, not just corporations, directly benefit from grid transformation through guaranteed, income-qualified savings.

"Solar energy isn't an expensive luxury anymore. It's now one of the most affordable sources of new electricity generation in the country," explained Eric Pasi, CEO of Enterprise Energy, a Minneapolis-based community solar developer. "Thanks to Minnesota's modern energy policy, accessing those lower costs doesn't require thousands of dollars in rooftop panels."

Subscribers to local solar gardens can reduce energy costs by up to 15 percent with no upfront fees and zero equipment installations. Homeowners and renters simply subscribe to a nearby solar farm and receive savings credit on their energy statement beginning this fall.

The strategy isn't just cutting bills; it's proving how local communities can modernize the power supply from the ground up.

"We are a locally owned company, based in Minneapolis, created to give local families direct relief from rising utility bills," Pasi added. "Our community solar projects now power approximately 10,000 households while helping us build a cleaner, stronger power grid for our communities."

The rapid growth underlines how hungry consumers are for alternatives. Named the #1 fastest-growing company in Minnesota on Inc.com's 2026 5000 list, and #4 nationally within the energy sector category, Enterprise Energy projects it will power approximately 30,000 households within the next year alone.

The company is expanding its service into Illinois, where a similar state program exists. "We are providing a scalable blueprint for how the rest of the country can expand access to affordable electricity," commented Pasi.

How Minnesota's Solar Gardens Lower Electricity Bills

• Local solar farms generate clean, affordable electricity for the power grid.

• Households simply need to subscribe. Minnesota households served by Xcel Energy can subscribe, subject to program requirements and available capacity. There are no setup fees, credit checks or hidden costs.

• With consolidated billing, subscription charges and solar credits appear together on the household's Xcel Energy bill. There are no second invoices to manage.

Community Solar Gardens are Better for the Environment and the Economy

Pasi estimated that the company's community solar gardens currently offset close to 100 million pounds of carbon dioxide each year.

"We also go to great lengths to make each garden as beneficial environmentally as possible. Pollinator-friendly seed mixes are planted in all of our projects. This helps restore the health of the soil. Depending on the project, we may also plant low-growing crops below the solar panels to maximize use of the space. Some of our gardens are even used for sheep grazing."

Enterprise Energy also prioritizes American-made equipment for its projects. "It's important to us to support the U.S. economy. In addition to sourcing from American vendors, we are committed to growing the overall solar energy industry because it will support many high-paying local green jobs."

Gain More Control Over Monthly Electricity Fees

Although each may be structured slightly differently, there are currently 44 states and localities3 that are helping mitigate climbing utility bills with community solar programs. For Minnesotans, joining a community solar project takes just a few minutes, costs nothing to start and guarantees immediate savings on monthly electric bills. ~ Enterprise Energy

Minnesota Starwatch for November 2026

BY DEANE MORRISON
MORRI029@UMN.EDU

Venus slips into the morning sky in the first week of November. Look near the east-southeastern horizon for the brilliant planet just before the sky starts to lighten. Try to get out on the 7th, when a scrawny old crescent moon appears to Venus's lower right.

Next to Venus you'll see Spica, the only bright star in the constellation Virgo, the maiden. Both Venus and Spica climb during the month, but start to go their separate ways by month's end.

Also in the predawn sky, Mars and Jupiter stage a spectacular flyby high in the south. Jupiter shines near the bright star Regulus, the "point" in the backward question mark of stars outlining the head of Leo, the lion. Reddish Mars approaches Jupiter from the upper right and comes within 1.2 degrees of the giant planet the morning of the 16th. Mars keeps going, and forms a line with Regulus and a waning moon on the 30th.

In the evening sky, Saturn shines as the lone bright object in the east to southeast at nightfall. Most of the fall constellations are dim, but notice the bright star very low in the southeast to south. This is Fomalhaut, a young star surrounded by an extensive ring of dust and debris and only 25 light-years from Earth.

If the sky is good and dark, look above Saturn for the Great Square of Pegasus, which marks the torso of the winged horse of Greek and Roman mythology. Then look to the upper right of Saturn and below the Great Square for the Circlet of Pisces, a faint ring of six or seven stars, depending on how many you can see.

November's full moon arrives on the 24th. Catch it hanging low in the west around sunrise, or watch it rise in the east, opposite the setting sun, that afternoon.



JORGE PERALES | COUNTY STAR

North Branch theatre troupe travels to Narnia

The North Branch Area Theatre Department performed the stage adaptation of C.S. Lewis's classic children's story "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe as its fall play last weekend.

WORSHIP *guide*

Baptist

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

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

Catholic

Christ the King
305 Fern Street N
Cambridge, MN 55008
763-689-1221
Tuesday 6 pm Mass
Friday 8:30am
Saturday 4pm
email brigitte@isantiacc.org
Website: isantiacc.org

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
207 Whiskey Rd NW, Isanti, MN.
763-444-4035
Email: brigitte@isantiacc.org
Mass: Wed. 8:30am.
Sun. 8:30am.
isantiaac.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

Kost Evangelical Free Church
37405 Kost Trail, North Branch, MN – Jct. of CR 11 & CR 72
651-583-3281 · Kostchurch.org
Pastor Josh Jensen
Sunday worship service 9:30 am 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
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
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
A LOVING CHURCH PROCLAIMING A LIVING MESSAGE!

Lutheran

Braham Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA)
Dr. Suzanne Begin, Minister
905 Central Drive West
320-396-2755
www.brahamlutheran.org
9:30 a.m. Worship Service
In-person & Live on Facebook
9:00 - 9:45 Sunday School
Children may join worship service or be picked up by an adult
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.
Office: calvaryrushpoint@gmail.com

Cambridge Lutheran Church (ELCA)
621 Old North Main Street, Cambridge
763-689-1211
Traditional | 8:30 am
Contemporary | 9:15 & 10:30
KidZone 9:15 and 10:30
www.cambridgelutheran.org
Facebook: fb.com/Cambridgelutheran
YouTube: 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

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
www.firstlutheranharris.org

Joy Lutheran Church (Missouri Synod)
33525 Jefferson Street NE, Cambridge
New Location
763-689-4355
Pastor James Ritter
8:30 a.m. Traditional Service
10:30 a.m. Contemporary Service
10:20am Adult Bible Study;
Thursday 6:30pm Bible study.
Email: stjohnlutheran@att.net

Living Branch Lutheran Church (LCMS)
6486 Elm St (PO Box 335),
North Branch
651-674-5576
Pastor Glen Kleppe
Sunday Worship 8am
Sunday Adult Bible Study 9:15am
Sunday School 9:15am
www.livingbranch.org
email: 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 9am
Sunday School 9:30am resuming in the Fall
Coffee fellowship after worship
www.salemlutherandalbo.com

Spring Lake Lutheran Church (ELCA)
8440 Erickson Road, PO Box 958, North Branch, MN 55056 (9 mi. E. of Cambridge on Hwy. 95, North one block on Erickson Road).
651-674-4606.
Pastor Vicki VanderVegt.sllchurch.org
Email: sll.church@gmail.com
8:15am Worship with fellowship 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;

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

St. Stephen's Lutheran Church (Missouri Synod)
400 SE 8th St., (Isanti #4 E.), Braham
320-396-3103
9 :15 am Sunday School & Adult Bible Study.
8am Worship.
ststephensbraham.org

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

Methodist

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

Non-Denominational

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

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

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

This directory is paid for and made possible by the participating churches listed. Proud to sponsor and salute our local churches

To Advertise in this Spot, Contact:
Gary Glick
Classified Ad Consultant
651-407-1240
marketing@countystar.com

Arrow TANK AND ENGINEERING CO.
763-689-3360

Specialists In Auto Collision Repair
Since 1978
Perry's Auto Salon LLC
1-320-358-4211
875 So. Bremer Ave., Rush City

PUBLIC NOTICES

FORECLOSURES

PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

THE RIGHT TO VERIFICATION OF THE DEBT AND IDENTITY OF THE ORIGINAL CREDITOR WITHIN THE TIME PROVIDED BY LAW IS NOT AFFECTED BY THIS ACTION. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: That default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage: DATE OF MORTGAGE: May 4, 2020 ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: $170,848.00 MORTGAGOR(S): Amy Helget and Hans Solberg, both single MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Mortgagee, as Nominee for Bay Equity LLC, its successors and assigns TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. MIN#:1006166-0004098637-5 SERVICER: Servis One, Inc. DBA BSI Financial Services LENDER: Bay Equity LLC. DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Isanti County Minnesota, Recorder, on May 11, 2020, as Document No. A492285. ASSIGNED TO: Servis One, Inc. DBA BSI Financial Services by an Assignment of Mortgage dated 06/06/2023 and recorded on 06/09/2023 as Document No. A523820 LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Lot 10, Block 9, Woodcrest Park, Isanti County, Minnesota PROPERTY ADDRESS: 33560 Rochester St NE, Cambridge, MN 55008 PROPERTY I.D: 03.058.0330 COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Isanti THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: One Hundred Fifty-Five Thousand Seven Hundred Twenty-Four and 34/100 ($155,724.34) THAT no action or proceeding has been instituted at law to recover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof; that there has been compliance with all pre-foreclosure notice and acceleration requirements of said mortgage, and/or applicable statutes; PURSUANT, to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows: DATE AND TIME OF SALE: 10:00 AM on November 10, 2026 PLACE OF SALE: Isanti County Sheriff`s Office, 2440 Main Street South, Cambridge MN 55008 to pay the debt then secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any actually paid by the mortgagee, on the premises and the costs and disbursements allowed by law. The time allowed by law for redemption by said mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns is 6.00 months from the date of sale.If Mortgage is not reinstated under Minn. Stat. Section580.30 or the property is not redeemed under Minn. Stat. Section580.23, the Mortgagor must vacate the property on or before 11:59 p.m. on May 10, 2027, or the next business day if May 10, 2027 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday. "THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 582.032, DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED." MORTGAGORS RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE: None Dated: September 24, 2026 SERVIS ONE, INC. DBA BSI FINANCIAL SERVICES Randall S. Miller and Associates, PLLC Attorneys for Assignee of Mortgage/Mortgagee Edinburgh Executive Office Center, 8525 Edinbrook Crossing North Suite #210 Brooklyn Park, MN 55443 Phone: (248) 335-9200 Our File No. 25MN00142-2 A-4887747 09/24/2026, 10/01/2026, 10/08/2026, 10/15/2026, 10/22/2026, 10/29/2026

Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on September 24; October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, 2026

NOTICE OF ASSESSMENT LIEN FORECLOSURE SALE

THE RIGHT TO VERIFICATION OF THE DEBT AND IDENTITY OF THE ORIGINAL CREDITOR WITHIN THE TIME PROVIDED BY LAW IS NOT AFFECTED BY THIS ACTION. THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR. THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that default has been made in the terms and conditions of the Declaration of Oak Meadows Townhomes Association (henceforth the "Declaration") recorded in the office of the Recorder for Isanti County, Minnesota on April 13, 2006, as Document No. 364158, which covers the following property:

Lot 10, Block 6, Oak Meadows, Common Interest Community No. 2005-7, Isanti County, Minnesota

WHEREAS, pursuant to said Declaration, there is claimed to be due and owing as of October 23, 2026, from Ashley Olsen, title holder, to Oak Meadows Townhomes Association, a Minnesota non-profit corporation, the principal amount of Six Thousand, Three Hundred Twenty-Six and 60/100ths Dollars ($6,326.60) for assessments, late fees and related charges, plus assessments, collection costs, attorneys' fees and other amounts will be incurred since said date, including costs of collection and foreclosure;

WHEREAS, no action is now pending at law or otherwise to recover said debt or any part thereof;

WHEREAS, the owner has not been released from the financial obligation to pay said amount;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Declaration and Minn. Stat. §515B.3-116(h), said debt created a lien upon said premises in favor of Oak Meadows Townhomes Association as evidenced by the lien statement recorded on October 6, 2026, in the office of the Isanti County Recorder as Document No. A548355;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the power of sale granted by the owner(s) in taking title to the premises subject to said Declaration, said lien will be foreclosed by the sale of said property by the sheriff of said county at the Isanti County Sheriff's Department, 2440 S. Main Street, Cambridge, MN 55008, on December 23, 2026, at 10:00 o'clock a.m., at public auction to the highest bidder, for cash, to pay the amount then due for said assessments, together with the costs of foreclosure, including attorneys' fees as allowed by law. The time allowed by law for redemption by the unit owners, their personal representatives or assigns is six (6) months from the date of said sale.

The following information is provided pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Sections 580.025 and 580.04:

(1) Street Address of Property: 1894 Buchanan Street SE, Cambridge, MN 55008

(2) Name of Transaction Agent, Residential Mortgage Servicer, Lender &/or Broker: N/A

(3) Tax Parcel Identification Number of the Property: 15-169-0320

(4) Transaction Agent's Mortgage Identification Number, if known: N/A

(5) Name of Mortgage Originator, if stated on mortgage: N/A

(6) Date on which Occupant must vacate Property, if mortgage is not reinstated under Section 580.30 or property redeemed under 580.23: 11:59 p.m. on June 23, 2027. If the foregoing date is a Saturday, Sunday or legal holiday, then the date to vacate is the next business day at 11:59 p.m.

REDEMPTION NOTICE

THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 582.032, DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED.

Dated: October 23, 2026

TOOHEY LAW FIRM, P.A.

By:_____

Jennifer C. Toohey, I.D. #0343742

Attorneys for Lienor

7100 Northland Circle North, Suite 101

Brooklyn Park, MN 55428

(763) 401-4120 Lienor:

Oak Meadows Townhomes Association

By:_____

Jennifer C. Toohey

Its: Attorney in Fact

THIS INSTRUMENT WAS DRAFTED BY:

TOOHEY LAW FIRM, P.A.

7100 Northland Circle North, Suite 101

Brooklyn Park, MN 55428

(763) 401-4120

File No. 5538.014

Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on October 29; November 5, 12,19, 26; December 3, 2026

PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CITY OF CAMBRIDGE, MINNESOTA 2027-2031 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN AND INTENTION TO ISSUE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT BONDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Council of the City of Cambridge, Minnesota (the "City") will meet on Monday, November 16, 2026, at or after 6:00 p.m., in the City Council Chambers at City Hall, 300 3rd Avenue NE in the City, in part to hold a public hearing concerning (1) a proposal to adopt a capital improvement plan for 2027 through 2031 pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 475.521 (the "Plan"); and (2) the intention to issue general obligation bonds (the "Bonds") in one or more series, at one time or from time to time, in an aggregate amount not to exceed $3,300,000 to finance a portion of the capital improvements set forth in the Plan, including but not limited to capital improvements related to the acquisition, construction and equipping of a public works facility (the "Project"). In addition to the Bonds, a portion of the cost of the Project may be paid with other available funds of the City.

A copy of the Plan is available for inspection at Cambridge City Hall, 300 3rd Avenue NE, Cambridge, Minnesota. Questions or comments may be directed to City Hall at 763-689-3211.

If a petition requesting a vote on the issuance of the Bonds, signed by voters equal to 5% of the votes cast in the City in the last general election, is filed with the City Administrator within 30 days after the public hearing (i.e., by December 16, 2026), the City may issue the Bonds only after obtaining approval of a majority of voters voting on the question at an election.

At the time and place fixed for the public hearing, the City Council will give all persons who appear at the hearing an opportunity to express their views with respect to the proposal. In addition, interested persons may direct any questions or file written comments respecting the proposal with the City Administrator, at or prior to said public hearing.

Dated: October 19, 2026

BY ORDER OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF

OF THE CITY OF CAMBRIDGE, MINNESOTA

Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on October 29, 2026

SCHOOL BOARD

SUMMARY PUBLICATION OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CAMBRIDGE-ISANTI SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION.

Complete minutes are available for public inspection at the District Office (625 Main St N., Cambridge, MN) or at www.c-ischools.org.

Regular School Board Meeting – September 17, 2026

With Chair Heidi Sprandel, Clerk Mark Solberg, Treasurer Nikki Johnson, and Directors Kevin Gross, Brette Halverson, and Becky Roby; and Ex Officio, Superintendent Dr. Nate Rudolph.

Absent: Vice Chair DeEtta Moos

• Chair Sprandel called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

• Motion to approve the meeting agenda made by Johnson, seconded by Gross. Motion carried.

• Motion to approve the consent agenda made by Solberg, seconded by Roby. Motion carried.

• Motion to approve the treasurer's report subject to audit made by Halverson, seconded by Gross. Motion carried.

• Motion to adopt the resolution to accept gifts, grants, or devise of real or personal property made by Gross, seconded by Johnson. Roll Call Vote: Roby, yes; Johnson, yes; Moos, absent; Sprandel, yes; Solberg, yes; Gross, yes; Halverson, yes. Resolution duly passed and adopted.

• Motion to approve holding a Truth in Taxation meeting on December 17, 2026, at the ESC, followed by the December Regular School Board Meeting as presented made by Halverson, seconded by Solberg. Motion carried.

• Motion to approve the Preliminary 2026 Payable 2027 Property Tax Levy as presented made by Johnson, seconded by Sprandel. Motion carried.

• Motion to approve the 2026-27 Snow Removal bid from DW Companies as the lowest responsible bidder for our Cambridge locations and Bjorklund Companies as the lowest responsible bidder for our Isanti locations, as presented made by Solberg, seconded by Gross. Motion carried.

• Motion to approve 208, 209, 415, 620, and 809 as presented made by Johnson, seconded by Roby. Motion carried.

• Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:26 PM made by Johnson, seconded by Gross. Motion carried.

Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on October 29, 2026

NOTICES

NOTICE OF GENERAL ELECTION CITY OF EAST BETHEL ANOKA COUNTY, MN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the General Election will be held in the City of East Bethel, Minnesota, on Tuesday, November 3, 2026. The polls will be open at 7:00 AM and will close at 8:00 PM.

The polls for said election will be at the polling places listed below for the purpose of voting for candidates of the offices specified below:

Precinct Name **Location**

East Bethel P-1 East Bethel Senior & Community Center (2241 221st Ave NE)

East Bethel P-2 Our Saviour's Lutheran Church (19001 Jackson St NE)

East Bethel P-3 East Bethel Fire Station #1 (2751 Viking Blvd NE)

City of East Bethel Offices

Mayor

City Council Member at Large, 2 seats

_____

Carrie Frost

Deputy City Clerk

Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on October 22, 29 2026

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

that the General Election will be held on Tuesday, November 3, 2026. The polling places serving the three precincts within the City of North Branch will be open from **7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m.**

Voters must vote at the polling place designated for their precinct, as follows:

Precinct A — Access Church
4359 392nd Street
North Branch, MN

Precinct B — Main Street Church
6500 Main Street
North Branch, MN

Precinct C — City of North Branch Fire Hall
37917 Forest Boulevard
North Branch, MN

The following municipal offices will be on the ballot for the City of North Branch:

• **Mayor** — one office to be filled.

• **City Council Member** — two offices to be filled.

This notice is published pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 205.16, subdivision 1.

Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on October 22, 29, 2026

SUMMARY PUBLICATION OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING – OCTOBER 19, 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

• Approved Consent Agenda Items A through G

• Discussed Professional Services for Governmental Affairs

• Approved R26-060 Interim Use Permit for Cannabis Retail - 626 Main St N

Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on October 29, 2026

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice Is hereby given that the Isanti County Board of Commissioners will receive comments on the classification of tax-forfeited property as conservation or non-conservation at the regular monthly meeting at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, January 5, 2027, In the Isanti County Boardroom, Isanti County Government Center, 555 18th Ave SW, Cambridge, MN 55008.

As described in Minnesota Statute § 282.01, parcels of land becoming the property of the state in trust under law declaring the forfeiture of lands to the state for taxes must be classified by the county board as conservation or non-conservation.

Interested agencies, groups, or persons attending the meeting have the right to provide written or oral comments. Copies of the list of properties can be requested from Isanti County Finance & Property Services Division, at propertytax@co.isanti.mn.us. Prior to the public meeting, written comments may be addressed to Isanti County Finance & Property Services Division, 555 18th Ave SW, Cambridge, MN 55008

CLASSIFICATION PARCEL LISTING

CONSERVATION:

None.

NON-CONSERVATION:

BRADFORD TOWNSHIP

02.053.1340

Section 22 Township 035 Range 024 FRANCIS LAKE SHORES Lot 19 Block 6

02.054.0380

Section 22 Township 035 Range 024 SECOND FRANCIS LAKE SHORES Lot 32 Block 7

02.055.1270

Section 22 Township 035 Range 024 SECOND FRANCIS LAKE SHORES Block 18

02.059.0300

Section 28 Township 035 Range 024 LONG LAKE ESTATES Lot 31 Block 1

02.064.0170

Section 24 Township 035 Range 024 RIVER RIDGE Lot 21 Block 1

CITY OF BRAHAM

14.075.0620

Section 01 Township 037 Range 023 HORSESHOE MEADOWS FOURTH ADDITION Outlot A

CITY OF ISANTI

16.054.0090

Section 30 Township 035 Range 023 HILLOCK Outlot A

Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on October 29, 2026

NOTICE OF HEARING ON PROPOSED ASSESSMENTS FOR THE RAILROAD AVENUE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN, Notice is hereby given that the Council meet in the City Hall in the City of Isanti, Minnesota, on the 17th day of November 2026, to consider assessments and objections to the proposed assessments for the Railroad Avenue Improvements project. Adoption by the council of the proposed assessment may occur at the hearing. The proposed assessment roll is on file with the City Clerk and open to public inspection. The area proposed to be assessed consists of lots, pieces, or parcels of land benefitted by said improvement, which has been ordered made and is as follows: Railroad Avenue from Main Street to Palomino Road in the City of Isanti, Minnesota.

The total amount to be assessed is $66,048.00 and is proposed to be payable in annual installments over a period of 10 years. Written and oral objections will be considered at the hearing. An owner of property to be assessed may appeal the assessment to the district court of Isanti County pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 429.081 by serving notice of the appeal upon the Mayor or City Clerk within 30 days after adoption of the assessment and filing such notice with the district court within 10 days after service upon the Mayor or City Clerk. No appeal may be taken as to the amount of any assessment adopted by the City Council unless a written objection signed by the affected property owner is filed with the Clerk prior to the assessment hearing or presented to the presiding officer at the hearing. All objections to the assessments not received at the assessment hearing in the manner proscribed by Minnesota Statutes, Section 429.061 are waived, unless the failure to object at the assessment hearing is due to a reasonable cause. Under the provisions of Minnesota Statutes, Sections 435.193 to 435.195, the City may, at its discretion, defer the payment of assessments for any homestead property owned by a person 65 years of age or older, or retired by permanent and total disability for whom it would be a hardship to make the payments. The notice of this hearing mailed to property owners contains additional information.

Josi Wood, City Administrator

Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on October 29, 2026

CITY OF HARRIS, MINNESOTA ORDINANCE NO. 2026-16

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND REPLACING SECTION 154.22, FENCES, OF THE HARRIS CITY CODE

Summary: Namely adding setbacks, materials, and district specifications. The full ordinance is available for inspection during regular office hours at the office ot the City Clerk, Harris City Hall, 43970 Ginger Avenue, Harris, Minnesota 55032. A copy of the entire ordinance shall also be posted at the community library, if there is one, or at another public location designated by the City Council.

Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on October 29, 2026

Visit us online at CountyStar.com

PUBLIC NOTICES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

CITY OF ISANTI ORDINANCE NO. 848

ORDINANCE NO. 848

AN ORDINANCE TO REPEAL AND REPLACE ORDINANCE NO. 70 ADOPTED ON APRIL 15, 1975, ORDINANCE NO. 506 ADOPTED APRIL 19, 2011, ORDINANCE NO. 709 ADOPTED ON SEPTEMBER 3, 2019, ORDINANCE NO. 738 ADOPTED ON OCTOBER 15, 2026, ORDINANCE NO. 755 ADOPTED ON MAY 4, 2021, ORDINANCE NO. 757 ADOPTED ON JULY 6, 202, ORDINANCE NO. 763 ADOPTED ON JULY 20, 2021, ORDINANCE NO. 777 ADOPTED ON NOVEMBER 1, 2022 AND ORDINANCE NO. 836 ADOPTED ON APRIL 1, 2025 TITLED ANIMALS

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ISANTI DOES ORDAIN:

Section 1 – Repeal and replace. Ordinances 70, 506, 709, 738, 755, 757, 763, 777, and 836 codified in City Code Chapter 87 is hereby repealed and replaced as follows:

Chapter 87 ANIMALS

ARTICLE I

Keeping of Certain Animals

§ 87-1. Livestock animals.

§ 87-2. Prohibited activity.

§ 87-3. Housing, structure and setback requirements.

§ 87-4. Additional requirements.

§ 87-5. Violations and penalties.

ARTICLE I

Keeping of Certain Animals

§ 87-1. Livestock animals.

A. Permitted.

The following table outlines permitted livestock animals within city limits, their animal unit factor, minimum lot size, permitted zoning districts and the total number of animal units allowed per parcel lot size.

Animal	Animal Unit Factor	Minimum Lot Size (acres)	Permitted Districts
Cattle	1	5	R-1A
Horse	1	5	R-1A
Mini horse/cattle	0.5	5	R-1A
llama	0.5	5	R-1A
Swine	0.4	5	R-1A
Alpaca	0.25	5	R-1A
Sheep	0.1	5	R-1A
Goat	0.1	1	R-1, R-1A, R-2
Pot-bellied pig	0.1	1	R-1, R-1A, R-2
Duck	0.01	0.5	R-1, R-1A, R-2
Chicken/Fowl	0.005	0.25	R-1, R-1A, R-2, R-3A
Racing pigeon	0.002	5	R-1A
Quail	0.002	0.25	R-1, R-1A, R-2, R-3A
Honeybees	**	0.25	R-1, R-1A, R-2, R-3A

**Honeybees are permitted at 2 colonies for every 0.25 acres to a maximum of 10 colonies

Parcel Lot Size (acres)	Maximum Total Animal Units per lot
<0.5	0.05
0.5-1	0.075
1-2	0.1
2-5	0.3
5-10	2
10-20	5
20+	10

Calculation: To find the total number of animals allowed per lot, divide your total allowed animal units by the number of animal units required per animal. Animals can be combined not to exceed total number allowed.

Calculation Examples:

• On a lot less than 0.5 acres, the property can have 25 quail (.05÷.002=25) OR 10 chickens (.05÷.005=10) OR 5 ducks (.05÷.01=5).

• On a lot less than 0.5 acres, the property can have 6 chickens and 10 quail OR 2 chickens and 20 quail.

• On a 2 acre lot, the property can have 1 goat, 1 duck, 6 chickens and up to 8 quails.

• On a 5 acre lot, the property can have 200 chickens (1.0÷.005=200) OR 2 horses or 2 cows OR 1 horse and 1 cow.

B. Prohibited animals.

The following list includes, but is not limited to, animals that are prohibited within city limits:

(1) Turkeys

(2) Roosters

(3) Guineafowl

§ 87-2. Prohibited activity.

A. Animal fighting.

B. Selling of honey, eggs, milk or meat commercially in residential districts.

C. Slaughtering of animals in view of the public.

D. Livestock animals on properties with multifamily structures.

E. Housing of animals in principal structure.

F. Animals deemed "at large" when it is off the premises owned or rented by its owner and unattended by the owner or any agent or employee of the owner; may be subject to impoundment by the animal control authority or any peace officer of the state.

§ 87-3. Housing, structure and setback requirements.

A. The property owner shall maintain the coops, barns, enclosures or other animal structure such that they are in good shape, not unsightly and free from major defects.

B. Lofts, coops, beehives or enclosures are required and shall meet all setback requirements for the zoning district of the property or be at least 10 feet from a side or rear property line, whichever is greater and:

(1) Not be located in a drainage or utility easement or in a shoreland protection area or in a wetland setback area.

(2) Be at least 30 feet from any residential dwelling on any adjacent property.

(3) Comply with accessory structure zoning requirements.

(4) Be located 10 feet or further from any primary structure on the subject property.

(5) Be located in the rear yard only.

(6) Provide adequate space per animal so as not to have overcrowding.

C. Apiary and beehives:

(1) Must not exceed six feet in height.

(2) Must be removed within 30 days once colonies are gone.

(3) Have a water source within 10 feet of the beehive.

D. Medium and large livestock including horses, cattle, mini horse/cattle, llama, swine, alpaca, sheep and goat have the following requirements:

(1) Agriculture buildings, barns, stables, etc. must follow zoning and permitting requirements, and;

a) Be located at least 50 feet from a side or rear property line.

b) Not be located in a drainage or utility easement or in a shoreland protection area or in a wetland setback area.

c) Be at least 100 feet from any residential dwelling on any adjacent property.

§ 87-4. Additional requirements.

A. The property owner shall properly store all animal feed such to ensure that it does not attract insect or rodents.

B. The property owner shall dispose of all animal waste in an appropriate manner on a weekly basis.

C. All racing pigeons must be banded with owner's information at all times.

D. Registration is required for racing pigeons and honeybees with the Isanti Police Department on an annual basis.

E. Animals must be kept in a fenced area. Fence type shall be reviewed by City staff and may require a permit.

F. Manure stockpiles shall:

(2) Be located at least 50 feet from a side or rear property line.

(3) Not be located in a drainage or utility easement or in a shoreland protection area or in a wetland setback area.

(4) Be at least 100 feet from any residential dwelling on any adjacent property.

(5) Have a management plan that meets requirements set by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

§ 87-5. Violations and penalties.

Any person, firm or corporation violating the provisions of this article shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be punished as provided by Chapter 1, Article I

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 20th day of October 2026.

_____

Mayor Luke Merrill

Attest:_____

Jaden Strand

City Clerk/ Deputy HR Director

Posting Date: October 1, 2026

Reading Date: October 20, 2026

Publication Date: October 29, 2026

Effective Date: October 29, 2026

Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on October 29, 2026





CLASSIFIEDS

102 150 150 362

102 Services

Alterations and clothing repairs, 25 years experience. 320-396-4152 Contact Rosemary. Braham

Designs by Jeff: Custom airbrushing, vehicle wraps, fleet graphics, signs, logo designs. Over 35 years of experience. DesignsByJeff.com 763-443-3135

112 Tree Service

Tree Fellers – Tree removal, trimming, stump grinding (even if we don't cut your trees!), hazard limbs, yard friendly equipment. 30+ years experience. Insured. Call for free estimate 763-443-2631

115 Heating & Cooling

GAS FURNACE: Ruud 96% efficiency, 70k BTU, two-stage , like new $400, Install available 320-364-3511.

150 Help Wanted

AMERY HOUSING AUTHORITY seeks Facility Manager for Evergreen Village Apartments. Handle tenant applications, rent collection, activities, lunch program. Requires 2 years office/bookkeeping experience, QuickBooks, Microsoft Office. Medical experience preferred. Email resumé: aha@ameryhousing.org Find this ad and others at www.applylocal.jobs.

Help Wanted

NORTHWEST REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION in Spooner seeks a full-time Administrative Support Specialist. $42,000?$48,000 plus benefits. Send letter, resume, and three references to mjones@nwrpc.com by Nov. 13, 2026. Details: nwrpc.com. EOE. Find this ad and others at www.applylocal.jobs

NORTHWOOD TECHNICAL COLLEGE seeks a part-time Public Safety Equipment Technician (New Richmond) and full-time/LTE Nursing Assistant Instructor ? Mobile Lab (Ashland, New Richmond, Rice Lake or Superior). Apply: northwoodtech.edu/employment. EOE. Find this ad and others at www.applylocal.jobs

PHILLIPS MEDISIZE hiring event Monday, Nov. 9, 8 a.m.-noon, 705 Wisconsin Dr., New Richmond. Walk-ins welcome. 3rd, 12-hour day/night and weekend shifts. Starting $19+/hour. Apply at KOCHcareers.com. Wear closed-toe shoes, full-length pants. Find this ad and others at www.applylocal.jobs

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF CLEAR LAKE seeks an Elementary Special Education Paraprofessional, 7 hours/day. $19.65/hour, $20.68 after 3 months, plus benefits. Apply by Nov. 4: clwarriors.org or contact tanderson@clwarriors.org, (715) 263-2117 ext. 2401. EOE. Find this ad and others at www.applylocal.jobs

Help Wanted

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF GRANTSBURG has an immediate full-time opening for an iForward Student Advisor. Work from home with summers off, helping students at its virtual K-12 school succeed. Details: gk12.net. EOE. Find this ad and others at www.applylocal.jobs

VILLAGE OF OSCEOLA seeks part-time Municipal Court Clerk, 10-15 hours/week, $20-$26/hour. Manage case files, dockets, fines; assist Municipal Judge. Clerical experience preferred. Email court@vil.osceola.wi.us for application. Open until filled. EOE. Find this ad and others at www.applylocal.jobs

300 For Sale

For Sale: Bicycles-

Trek 7300 hybrid, 57 cm frame, well maintained $190; Trek 7300 hybrid, 48 cm frame with extra soft seat, well maintained $190 – buy both and get 2 helmets and a mobile wooden rack for hanging them on; a pair of Thule roof mount bike racks, never used- bought new for $500, selling for $140. Cash only. 763-350-3540.

358 Firewood

2 cord loads of 16" birch $475. 2 cord loads of 20" oak $450. Delivery charge over 25 miles. 320-679-1815.

Miscellaneous

Buying sports card collections call Tom 612-701-7396

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

452 Rentals/ Residential

Mora Apartments 2 bed, 1 bath, $995/month. 1 bed, 1 bath, $875/month. Studio $740/month. Washer/Dryer on-site. No pets, no smoking/vaping/e-cigs. 612-470-3319, moratrovemanagement@gmail.com

501 Real Estate Wanted

Recently married 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

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Candidate for Isanti City Council

SENATE DISTRICT 28



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Michele Tafoya
for U.S. Senator

Pete Stauber
for U.S. House of Representative

Ronald Schutz
for Attorney General

Tad Jude
for Secretary of State

Scott Jensen
for State Auditor

HOUSE DISTRICT 28A



RE-ELECT JIMMY GORDON

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RE-ELECT BRAHAM MAYOR
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TOM SCHIBILLA



Candidate for Cambridge City Council

RONDA SZLAVICH



Candidate for Cambridge City Council

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