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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2026
VOL. 120 NO. 40 COUNTYSTAR.COM

AND THE WINNERS ARE: Find out if your choices placed in the top three in the Star's Best of contest

School district, city conducting soil contamination tests

BY BILL STICKELS III
EDITOR@COUNTYSTAR.COM

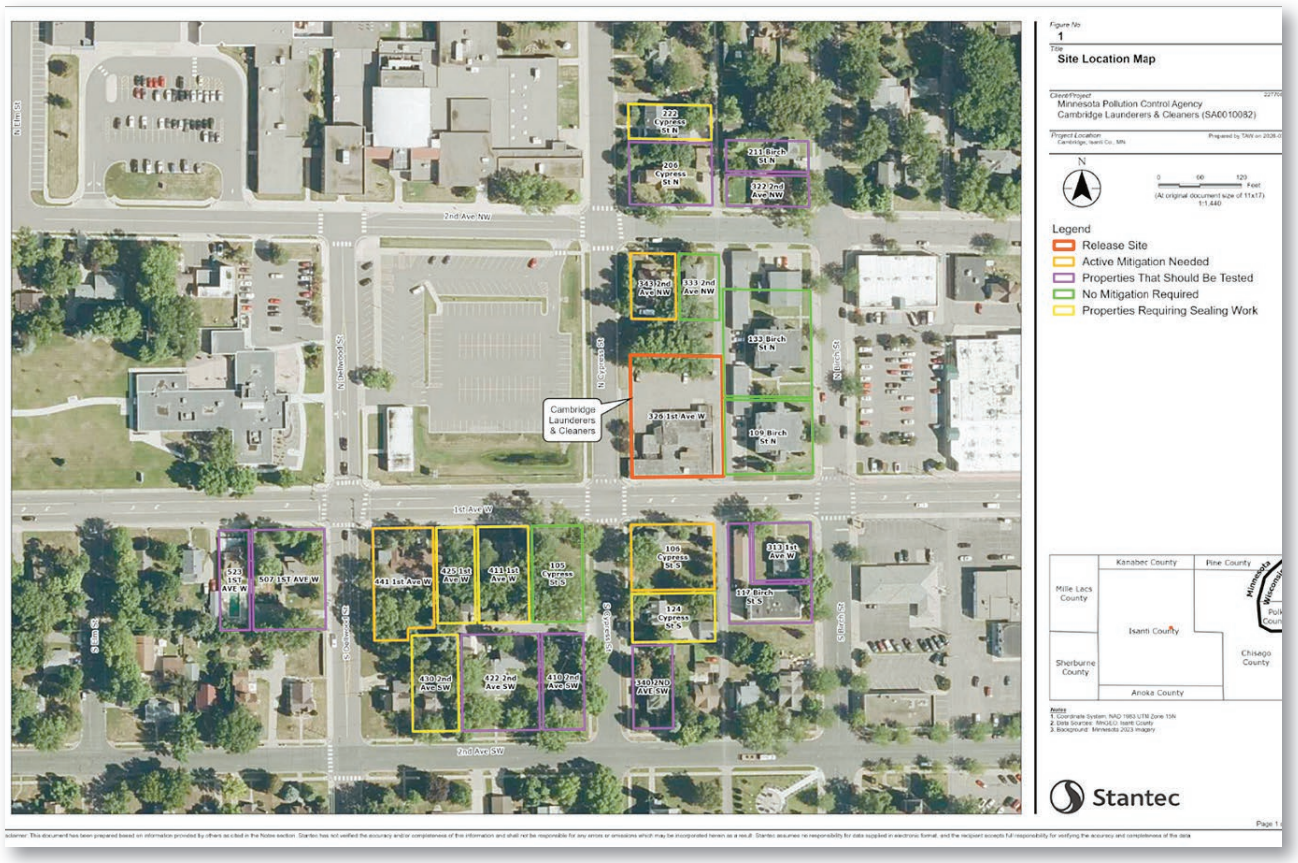
The Cambridge-Isanti School district is conducting air and soil quality testing at the Cambridge Intermediate and Primary Schools in response to slightly elevated levels of tetrachloroethylene — commonly known as PCE — found outside the southeast corner of the Intermediate School.

According to the school district, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency has been doing an environmental assessment of properties near the former Cambridge Launderers and Cleaners building for approximately two years. In June 2026, 10 soil borings were made surrounding CIPS. Of those ten, two came back with slightly elevated levels of PCE. Those two samples had amounts of 125 to 126 micrograms per cubic meter, with 110 micrograms per cubic meter being the maximum amount to be considered normal.

Because of those two slightly elevated levels, the MPCA is recommending two additional tests be conducted. The first is a sub-slab test, which will check for soil vapor directly beneath the buildings. The second is an ambient air test, which will test for PCE in the air. These tests will be conducted twice — over the MEA break and in early winter. The district said testing twice is the standard procedure. Test results take 10 to 14 business days to come back.

"Looking at indoor-air and sub-slab results together gives us a clearer picture of conditions beneath and inside the buildings and helps determine whether any additional steps are needed," the school district said.

SEE **PCE,** PAGE **11**



CAMBRIDGE-ISANTI SCHOOLS WEBSITE

This map shows which properties have already been tested, need to still be tested, and need or didn't need PCE mitigation. The Cambridge Primary and Intermediate Schools are at the top, left of the map. To see a version of the map that can be enlarged, go to www.isanti-chisagocountystar.com.



BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR

How low can you go?

Cambridge-Isanti's Kyla Terhell ducks down to try and head a rapidly sinking corner kick during the Bluejackets' game against North Branch. See page 7 for the results of all C-I and North Branch varsity games from the past week.

Cambridge Police moving to updated body camera system

BY BILL STICKELS III
EDITOR@COUNTYSTAR.COM

The Cambridge Police Department will begin moving to state-of-the-art body and squad car cameras in February 2027, which the police chief says will greatly improve the use of that data-collection system.

According to Chief Shawn Machin, Motorola notified the department in April 2025 that the camera platform the department currently uses will reach end of life in May 2028.

"Recognizing the need to identify a replacement well in advance of that date, staff began researching available body-worn camera platforms," Machin said. "As the evaluation progressed, it expanded beyond camera hardware to include in-car video, long-term digital evidence storage and sharing, redaction, system integration, connectivity, emergency management capabilities, training, and lifecycle replacement planning."

Machin said part of the research included an extended hands-on trial of Axon, along with a trial of the newest Motorola equipment.

"Based on more than a year of research, demonstrations, hands-on testing, and comparison of both systems, staff recommends transitioning to Axon under the Fleet + Body-Worn Camera proposal," Machin said.

He said besides the body-worn cameras and the in-car systems, Axon offers

SEE **CAMERAS,** PAGE **11**

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Isanti man charged with kidnapping, sexual assault

STAFF REPORT
NEWS@COUNTYSTAR.COM

A 41 year-old Isanti man has been arrested and charged with two counts of first degree criminal sexual conduct, two counts of felony kidnapping, one count of aggravated robbery, and one count of second degree assault with a dangerous weapon in association with an incident in Roseville.

According to an incident report from the Roseville Police Department, at around 5 p.m. on Sept. 23, a male later identified as Pao Yang of Isanti allegedly kidnapped a female victim at gunpoint as she left her place of employment, taking her first into a nearby wooded area where he placed tape around her head covering her eyes and mouth and zip-tying her to a tree.

The victim said he told her he was going to turn her over to three black men before leaving her for approximately 15 minutes. At that point, he walked her out of the woods and placed her in the back of a vehicle and drove around for over an hour. She said after stopping, he led her into a room with a concrete floor. There, he tied her up again and left for about another hour.

After once again returning, the victim said she heard what she thought was gunshots and Yang began smashing glass items around her. At that point, the victim said Yang told her he wouldn't turn her over to the three black men if she "took care of" him. He also repeated his threat to kill her if she did anything and forced her to undress and he allegedly raped her.

Yang then allegedly drove the victim to another location and had her take a shower with soap he gave her and then gave her a small dress to put on the victim said "smelled new."

He then again drove her around, periodically stopping to check that the tape was still over her face and mouth. He also put headphones on her and a plastic bag over her head.



CITYOFROSEVILLE.COM

Pao Yang of Isanti is charged with two counts of first degree criminal sexual conduct and on count of aggravate robbery

The victim said he repeatedly told her he "liked killing women." He also told her he knew where her family lived and would kill them if she called the police. He also said he video recorded the sexual intercourse and would have "his people" post it on social media.

Finally, he let her out of the car near the Phalen golf course clubhouse, telling her to look down, walk, and not turn around or he would kill her.

The victim proceeded to walk to a Holiday gas station, where bystanders flagged down officers after seeing her injuries. She was taken to Regions Hospital for a sexual assault examination.

The next day, on Sept. 24, the victim walked officers through the abduction, including locating a water bottle she said she dropped in the wooded area. She also identified the tree she was tied to. Officers also found a black facemask Yang was allegedly wearing.

Officers obtained images from multiple security cameras that showed a vehicle matching Yang's was in the area of the abduction. Additional investigation yielded evidence the black dress he had the victim wear was purchased at a Target store in Blaine at around 9:50 p.m. on Sept. 23.



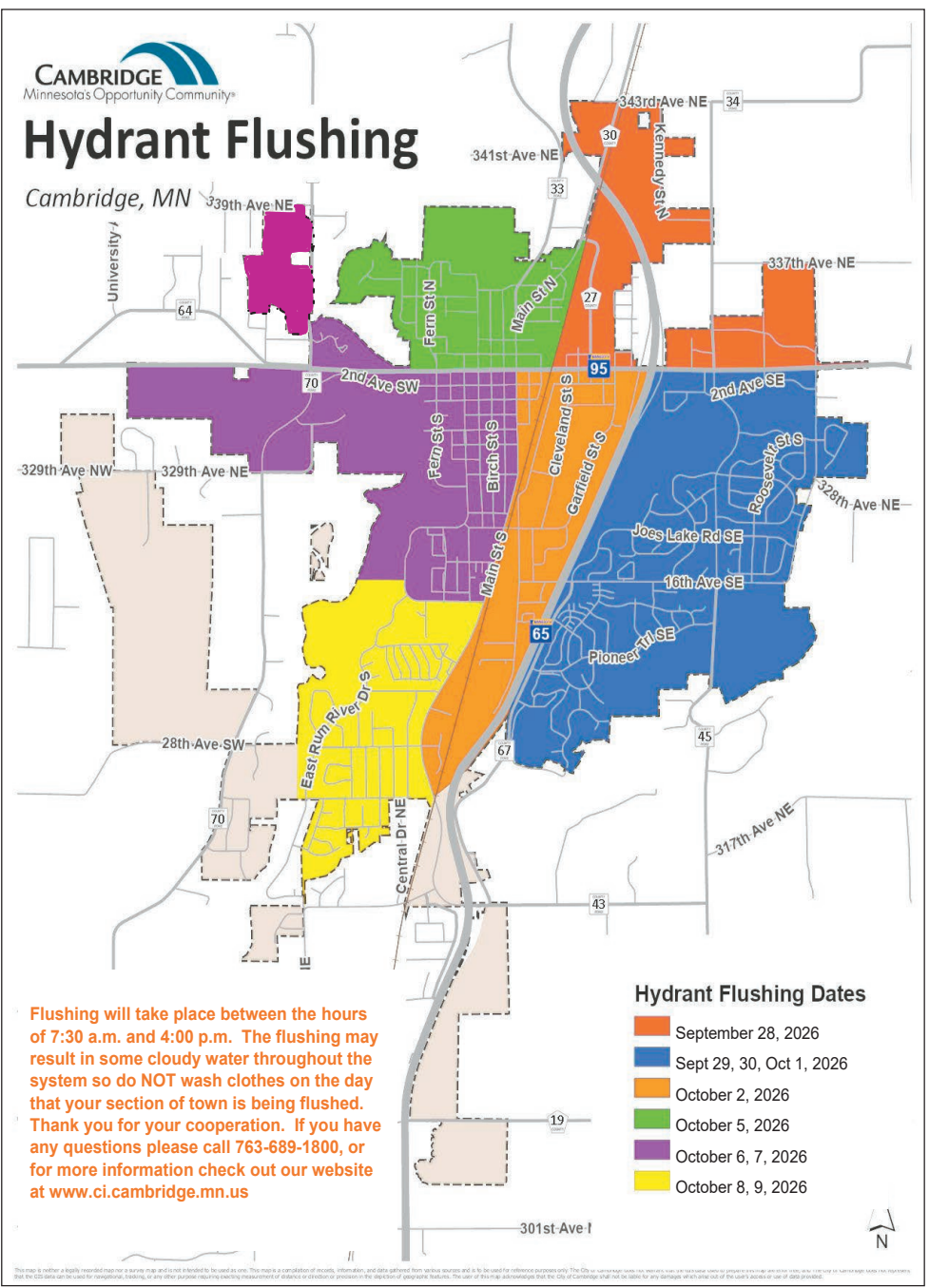
CITYOFROSEVILLE.COM

Pao Yang was seen on surveillance cameras in the Blaine Target store purchasing a dress similar to the one the victim was forced to change into.

Surveillance video of that Target store showed Yang entering the store purchasing the dress and leaving at that same time. Upon showing the video to a coworker of the victim, the coworker identified Yang as being the office cleaner. Surveillance video from that business showed a person matching the person from the Target video cleaning the offices prior to this incident.

A search warrant of Yang's home in Isanti revealed the Yang's vehicle, a black North Face jacket, a gray sweatshirt, gray Nike shoes and black Nike sweatpants — all matching items worn in the Target video. Officers also found orange zip ties, a duffle bag containing zip ties and soap, a sling bag containing gloves and a mask, plus two handguns and an AR-style rifle.

Yang is currently being held in the Ramsey County Jail, pending the posting of bail of $2.5 million with no conditions other than no contact with the victim. His next hearing before the judge is scheduled for Oct. 2.



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- Poor fuel mileage
- Hard starting

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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

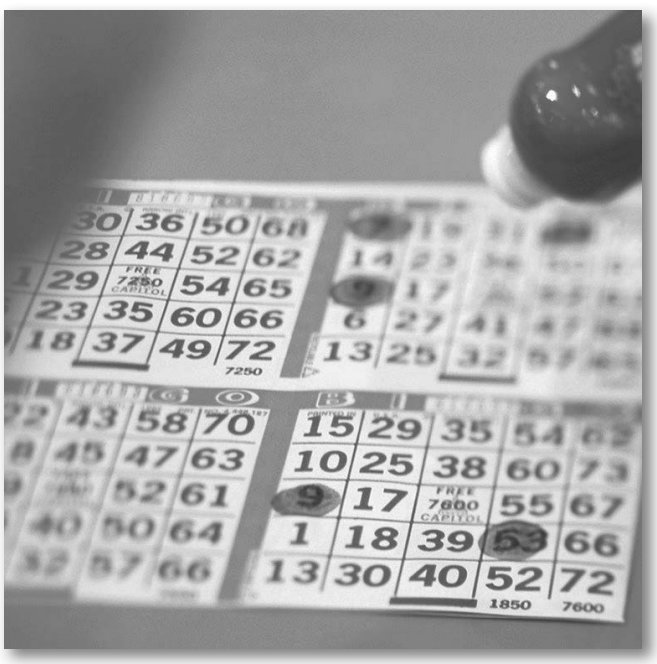
At First Baptist in Cambridge(304 Main St S.) every Tuesday. There is a light meal at 5:45 p.m., large group at 6:30 p.m., and small groups at 7:30 p.m. Visit Celebraterecovery.com for more info.

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 763-689-1023.



Christ the King Parish Hall on Fern Street is hosting a Cash Bingo on Oct. 4.

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 Adult-mentalhealth.org.

THURSDAYS

East Central Baby Cafe

Free drop-in breast-feeding 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. 4

Cash Bingo

2 p.m. at the Christ the King Parish Hall on Fern Street, Cambridge. Pizza, snacks and beverages available for a freewill donation. Proceeds benefit parish and community projects.

Hayride for a Food Drive

Bring a non-perishable food item to benefit families in need. Hayrides (Handicap accessible), face painting, bouncy house, mini hores, baked goods, silent auction, prize drawings, bike raffle and more. 1 - 5 p.m. 2675 337th Ave. NE, Cambridge (1/2 mile north of Cub Foods). For more info: barbie.bloomgren@gmail.com

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.

First statewide Great Minnesota Woods Walk set for October 3

The Minnesota Forestry Association is inviting Minnesotans of all ages to step outside and experience the state's forests during the first Great Minnesota Woods Walk, Saturday, Oct. 3, from 1 to 3 p.m.

The statewide event is designed to bring people together in the woods close to home while helping them discover how Minnesota's forests grow, change and are cared for.

The Great Minnesota Woods Walk is an opportunity for people to get outside, learn something new and see firsthand why Minnesota's forests are so important to our communities, wildlife, economy and quality of life."

The event is being organized around locally hosted walks throughout Minnesota. Woodland owners, foresters, educators, land managers, parks, land trusts, forest-industry partners and others who care about Minnesota's forests are encouraged to open a trail and share their knowledge with visitors.

Walks may include:

* Tree identification for beginners
* Tours of sustainably managed forests or recent harvests
* Forest ecology and wildlife walks
* Birding and nature observation
* Portable sawmill demonstrations
* Visits to notable or champion trees
* Comparisons of young forests and older forest stands
* Family-friendly nature activities and scavenger hunts
* Quiet walks simply intended to experience the forest

Minnesota's forests provide clean water and air, wildlife habitat, renewable forest products, recreation and places for people to connect with nature. The Great Minnesota Woods Walk is intended to help more Minnesotans understand and appreciate those benefits while connecting people with the individuals and organizations who care for the state's forests.

Families, children, hikers, woodland owners, students and anyone who enjoys being outdoors are encouraged to participate.

Event: The Great Minnesota Woods Walk

Date: Saturday, October 3, 2026

Time: 1–3 p.m.

Location: Participating woodland sites throughout Minnesota

A list of participating walks and information for those interested in hosting a walk is available at:

www.minnesotaforestry.org/mn-woodswalk

For additional information, contact the Minnesota Forestry Association at 218-879-5100 or info@minnesotaforestry.org. ~ The Minnesota Forestry Association

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Worth a Thousand Words

Bill Stickels III

It's finally here! The Isanti-Chisago County Star's Readers' Choice Best of results can be found in a special second section of this week's edition.

I think I've said this every year, but it bears repeating — mostly because it is more and more anticipated every year; but this is by far our biggest, most time-consuming project of the year. When you combine the prep work leading up to the nomination period, the actual nomination period, tallying the five finalists from all the nominations (a total of 9,682 of them this year), the final voting period, tallying all the votes (a total of just short of 75,000 of them this year), and finally laying out all 173 categories into the 24-page special section, we probably spend over a month's worth of work hours.

Naturally, this isn't a one-person or even a two-person job. Our publisher puts in easily the most amount of time. My assistant cranks out countless social media posts during both the nomination and final voting periods to help spread the word. Our ad reps also help spread the word to businesses along with gathering advertising to cover the costs of publishing it. Our graphics team does the preliminary layout and creates a number of the ads. Even our copy center in Mora prints the winners' names onto all the certificates. Finally, we all pitch in with delivering certificates to the winners and second and third place finishers.

My main duty is the layout. This by itself takes me around the equivalent of a full workday to complete. It's not a difficult task. After doing it for the seventh time, I've got the routine down pat. However, it is very redundant work. I have to copy each of the 173 categories from a master template and paste them on one of the pages.

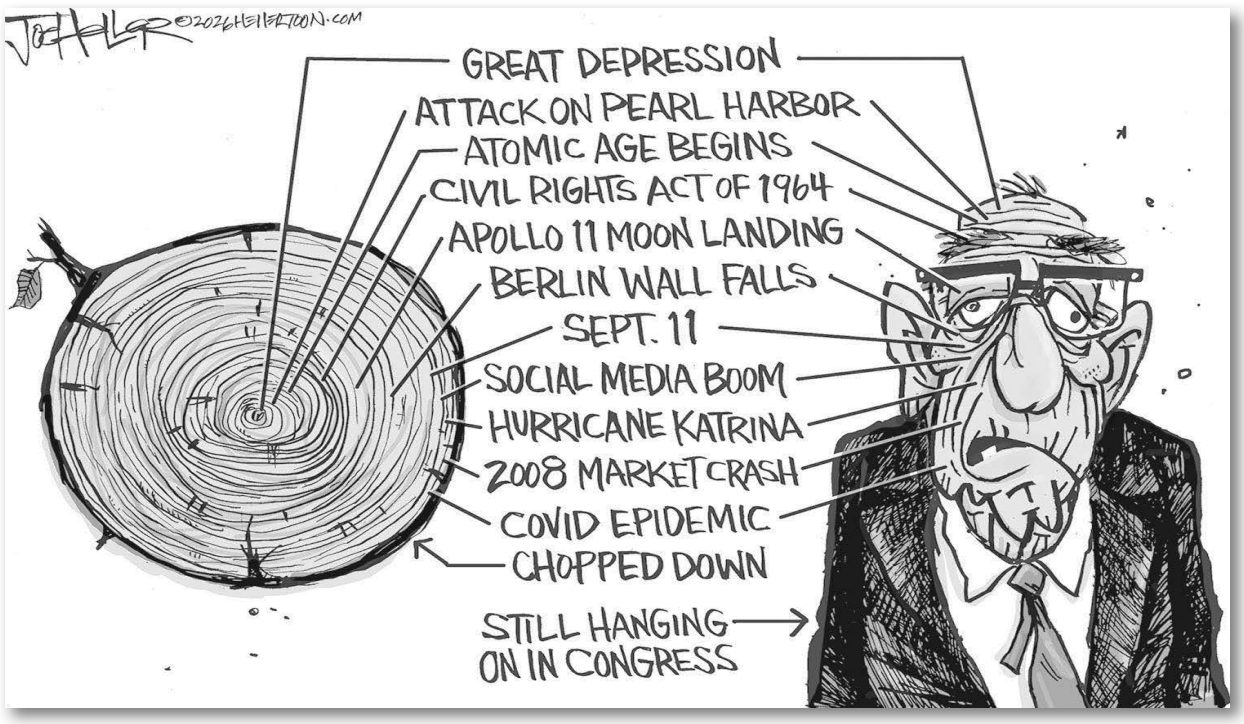
In the interest of full disclosure, though, I am very meticulous doing this task. I try to arrange each of the categories to get as many of them as possible on each page while at the same time keeping a clean, open look. I try to balance the categories not being too close together with not having too much white space between them. And in my humble opinion, I think this year is my best layout yet.

At the same time, I'm ultra-paranoid that I will miss one of the categories. Therefore, I cross-reference at least one list of all the categories, crossing each out as they are placed on a page. I'm sure there are faster and easier ways of doing all that. In fact, each year I discover a new little trick to work smarter, not harder. But I will never rush through it.

For each of us, this project is really a labor of love. Sure, we each have our moments of bemoaning the job. But then we are reminded of how much the businesses and our readers appreciate it. We see the Facebook posts asking for nominations or votes, and then the triumphant posts when they discover they won. Throughout the year, we also see all the businesses who hang their certificates on their walls and place the window clings in their windows.

With that, I welcome you to the 2026 Readers' Choice Best of special section. Enjoy discovering who won this year. And to the winners, congratulations! We look forward to repeating the whole process beginning next spring.

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



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Musings on cost of living

To the editor,

I'm concerned about people's feelings or attitudes about our cost of living — fuel and food.

Cost of living hasn't gone down that much since the last president's term ending almost two years ago. Why is that?

Fuel costs have not gone down much even though we are in a six-plus months war with Iran. Food costs have gone down in some products and leveled off or gone up in others.

The biggest reason is that we still have twenty million or more illegal immigrants living in our country demanding the same amount of food and gasoline and diesel and heating fuels and electricity, apartments to rent, medicines and free health care, etc. Also, they have taken up lots of our jobs often getting paid less for those same jobs.

Still our average wages have increased and average yearly family income has increased to $87,000 a year. Also, so far this year, 162,000 new jobs have gone to legal citizens and legal immigrants. Also, all kinds of new industries are building plants and factories that will provide even more new jobs for citizens and legal immigrants.

Hopefully, by the end of this year we will end this war with Iran resulting in both lower fuel prices and an end to their nuclear weapons threat for us and our children.

However, we still need more refining now, because California closed their three refineries in the last year. That forces us to continue selling crude oil to other countries. That then forces us to buy it back refined at a higher price. Crazy! That forces all of us to pay more for gas, etc.

For me, voting will not be about which party, but about common sense and good moral principles for my kids and grandkids.

Roger Newton
North Branch

PAID LETTER:

Large levy increase due to 'Big Beautiful Bill'

To the editor,

The article about preliminary levies in the Sept. 24 issue of the Isanti-Chisago County Star was enlightening. It was a great demonstration of how voting matters.

The levy results for Isanti County were particularly interesting. The 10.83% levy increase was attributed to having to "make up for nearly half a million dollars no longer being funded by the state or federal government." Why did the county have to replace those funds? It was because the Republicans passed the so called "Big Beautiful Bill." That legislation cut funding for programs that Isanti County will now have to pay for. The so called "Big Beautiful Bill" cut that funding so Republicans could give $1 trillion in tax breaks for the top 1%. Isanti County taxpayers will be paying higher taxes specifically to fund programs cut because of those tax breaks.

The BBB also cut benefits for SNAP, Medicaid, Children's Health Program, and other programs. Predictions are that as many as 10 million people will lose affordable healthcare because the republicans cut government support. Those programs are significant income sources for rural hospitals. Many rural hospitals will close because of the BBB.

Who you vote for matters. The BBB was passed by Republicans with no votes from the Democratic party. Republicans did this and we are paying for it. In the 1980 presidential campaign, Ronald Regan asked a question of voters: "Are you better off now than you were four years ago?" Are you better off now than you were 2 years ago, before Republicans took control of the government and passed the BBB?

Jeffrey Benny
Cambridge

PAID LETTER:

Accountability

To the editor,

So many things have changed in Minnesota in the last 8 years — we were known as Minnesota nice. Now we hear of crimes or shootings almost every weekend. I think when crimes are committed, someone should be arrested.

So many times we see a news crime story and no one has been arrested, and many times they are arrested, and have a long history of crimes, but just released. This just rewards unlawfulness, over time it just increases crime. Punishment deters lawbreaking.

SEE **LETTERS TO EDITOR,** PAGE **5**

Your Best Source for Community Information

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What we carry forward



NB School News
Sara Paul

There is something special about Homecoming week at North Branch Area Public Schools. The familiar traditions return. Students dress up for spirit days. Teams compete. Families and community members gather for the parade, and our stadium is packed for one of the best Friday night experiences: Viking football and fireworks! Another generation of Vikings gets the chance to experience those traditions and make them their own.

Homecoming reminds me that moving forward isn't always a straight line. Alumni return to familiar places, Viking traditions and experiences, but they return carrying what they have learned, the relationships they have built and the experiences that have shaped them.

I think about that when I reflect on my own time at NBAPS. When I arrived six years ago, I brought a lot of experiences and ideas, and I had a lot to learn. I learned from people who had been here long before me, including staff, families, and community members who understood our schools, our history, and what it means to be a Viking. I continue to learn from them today.

Along the way, new people have joined us, too. They have brought experiences and perspectives from other places and have become part of our Viking story. And all of us continue learning together as so much around education is changing.

I don't think of our story as a straight line from where we were to where we are going. It is more like a spiral. We keep returning to the things that matter most: our students, relationships, learning and community. And we return with more experience and a deeper understanding. We ask new questions. We see something we may not have seen before. We adjust as we better understand the opportunities we can co-create with students. And then we keep learning.

The traditions, experiences and wisdom that shaped us become part of what we carry forward. We learn from those who came before us while making room for each generation of Vikings to contribute something of their own. All of it becomes part of who we are. That is how traditions stay meaningful. Traditions connect us to what came before while leaving room for each of us to add something along the way. Homecoming makes that visible.

This Homecoming, I hope our Vikings enjoy the traditions, create new memories and recognize that they, too, are adding something to a bigger Viking story that continues to unfold.

Happy Homecoming, Vikings!

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

LETTERS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

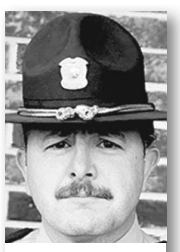
Here in Minnesota we have many years now of the fraud, stealing tax money and not doing oversight, and when it was discovered, denying it exists covering it up, and even firing whistleblowers. You would think they would want it corrected—but I guess lots of this is Federal money and must have been beneficial to those on top. We need accountability. The ones who caused this and allowed it will not fix it –we need a new Governor and Attorney General and others who will fix it.

Please pray and vote-- pray for good government. Check out what each candidate stands for—low crime, law and order—or more of what we have now—high crime and very little accountability.

Communities need to be safe and have good law enforcement. We get the Government we vote for. God bless Minnesota.

Judy Hansen
Cambridge

Guidelines for slow moving vehicle emblems



Ask A Trooper
Jesse Grabow

Question: I have a slow moving emblem for my vehicle. Can I use that when I am driving at normal speed limits or must I take that off?

Answer: Vehicles designed to operate at 35 miles per hour or less must display a slow-moving vehicle emblem. The use of this emblem is restricted to the slow-moving vehicles specified in state statute and its use on any other type of vehicle or stationary object on the highway is prohibited.

VEHICLES THAT NEED THE EMBLEM

- Animal-drawn vehicles
- Motorized golf carts on designated roads
- Farm equipment (implements of husbandry)
- Road construction machinery and other slow machinery

Rules and Exceptions

- Prohibition: You cannot use this sign on normal fast cars or stationary roadside objects.
- Fast towing exception: Empty towed farm equipment can move faster than 35 mph without taking the sign off.
- Construction exception: Vehicles actively working inside a marked construction zone do not need to display it.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE EMBLEM

- Design: It must be a fluorescent or illuminated red-orange triangle with a dark red reflective border.
- Visibility: It must be mounted so it can be seen from at least 600 feet to the rear, including when hit by headlights on low beam.
- Placement: It goes on the rear of the vehicle. If a primary vehicle tows another unit and shows the sign, the towed unit does not need a second sign.



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).

Isanti County HHS to host annual Mercy & Hope Operation Community Connect

Isanti County Health and Human Services (ICHHS) will host its annual community event, Mercy & Hope Operation Community Connect on Saturday, October 31 at First Baptist Church, in Cambridge, MN. All families are welcome and invited to attend the event at 304 S Main Street from 11am – 1pm. More than thirty local businesses, vendors and community partners will offer FREE resources, including seasonal vaccines. A free meal will be sponsored by First Baptist Church. ICHHS will provide cooler bags, free winter gear, bike helmets and more to support you and the entire family, while supplies last.

The event seeks to address the full spectrum of wellness and with resources for area residents to identify and establish individual healthcare priorities.

"There are many lives impacted through this annual event," says Marjanae McGowan, Division Operations Lead, Health and Human Services at Isanti County. "Operation Community Connect is really about neighbors helping neighbors. When local organizations, businesses, churches, volunteers and community partners come together, we have an incredible opportunity to make sure families know they are seen, supported, and connected to people who care. None of us can meet every need on our own, but together we can create a stronger network of support for our community. That spirit of collaboration is what makes this event so special and can make a massive impact on our individual and community health."

Several factors have an impact on health and wellness, including:

- Disease prevention and safety, like washing hands or covering coughs
- Preventive medical and dental care, including annual check-ups
- Daily movement and regular exercise
- Getting outdoors and spending time in nature
- Dedicating time for adequate sleep and physical rest
- Identifying mental health supports that are meaningful to the individual
- Eating nutritious, healthy foods

According to Jodi Donnay, Division Leader at ICHHS, "Our priority as an agency is to offer a comprehensive approach to addressing the health and wellbeing needs of our community. We know wellness looks different for everyone, so this event aims to support the community across all the factors that contribute to it – from preventive care to mental health to everyday habits."

This community event is generously supported by contributions from several non-profits, agencies, and partners, including Medica, and First Baptist Church. For questions about this event and updates, please contact Isanti County Health and Human Services at 763-689-1711 or email: OCC@co.isanti.mn.us or follow us on the Isanti County Facebook page. ~ Isanti County Health and Human Services

Lessman named next executive director of MNA/MNI

Justin Lessman will serve as the next executive director of the Minnesota Newspaper Association and Minnesota News Media Institute.

Lessman will succeed current MNA/MNI Executive Director Lisa Hills, who will retire Jan. 31, 2027, after nearly four decades with the MNA, the last 20 as executive director.

Lessman brings a rich history of experience and a deep passion for the news media industry to the position.

He holds a bachelor's degree in agricultural journalism from South Dakota State University and a master's degree in mass communications from Kansas State University.

He began his newspaper career as a staff writer and advertising sales representative for his hometown newspaper in Tracy, Minn. He continued his newspaper career in Marshall, Minn., and Powell, Wyo., before teaching journalism at Kansas State University from 2006 to 2007.

He became publisher and general manager at Livewire Printing Co. in Jackson, Minn., in 2008, doubling as editor, advertising sales and marketing manager and chief budget and financial officer. He was part owner from 2015 to 2024.

Lessman has served the MNA and MNI in multiple capacities over the years. He has been a member of all MNA committees; has chaired the advertising/digital media committee, the member services committee and the finance committee; and serves as the current chair of the legislative committee. Moreover, Lessman served on the MNA and MNI Board of Directors from 2015 to 2026, including two terms as MNA/MNI president.

"Justin's extensive knowledge, his vast experience and his unmatched passion for the industry are all very valuable assets as our organizations move forward," said MNA President Tara Brandl. "Justin understands the importance of MNA and MNI for our industry and the significance of all members. We are confident Justin will be an outstanding leader for our organizations."

Lessman said he is humbled, honored and excited to be given the opportunity to help lead two organizations he deeply loves and believes in toward a bright future.

"The work the members of the MNA do is critically important to the health of communities and democracy, and the work the MNA and MNI do is critically important to our members," Lessman said. "Having spent more than a decade operating a news media business while serving in MNA and MNI leadership, I understand the association from both sides of the relationship. I look forward to the opportunity to contribute my experience, along with my passion for the industry and the organization that serve it so well, to help strengthen this essential work."

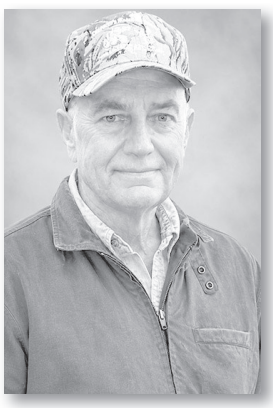
~ Minnesota Newspaper Association

OBITUARIES

James Leo Maslow

James Leo Maslow, 89, of Stanchfield, MN passed away on Wednesday, September 23, 2026 at his home.

He was born January 4, 1937 in Ortonville, MN to Leo and Cecilia (Ahartz) Maslow. He grew up attending school in Madison. After his schooling, the family moved to Stanchfield. Jim worked at the Powder Plant in Isanti and met Darlyne Dohm.



In July 1965 Jim and Darlyne were married at Christ The King Catholic Church in Cambridge. They made their home on her family farm, Darlyne tended to the cattle and other chores, while Jim worked as a mechanic in the twin cities at Clark Equipment later Midwest Great Dane.

Jim and Darlyne raised their four children on the family farm. They operated their dairy farm together for 20 years. Jim retired at the age of 65 and they celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary in 2015. Darlyne passed away in February 2020.

Jim was a longtime member of Christ The King Catholic Church. He enjoyed working on the farm and repairing and selling old tractors. He liked to spend time deer hunting and fishing.

He was preceded in death by his parents, wife Darlyne in February 2020, daughter Marion Back, sister Alice Kremer, brothers Delphine, Frank, Donald and Wilbert Maslow.

Jim is survived by his children Leon Hislop of Montello, WI, Rosa Lee Adams (Rick Wiese) of Braham, Robin Maslow of Stanchfield, four grandchildren, five great grandchildren, brother Vernon Maslow of St. Cloud, many nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Mass of Christian Burial 10:30 a.m., Friday, October 9, 2026 at Christ The King Catholic Church. Visitation one hour prior to the service. Interment in the parish cemetery. Condolences at carlsonlillemoen.com. Arrangements by Carlson-Lillemoen Funeral Home and Cremation Services of Cambridge.

Robert "Bob" Zimny



Robert "Bob" Zimny, age 86 of Isanti, MN (formerly of Wells, MN) died Thursday, September 24, 2026.

A visitation will be Friday, October 2, 2026 from 10 -11 a.m. at St. Casimir Catholic Church. A Mass of Christian Burial will start at 11 a.m. Friday, October 2, 2026 at St. Casimir Catholic Church. Father Timothy Hall will be officiating, and burial will be in St. Casimir Catholic Cemetery. Please see nasinecfh.com to see the full obituary.

Phyllis J. Christenson

Phyllis J. Christenson passed away at Prairie Senior Cottages in Isanti on Monday, September 21, 2026, at the age of 81 years, 10 months and two days, following a long battle with Alzheimer's.

Phyllis was born November 19, 1944, in Cambridge Township to Bert and Ardelle Christenson. She grew up on her parents' dairy farm near Stanchfield where she enjoyed gardening and caring for the many pets and animals that lived there. During high school she worked at the Braham Bible & Bookstore and kept busy with many babysitting and childcare jobs. She remained an active member of the Stanchfield Baptist Church from childhood until her death.



Following graduation in 1962, she moved to Minneapolis where she found an administration assistant job at the University of Minnesota Hospital. Throughout her career, she reported to the Chief Surgeon of the Hospital's Neurology Clinic, earning several awards and commendations as her responsibilities increased. While at the U, she enjoyed travelling and went on several University-sponsored trips overseas and across the United States. She retired from the University Hospital in 1998, having spent 36 years working for the same surgeon and in the same clinic throughout her entire career.

In 2003 Phyllis moved back home to Stanchfield to stay with her mom who was still living on the family farm. Phyllis so much enjoyed the peaceful retirement life in the country where she daily fed the birds, deer, pheasants and other wildlife. She remained on the family farm until May 2015 when she moved to GracePointe Commons Senior Housing in Cambridge. In October 2018 she was transferred to the Prairie Senior Cottages (PSC) in Isanti.

She was preceded in death by her parents Bert and Ardelle Christenson.

She is survived by her brother Wayne (Gigi) Christenson of Minnetonka, niece Laura (David) Kral of St. Michael, nephew Steven (Stefanie) Christenson of Minneapolis, two grand-nephews, four grand-nieces and many other relatives and friends.

The family would like to express their gratitude for all the prayers and support offered throughout Phyllis' battle with Alzheimer's, and for joining us as we celebrate memories of her life.

A Funeral Service will be held at 2 p.m. on Friday, October 2, 2026, at the Stanchfield Baptist Church with Pastor Dave Melin officiating. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service at the church. Interment will be in the Stanchfield Baptist Cemetery. Arrangements are entrusted to the Hamilton Funeral Homes – Rock Chapel in Braham. Condolences may be posted at www.hamiltonfhs.com.

STUDENT NAMES IN THE NEWS

Student Achievement Lists

Shayleen Jacobson of Cambridge (President's) from St. Cloud Technical & Community College

CentraCare and U of M Partner to Grow Rural Workforce

CentraCare and the University of Minnesota Medical School are continuing their partnership to strengthen the rural health care workforce through the expansion of graduate medical education programs designed to train and retain physicians in Greater Minnesota.

Becoming a physician requires several years of education and training, including an undergraduate degree, a medical degree, and graduate medical education through residency training. During residency, physicians work under supervision to gain the clinical experience and expertise needed for independent practice. Some physicians also pursue fellowship training to develop specialized skills. Together, residency and fellowship programs are referred to as graduate medical education (GME).

CentraCare's investment in physician training continues to deliver results with Family Medicine Residency programs in both St. Cloud and WillmarExternal link that opens in the same window filling all available residency positions this year.

Building on that momentum, CentraCare and the University of Minnesota are expanding training opportunities in several specialties that are critical to the health and well-being of rural populations. These programs will help develop the next generation of physicians while addressing workforce needs across Greater Minnesota:

Rural Pediatrics Residency Primary Care Track: Actively recruiting two residents for a July 2027 start.

Rural Psychiatry Residency Track: Actively recruiting two residents for a July 2027 start.

Rural General Surgery Residency Track: Actively recruiting a resident for a July 2027 start.

"Graduate medical education is one of the most effective strategies for addressing long-term physician workforce shortages in rural communities," said Jessie Roske, MD, SFHM, Medical Director of Graduate Medical Education for CentraCare. "By training physicians where they're needed most, we're creating opportunities for them to build careers, relationships and lasting connections in Greater Minnesota."

Residency and fellowship programs do more than train physicians. They improve access to care, help attract and retain providers in rural communities, and increase the likelihood that physicians will practice in Greater Minnesota long term. These programs also strengthen local health systems through enhanced quality, education, community outreach, and public health initiatives.

The expansion of these programs also helps address workforce shortages and expands patient access to primary and specialty care closer to home.

"Training physicians in rural communities is a proven investment in the future of healthcare," said Susan Culican, MD, PhD, Senior Associate Dean of Graduate Medical Education at the University of Minnesota. "These programs help ensure patients across Greater Minnesota have access to high-quality care while building a sustainable pipeline of healthcare professionals dedicated to serving rural populations."

As CentraCare continues to grow its Graduate Medical Education program, the organization is committed to creating new learning experiences and clinical training opportunities that support the next generation of rural healthcare providers.

By expanding residency and fellowship programs in partnership with the University of Minnesota, CentraCare is investing in a long-term solution to rural healthcare workforce needs and helping ensure patients throughout the region have access to high-quality care for years to come.

~ University of Minnesota Medical School

Stay safe when the water temperature drops

As the waterfowl hunting season begins and anglers take advantage of less recreational boat activity on the lakes, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources reminds everyone to make safety their responsibility.

While more boating-related incidents occur during the summer, survival rates drop drastically during the cold-water season.

As the water temperature drops, this time of the year can be especially dangerous for anyone who recreates on the water. Falling into cold lakes, ponds or rivers can cause even strong swimmers to quickly become incapacitated. And while there can be a calm solitude on the water in the fall, it also means cries for help might go unheard. Rescues may also take longer than during the warm weather months with fewer boaters around to help until first responders arrive.

Wearing a life jacket (foam is better than inflatable during the cold-water season) is the one action most likely to help people survive a fall into cold water. People can reduce the likelihood of a fall overboard by distributing weight evenly in the boat and following the manufacturer's weight limits. Having a means of communication is important, too, as is making sure other people know your destination plans and return time. Changes in weather can quickly shift winds, and storms can also lead to a treacherous situation, so it's vital for anglers and hunters to keep an eye on the sky.

If on the water for hunting, hunters should still follow the same four rules of firearms safety as on land: Treat each firearm as if it is loaded; always control the muzzle of the firearm; be sure of the target and what is beyond; and keep fingers off the trigger and outside the trigger guard until ready to shoot. ~ MN DNR



C-I, NB SCOREBOARD: SEPTEMBER 23 - 29

September 23
NB girls tennis 7, Big Lake 0

September 24
C-I girls tennis 7, Zimmerman 0
C-I boys soccer 2, Zimmerman 1
C-I girls soccer 4, Zimmerman 3
C-I volleyball 2, Becker 3 (25-15, 21-25, 17-25, 25-22, 9-15)
NB girls tennis at Monticello - postponed to Oct. 1
NB girls soccer 0, Becker 14
NB boys soccer 1, Becker 0
NB volleyball 0, Princeton 3 (22-25, 21-25, 22-25)

September 25
C-I football 10, Spring Lake Park 35
NB football 12, Rock Ridge 6

September 26
C-I volleyball 1, Mahtomedi 2
C-I volleyball 2, Pine City 0
C-I volleyball 0, Totino Grace 2
NB girls soccer 0, Cloquet 8

September 28
C-I girls soccer 6, North Branch 0
C-I boys soccer 5, North Branch 0
NB girls tennis 5, St. Francis 2

September 29
C-I girls tennis x, Centennial x
C-I boys cross country @ Norm Ayen Invite - 3rd/8 teams
*Top finisher: Jeremiah Guldseth - 2nd place (17:27.5)
C-I girls cross country @ Norm Ayen Invite - 3rd/7 teams
*Top finisher: Esther Larson - 5th place (20:12.1)
C-I boys soccer 1, Willmar 0
C-I volleyball 3, Chisago Lakes 0 (25-21, 25-20, 25-22)
NB boys cross country @ Norm Ayen Invite - 5th/8 teams
*Top finisher: Caleb Rueter - 1st place (17:06.8)
NB girls cross country @ Norm Ayen Invite - 5th/7 teams
*Top finisher: Lyla Stiner - 19th place (21:55.7)
NB volleyball 3, Zimmerman 0

C-I, NB HOME SCHEDULES: OCTOBER 1 - 8

Below are the scheduled dates for the home competitions for each of the Cambridge-Isanti and North Branch fall sports. To see both schools' full schedules, go to www.gobound.com. Schedules are subject to change with minimal advanced notice based on weather, availability of officials, or other reasons.

Thursday, Oct. 1
•C-I girls tennis vs. Big Lake (4 p.m.)
•C-I volleyball vs. North Branch (7 p.m.)

Friday, Oct. 2
•C-I football vs. Elk River (7 p.m.)
•NB football vs. Duluth East (6 p.m.)

Saturday, Oct. 3
•NB girls soccer vs. Duluth Denfeld (1 p.m.)

Monday, Oct. 5
•C-I volleyball vs. Centennial (7 p.m.)
•C-I girls soccer vs. Duluth East (6 p.m.)
•NB girls tennis vs. Zimmerman (4 p.m.)
•NB girls soccer vs. Princeton (5 p.m.)
•NB boys soccer vs. Princeton (7 p.m.)

Tuesday, Oct. 6
•C-I girls tennis vs. TBD (Section 7AAA team quarterfinals)
•NB volleyball vs. Chisago Lakes (7 p.m.)
•NB boys soccer vs. Cloquet (7 p.m.)

Thursday, Oct. 8
•C-I girls soccer vs. Hibbing (6 p.m.)
•C-I volleyball vs. Monticello (7 p.m.)
•NB boys soccer vs. Mesabi East (7 p.m.)



BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR

North Branch's Drew Peek (#20) and Cambridge-Isanti's Sam Lesmann (#22) race after a loose ball during the two teams' game at Cambridge-Isanti on Monday, Sept. 28.

Fall turkey, pheasant seasons begin soon

Minnesota upland bird hunters have two seasons to look forward to: fall turkey and pheasant.

Fall turkey hunting season, open Saturday, Oct. 3 through Sunday, Nov. 1, offers hunters a challenge and another way to experience the outdoors. Hunters are allowed to take one turkey of either sex during the fall season. Fall turkey hunters may use a crossbow, bow or shotgun afield. More information is available on the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources turkey hunting webpage (mndnr.gov/hunting/turkey).

Pheasant season is Saturday, Oct. 10, through Sunday, Jan. 3, 2027. Pheasant hunting offers both hearty exercise and the reward of excellent table fare, with the chance to get out in the tall grass, often with dogs, and enjoy the outdoors, especially in southern, central and western Minnesota. More information, including this year's pheasant hunting prospects map, is available on the Minnesota DNR pheasant hunting webpage (mndnr.gov/hunting/pheasant).

BUY HUNTING LICENSES EARLY

All hunters this year should plan to buy their license early to avoid the potential for any last-minute delays while getting a license. The Minnesota DNR launched a new electronic license system in June. The new system is functioning well, but it is a bit different and users may find their first transaction takes a little more time as they acclimate. In addition, some individuals who had multiple records in the old system will require customer assistance from the DNR License Center to transfer their history and establish their account in the new system. For these reasons, hunters are encouraged to leave plenty of time for their license purchase.

There are three ways to buy a license (mobile app, online, or in person from a license agent) and three ways to carry it (paper, PDF, or stored in the app). Customers can access the new system on the Minnesota DNR website (mndnr.gov/buyalicense) or by searching "Minnesota DNR Licensing" in the Apple or Google app stores.

If buying a license in person, hunters should check that the place where they want to buy it is selling them this year. Hunters can find in-person locations on the licensing agents map on the Minnesota DNR website (mndnr.gov/licenses/agents-map.html).

What do these busy people have in common?



They all got tested for colorectal cancer.
If they have time, so do you.
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Annual Hayride for Food this Sunday

STAFF REPORT
NEWS@COUNTYSTAR.COM

An annual fall tradition is set to return to Cambridge from 1 to 5 p.m. this Sunday, Oct. 4, in the form of the 17th annual Hayride for Food Drive, which bring families, neighbors and local supporters together for an afternoon of connection and charity.

The event, which is located a half-mile north of Cub Foods, on 337th Avenue NE, features free hayrides, face painting, a bouncy house, and mini horses. Visitors can also try their luck at the bike raffle, bid on treasures at the silent auction, and pick up treats at the community bake sale.

Attendees are encouraged to bring non-parishable food items that will be donated to Family Pathways to stock local pantries heading into the colder months. Money collected through the silent auction and bake sale will go to the Salvation Army to support their ongoing charitable efforts.

In 2025 the Hayride for a Food Drive brought in 2,000 pounds of food and $4,000 in cash donation in spite of on again, off again rain showers.

If you would like to help by donating supplies or baked goods, volunteering, or for any questions, please call 612-209-4469 or 651-402-4709, or email barbie.bloomgren@gmail.com.

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maxforminnesota.com

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SUPPORT GROUP

OCTOBER 6

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Please call Welia Health Rehabilitation Services at **320.225.3646**.

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

welia HEALTH

A Minnesota Newspaper Association AWARD-WINNING publication.

ISANTI-CHISAGO COUNTY STAR

MINNESOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

Highway 65 closure extends Oct. 1

STAFF REPORT
NEWS@COUNTYSTAR.COM

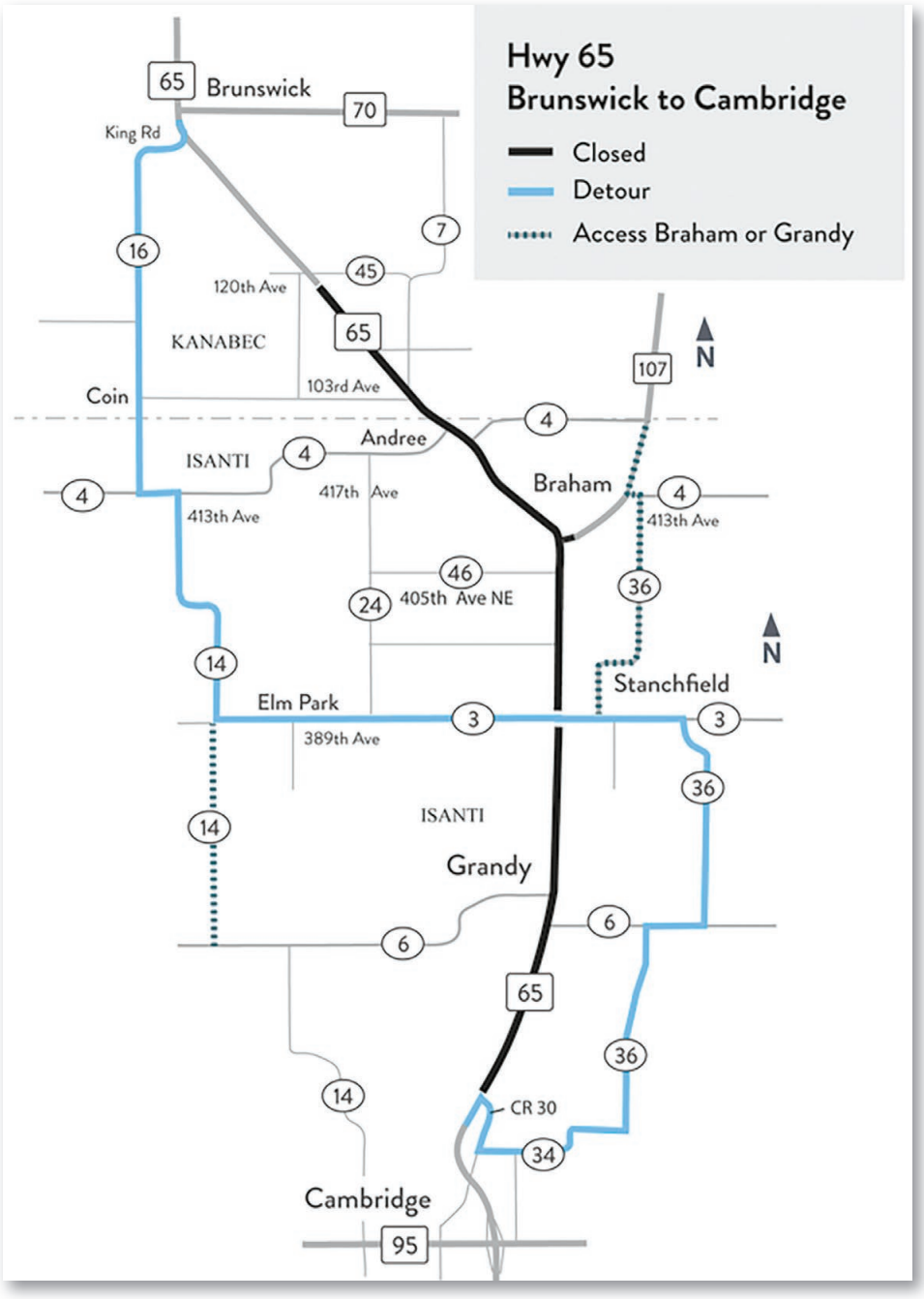
The Minnesota Department of Transportation is making another adjustment to the Highway 65 reconstruction project north of Cambridge.

Beginning on Oct. 1, work will be extended from just south of Highway 107 up to Brunswick. At the same time, MnDOT says the main 10-mile stretch between Cambridge and Braham, closed since early July, will remain closed until "late fall."

This means commuters who previously used the western detour from Cambridge to Braham will now have to take the eastern detour, which will extend to include County Road 36 from County Road 3 into Braham.

For commuters from Cambridge to Mora, the recommended detour is now County Road 34 to County Road 36 to County Road 3, crossing over Highway 65, to County Road 14, briefly onto County Road 4, and finally turning onto County Road 16.

"We know this detour has been a major headache all season, and we apologize for the disruptions it's caused," read a statement from MnDOT in a project update. "We recognize that the long routes, delays, and changes have been challenging, and we truly appreciate everyone's continued support as we improve the roadway."



Updated Highway 65 detour map.

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ISANTI-CHISAGO COUNTY STAR

PCE: Testing of Cambridge Primary, Intermediate Schools part of two-year project

FROM PAGE I

The district said once the results come back and are analyzed by the MPCA and the Minnesota Department of Health, the district will be advised on what, if any, additional actions need to be taken.

In the meantime, the district emphasizes the MPCA and MDH advise that these two readings do not indicate an urgent or immediate health risk to students and staff.

"MPCA and the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) have not recommended any changes to school operations," the district said. "Students and staff can continue learning, working and participating in activities throughout the CPIS complex as normal." This includes no restrictions on the drinking water since the schools use the city's water system, which is frequently tested by the city and PCE has not been detected.

Despite that, the district said they will be taking steps to seal some older openings and spaces in lower-level areas of the buildings that could potentially provide pathways for soil vapor.

"We are choosing to complete this work now as an additional proactive measure," the district said. "This work complements — not replaces — the testing being conducted with MPCA and MDH and reflects our commitment to going above and beyond where we can to support the safety and well-being of our students and staff."

'MPCA and the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) have not recommended any changes to school operations. Students and staff can continue learning, working and participating in activities throughout the CPIS complex as normal.'

Cambridge-Isanti Schools

WHAT IS PCE?

PCE is an organic compound historically used in dry cleaning, among other applications. When it is present in soil, or groundwater, it can evaporate and move through the soil as vapor, which under some conditions can then enter buildings through cracks, drains, utility openings, crawl spaces or other openings.

The presence of PCE does not, by itself, mean there is a health concern. The concentration, location, and length and frequency of exposure are all factors in determining health risks.

Mitigation of PCE can be accomplished similarly to radon mitigation, where a system creates a slight vacuum beneath the building and vents soil vapor safely outdoors. Sealing cracks, utility openings, crawl spaces and other potential entry pathways are also mitigation methods.

CITY'S PERSPECTIVE

According to Cambridge City Administrator Evan Vogel, the city has also been working closely with the MPCA, MDH, and the school district through this process. Since the Cambridge Library is one block west of the former Cambridge Launderers and Cleaners building, he said the MPCA will conduct soil boring tests outside the library.

Additionally, since groundwater that may be contaminated potentially could make its way to the Rum River, there will be tests conducted in other surrounding areas "to explore whether or not there is a problem and, if there is a problem, the extent of the problem," Vogel said.

Anyone with questions or concerns can contact the MDH Site Assessment and Consultation Unit at 651-201-4897 or health.hazard@state.mn.us. For additional information specifically about the school district's site assessment, people can contact the district at 763-689-6188 or dist-communications@c-ischools.org. Or, they can contact the MPCA Project Manager, Abbie Bowman, at 218-302-6679 or Abbie.bowman@state.mn.us.

CAMERAS: City enters into 10-year contract

FROM PAGE I

AI evidence tools for data redaction and unlimited cloud storage. But the really high-tech components that sold staff were a livestream capability which provides command staff with ability to remain connected to officers and view developing incidents in real time, a virtual reality platform with two VR goggles that can provide repeatable scenario-based training for officers, and an enhanced digital evidence management that would significantly improve how the department ingests, retains, organizes, and securely shares digital evidence.

Additional components include multiple ways to automatically activate the body cameras and squad cameras. Some of those include taking out an officer's gun or taser, and passing by another squad whose emergency lights are activated.

"There's all sorts of auto-triggers to ensure it gets activated in a timely manner," Machin said. "Because obviously that is very important. Missed data is a huge thing."

'There are no license plate reader components involved with this system.'

Shawn Machin
Cambridge Police Chief

Machin emphasized that even with all the advanced technologies of the Axon system, it is not the same as the Flock system.

"There are no license plate reader components involved with this system," Machin said. He added there is also no facial or voice recognition program.

Machin said a 10-year contract with Axon will cost the city $650,943.73. Included in that amount is 17 body-worn cameras, 15 fleet two-camera in-car systems, 19 Evidence Pro licenses, unlimited storage, redaction assistant, auto tagging, community link and Fusus livestream capabilities, two VR hardware kits with full access for 17 users, plus implementation, training, warranties, and scheduled Technology Assurance Plan refreshes. The TAP provides new body worn cameras and VR hardware in years three, five, and eight; plus new in-car cameras in year five.

"There's a lot of bad things about technology, but the things you (Machin) have laid out are the benefits," Council member Molly Christian said. "I do love the training aspect."

"As a former law enforcement officer that looked for an agency that had the latest and greatest tools, it also becomes a good retention and attraction tool for quality candidates," Council member Aaron Berg said.

The council ultimately approved entering into a 10-year contract with Axon unanimously.

Minnesota Starwatch for October 2026

BY DEANE MORRISON
MORRI029@UMN.EDU

In the evening sky, Saturn is slowly gliding eastward through the dim fall constellations, which it easily outshines. The planet appears as a beacon in the east to southeast at nightfall.

On the 4th, Earth laps Saturn in the orbital race. At that moment our distance from Saturn will be about 8.4 times Earth's average distance from the sun — and almost as close as our two planets ever come. Through a telescope Saturn's rings will appear slightly tilted, revealing their southern surface to us.

Meanwhile, reddish Mars and brilliant, yellowish Jupiter ornament the eastern predawn sky. Jupiter forms the lower left "corner" of an array of bright objects, while Mars is higher, between Jupiter and the Gemini twin stars Pollux and Castor.

A waning moon appears below Mars on the 5th. The next morning, the lunar crescent narrowly misses Jupiter. Also spectacular is Mars' passage across the Beehive star cluster. Use binoculars to see Mars just outside the cluster on the 10th, in the midst of it on the 11th, and outside it again on the 12th.

The Beehive is part of the dim constellation Cancer, the crab, and is also known as Praesepe, Latin for manger or crib. Left of the Beehive, two stars shine next to the cluster. These represent two donkeys feeding at the manger. At about 577 light-years away, the Beehive is one of the closest star clusters to Earth. It has roughly 1,000 stars, all born in the same cloud of gas and dust and traveling through space together, bound loosely by gravity.

In the last few days of October, Mars, Jupiter and Regulus, the heart of the constellation Leo, the lion, form a compact and nearly straight line.

October's full moon rises in daylight on the 25th and reaches fullness at 11:12 p.m. That night it follows Saturn across the sky.

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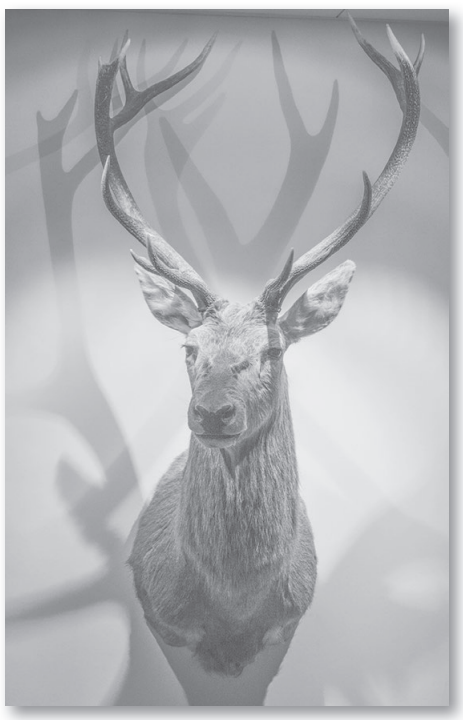
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NEW LOCATION
The *Isanti-Chisago County Star* can now be picked up at Hermann Insurance, 310 W 4th St in Rush City.
Look for the red Star box in front of the building.
Papers are delivered Thursday afternoon.
ISANTI-CHISAGO COUNTY STAR

DNR encourages deer hunters to buy licenses early



The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is asking deer hunters to buy their deer licenses early this year.

"Buying that license early helps hunters avoid any last-minute delays and protect their hunting time," said Paul Burr, DNR deer coordinator. "By making the purchase a couple weeks or even a month ahead of the firearms opener, hunters can be confident they have everything ready to focus on deer hunting and enjoy the season."

The Minnesota DNR launched a new electronic license system in June. The new system is functioning well, but it is a bit different and users may find their first transaction takes a little more time as they acclimate. In addition, some individuals who had multiple records in the old system will require customer assistance from the DNR License Center to transfer their history and establish their account in the new system. For these reasons, hunters are encouraged to leave plenty of time for their license purchase.

More than 400,000 Minnesota hunters are expected to participate in the firearms deer season, which opens Saturday, Nov. 7. Last year, hunters bought nearly 140,000 deer licenses the Thursday and Friday before the season opener.

"Thank you to hunters for your patience and planning ahead as we implement this new way to purchase and use licenses," Burr said. "While it's a required step for hunters, buying a license also matters for conservation. Hunters can take pride in knowing their license purchase directly funds work to conserve and manage wildlife populations and habitats. License sales also supports monitoring of season participation and deer harvest."

'Thank you to hunters for your patience and planning ahead as we implement this new way to purchase and use licenses.'

Paul Burr
DNR Deer Coordinator

How to buy a license

There are three ways to buy a license (mobile app, online, or in person from a license agent) and three ways to carry it (paper, PDF, or stored in the app). Customers can access the system on the Minnesota DNR website (mndnr.gov/buyalicense) or by searching "Minnesota DNR Licensing" in the Apple or Google app stores.

If buying a license in person, hunters should also ensure the place they want to buy it is selling licenses this year. The Minnesota DNR has an online map of 2026 license agents (mndnr.gov/licenses/agents-map.html).

In addition to possessing valid licenses, all hunters need to be familiar with current deer hunting regulations, including regulations for validating and registering a harvest. Up-to-date deer hunting regulations are available on the Minnesota DNR deer hunting webpage (mndnr.gov/hunting/deer).

Other seasons, deer newsletter

In addition to firearms deer season, participating hunters should also consider buying licenses well ahead of youth deer season and early antlerless deer season, both of which run Oct. 15-18.

Archery deer hunting began Sept. 19 and lasts through Dec. 31. Muzzleloader season is Nov. 28-Dec. 13.

Hunters and anyone interested in deer topics can sign up for the Minnesota DNR's Deer Notes email newsletter at the Minnesota DNR email update webpage (mndnr.gov/email) to get updates about Minnesota deer hunting, research, biology and habitat. ~ MN DNR

Mercury increases in multiple fish species following zebra mussel invasions



New research from the University of Minnesota found that zebra mussel invasions were associated with increased mercury concentrations in several Minnesota fish species.

Using the Minnesota state fish contaminant database, researchers examined mercury concentrations from 357 lakes and six fish species frequently targeted by anglers. Their results were recently published in Fisheries.

MERCURY INCREASE BY SPECIES

Black crappie - mercury increased 21%
Bluegill — mercury increased 19%
Northern pike — mercury increased 9%
Walleye — mercury increased 6%
Largemouth bass — mercury increased modestly, but the change was not statistically significant
Yellow perch - showed no meaningful change in mercury

The research was funded by the University's Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center supported by the Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund as recommended by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR).

The researchers found:

Mercury concentrations increased in harvestable-sized fish in four of six species after zebra mussels became established, relative to their concentrations pre-establishment in the same lake.

The magnitude of increase varied among lakes and species, but the averages across the lakes studied are as follows:

Black crappie — mercury increased 21%

Bluegill — mercury increased 19%

Northern pike — mercury increased 9%

Walleye — mercury increased 6%

Largemouth bass — mercury increased modestly, but the change was not statistically significant

Yellow perch showed no meaningful change in mercury

Walleye, northern pike and largemouth bass were more likely to exceed a 0.22 ppm mercury threshold after zebra mussels became established, and some species reached that threshold at smaller body sizes. This threshold is used frequently to distinguish between populations where sensitive populations (children and women of childbearing age) are recommended to eat one meal per month vs one per week.

"The findings show that zebra mussels can alter food webs and contaminant cycling in ways that may affect both aquatic ecosystems and human consumption of fish," said senior author Gretchen Hansen, an associate professor in the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences. "It also highlights the complexity of separating changes associated with invasive species from those caused by other environmental changes, including climate change, water level and nutrient loading."

Zebra mussels can form dense mats on lake bottoms, and in doing so can deplete oxygen in lake sediments. This makes conditions more favorable for mercury uptake by living things and can lead to higher mercury accumulation in fish.

For people who regularly eat fish, the changes could mean eating slightly fewer meals per month to stay below recommended mercury exposure levels. The impact was relatively small for walleye and northern pike, about 0.3 fewer meals per month, but larger for bluegill and black crappie, at roughly 2.8 and 2.6 fewer meals per month, respectively when looking at an average of the lakes studied. However, it is important to note that not every lake responds the same way and that the magnitude of these changes may depend on preexisting lake conditions. Waterbody specific guidelines are available when applicable.

This study demonstrates that biological invasions can reshape contaminant dynamics at landscape scales, underscoring the global connection between invasion ecology and human health. ~ The University of Minnesota's College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences

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ISANTI AND CHISAGO COUNTY COURT REPORTS

The following felony charges were filed in Isanti County Court on Sept. 20 - 26. All individuals are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

Christopher Scott Hoppe (DOB 06/11/1973) of Isanti, was charged Sept. 21 with Drugs - 5th Degree - Possess Schedule 1,2,3,4 or paraphernalia residual - Not cannabis/hemp.

The following felony charges were filed in Chisago County Court on Sept. 20 - 26. All individuals are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

Maxwell Alexander Schaper (DOB 01/22/1993) of Roseville, was charged Sept. 21 with Drugs - 5th Degree - Possess Schedule 1,2,3,4 or paraphernalia residual - Not cannabis/hemp.

Timothy Scott Eifert (DOB 07/01/1970) of Harris, was charged Sept. 21 with two counts of Possess Ammo/Any Firearm - Conviction or Adjudicated Delinquent for Crime of Violence; and one count of Cannabis - 1st Degree - Possess more than 2 pounds but not more than 10 kg of cannabis flower.

Elias Michael Loun (DOB 12/02/2005) of Rush City, was charged Sept. 21 with Fleeing a Peace Officer in a Motor Vehicle.

Nikki Turk Daoheuang (DOB 11/27/1986) of Vadnais Heights, was charged Sept. 22 with Drugs - 5th Degree - Possess Schedule 1,2,3,4 or paraphernalia residual - Not cannabis/hemp.

Richard Lee Bailey (DOB 05/27/1965) of New Prague, was charged Sept. 25 with Fugitive from Justice from Other State - extradition waived.

Michael Allen Peterson (DOB 06/15/1993) of St. Croix Falls, WI, was charged Sept. 25 with Fugitive from Justice from Other State - extradition waived; and one count of Drugs - 5th Degree - Possess Schedule 1,2,3,4 or paraphernalia residual - Not cannabis/hemp.

Visit us online at CountyStar.com

North Branch looks to add roundabout on Flink Ave.

BY BILL STICKELS III
EDITOR@COUNTYSTAR.COM

The city of North Branch is beginning the process of constructing a roundabout on Flink Avenue, at the intersection with 400th Street.

According to City Administrator Matthew Hill, those two streets are identified as key transportation routes in the city's comprehensive plan, its five-year capital improvement plan, plus the East Central Regional Development Commission Region 7E transportation plan. Additionally, there was an area transportation impact study conducted in September 2025, whose results recommended reconstructing the existing intersection into a single-lane roundabout.

The first step in the process, according to Hill is to apply for a local road improvement program grant, which will fund up to $1.5 million of the estimated $1.8 million cost of the project. Hill said LRIP grants are restricted strictly to eligible roadway construction costs. Non-eligible expenses include engineering costs, right-of-way acquisition, construction administration, utility relocations, and expenses exceeding the award. Those costs will be funded through franchise fee revenue, Municipal State Aid allocations, and developer cost-share contributions.

"While there has been no severe crashes at that intersection, a roundabout will help reduce speeds along with eliminate high-severity, right-angle vehicle conflicts," Hill said.

Hill said LRIP grant recipients will be announced by the Minnesota Department of Transportation in late March 2027.

The resolution to approve applying for the grant was unanimously approved by the council.

DATA CENTER PRESENTATION

As part of its October 14 regular meeting, the council will hear a presentation from Justin Johnz, the CEO of East Central Energy, regarding the co-op's perspective on data centers. According to Mayor Kevin Schieber, the presentation goes along with the mandated research the city must conduct as part of its six-month moratorium on large-energy consuming businesses, which includes data centers.



NORTH BRANCH CITY COUNCIL AGENDA PACKET

The black circle indicates the location of the proposed roundabout.

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
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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

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 10:30
Sunday School 11:00 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;
10:20am Adult Bible Study;
Thursday 6:30pm Bible study.
Email: stjohnlutheran@att.net

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

St. Stephen's Lutheran Church (Missouri Synod)
400 SE 8th St., (Isanti #4 E.), 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.
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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:
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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

NOTICES

CITY OF EAST BETHEL
NOTICE OF PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST PRIMARY ELECTION

The City of East Bethel will test electronic voting machines to be used for the vote tabulation in the General Election to be held Tuesday, November 3, 2026.

The test will be held on:

Thursday, October 8, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.

The test will be conducted at:

East Bethel City Hall
Council Chambers
2241 221st Ave. NE
East Bethel, MN 55011

The public is invited to attend.

Carrie Frost
Elections Coordinator

Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on October 1, 2026

PUBLIC HEARING

CITY OF EAST BETHEL
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

You are hereby notified that the City of East Bethel Planning Commission will hold a public hearing to review the following:

The City has received an application for a Preliminary and Final Plat for the development of the Friday Farms Estates, Eight (8) single family home sites. PIN# 333323440003. The site is currently zoned Rural Residential, is approximately 20.32 acres and is located along County Highway 68 and south of 183rd Ave.

The hearing will be held in the East Bethel City Hall located at 2241 221st Ave NE on: Tuesday October 27th, 2026, at or about 7:00 pm

If you desire to be heard in reference to this matter, you are encouraged to attend the scheduled public hearing or submit written comments prior to the hearing. Comments can be emailed to Eric Johnson - Eric.Johnson@ci.east-bethel.mn.us or via US MAIL to City Hall at 2241 221st Ave NE. City of East Bethel, MN 55011

Eric Johnson
Date: 9/21/26

Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on October 1, 2026

CITY OF EAST BETHEL
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

You are hereby notified that the City of East Bethel Planning Commission will hold a public hearing to review the following:

Mr. Travis Roggow, the owner of 20420 Monroe Street NE., PIN# 193323120003, has requested certain variances for the purpose of constructing an accessory structure at the 20420 Monroe Street property. Variance requests include reduction in front yard set back from 40' to 27.8 feet; a setback reduction from Cedar Creek defined wetland edge from 100 feet to 26.9 feet; and, if necessary relative to MPCA requirements, a 10' setback reduction from the established septic system drain field for the proposed non-habitable accessory structure.

The hearing will be held in the East Bethel City Hall located at 2241 221st Ave NE on: Tuesday October 27th, 2026, at or about 7:00 pm

If you desire to be heard in reference to this matter, you are encouraged to attend the scheduled public hearing or submit written comments prior to the hearing. Comments can be emailed to Eric Johnson - Eric.Johnson@ci.east-bethel.mn.us or via US MAIL to City Hall at 2241 221st Ave NE. City of East Bethel, MN 55011

Eric Johnson
Date: 9/21/26

Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on October 1, 2026

CITY OF EAST BETHEL
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

You are hereby notified that the City of East Bethel Planning Commission will hold a public hearing to review the following:

The Property Owner and Applicant, Village Green MHC LLC and Continental Communities LLC, respectively, have submitted for a "Concept Plan Review" associated with the creation of a Planned Unit Development (PUD) for the existing Cedarwood Estates Manufactured Home Facility located at 18165 Highway 65 NE. PIN#: 323323310003, 323323340003, 323323340001 & 32332340005 and adjacent smaller parcels under same ownership. The PUD would seek to establish conforming land uses for existing units within the property that may be non-conforming to setbacks and/or were not compliance with City siting requirements. No additional units or site expansions are proposed under this PUD Concept Plan.

The hearing will be held in the East Bethel City Hall located at 2241 221st Ave NE on: Tuesday October 27th 2026, at or about 7:00 pm

If you desire to be heard in reference to this matter, you are encouraged to attend the scheduled public hearing or submit written comments prior to the hearing. Comments can be emailed to Eric Johnson - Eric.Johnson@ci.east-bethel.mn.us or via US MAIL to City Hall at 2241 221st Ave NE. City of East Bethel, MN 55011

Eric Johnson
Date: 9/21/26

Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on October 1, 2026

ASSUMED NAME

OFFICE OF THE MINNESOTA SECRETARY OF STATE
CERTIFICATE OF ASSUMED NAME

Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 333

The filing of an assumed name does not provide a user with exclusive rights to that name. The filing is required for consumer protection in order to enable customers to be able to identify the true owner of a business.

ASSUMED NAME: Clear Step Math

PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS: 203 22nd Ln SW, CAMBRIDGE MN 55008

APPLICANT(S):

Name: Ashley Williams

Address: 203 22nd Ln SW, CAMBRIDGE MN 55008

If you submit an attachment, it will be incorporated into this document. If the attachment conflicts with the information specifically set forth in this document, this document supersedes the data referenced in the attachment.

By typing my name, I, the undersigned, certify that I am signing this document as the person whose signature is required, or as agent of the person(s) whose signature would be required who has authorized me to sign this document on his/her behalf, or in both capacities. I further certify that I have completed all required fields, and that the information in this document is true and correct and in compliance with the applicable chapter of Minnesota Statutes. I understand that by signing this document I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Section 609.48 as if I had signed this document under oath.

SIGNED BY: Ashley Williams

MAILING ADDRESS: None Provided

EMAIL FOR OFFICIAL NOTICES: apwilliams0724@gmail.com

Work Item 1667148100028

Original File Number 1667148100028

STATE OF MINNESOTA OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE FILED 9/12/2025 11:59 PM

Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on October 1, 8, 2026

CLASSIFIEDS

16 Lost & Found

Lost phone, $1000 Reward Apple iPhone 16 black, black rubber case. Lost in Coborn's. Call manager 320-679-4003

60 Boats & Accessories

Used Outboard Motors

Fixer-uppers / Parts Motors / Student Projects. Johnson / Evinrude.
Isanti Sport Shop 763-444-5441

102 Services

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

Chimney/Roofing Insulation Services. 612-845-0289.

Wanted: Ford Truck 97-08 Repairable. 612-845-0289.

Chimney/Roofing Insulation Services. 612-845-0289.

Wanted: Ford Truck 97-08 Repairable. 612-845-0289.

102 Services

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

150 Help Wanted

BALDWIN/WOODVILLE Area School District hiring Bus Drivers ($45.85/route, CDL training provided) and Van Drivers (from $19/hr). Good driving record required. Must enjoy working with kids. Contact Alex Albrigtson, aalbrigtson@bwsd.k12.wi.us, 715-684-3411 x1. Find this ad and others at www.applylocal.jobs

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763-689-1181

150 Help Wanted

BASS LAKE LUMBER - Grantsburg, WI is hiring an Inside Sales & Hardware Associate. Strong computer/organizational skills, building materials experience a plus. Apply in person or call 715-488-2471. Find this ad and others at www.applylocal.jobs

BASS LAKE LUMBER - Grantsburg, WI is hiring a Forklift Operator/Backup Dispatcher for their lumber yard. Computer skills required, hands-on work, customer service focus. Apply in person or call 715-488-2471. Find this ad and others at www.applylocal.jobs

KORTH TRANSFER hiring full-time dairy hauling drivers. Class A CDL with tanker required. $0.58/mile, set days off, 16 paid holidays, up to 5 weeks vacation, retirement plan. Apply: www.korthtransfer.com or 1300 Fuhrman Dr., Reedsburg. Find this ad and others at www.applylocal.jobs

Rudy's Redeye Grill is HIRING a broiler cook for nights & weekends. Must have one yr exp. Cll Jacqlyn @ 651*/272*3783 or send resume to Jschoen@whitebearcountryinn.com

150 Help Wanted

MCNALLY INDUSTRIES seeks Manufacturing Engineer in Grantsburg, WI. 5-7+ yrs exp, BS in Mfg Engineering or related required. DOD/aerospace machining knowledge preferred. Competitive pay, full benefits, 401K match. Email hr@mcnallyindustries.com.Find this ad and others at www.applylocal.jobs

MCNALLY INDUSTRIES, Grantsburg, seeks Manufacturing Programming Engineer II. Develop CNC programs for precision parts. BS degree and 5-7+ years experience required. Full benefits, 401K match, 9/80 schedule. Resume: hr@mcnallyindustries.com. EOE. Find this ad and others at www.applylocal.jobs

NORTHWOOD TECHNICAL COLLEGE seeks full-time Health Information Technology Instructor/Program Director (remote flexibility) and College Health Nurse, New Richmond Campus. Apply online: www.Northwoodtech.edu/employment. EOE. Find this ad and others at www.applylocal.jobs

150 Help Wanted

NORTHWOOD TECHNICAL COLLEGE seeks full-time LTE Nursing Program Navigator (grant-funded through 9/20/27) and Nursing Pre-Program Advisor. Ashland, New Richmond, Rice Lake or Superior campus. Apply: www.northwoodtech.edu/employment. EOE. Find this ad and others at www.applylocal.jobs

POLK COUNTY, WISCONSIN is taking applications for Parks Maintenance Worker. Apply online at www.polkcountywi.gov, select WORK. Applications due Oct. 3 by 11:59 p.m. Questions: 715-485-9270. Find this ad and others at www.applylocal.jobs

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF CLEAR LAKE seeks Assistant HS Track Coach and two MS Girls Basketball Coaches for 2026-27. Send letter of interest to Dale Rosen, drosen@clwarriors.org, 715-263-2117. Deadline October 8 or until filled. EOE. Find this ad and others at www.applylocal.jobs

EMAIL CLASSIFIEDS TO
sales@countystar.com

300 For Sale

For Sale: Bicycles-

Trek 7300 hybrid, 57 cm frame, well maintained $200; Trek 7300 hybrid, 48 cm frame with extra soft seat, well maintained $200; a pair of Thule roof mount bike racks, never used- bought new for $250 each, selling for $200. Cash only. 763-350-3540.

351 Antiques

Antiques Wanted. Postcards, WW2, items, duck, fish decoys, Halloween, hunting knives, fountain pens, guns, smoking pipes, fishing lures, Native American Items. Gary 651-238-0909.

358 Firewood

12 cords 2' oak, ash, maple, dry. 12 cords fireplace wood, mixed, dry. $200/cord. 320-390-0163.

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

362 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!

401 Auctions

Saturday, Oct. 10th, 10:00 am. Larry & Cynthia Bishop Personal Property Auction. 56165 US Highway 169, Palisade, MN. Collector Vehicles, 1961 Ford Fairlane, 1960 Ford Thunderbird. 1947 Ford Coupe, 1966 Mercury Marauder S55, 1966 Ford Galaxie LTD. Tractors & Machinery, Collector Car Parts & Related, Shop Tools & Related, Firearms, Shop Tools and Related, Lawn & Garden, Household Furnishings & Related. Janzen Auctions, Bob Janzen Auctioneer, Lic. #01-14, 218-927-4488, www.janzenauctions.com, www.midwestauctions.com/janzen.

401 Auctions

Sunday, Oct. 11, 10:02 am. On-Site Live Auction. Mike Nolan Estate (Doug Nolan PR). 42458 Rutabaga Rd., Askov, MN. 2012 Ford F150 'CW', 2000 Twit 'CT' Towlite Hi-Lo Camping Trailer, 2008 Polaris 'Sportsman 800 Browning Edition, Collectibles, Household & Furniture, Misc. Items. Auctions by Norby, Col. Kevin C. Norby, Auctioneer Lic. #33-03. 320-279-0712, midwestauctions.com/norby, auctionsbynorby.com.

452 Rentals/ Residential

Apartments for rent near Mora, two bedroom senior apartment. Utilities included. No smoking or pets. $1,100/month. efficiency apartment no washer or dryer no smoking or pets $850/month call/text 320-250-5199 320-360-5568

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4 bedroom farmhouse 3 miles West of Sandstone. **$1,050 month** plus utilities.
612-201-9934

452 Rentals/ Residential

Mora Apartments 1 bed, 1 bath, $875/month. Studio $740/month. Washer/Dryer on-site. No pets, no smoking/vaping/e-cigs. 612-470-3319, moratroveproperty@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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King Candidates:

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Cameron Bleess
Jacob Pauly
Tayton Westphal
Tate Lines
Razz Estrem







Queen Candidates

Joyce Samolytz
Avaeh Martin
Rilynn Herbst
Finley Nelson
Anya Lowman
Lily Tanko

Powder Puff Game - Oct. 3 - 4pm
Tailgating - Oct. 3 - 4:30-6:30pm
Football Game - Oct. 3 - 7pm
Homecoming Dance - Oct. 4 - 7-10pm

Cambridge-Isanti VS. Elk River
Friday, October 2 • 7pm

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Performs a variety of complex communication system engineering, including design, implementation, and problem resolution. Repair and maintenance of a 2-way radio, Mobile Data Systems, E-911 systems and PBX type telephone systems. $34.89 to $45.95 DOQ.

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SOCIAL WORKER/CASE MANAGER CHILD PROTECTION

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2026 FALL HOME Improvement Guide

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WHY AN INSULATED ATTIC IS A GOOD ATTIC

As homeowners address energy efficiency around their homes, they may want to put attics at the top of their list. Because heat naturally rises during the winter and also infiltrates the roof during the summer, a roof with insufficient insulation can be energy inefficient. Many experts attest that upgrading attic insulation is a practical and cost-effective home improvement.

A desire to reduce energy bills is a primary motivator when installing attic insulation. Data from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's ENERGY STAR® program says homeowners can save an average of 15 percent on heating and cooling costs, or roughly 11 percent on their total energy bills, by air sealing and insulating attics and crawl spaces. Standalone attic insulation projects frequently achieve high rates of return.

Beyond financial matters, attic insulation also creates a more comfortable and stable indoor climate. Attic insulation will buffer the interior from extreme temperature swings. This can help preserve the integrity of the home. In cold climates, attic insulation will limit the occurrence of ice dams, which form at the eaves when heat inside living spaces escapes to the roof. Ice dams can cause water to back up under shingles and even tear away gutters.

The U.S. Department of Energy indicates residential and commercial buildings combined account for 40 percent of the nation's total energy consumption. By utilizing attic insulation and creating a proper thermal barrier, homes can draw less power from regional grids and burn less fuel locally.

Attic insulation may not be as glamorous as a room remodel, but it is an important component of a safe, comfortable and energy-efficient home.



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