



**SLAP SHOT:** Bluejacket boys hockey retains coveted Rusty Skates Trophy with win over Tigers. **PG 7**

## HIDE AND SEEK

Volunteer search and rescue organization trains dogs in finding missing persons

BY BILL STICKELS III  
EDITOR@COUNTYSTAR.COM

Normally a game of hide and seek has little at stake outside of perhaps bragging rights. But for the members of Minnesota Search and Rescue Dog Association, their weekly engagement in the game will most likely eventually lead to the difference between life and death.

MinnSARDA is the oldest volunteer canine search and rescue organization in Minnesota, having been established in 1981. Currently, the group is composed of five handler/dog teams. They, and other organizations like them, offer search and rescue services for missing persons to public safety agencies across the state at no cost to those agencies. Often, they are called to find people who are presumed alive, especially young children or vulnerable adults such as those suffering from Alzheimer's or similar mental diseases. Dogs can also be trained and certified to search for cadavers. In total, the three MinnSARDA dogs who are certified were called upon 22 times last year.

### HOW A DOG SEARCHES

Member Megan Gehrman explained how a dog uses its unique sense of smell to find a missing person. "When people walk, they drop skin cells, which is actually what the dog is smelling," she said. "Each person has a unique scent. Dogs can discriminate against different scents. When a person walks into a pizza place, we smell the pizza. But a dog will smell all of the individual ingredients separately. At the beginning of a trail, we will give them a scent article — something the person we are looking for had on them, so it could be a shirt or pillowcase. They know that's the exact scent they're looking for."

While almost any dog breed could technically be trained in search and rescue, Megan's husband

Jason, who is also an officer with the Wayzata Police Department, said a dog must have the right temperament and drive — being able to do the same thing over and over again. Some dogs, like his Malinois Loki, are driven by receiving their favorite toy. Others, like Cheryl Lehman's dog Zoey, are food-driven.

The type of training the dog receives is also key. Jason, who has worked with K-9 officers, noted those dogs track people differently.

"Police K-9's get out of a car and they smell adrenaline the suspect is dropping as they run," he said. "They also smell ground disturbance. If I gave a police K-9 a scent and said 'find this person,' they would just look at you."

Another major difference between the two is their indicator action that they have found the person. Police K-9's will either bark or actually latch onto the person. However, considering the person being searched for by rescue dogs might get frightened even by a dog approaching them, Cheryl says all their dogs are trained to simply sit when they find the person.

Because of his familiarity with both K-9 officers and search and rescue dogs, Jason was able to apply for and receive a grant for both a police K-9 and for Loki, who is the only on-duty search and rescue dog in the state. Jason said this has already paid off tenfold.

"It makes me be able to respond faster, rather than having to go home and get my dog," he said. "The normal response time can be up to an hour, (but) I can get there in 10 minutes."

"One time we were called to search for a 14-year-old girl who had run away from home. I got there 10 minutes after she left. And when Loki found her in the woods, she was just putting a noose around her neck. So it would have been a very different

SEE **SEARCH**, PAGE 11



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Search and Rescue dog Stormi and handler Megan Gehrman track the scent of a "missing" person along Main Street Cambridge during a recent training session.

## Gathering around a fire

With the frigid temperatures, the fire pits at the Cambridge WinterFest were a popular place to hang out during the city's first-ever event. Besides fire pits for making smores, the event featured ice skating, sled dog rides, hot chocolate, judging the snowman contest, plus food vendors and music. See page 2 for more photos.

## North Branch's 'Tree City' designation takes root

BY MOLLY WHELAN  
NEWS@COUNTYSTAR.COM

North Branch is on its way to becoming an official Tree City, joining more than a hundred Minnesota cities with the official designation from the Arbor Day Foundation.

Mayor Kevin Schieber took the first official step at the city council's Jan. 24 meeting, making a proclamation recognizing April 28, 2023, as Arbor

Day and encouraging citizens to celebrate and plant trees.

Now that the council has officially unanimously approved the plan to apply for the Tree City USA designation, which is free, city staff can begin to work on adjusting local ordinances and making plans to meet the application requirements.

Nathan Sondrol, the city's director

SEE **TREE**, PAGE 3



BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR

### FEATURED LISTINGS

**NEW LISTING!**

**1155 Imperial St, Mora**  
3BR, 1BA Farm home on 40 acres w/older outbuildings. Lots of wildlife, great hunting land w/a creek running through it & crop fields. Updates including roof, garage door & washer/dryer. Short drive from Lewis Lake public lake access.  
**\$225,000**

**NEW LISTING!**

**561 19th Pl SE, Cambridge**  
New construction! 3BR/2BA townhome offers granite counter tops, SS appliances & LVP flooring. Convenient upper-level laundry w/ washer & dryer. 2 car attached & insulated garage. Association handles snow removal & lawn care!  
**\$253,200**

**NEW LISTING!**

**1848 Bridgewater Blvd S, Cambridge**  
Stunning end unit! New construction 2BR/2BA townhome offers granite countertops, SS appliances & LVP flooring. Open concept main floor w/sun-filled living room & gas FP. Convenient UL laundry. 2 car attached & insulated garage. Association handles snow removal & lawn care!  
**\$262,000**

**MUST SEE!**

**605 Rum River Dr N, Cambridge**  
Meticulously cared for! 4BR/2BA home on 2.5 acres on the Rum River! 4 car att gar, workshop, sunroom, FR w/FP and wet bar, in-ground irrigation system, Anderson Windows, a new roof in 2019. Too much to list!  
**\$435,000**



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# Cambridge embraces the elements during first-ever Winterfest



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Sub-zero temperatures won't stop hearty residents of Cambridge from enjoying winter activities during the city's first-ever Winterfest, featuring sled dog rides, free smores and hot chocolate, multiple fire pits, ice skating, sledding, plus music and food vendors. Participants also were able to judge entries in the city's snowman contest.

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Here's a  
**HOT TIP**

Read us and get local news, sports,  
special interest stories and sections and classifieds.

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## MONDAYS

### North Branch – Fresh Beginnings Al-anon Family Groups

From 7 to 8 p.m. at Access Church, 4359 392nd Street. Free childcare is provided. Visit [minnesotanorth-al-anon.org](http://minnesotanorth-al-anon.org).

### Senior Activity Center Cambridge

Bridge 1-3 p.m. 140 Buchanan St N #164, Cambridge, MN

### Exercise with Connie

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

### 500 Cards

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

## TUESDAY & THURSDAY

### Boxing for Those with Parkinson's

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

### In-person Senior Dining

Braham Event Center at 11:45 a.m. Diners need to pre-register at least one day in advance by calling North Branch Catholic Charities at 651-674-1956 between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. A completed annual registration form is required before dining.

## TUESDAYS

### A Memory Café

Meets the 1st Tuesday of each month from 10 - 11:30 a.m. Heritage Center at GracePointe Crossing, 322 River Hills Place North Cambridge, MN

### GriefShare

From 6 to 8 p.m. at First Baptist Church, 304 Main Street S., Cambridge. For questions, call the church office at 763-689-1173.

### Braham Parkinson's Support Group

7 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month at Braham Evangelical Lutheran Church, 905 Central Drive W., Braham. For more information call Lonnie Anderson at 612-423-1863.

### Alzheimer's Support Group

Meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month from 10-11 a.m. at GracePointe Heritage Center, 322 River Hills Place North, Cambridge. For info contact Lyndsey Larson at 763-691-6172.

### Senior Activity Center Cambridge

Hand & Foot noon -3 p.m. 140 Buchanan St N #164, Cambridge, MN

### Chisago County Senior Center Music

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

## WEDNESDAYS

### Senior Activity Center Cambridge

Cribbage 9-11am, Wizard 11-12:30, Pinochle 12:30-3



CONTRIBUTED

The Isanti County Sheriff's Office will be conducting a youth snowmobile training on Feb. 4.

p.m. 140 Buchanan St N #164, Cambridge, MN

### Preschool Storytime at the North Branch Library

Jan. 11 through April 26 10:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. Preschool storytime is designed for children ages 3-5, and siblings are always welcome. No registration necessary.

### Exercise with Connie

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

## THURSDAYS

### East Central Baby Cafe

Free drop-in breastfeeding support from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the upper-level conference room at the Adult Enrichment Center, 540 5th Ave NW, Cambridge, MN. For more information, call 763-689-1711.

### Baby Storytime at Cambridge Library

Jan. 26 through March 9 at 9:30 a.m. Each storytime will include reading, singing, and playing. This program is recommended for newborns up to 23 months. We will meet in the Discovery Center, located in the children's area of the library.

### Cambridge-Edgewood AFG

Cambridge-Edgewood Al-Anon Family Group meets from 7 to 8 p.m. at Cambridge Lutheran Church, 621 Old Main Street N. Visit [minnesotanorth-al-anon.org](http://minnesotanorth-al-anon.org) for more information.

### Senior Activity Center Cambridge

500 noon-3 p.m. 140 Buchanan St N #164, Cambridge, MN

### Parkinson's Support Group for 2023

3rd Thursday of the month – 1-2:30 p.m. Walker Methodist Levande, 2011 6th Lane SE, Cambridge, MN for more information call 763-325-0100

### Jammin' with Joe

At the Chisago County Senior Center 38790 6th Ave., North Branch. From 1-2:30 p.m.

### DivorceCare

Feb. 8 – May 10, 6:30 – 8p.m., in the Fireside Rm

and follow the same schedule as the kids/student programming so will not meet on MAR 15 or APR 5. Families with children K-12 are encouraged to utilize our kids and student ministry options. Call First Baptist Church, 304 Main Street South, Cambridge to register at 763.689.1173. [www.firstbaptist-cambridge.org](http://www.firstbaptist-cambridge.org)

## FRIDAYS

### Exercise with Connie

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

## FEBRUARY 4

### Candlelight Ski and FRILUFTSLIV Festival

at Anoka-Ramsey Cambridge Campus. Walking/hiking/skiing the luminary-lined trails behind the college. 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. For more information contact 763-433-1100

### Youth Snowmobile Safety Course

Presented by the Isanti County Sherriff's Office. 2 - 6 p.m. Participants must register in advance. To register and for more information visit <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080f4fa8a62fa5f85-snowmobile?useFullSite=true#/>

## FEBRUARY 7

### Classic Comedies Movie Night

Join us to watch Buster Keaton in "Seven Chances" and Laurel and Hardy in "Twice Two" at the Chisago County Senior Center 38790 6th Ave., North Branch at 1:30 p.m. Admission is free.

## FEBRUARY 8

### Coffee Talk

American Legion Post 290 from Noon to 2 p.m. A representative from the Isanti Co. Veterans Service Office will be available to provide assistance regarding veterans related issues. Open to all vets. Call the Isanti County Veterans Services Office for more info: (763) 689-3591

## FEBRUARY 9

### Jim Anderson Concert

6 p.m. at the Chisago County Senior Centery, 38790 6th Ave, North Branch. For more information call 320-358-3616.

## FEBRUARY 10-12

### 2023 Vasaloppet Art Show

Mora Public Library lower level, west entrance, this show is free and open to the public. Come enjoy the works of our area's diverse and vibrant art community. Hours for the show are: Friday, 2-7 p.m., Saturday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., and Sunday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

## FEBRUARY 11

### Make Valentine Cards at Rush City Library

from 10:30 a.m. to noon, at the Rush City Public Library. All supplies will be provided, participants may bring personal items they wish to use on Valentine cards. Young children will require adult assistance, and children under age 8 must be accompanied by an adult or older sibling. No registration necessary. The Rush City Public Library is located at 240 W. 4th St., Rush City, and can be reached at 320-358-3948.

# TREE: City of North Branch already meets most requirements for designation

## FROM PAGE I

of Geographic Information Systems and Parks, presented the requirements to the council, which were recommended for adoption by the city's Parks, Trails and Open Space Commission.

There are four major requirements to receive a Tree City USA designation, most of which North Branch already meets in practice: establish a tree board or department, enact a tree care ordinance, establish a community forest program with an annual budget of at least \$2 per capita and officially observe Arbor Day.

Sondrol told the council many municipalities use the existing park commission for the first requirement.

Further, the city has a tree care ordinance — only minor changes would be needed to make it meet the Arbor Day Foundation's standards for the program, and those would need city

council approval.

With approximately 11,000 residents, the city will need to spend \$22,000 on tree care to meet the budget requirements.

"I know that sounds like a large dollar amount," Sondrol said, "but we really are already spending those dollars... so we just need to kind of track that and provide that for an annual report."

The city can count what it already spends on leaf pickup, tree maintenance, and tree planting toward the \$2 per capita budget, Sondrol said.

The final requirement was met at the meeting with the mayor's proclamation, and planning for the 2023 Arbor Day celebration at Harder Park is already underway.

The city will buy five bundles of 25 bare-root trees from the Chisago County Soil & Water Conservation District. The Public Works Department will plant 75 of the trees — a mix of

White Pine, Red Maple, Crabapple, and Linden — in late April and May at the city's wastewater treatment plant, a location chosen to minimize potential human and animal damage. As the trees mature, they can be relocated throughout the city.

This purchase will run the city \$180, with each bundle costing \$36.

The remaining 50 trees will be Norway or Red Pines, the state tree of Minnesota, and will be distributed to the first 50 families to arrive at the April 28 celebration, which will run from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

Tree City USA began in 1976, making it one of the Arbor Day Foundation's oldest programs, according to its website. Today, more than 3,600 communities participate, including in Washington, D.C., and Puerto Rico. Nearly a million trees have been planted under the program.

In Minnesota, 113 cities participated



**TREE CITY USA**

An Arbor Day Foundation Program

in 2021, meaning nearly 60 percent of residents live in a Tree City.

## Do you have a story to tell?

Last week, I had the pleasure of attending the Minnesota Newspaper Association's annual convention. This is a place where editors, reporters, publishers, and others associated with the state's print journalism industry get together for some training, conversations, along with recognizing the winners of the annual contest.



Worth a Thousand Words

Bill Stickels III

Also part of the two days are guest speakers who usually have some sort of connection to journalism. One of this year's speakers was KARE11's Boyd Huppert, who is best known for his award-winning "Land of 10,000 Stories" series. For those who don't watch KARE11 news, this is a weekly feature where Huppert tells people's stories. They're not always huge news. In fact, part of his presentation was reading emails from viewers who questioned why in the world the station even wasted time to broadcast about something

that quite frankly doesn't impact anyone but the subjects.

As a counter-point, he also read emails from people who thanked him for doing a story, saying how the story really touched them. He also showed a prime example of this, a basic story about a World War II veteran and a three-year-old boy who became fast friends. This is also the story that catapulted "Land of 10,000 Stories" to the stratosphere by going viral.

These stories, which we dub "human interest," always seem to resonate with people. People just tend to have a connection to the subjects, even if they don't directly know them. They are also often a nice break from all of the hard news being reported, even if the human interest story doesn't always have a happy ending.

When COVID hit, the news industry had to make some dramatic changes. With people keeping their distance from one another, these human interest stories weren't as readily available. Without them, the news became much more straightforward, simply reporting on things like the pandemic and politics. I hesitate to say we got lazy, but we definitely leaned on doing stories that didn't take as much effort to report.

I will be the first to admit we here at the Star were just as guilty of this as anyone.

Looking back, while we have run human interest stories from time to time, our pages have been dominated by local government meetings, simple sports coverage, various "filler" articles, etc.

After listening to Boyd Huppert, though, I am inspired to fix that. I want us to get back to telling the stories of our area. But to do that, I will need your help. While admitting to reading numerous newspapers to find stories he could "steal," Huppert said a majority of them came from viewer tips — people calling him up or writing and saying "I think this would make an interesting story."

That's what I need from you. Does your neighbor have an unusual hobby? Maybe a coworker went through some sort of unique experience. Perhaps someone you know has a connection to a celebrity? Whatever it is, we want to hear about it. While I can't guarantee every tip will result in an article, I know there are plenty that would. After all, while there may not be 10,000 stories in this area, I'm sure there are dozens, if not hundreds. And we are here to tell them.

**BILL STICKELS III** is editor of the Isanti-Chisago County Star. He can be reached at 763-689-1181 ext. 107 or editor@countystar.com.



### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### A serious issue

To the editor,

The legislature just passed a new law making abortion legal for anyone, even minor children without parental consent, up to birth. (No rules) Whose bringing these minor children if parents can't consent?

Abortion is a serious matter, it's a surgery or strong chemical, with out oversight and no reporting, a lot of injury is going to happen and no one will know.

All protections for minors are being removed in our legislature — making abortion, including sterilization, legal for children and anyone, by any type of provider.

Abortion causes a lot of pain to moms and babies; it goes against our nature to end the life of our own child. A mother's love is a natural thing, who doesn't love babies. Abortion cause regret, guilt, a lot of grief and pain to recover from.

The legislature did not think this through, and tried to just get something done. It's cruel. What happened to safe, legal and rare?

This is not Minnesota Nice anymore.

Judy Hansen  
Cambridge

#### More Trump vs. Biden

To the editor,

Jerry Grell asks "did the Keystone pipeline damage 571,000 ag jobs and \$76 billion in ag economy?" I'm confused by the question, since I was writing about the potential risks of the Keystone XL pipeline

which was not built. Maybe he is referring to the existing Keystone pipeline, where documented leakage is at 1,400,000 gallons and counting.

It's easy to blame the Democrats' Covid response for all of the unemployment during the Trump administration because Trump is never to blame for anything. Of course, the fact that those shut-downs likely saved lives doesn't matter to Trump supporters. Maybe the 1,000,000+ covid deaths aren't enough for them. What about the estimated 460,000 excess deaths due to Trump's poor Covid response? I've written about this numerous times and no other writer has responded to my offer to refute or explain that number. Apparently, the "pro-life" conservatives only care about the economics of the Covid responses and not the human death toll.

Biden, Mike Pence and Trump all possessed classified documents. I am glad to see that special prosecutors are investigating all of the cases. The three cases are not the same though. It appears that Biden and Pence had small numbers of documents of unknown security levels while 300 of the Trump documents had classified markings. Biden and Pence did not impede the investigations. Trump turned over 15 boxes of documents in February 2022. Then in June 2022 Trump claimed that all documents were found. So Trump lied about the 13 more boxes of documents found in August 2022, some of which were found in his office. Speaking of lying, whatever lies Biden may have told, he has a long way to go to get to the 30,000+ document lies by Trump.

Jeffrey Benny  
Cambridge

### LETTER GUIDELINES

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

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

#### GUIDELINES FOR ALL SUBMISSIONS

- Letters must be submitted by 5 p.m. Mondays to editor@countystar.com or via mail to 930 S. Cleveland St., Cambridge MN 55008
- Letters to the editor must be 400 words or less.
- Each letter writer may have one letter published every 30 days, or four print cycles (exceptions made for rebuttals).
- Anonymous letters will not be published. Letter signatures must include the writer's first and last name, community of residence and phone number.

Phone numbers will not be published.

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

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

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# Cambridge Post Office a piece of WPA history

There's no doubt countless visitors have seen the mural at the Cambridge Post Office lobby but may not know the background or significance. During a time of lingering uncertainty and as the nation began to recover from the Great Depression, the mural's idyllic farm scene with its soothing colors and lack of harsh angles was meant to bring a sense of peace, hope, and prosperity to its viewers. Artist Seymour Fogel was commissioned to complete the work "People of the Soil" as part of the W.P.A. (Works Progress Administration) during the latter part of the Great Depression.

The W.P.A. was initiated in 1935 by President Franklin Roosevelt as part of the New Deal; which was put in place to help create jobs during the Depression. Although best known for its public works projects, the W.P.A. also sponsored projects in the arts—the agency

employed tens of thousands of actors, musicians, writers, and other artists like Seymour Fogel.

After completing his studies in 1932 at the National Academy of Design in New York, he sought out an apprenticeship under renowned muralist Diego Rivera. He studied with Rivera where he fine-tuned his skills outside the classroom. In 1940, twenty-nine-year-old Fogel was living in New York when he was selected to paint the mural at the new post office in Cambridge. He traveled to Cambridge by train and was paid \$650 (\$14,000 in today's money) to complete the work; which took about one week. Fogel returned to Cambridge in 1982 by invitation from the Isanti County Historical Society where he was greeted like a celebrity as he answered questions and posed for photos.

While in town, he performed a little touch-up on the mural to ensure it would stay bright and vibrant for years to come. He not only painted the mural at the Cambridge Post Office but over twenty others across the United States from 1930-1977. Twelve of which were commissioned under the W.P.A.

So next time you stop by the post office in Cambridge, step back and admire one of the most unique local



SAM KLOCKSIEH | ISANTI COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**WPA Mural entitled People of the Soil by created by modern and abstract art pioneer Seymour Fogel located at the Cambridge Post Office.**

pieces of local history created by a pioneer of modern and abstract art during the mid-twentieth century.

**SAM KLOCKSIEH** is Executive Director of the Isanti County

Historical Society, which is located at 33525 Flanders St. NE, Cambridge. He can be reached at 763-689-4229 or [director@isanticountyhistory.org](mailto:director@isanticountyhistory.org).

## Rules for collector plates

**Question:** Can a truck with collector plates on it be used in a snow plow business? Is it legal to use collector plates on a vehicle driven on a daily basis?

**Answer:** Driving a vehicle for general transportation with collector plates on is illegal. It is also illegal to use collector plates for business purposes.

There are several different requirements for "collector" license plates.

- The vehicle needs to be at least 20-years-old, or older.
- The owner shall also prove that they also have one or more vehicles with regular license plates.
- The vehicle is owned and operated solely as a collector's item, and not for general transportation purposes.

What are general transportation purposes? To law enforcement, it means the vehicle can be driven to show it but you cannot use it to go to work, school, shopping, and other everyday activities. It is going to be a judgment call on the part of the officer, but the intent of the law is to only use it for fairs, shows, etc., and not as another vehicle for your family.

An owner is responsible for maintaining the proper registration on the vehicle. Violations include:

- "Improper use of registration" – a misdemeanor (90 days and/or \$1,000 fine).
- "Intent to escape tax" – a gross misdemeanor (up to one year and/or \$3,000 fine) depending on the situation.

Those using the vehicle for other purposes should purchase the standard Minnesota plates for it.

Below is a list of some of the other common special plates that can be applied for:

- Pioneer plates for vehicles made before 1936.
- Classic plates for vehicles made from 1925 to 1948.
- Collector plates at least 20 years old and made after 1935.
- Street rod plates for vehicles made before 1949 or made to look like a vehicle from before 1949.
- Classic motorcycle plates for motorcycles that are 20 years old or older.
- Original Minnesota plates for any collector vehicle OR vehicle 20 years old or older.

**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 Twitter @MSPPIO\_NW or reach him at, [jesse.grabow@state.mn.us](mailto:jesse.grabow@state.mn.us)).**



**Ask A Trooper**  
Jesse Grabow

## How Vikings thrive through long winters

**A**s we turn the corner into February, a common question is, "How long is winter going to last?" Winters in Minnesota are cold and frustrate us by often extending through the middle of April.

But we are Vikings and winter can't hold us back from thriving. Kids of all ages in our community continue to embrace winter by staying on the move, getting outside, and being creative and social. Here are three ways to thrive through the rest of this



**NB School News**  
Sara Paul

winter season.

**#3:** Say yes to a community education offering. I attended a community education activity

this week, and my learning was enhanced by the diverse group of current students, alumni, parents of current and former students and community members. It was so much fun.

**#2:** Get out and enjoy the trails. I have picked up cross country skiing for the first time and a parent (shout out to Karen Bovitz) told me to check out Irving and John Anderson County Park in Isanti County. Wow. The beautiful, groomed trails are perfect for a brisk winter walk or cross country skiing adventure. I would be remiss if I didn't mention our wonderful Wild River State Park in Chisago County. People come from all around the state to enjoy what we have in our backyard. I can't wait to discover all the outdoor adventures across our community.

**#1:** Attend a student activity. From choir and band performances, One Act Play, Robotics, Speech and Knowledge Bowl competitions to athletic events including bas-

ketball, wrestling, hockey, dance and gymnastics- our students are learning so many life lessons; how to be gracious in victory and defeat, not always getting what you want yet being a strong team player, and becoming better version of themselves. I have witnessed a couple of our student athletes confront significant injuries, and I wish they knew the impact they have by staying engaged and supporting their teammates. These experiences help all of us be better human beings, through direct and indirect participation. Come join us for a Viking Adventure that will leave you inspired.

Winter is full of opportunities to engage in, so let's continue bundling up and thriving through this winter season.

**SARA PAUL** is superintendent of North Branch Area Public Schools. She can be reached at 651-674-1000 or [spaul@isd138.org](mailto:spaul@isd138.org).

## The ten absolutes of Alzheimer's Disease

**T**o raise awareness, educate our community, reduce the stigma associated with Alzheimer's disease and assist families with resources who have been touched by Alzheimer's disease or other related forms of dementia, this month's article will share Jo Huey's, an Alzheimer's Advocate, "Ten Absolutes". These tips will help to simplify daily tasks and create positive interactions with the person who is experiencing brain change. We must adapt how we live, communicate, and share with them.



**Cambridge ACT on Alzheimer's Survey Team**

repeat/regroup

- Never say "you can't"; instead "do what you can"
- Never command/demand; instead ask/model

- Never condescend; instead encourage/praise
- Never force; instead reinforce

Many of us know or are related to a person living with brain change. That person is the same he or she has always been but their brain functions differently now. Please, don't be uncomfortable, don't hesitate to engage someone living with brain change in conversation, offer to take a walk with them, go out for a nice lunch or even watch a movie together. This person is the same person, but he or she is experiencing the world differently. Accept them for who he or she is now. Continue to love and respect them and value them as a fellow human being. This is a tough journey. It is a journey one day at a time. Whether you know, are related to or care for someone who has brain change, remember you are not alone. You can live through this. There is assistance and support in our community to help you navigate this journey.

Source: Alzheimer's Today Magazine  
**FOR MORE RESOURCES** and guidance in caring for someone with dementia, contact Jayne Mund, Caregiver Consultant, at 651-257-7905 or email [jaynem@familypathways.org](mailto:jaynem@familypathways.org).



**Get informed, get your local paper today!**



## OBITUARIES

### Ellen Marie (Finnes) Anderson

Ellen Marie (Finnes) Anderson, 91, of Cambridge, peacefully passed away peacefully on Monday, Jan. 23, 2023, following a brief illness, at Mercy Hospital in Coon Rapids.

Ellen was born on July 27, 1931 in Granite Falls, MN to Obert and Ella (Seim) Finnes. She was baptized and confirmed at Rock Valle Lutheran Church in Echo, MN. Her first years in school were in the one-room country school, which was built on her great grandparents' family farm outside of Granite Falls. The farm is still in the family to this day. In high school, she played on the half-court girls' high school basketball team. Ellen graduated from Granite Falls High School

in 1948. Following high school, she worked as Social Editor at the Granite Falls Tribune newspaper.

On May 7, 1955, she married Daniel Anderson at the Rock Valle Lutheran Church. After their marriage, they briefly lived in Montevideo before moving to St. Cloud for Dan's work. In 1958, they moved to their home in Cambridge where they raised their four children. The family immediately joined Cambridge Lutheran Church where they would become active members for these 64 years. Amongst other things, she was a member of the Lutheran Church Women's group, taught confirmation and took pictures of the church and activities for the church directory. Dan and Ellen enjoyed decades of fun in the church Couples Club. They also enjoyed various travels around the world with friends, most memorably their trips to Israel and Norway.

Throughout her younger adult years, she enjoyed bowling, and playing softball and volleyball. For 60 years, she gathered with a group of friends for weekly coffee parties, as well as other groups would meet for weekly coffee. Every Friday, Dan and Ellen would go out to dinner with friends and then play dominos and cards. Ellen had a passion for photography and filming home movies. She also loved spending time at her parents' farm with her family.

Ellen was a full-time mother until all of her children were in school. She then began working at The Scotsman paper and later at ECM Publishers. She loved to work, especially because it allowed her to spoil her grandchildren even more. She reluctantly retired from ECM in 2010 due to transverse myelitis, something that left her paralyzed and in a wheelchair for the remainder of her life. Although it was difficult at first for her and the family, she never complained and she gracefully never let it stop her.

Dan and Ellen were married for 67 years and their family was their biggest joy. Ellen was an amazing wife and mother, but her grandchildren and great grandchildren were the love of her life.

She was preceded in death by her parents Obert and Ella; brothers and sisters-in-law James and Sandy Finnes, Burton and Delores Finnes and brother-in-law Sherman Dodd Anderson.

Ellen is survived by her husband Dan of Cambridge; children Tim (Jody) Anderson of Cambridge, Peter (Judy) Anderson of Keene, ND, Kari (David) Fast of Grand Rapids, MI, and Matthew (Penny) Anderson of Des Moines, WA; grandchildren Nik Anderson, Angie (Matt) Houle, Jeremy (Amber) Anderson, Liz (Mackenzie Young) Fast, David Fast, Katie (Jake) Anderson, Kathleen Fast, Cam Anderson and Lily Anderson; great-grandchildren Noah, Blake, Chloe, Taylor, Ella, and Ellery; sister Mary Ann Anderson of Granite Falls and many nieces, nephews, other relatives, and friends.

Funeral Services 2 p.m., Friday, Feb. 3, 2023 at Cambridge Lutheran Church, 621 Old North Main St. Cambridge, MN. Visitation one hour prior to the service at the church. Interment in Cambridge Lutheran Cemetery. Donations can be made to Cambridge Lutheran Church. All undesignated gifts will be given to the Rock Valle Lutheran Funeral Fund. Condolences at [www.carlsonlillemoen.com](http://www.carlsonlillemoen.com). Arrangements by Carlson-Lillemoen Funeral Home and Cremation Services of Cambridge 763-689-2244.



### Marcella Milz

Marcella Milz, age 86, of Isanti died Jan. 27, 2023 at home.

Marcella Sophie Milz was born Jan. 8, 1937 in Minneapolis, Minnesota to Harry and Fannie (Humphreys) Griep. She was the third of four children



in the family. Marcie grew up in Columbia Heights and attended Oakwood School and graduated from Columbia Heights High School in 1955. On Jan. 29, 1957 she married Kenneth Milz, Sr in Norwood, Iowa. Two children were born to this union, Kenneth Jr and Mitzi. They made their first home in Columbia Heights. They moved to Coon Rapids and then in 1971 they moved to a farm in Isanti where they lived

the rest of their lives. Marcie and her family and friends enjoyed spending weekends at the cabin on Coon Lake. They sold the cabin when they moved to the farm which became the new place for family and friends to visit. They traveled to many places over the years especially to Knoxville, Iowa. They often took their grandchildren with them on some of their travels. Marcie enjoyed gardening, bird and wildlife watching, cross-stich, embroidering, word finds and playing games with her family.

She is survived by her children, Kenneth (Mary) Milz, Jr; daughter, Mitzi (Mitchell) Turnvall; step daughters, Debbie (Kevin) Hanson, and Vicki Lee; daughter-in-law, Sharon Milz; grandchildren, Lucas (Jennifer) Milz, Dustin Milz, Ashley Milz, and Jesse Turnvall; step-grandchildren, Max, Zach, Alisha, Dewain, Rachel, Danny (Trisha); great-grandchildren, Andrew, Maeghan, Landen, Ava, Gavin and William; step-great-grandson Cole; her two cats, Willie and Ginger; and by other relatives and friends (especially Judy and Janet). Besides her parents she was preceded in death by her husband of 48 years, Kenneth; step-son, Michael Milz; sisters, Margorie, Marlys and Mary; brother-in-law, Mike.

We would like to extend a special thanks to Tonya (Marcie's HHC Aide) and St. Croix Hospice for the wonderful care she received.

Funeral service 11 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 4 at Strike Life Tributes in Isanti. A visitation will be held one hour prior to the service. Interment will be in Isanti Union Cemetery. Online condolences can be made at [StrikeLifeTributes.com](http://StrikeLifeTributes.com).

### Marion Marie Buck

Marion Marie Buck, age 97, of White Bear Lake (formerly of Cambridge), passed away peacefully at NorBella Senior Living in Centerville on Sunday, Jan. 22, 2023.

Marion was born Sept. 11, 1925 to Lyman and Olive Winn of Ellsworth, Wisconsin. She attended school in Ellsworth and married John R. Buck (also of Ellsworth) on May 29, 1947.

The couple moved to the White Bear Lake area in the mid-1950's. In 1971, they purchased a farm outside of Cambridge, where they lived for nearly 40 years.

Marion worked for a number of years at Grandview Christian Home in Cambridge, she raised six children and helped run the family farm. She will be remembered as a hard-worker who cared for others and appreciated the little things in life. Marion was a wonderful cook and welcomed family and friends to her home with large meals and homemade baked goods, especially her famous pies. She prided herself in making sure that no one ever left her kitchen hungry.

When John passed in 2010, Marion moved back to White Bear Lake to live with her youngest daughter. In these later years she enjoyed the "bustle" of city living, shopping, watching the birds and spoiling her beloved "puppy dogs".

Marion is survived by her five children: Sharon (Ed) Vesel of Vadnais Heights, Tom (Michele) Buck of North Branch, Gary (Jani O'Link) of Forest Lake, Skip (Vickie Johnson) of North Branch, and Jody Buck of White Bear Lake; her three grandchildren and five great-grand children, and sister-in-law Audrey Winn of Ellsworth, WI.

She is preceded in death by her husband John, her son Leo, an infant son and daughter, infant granddaughter Shannon Vesel, and brother Bobby Winn.

A private family service will be held in White Bear Lake. In honor of her love for animals, memorials may be directed to the Animal Humane Society.



## STUDENT NAMES IN THE NEWS

### Student Achievement Lists

**Jacob Fenton**, and **Dominic Russell**, of North Branch; **Rachelle Major**, **Gage Asmussen**, **Stephanie Binner**, and **Rachelle Klein-Major**, of Rush City (Dean's) from Pine Technical and Community College.

**Arisa Kordell**, of Cambridge; **Jeremy Johnson**, **Douglas Torseth**, **Ali Wortman**, of North Branch; **Jaden Halls**, and **Brooke Hahn**, of Rush City (President's) from Pine Technical and Community College.

**Cerise Metz** of Cambridge; **Alexander Blegen**, **Moriah Jensen**, **Joshua Newman**, and **Elizabeth Tribbett** (Dean's) from North Branch from Gustavus Adolphus College

### Degrees

**Lindsey Kororll**, of Cambridge (Bachelor of Science, Psychology) from UW-River Falls

**Kaitlyn Fedewa**, (Equine Science B S) and **Joshua Scheumann**, (Finance B S) of Isanti from The University of Minnesota Crookston

## Viking Vittles needs your support

### CONTRIBUTED

NEWS@COUNTYSTAR.COM

Viking Vittles is a weekend backpack program that provides a bag of food to any student who signs up; there are no qualifications. The program, which requires over 30 hours a week to maintain, began in 2019 when members of Trinity Lutheran Church, in partnership with Family Pathways and with the support of the entire community, organized to help local school children, by providing over 10,000 bags per year. Because of the community's financial support, they have been able to fill these requests.

Just as all of our household expenses have increased over the last year, so has the cost of meeting

the needs of the students Viking Vittles supports. Financial support comes from the community at large, civic organizations, grants, local businesses, as well as individuals. The cost for 2022 was over \$50,000. If you would like to help keep this program running, you can donate by sending a check to Trinity Lutheran Church, PO Box 447, North Branch, MN 55056, or to Family Pathways, 6413 Oak Street, North Branch, MN 55056. Be sure to note Viking Vittles on the memo line. You can also go to [gofundme.com/f/ngwk5-viking-vittles/donate](http://gofundme.com/f/ngwk5-viking-vittles/donate). Questions can be directed to Donna at 612-363-5072.

Send your business news, accomplishments and awards to [editor@countystar.com](mailto:editor@countystar.com).

## Bluejackets retain Rusty Skates Trophy

BY BILL STICKELS III  
EDITOR@COUNTYSTAR.COM

### BOYS HOCKEY

The Rusty Skates Trophy — awarded to the winner of one of the Cambridge-Isanti versus Princeton games each season, is staying put as the Jackets topped the Tigers 5-2. This is the third-straight season C-I has captured the traveling trophy.

Princeton held a 1-0 lead after the first period, but four Jacket goals by Seth Splittstoser, Wyatt Nutt, Seth Terhell, and Finn Overby in the second period quickly put the game out of reach for the visiting Tigers. Overby would score his second goal of the game early in the third period, effectively putting the game out of reach.

The Jackets' only other game for the week wound up being a 5-1 loss to section foe Little Falls. The loss was costly as it dropped C-I down to the #4 ranking in Section 5A standings.

Northern Edge salvaged a tie last week, deadlocking with Pine City 2-2. Logan Croal scored a power play goal with less than five minutes remaining in the game to produce the tie. In their only other action for the week, Northern Edge lost to Monticello 9-1.

Northern Edge and Cambridge-Isanti will face each other in delayed back-to-back games on Thursday, Feb. 2 at East Bethel and Saturday, Feb. 4 at Isanti.

### GYMNASTICS

The Jackets appear to be peaking at just the right time, recording their best team score of the season against Princeton and then individually recording some impressive scores during the Bluejacket All-Around Invite.

C-I easily outdistanced Princeton 142.7 - 124.35. Abby Kryzer took first on the floor (9.25) and vault (9.15), while Aubrey Wilson took first on the beam (9.6) and bars (8.825). Kryzer also won the all-around with a 36.05. That score, however paled in comparison to the sophomore's showing at C-I's home invite. Kryzer amassed four personal bests in the meet, scoring a 9.35 on vault and bars, a 9.45 on beam, and 9.25 on floor for a whopping 37.4 all-around — over a full point ahead of the second place finisher.

Wilson also scored a personal best all-around score of 36.05, which was good enough for third place. C-I's lone senior, Alison Barber, finished in fifth with a 35.75.

The Jackets have one last meet before sections, and its a big one. C-I will face off against Big Lake on Thursday, Feb. 2 with the Mississippi8 Conference Championship up for grabs. Both teams enter the meet undefeated in conference competition.

North Branch competed in a rare triangular meet last week — against St. Francis and Big Lake, in order to make up the Big Lake meet that was canceled earlier in the season following an injury midway through the meet. In the triangular, the Vikings were topped by both teams. Big Lake easily came in first with a 144.5, St. Francis scored a 134.45, and North Branch scored a 133.05. Dakota Esget finished second in the all around with a 35.475. Her high-score was a 9.3 on vault.

The Vikings also hosted Prince-

ton, easily topping the Tigers 134.675 - 117.100. NB recorded first in every event, with Esget winning vault (9.525), bars (9.2), floor (9.55), and all-around (36.75). Libby Nielson won the beam with a score of 8.85.

North Branch has just one more meet left on their schedule as the team will host Rush City/Pine City/Hinckley-Finlayson in a fun match-up of the friendly rivals.

### GIRLS BASKETBALL

The Jackets suffered a heartbreaking loss last week, falling to Brainerd 45-44 at home. The Warriors' game-winning point came on a free throw with just 1.8 seconds remaining in the game. C-I did pick up two victories last week, beating Monticello 63-57 and Princeton 56-26. Maraya Wilttrout was C-I's leading scorer against the Magic with 19 points. Haylie Jerde led the way against the Tigers, scoring 15 points.

North Branch also suffered their own one-point loss, falling to Chisago Lakes 44-43. The Vikings were also defeated by Monticello 68-55 and Cloquet 60-41. Ella Kuhlman was NB's leading scorer in all three games, scoring 15 points against the Wildcats, 10 points against the Magic, and 16 points against the Lumberjacks.

### BOYS BASKETBALL

The Vikings got back into the win column with a pair of victories, but not before taking one more close loss. The loss came against Chisago Lakes 79-77. NB had five of their six players score in double-digits in the game, with Brody Beaver leading the way with 19. The Vikings ended their skid with a 68-55 win over Monticello. Tyler Minke had a great game, scoring 26 points against the Magic. NB's second win was a 74-31 victory over Hibbing. Beaver scored 22 points in that game.

Despite their recent run of bad luck, the Vikings still remain locked into the #2 ranking in Section 7AAA with a 10-8 season record, behind only Hermantown. Should the Vikings be able to maintain that position, they will get a first-round bye in the section tournament and play host in a section semifinal game.

C-I's undefeated 2023 came to an end last week as the Jackets lost to Princeton 77-63 and Coon Rapids 83-72. Before those losses, the Jackets did top Monticello 63-57. John Troolin was C-I's leading scorer in all three games, picking up 20 points against the Magic, 22 points against the Tigers, and 28 points against the Cardinals.

The loss to the Cardinals was costly as it knocked C-I down to the #4 ranking in Section 7AAAA, behind two teams the Jackets have defeated this season.

### WRESTLING

The Jackets' lone action as an entire team was a 39-33 loss to St. Francis. Leo Edblad, Blaine Wald, Maverick Henderson and Jacob Henderson each collected pins in the match. The Jacket girls wrestlers also competed in their own tournament at Simley. Taitum Kosteka (100 pounds) and Kami Senlycki (165 pounds) took first place. Kimber Senlycki took fourth at 120 pounds.

North Branch picked up their first



BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR

Cambridge-Isanti's Finn Overby eludes a diving Eli Gibbs during the Jackets' game against Princeton. Overby scored two goals in the game, enabling C-I to retain the Rusty Skates Trophy.



BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR

North Branch's Michael Thao picks up a pin over his Fridley opponent en route to taking second place at the North Branch Invite.

team win of the season last week, topping Mahtomedi 42-39. The Vikings scored pins from Jack Baker, Ethan Kester, Colin Duvall, Michael Thao, Tanner Cummings, and Emmitt Hansen to earn the win. They were also defeated by Mounds View 73-6 that same night.

At their home invite, Thao took second, and Baker and Kester took third.

### GIRLS HOCKEY

Northern Tier went winless last week as their regular season winds down, but the Stars were able to salvage a 3-3 tie against Two Rivers. The team's losses were a 9-1 loss to Chisago Lakes, a 6-3 loss to Woodbury, and a 5-1 loss to Champlin Park. The Stars have two games remaining before their playoffs begin.

### BOYS SWIMMING AND DIVING

The Jackets lost to Chisago Lakes 97-78 last week. Christopher Williams was a double winner, taking first in the 50 freestyle and 100 backstroke. Joseph Larkin's first place in the 500 was C-I's only other win. At the Bluejacket Invite, Williams captured first place in both the 50 and 100 freestyle.

The Jackets now only have one more meet remaining in their regular season — at Elk River on Saturday, Feb. 4, before a nearly three-week competition break leading up to sections.



BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR

C-I's Abby Kryzer easily took first at the Bluejacket All-Around Invite, shattering her personal best score in the process.



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# Star earns four awards in Minnesota Newspaper Association contest

**STAFF REPORT**  
NEWS@COUNTYSTAR.COM

The Isanti-Chisago County Star continues to flex its photographic muscle, racking up three awards in three different picture-related categories during the recent Minnesota Newspaper Association's annual Better Newspaper Contest. Additionally, the Star earned one additional award in a writing category.

Photographer Dee Ann Sibley continued her streak of winning an award for her front page photo from the previous summer's Isanti Rodeo, picking up third place in the Sports Photo category. This is the fourth year out of the last five she has secured an award in this category, with the only non-winning year being when the rodeo wasn't held due to COVID.

Additionally this year, Sibley took first place in the Photo Story

category for her full-page rodeo spread. This category features three or more photos of a specific topic, either with or without an accompanying article.

The third award in a photo category was second place in the Portraits and Personality category by Star editor Bill Stickels III. He won this award for a photo he took of young girls holding a tarantula during East Central Regional Library's "Bruce the Bug Guy" presentation at the Braham Event Center last June. This is Stickels' 10th MNA BNC award with the Star and 11th overall — all but one coming in a photo-related category.

Finally, former Star editor's assistant and current Kanabec County Times editor Hope Murray earned third place in the Arts and Entertainment Story category for her behind-the-scenes look at the production crew for Cambridge-Isanti High School's spring

play performance of "The Matchmaker."

"I know I say this every year, but it is really exciting that our little free newspaper repeatedly earns multiple awards while going up against the largest weekly newspapers from across the state," Stickels said. "We've always taken personal pride in the quality of our coverage, especially with our photos, and winning these awards simply validates that."

All told, the Star has earned 22 BNC awards since Stickels became editor in the spring of 2016.

This year's Better Newspaper Contest was judged by members of the Kansas Press Association. Awards were revealed via mail in early December, with the specific places kept secret until the annual Minnesota Newspaper Association convention, held last Thursday and Friday at the Minneapolis Marriott Northwest in Brooklyn Park.



The above photo of young girls holding a tarantula earned Star editor Bill Stickels III second place in the Portrait and Personality category. The rodeo photo to the left earned Dee Ann Sibley third place in the Sports Photo category.

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# COUNTY STAR

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Once you have found the team you are interested in, reach out to [shelby@northbranchchamber.com](mailto:shelby@northbranchchamber.com)

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# SEARCH: Rescue dogs are weekly trained in wide variety of real world conditions

FROM PAGE 1

outcome if he wasn't with me." Jason added he technically could have Loki search for suspects if they had a scent article to go by, however he would prefer to leave that to the police K-9s. "He (Loki) wouldn't know how to defend himself." But just in case, he does have a bullet and stab-proof vest for Loki.

## PRACTICE MAKES ALMOST PERFECT

Each dog/handler team is required to go through extensive training and then certification. According to handler David Lehman, they must get LETS (Law Enforcement Training) certification once a year. The initial certification encompasses a five-day, 40-hour process. Recertification encompasses three days and 24 hours. Additionally, handlers must pass a criminal background check and be first aid and CPR certified. It typically takes close to two years of training before a dog and handler are even ready to certify.

Besides that, the group will attend various national training conventions and are required to attend at least three of the organization's training sessions per month. During these training sessions, the group utilizes volunteer hiderees to go out and "get lost."

Even these training sessions are very regimented. They are held in any weather conditions and a wide variety of environments such as wooded areas, open fields, the water, or as was the case recently in Cambridge, around downtowns. According to David, the idea is to throw as many different curveballs at the dogs as possible, because you never know what conditions an actual search will take place under. According to David, a person's scent can be detected in any environment. In fact, contrary to a common myth, water is an excellent preservative of scents. He said the toughest conditions to trail under are actually when it is hot and dry.

For the Cambridge training, two hiderees were utilized, including Nancy Lehmann of

Cambridge. Nancy has volunteered to hide for the group before. "It's so fun to see the excitement of the dogs when they find me," she said.

Nancy was escorted from Ashland Apartments by David to Scout and Morgan Bookstore, where she hid inside the store. Originally, the training was going to start at City Park, however, that was shortened in the interest of not exposing Nancy to the cold for an extended period (the dogs, however, didn't seem to care about the cold).

The hider needs to be escorted by someone so their exact route can be recorded on a cell phone app. Once in place, that route can be messaged to someone other than the handler of the dog who will be searching. That person will follow behind the handler and the dog as they search just to make sure the dog doesn't go too far off course.

The second hider's route was laid out the night before to simulate someone who might have gone missing for an extended time. Since scents do dissipate over time, this makes trailing tougher for the dogs, however, Cheryl noted she has seen a successful search as long as 40 hours after the scent was laid.

David said the dogs aren't expected to perfectly follow the hider's path. Certain conditions like a breeze or even airflow caused by passing cars can push the scent, causing the dog to veer off course temporarily. But as long as they pick it back up again without prompting from the observer, it is considered a successful trail. That was the case with Stormi, who was the first to look for Nancy. Once reaching North Main Street, Stormi started to head south rather than crossing. However, after a quick sniff around, Stormi quickly came back to the intersection and crossed the street. She again went off the path into the snow a short time later, but again the divergence was brief, and in no time flat, Stormi was making a beeline through the City Center Mall parking lot to the bookstore's door.



BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR

Members of Minnesota Search and Rescue Dog Association participating in a training session in Cambridge recently included (from left) Raven and handler Aldie Meynard, handler Cheryl Lehman and Zoey, handler David Lehman and Cero, handler Megan Gehrman and Stormi, and handler Jason Gehrman and Loki.

Loki, who the entire group acknowledged tracks at "mach 10" once he picks up on the scent, likewise made short work of the tougher, older scent trail, which ended at Mugg and Brush.

Zoey was next to search for Nancy, and besides sitting at the feet of this reporter rather than Nancy at the end of the search, her attempt was considered a success. (In defense of Zoey, there was a fair amount of petting of her by myself before the searches began, so she probably had come to recognize my scent too.)

Finally, Cero successfully navigated the older scent trail.

## MORE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

While cautioning being part of MinnSARDA isn't for everyone due to the extensive time and financial commitments, the organization is always looking for new members. Anyone who thinks they and their dogs have what it takes to be a certified tracker can contact the group through email at minnsardak9@gmail.com or by going to their Facebook page.

The group can also always use more hiderees, which doesn't require as much of a commitment. However, it does entail being willing to be out in the elements for up to several hours and be able to



BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR

Zoey sits beside hider Nancy Lehmann inside Scout and Morgan Bookstore, indicating she has found the person she was searching for.

walk a minimum of one-half mile over a variety of terrain. Anyone interested in making themselves available as a hider can contact them at the same email address.

MinnSARDA is a 501c3 non-profit organization, so do-

nations are always graciously accepted. Checks can be sent to 120 Broadway Avenue S., Wayzata, MN, 55391, or by going to the organization's website at www.minnsarda.com.

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221 NW 2nd Ave., Cambridge  
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### Dentists

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# WORSHIP *guide*

MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IS NOW ALLOWING FOR IN-PERSON WORSHIP SERVICES. IT IS RECOMMENDED TO CONTACT YOUR INDIVIDUAL CHURCH FOR MORE INFORMATION REGARDING THEIR COVID-19 PREPAREDNESS PLAN.

## 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.nib-  
church.com  
Email: nibchurch@msn.com

763-689-3576. 8:30am Worship Service (traditional  
style) 10:45am Worship Service (contemporary style)

### South Isanti Baptist Church

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

### Springvale Baptist

Merrill Olson, Interim Pastor  
9:30am Sunday School  
10:30am Sunday Worship  
Wednesday: 6:00 pm Band of Brothers  
Thursday: 10:00 am Ladies Bible Study  
410 County Road 6 NW  
Stanchfield, MN 55080  
763-689-1373  
springvalechurchmn.org

### Sunrise Bible Church

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

## Catholic

### St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

207 Whiskey Rd NW, Isanti, MN.  
763-444-4035  
Email: annseton76@gmail.com. Mass: Tues. & Wed.  
7:30am. Sun. 8:30am. stelizabeth-isanti.org.

## Evangelical Covenant

### Karmel Covenant Church

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

## Evangelical Free

### Dale Evangelical Free Church

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

### Kost Evangelical Free Church

37405 Kost Trail, North Branch, MN 55056. Jct. of CR 11 &  
CR 72, SE of North Branch. 651-583-3281.  
Pastor, Josh Jensen  
Kost Student Ministries Mondays 6:30pm. Worship  
Service Sundays 9:30am. More info: www.kostefc.org

### Oxlip Church

9am Sunday Worship Service  
Sanctuary seating or Online: Facebook and YouTube  
Pastor Leroy Scheumann  
29237 Roanoke St NW, Isanti, MN 55040  
www.oxlip.org  
763-444-5134

### Wyanett Evangelical Free Church

12 Miles West of Cambridge on Highway 95  
www.wyanettefc.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 6:00 pm  
Wednesdays - Midweek Bible Study/Prayer 6:00 pm  
Thursdays - Women's Morning Bible Study - 9:30 am  
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## Lutheran

### Braham Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA)

West Central Drive & County Road 4, Braham  
320-396-2755  
Pastor Andrea Bonneville-DeNaples  
**Sunday:** 9:30 a.m. Worship Service - BELC  
**Sunday:** 9:30 a.m. Worship Service Live on Facebook  
**Sunday:** 9:30 am Worship Service on KBK 95.5 FM  
Sunday School 9:45am  
Office hours 9:00 a.m. to Noon Tuesday thru Friday

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

Pastor Vicki Vandervegt.  
320-358-4829, 600 Rush Point Dr.  
10:15am Worship with Fellowship following  
my.calvaryofrushpoint.org.  
Office: calvaryrushpoint@gmail.com

### Cambridge Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA)

621 Old North Main Street, Cambridge  
763-689-1211  
9 a.m. Traditional Service  
10 a.m. Contemporary Service  
www.cambridgelutheran.org -  
fb.com/CambridgeLutheran

### Christ Ev. Lutheran Church (WELS)

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

### Faith Lutheran Church (ELCA)

109 Second Ave NW, Isanti  
763-444-9201  
Pastor Ian Coen-Frei  
Sunday School 8:30 a.m.  
Sunday Service 9:30 a.m.  
Home of Heavenly Sunshine Preschool  
email:  
office@faithlutheranisanti.com

### First Lutheran Church (ELCA)

43779 Gates Ave., Harris.  
651-674-4498. Handicapped accessible.  
Pastor Craig Lundstad-Vogt.  
Sunday Worship 9:30am, 10:30am coffee  
and fellowship.  
Email: firstlutheran@q.com  
www.firstlutheranharris.org

### Joy Lutheran Church (Missouri Synod)

1155 Joy Circle, Cambridge  
763-689-4355  
www.joylutheran.net  
9:45 a.m. Sunday School  
10:45 a.m. Worship Service

### Long Lake Lutheran Church (ELCA)

3921 277th Ave NW Isanti, MN 55040 763-444-5315.  
Pastor Sue Olson  
Worship Sundays at 9am in-person, in parking lot or  
online  
longlakeluth.org  
**December 22nd-  
1pm & 6pm** Blue Christmas  
**December 24th-  
4pm** Christmas Eve Service  
**10pm** Christmas Eve Carols and Candles  
**December 25th-  
9am** Christmas Day service

### Salem Lutheran Church

4638 381st Ave. NW, Dalbo, MN 55017. 763-689-1687  
Join us for worship every  
Sunday at 9:00am, Sunday  
school for 3 yrs to 6th gr.  
begins at 9:00am. Coffee  
fellowship after worship  
www.salemutherandalbo.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  
**8:30am** 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 Evangelical Lutheran Church (LCMC)

31075 Genesis Ave., Stacy, MN 55079  
651-462-5115.  
Office Hours - 9:00am - 1:00 pm  
9:00am Services,  
Sunday School following Service (10:15am).  
Email - stjohns@midconetwork.com.  
Website - stjohnlutheranchurch-stacymn.org

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

980 West 4th Street, Rush City, Pastor Tim Renstrom  
320-358-3623, Sunday 8:45am Worship, 7:30am Rise &  
Shine Bible Study, Monday 10am Longer Look Bible Study.  
stjohnsrushcity.org

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

400 SE 8th St., (Isanti #4 E.), PO Box 37, Braham. 320-  
396-3103.  
Tim Renstrom, Pastor.  
9:30am Sunday School & Adult Bible Study. 10:30am  
Worship.  
ststephensbraham.org

### Trinity Lutheran Church (ELCA)

38460 Lincoln Trl, North Branch  
651-674-7047. Pastor Greg Wilcox  
In-person and online Worship  
Sundays at 8 a.m. & 10 a.m.  
Coffee Hour & Sunday School at 9 a.m.  
Email:  
office@trinitynorthbranch.org  
or visit www.trinitynorthbranch.org

## Methodist

### Common Ground - A United Methodist Community

404 North 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

### Bethesda Church

38180 Hemingway Ave., North Branch, MN 651-674-5873.  
Pastor Mark Huber.  
9am Worship Service.  
10:30am Sunday School  
and adult Bible studies.  
bethesdachurchnb.com

### Lakeside Christian Church

32393 Rendova Cir. N.E., Cambridge (3 mi. E of Cambridge  
just off Hwy. 95). 763-689-3649. Ministry Coordinator  
Jeff Bonkoski. Administrative Assistant Sharon Dahl.  
Sunday 9:30am Worship.  
Retreat house & personal retreat cabins available. Call

for reservation. Email:  
lakesidesecretary@gmail.com.  
lakesidechurchcambridge.org

### Journey of Faith

Bible based worship.  
651-600-9878.  
faiththroughaction777@gmail.com  
Sunday fellowship 9am  
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### JustPassinThru IHS Ministries

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763-689-6987  
Meeting at Crossroads Commons 101 1st Ave. E., Suite  
100, Cambridge MN  
justpassinihs@gmail.com  
JustpassinThru.net  
Pastor Tom Bakke  
Sunday mornings at 10 am  
Sunday nights and Wednesdays

### Kingdom of God Resources and Training

150 Birch St. N, Cambridge MN 55008  
Kingdomofgodresourcesandtraining.com  
Ministry coordinators Mike and Leslie Kelzenberg  
Saturdays 8:30-9:30, 10-11, 11:30-1:00  
And other events: See web site  
kingdomofgodrandt@gmail.com 763-346-7292

### River of Life Church

Meeting at 242 3rd Ave NW, Cambridge in The Bridge  
Outreach (TBO) Building.  
Mark Radeke, Pastor. 763-689-5115.  
Sundays 10:00am  
Nursery provided  
River Kid's for ages 4 yrs to 5th gr during the 10:00am  
service  
riveroflifehome.com

## Pentecostal

### The Journey New Life Church

601 Heritage Blvd NE, Isanti  
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763-689-4471  
Thejourneynlc.org

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## NOTICES

### ISANTI SELF STORAGE AND CAMBRIDGE SELF STORAGE INTENT TO SELL

This is notice of intent to sell items located at Isanti Self Storage and Cambridge Self Storage. If S05 Chelsey Berg, E443 Dan Johnson, F14 Pat Maguire, and J48 Nicole Olson do not pay their balances in full by February 27, 2023 at 9AM, online auctions will be held February 28, 2023 at 9AM at [www.storageauctions.net](http://www.storageauctions.net). The units appear to contain household and garage items.

Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on Jan. 26, Feb. 2, 2023

### NOTICE OF INTERVIEW SCHEDULE FOR VACANT CITY COUNCIL SEAT CITY OF ISANTI

Interview Date: February 7, 2023 (City Council Meeting)

Interview Time: 7:00 p.m.

Interviews will be conducted in the following order:

1. Jason Gehrmann
2. George Hemen
3. Travis Linder
4. Dan Hinnenkamp
5. Lori Dusan
6. Jeff Holmgren
7. Derick Johnson

### ORAL INTERVIEW CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES

NAME:

DATE:

1. If you were going to describe Isanti to a new resident, what would you say?

2. What is your approach to handling controversial and complicated issues?

3. What previous community involvement have you had in Isanti or another City?

4. What Skills and experience do you have that you believe would be beneficial to you as a Council Member?

5. What is the role of a City Council Member?

6. What do you think are the major issues facing the City? How do you see yourself playing a role in the major issues facing the City?

7. If you could change one thing about Isanti, what would it be?

8. Why should the City Council appoint you to this vacancy?

9. Are you able to attend City Council meetings two (2) Tuesday's a month beginning at 7:00pm?

10. Are you able to attend Committee of a Whole meetings once a month beginning at 5:00pm?

11. Are you able to attend other special meetings as needed?

Jaden Strand

City Clerk

Posted: 1-30-2023

Published: 2-2-2023

Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on Feb. 2, 2023

### STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF CHISAGO CITY OF NORTH BRANCH

#### ORDINANCE NO. 348-23 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 2-230

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH BRANCH, MINNESOTA ORDAINS: SECTION 1 AMENDMENT

Section 2-230 is hereby amended as follows:

Sec 2-230 Composition

The public utility commission shall consist of five members. Except as provided below, all members shall be residents of North Branch. At least three (3) members shall be

a customer of either its water and/or electrical services. One of the members may be a business owner of a business that is a customer of either its water and/or electrical services even if the business owner is not a resident of the city. No members of the public utility commission may be chosen from the city council.

#### SECTION 2 EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance shall take full effect and be in full force after its passage and publication according to law.

#### RESULT: ADOPTED [3 TO 2]

**MOVER:** Kevin Schieber, Mayor  
**SECONDER:** Robert Canada, Councilmember/Acting Mayor  
**AYES:** Kevin Schieber, Robert Canada, Travis Miles

**NAYS:** Kelly Neider, Peter Schaps  
Passed and adopted this 24th day of January 2023

#### CITY OF NORTH BRANCH

BY: Kevin Schieber, Mayor

Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on Feb. 2, 2023

### NORTH BRANCH TOWNSHIP SNOW REMOVAL POLICY

Snow and Ice control operations will normally not begin until the snow has stopped falling and 4 inches of snow has accumulated on the roadway. The township Road Boss makes such a call for the plows to begin. Snow will be plowed in a manner and time to minimize obstruction to traffic and increase safety for the plow driver. Snow and Ice operations will be conducted only when weather conditions do not endanger the safety of the employees or pose an unreasonable risk of damaging equipment. Any decision to delay or suspend operations shall be made by the township Road Boss and will be based on actual or predicted weather conditions, equipment failure, the need to rest plow operators, or other unanticipated events. Reasonable effort will be made to dispatch the plows to assist emergency vehicles if requested by law enforcement. Snow will be plowed as close as practicable to mailboxes located on township roads. It is the responsibility of the mailbox owner to keep it free from snow for the mail carriers. The township is not responsible for damage to mailboxes and fences that are damaged from snow contact. Snow plowing unavoidably deposits snow onto driveways and approaches. It is not the responsibility of the township to remove this snow. The township must consider the cost environmental impact of when to apply salt and trap rock to roads. Priority will be given to hills, corners, and intersections. It is UNLAWFUL TO PLOW SNOW across or onto a public roadway or right of way and is punishable by a misdemeanor and \$1,000.00 dollar fine, MN Statute 160.2715. Plowing snow across public road right of ways creates safety hazards for plow operators and equipment. Any and all liabilities, damages to plow equipment will be the responsibility of said property owner where snow is plowed across said public road. In order to facilitate proper snow plowing and ice control operations, it is the responsibility of residents to keep the road right of way clear of vehicles, trailers, trash cans, and all objects of personal property. If the township determines personal property left in the road right of way poses an unreasonable risk to public safety or interferes with the snow plowing operations, the objects will be removed at the owner's expense determined a public nuisance pursuant to Minnesota Statute

609.74. The township assumes no responsibility for damages for snow and ice control operations to sod, trees, or other landscaping materials or vegetation. The township assumes no responsibility, whether by direct or indirect contact with snow or ice control equipment, for damage to under/above ground sprinklers, or other items of personal property located in the township road right of way. This policy is reviewed by the North Branch Township Board and may make changes as necessary.

Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on Feb.2, 2023

## FORECLOSURES

### FORECLOSURE NOTICE

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: February 10, 2017 ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$221,645.00 MORTGAGOR(S): Jonathan C Jeske and Sarah C Jeske, spouses married to each other MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., acting solely as nominee for Waterstone Mortgage Corporation TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. MIN#: 1003715-0000433249-8 SERVICER: SN Servicing Corporation LENDER: Waterstone Mortgage Corporation DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Isanti County Minnesota, Recorder, on March 1, 2017, as Document No. A464840. ASSIGNED TO: Matrix Financial Services Corporation by an Assignment of Mortgage dated 12/20/2017 and recorded on 12/20/2017 as Document No. A472106. Waterstone Mortgage Corporation by an Assignment of Mortgage dated 03/14/2018 and recorded on 03/16/2018 as Document No. A473820. Nationstar Mortgage LLC d/b/a Mr. Cooper by an Assignment of Mortgage dated 01/11/2019 and recorded on 01/22/2019 as Document No. A481203. U.S. Bank Trust National Association as Trustee of the Igloo Series IV Trust by an Assignment of Mortgage dated 05/06/2020 and recorded on 05/19/2020 as Document No. A492496. U.S. Bank Trust National Association, as Trustee of the Bungalow Series IV Trust by an Assignment of Mortgage dated 05/13/2020 and recorded on 05/19/2020 as Document No. 492497. LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: The West 262 feet, as measured along the South line, of the Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 34, Township 36, Range 25, Isanti County, Minnesota. PROPERTY ADDRESS: 6767 325th Avenue Northwest, Princeton, MN 55371 PROPERTY I.D.: 13.034.0303 COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: IN WHICH THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: Two Hundred Seventy-Nine Thousand Eight Hundred Sixty-Two and 69/100 (\$279,862.69) 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: 10:00AM on February 23, 2023 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. Section 580.30 or the property is not redeemed under Minn. Stat. Section 580.23, the Mortgagor must vacate the property on or before 11:59 p.m. on August 23, 2023, or the next business day if August 23, 2023 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." Dated: January 5, 2023 U.S. Bank Trust National Association, as Trustee of the Bungalow Series IV Trust Randall S. Miller and Associates, PLLC Attorneys for Assignee of Mortgage/ Mortgagee Edinburg Executive Office Center, 8525 Edinbrook Crossing North Suite #210 Brooklyn Park, MN 55443 Phone: 952-232-0052 Our File No. 21MN00015-6 A-4769190 01/05/2023, 01/12/2023, 01/19/2023, 01/26/2023, 02/02/2023, 02/09/2023

Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on Jan. 5, 12, 19, 26 Feb. 2, 9, 2023

## SCHOOL BOARD

### MINUTES OF THE REGULAR GOVERNING BOARD MEETING RUM RIVER SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVE

October 25, 2022

The Regular Governing Board meeting of the Rum River Special Education Cooperative was called to order at 4:00 p.m. virtually via Google Meet.

Joint Powers Board members present were: Mike Thompson, Randy Christensen, Josh Smith, Deb Hallin, and Nathan Neuhart. Also in attendance were Ex Officio Superintendents: Ken Gagner, Dean Kapsner, David Wedin, Dan Voce, Kathy Belshem, Ben Barton; and Tanya Tacker, Executive Director of Special Education. Absent were: Jim Tomsly. Other in attendance: Tracy Wells, Business Manager

Motion to approve the amended meeting agenda made by Nathan Neuhart, seconded by Deb Hallin. Upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Mike Thompson, Randy Christensen, Josh Smith, Deb Hallin, and Nathan Neuhart.

Action: Carried.

The Board reviewed the amended Consent Agenda. Moved by Josh Smith, seconded by Deb Hallin to approve the amended consent agenda. Upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Randy Christensen, Josh

Smith, Deb Hallin, Nathan Neuhart, and Mike Thompson. Action carried. The Amended Consent Agenda consisted of the following:

- June 20, 2022 Governing Board Meeting Minutes
- Payment Register
- P-Card Detail Summary
- Rum River Special Education Program Student Enrollment
- RRSEC Personnel
- Tisha Voss, Academic Behavior Manager, 1.0 FTE, RRN, Hired, 9/12/2022
- Michelle Morton, Academic Behavior Manager, 1.0 FTE, RRN, Hired, 9/12/2022
- Kara Bourgoin (Weeks), Academic Behavior Manager, 1.0 FTE, RRE, Hired, 9/21/2022
- Sara Rapp, Administrative Assistant, 1.0 FTE, RRE, Hired, 8/16/2022
- Paige Kleven, Academic Behavior Manager, 1.0 FTE, RRN, Hired, 8/29/2022
- Gabriela Nelson, Mental Health Professional, 1.0 FTE, RRS, Hired, 8/25/2022
- Hazel Thorp, Academic Behavior Manager, 1.0 FTE, RRS, Hired, 9/6/2022
- Kimberly Hakes, Academic Behavior Manager, 1.0 FTE, RRN, Hired, 8/29/2022
- Margaret Knebel, Occupational Therapist, .16 FTE, RRSEC, Hired, 9/29/2022
- Jennifer Dewey, Academic Behavior Manager, 1.0 FTE, RRS, Resignation, 10/19/2022
- Nicole Pfutzenreuter, Academic Behavior Manager, 1.0 FTE, RRS, Resignation, 10/19/2022
- Randi Schoeberl, Academic Behavior Manager, 1.0 FTE, RRS, Resignation, 10/19/2022
- Jennifer Duncan, Academic Behavior Manager, 1.0 FTE, RRS, Resignation, 10/19/2022
- Hazel Thorp, Academic Behavior Manager, 1.0 FTE, RRS, Resignation, 10/3/2022
- Kari Tadych, Special Education Teacher, 1.0 FTE, RRN, Resignation, 6/30/2022
- Aaron Berg, Academic Behavior Manager, 1.0 FTE, RRS, Resignation, 8/2/2022
- Melinda Bullford, Academic Behavior Manager, 1.0 FTE, RRN, Resignation, 8/29/2022
- Rachel Hemsworth, Administrative Assistant, 1.0 FTE, RRS, Resignation, 6/16/2022
- Julia Owen, Academic Behavior Manager, 1.0 FTE, RRN, Resignation, 6/23/2022
- Travis Pinney, Academic Behavior Manager, 1.0 FTE, RRN, Resignation, 8/15/2022
- Kristy Dziejewczynski, Physical Therapist, .8 to 1.0 FTE, RRC, Change in Assignment, 9/1/2022
- Kimberly Kuntz, Resigned Academic Behavior Manager to Substitute Academic Behavior Manager, RRSEC, Active, 9/1/2022
- Natalie Hokanson, Retired Occupational Therapist, RRSEC, Active, 9/26/2022
- Kris Bloomdahl, Academic Behavior Manager, 1.0 FTE, RRE to RRS, Transfer, 9/22/2022
- Layne Hunter, Academic Behavior Manager, 1.0 FTE, RRE to RRS, Transfer, 10/3/2022
- Jocelyn Johnson, Academic Behavior Manager to Special Education Teacher, 1.0 FTE, Change in Assignment, 8/25/2022
- Wade Reichmann, Academic Behavior Manager to Substitute Academic Behavior Manager, Change in Assignment, 7/23/2022
- Leanna West, Special Education Teacher, 1.0 FTE, RRE to RRS, Transfer, 8/29/2022

• Danielle Swedeen, School Psychologist, 1.0 FTE, MA+30 to Specialist, RRC, 9/1/2022

• Michelle Spiczka, Special Education Teacher, 1.0 FTE, RRS to RRN, Transfer, 7/1/2022

• Julia Paris, Academic Behavior Manager Substitute to ESY Academic Behavior Manager, RRN, Change in Assignment, 6/13/2022

• Terrienne Lindholm, Administrative Assistant, 1.0 FTE to Payroll & Benefit Coordinator, .8 FTE, RRSEC, Change in Assignment, 7/1/2022

• Amber Gillett, Academic Behavior Manager LTS to Mental Health Professional, 1.0 FTE, RRN, Change in Assignment, 8/25/2022

The Board discussed the following:

• Tracy Wells, Business Manager, shared the lease levy documents for FY22 Actuals and FY22 and FY23 Payables with the Board.

• RRSEC Teachers, Academic Behavior Managers, and Administrative Assistants will be negotiating this year. Board Chair, Mike Thompson and Board Member Deb Hallin will assist with negotiations for RRSEC along with Superintendents, Ken Gagner and Dan Voce.

• Executive Director, Tanya Tacker updated the Board on building options for RRN.

The Board discussed and action was required on the following:

• Motion to adopt the Sub Pay Rate for FY23 was made by Deb Hallin, seconded by Josh

Smith. Upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Josh Smith, Deb Hallin, Nathan Neuhart, Mike Thompson, and Randy Christensen. Action: carried.

• Motion to approve the PAI Insurance Renewal was made by Josh Smith, seconded by Nathan Neuhart. Upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Deb Hallin, Nathan Neuhart, Mike Thompson, Randy Christensen, and Josh Smith. Action: carried.

• Motion to adopt the E-Learning Plan for Rum River Education Programs was made by Randy Christensen, seconded by Deb Hallin. Upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Nathan Neuhart, Mike Thompson, Randy Christensen, Josh Smith, and Deb Hallin. Action: carried.

• Motion to approve the updates to the RRSEC 2022-2023 Calendar was made by Nathan Neuhart, seconded by Deb Hallin. Upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Mike Thompson, Randy Christensen, Josh Smith, Deb Hallin, and Nathan Neuhart. Action: carried.

• Motion to adopt the RRSEC Annual policies as presented on the agenda was made by Nathan Neuhart, seconded by Josh Smith. Upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Randy Christensen, Josh Smith, Deb Hallin, Nathan Neuhart, and Mike Thompson. Action: carried.

There being no further business to discuss, moved by Nathan Neuhart, seconded by Deb Hallin, to adjourn. Upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: Josh Smith, Deb Hallin, Nathan Neuhart, Mike Thompson, and Randy Christensen. Action: carried. The meeting adjourned at 4:48 p.m.

Minutes by Tanya Tacker  
Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on Feb. 2, 2023

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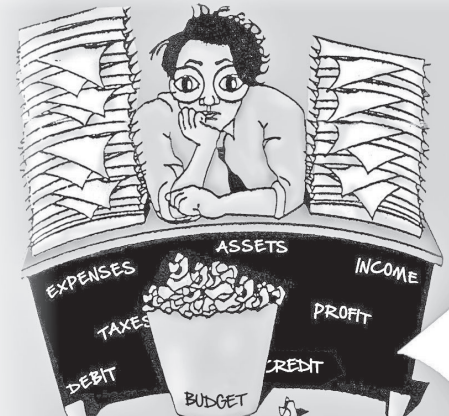
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**23  
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**102  
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**301  
Farm Misc**

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**301  
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**For Sale:** 2840 John Deere loader. Good condition. \$12,500. 320-360-2881.

**305  
Pets/Services**

**Adorable female** purebred Pomeranian puppies. \$275.00 Call 320-982-0097

**Free Kittens:** 1 Calico, 1 black. 7 weeks old on Feb. 5. Litter-box trained. 320-272-0005.

**351  
Antiques**

**Antiques wanted:** I buy antiques. Anything nice. Call and tell me what you have. Gary; 320-679-2535 or 651-238-0909, cell. Mora.

**355  
Furniture**

**For Sale: Reconditioned** washers, dryers, ranges, refrigerators. Rick's Home Furnishings 320-679-4047.

**358  
Firewood**

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**362  
Miscellaneous**

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**506  
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- Graduate from accredited MLT (CLT) or MT (CLS) program, or equivalent education and training, with certification as an MLT/CLT or MLS/MT.
- New graduates must pass national certification exam (ASCP BOR) within 6 months of employment.

[weliahealth.org/join-our-team/](http://weliahealth.org/join-our-team/)



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**Nursing jobs available - FT, PT, and casual positions.**

**Join the Welia Health family, where our patients are extended family.**

Where you can:

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- Imaging Tech
- Pharm Tech
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- Clinic LPN/CMA/RN
- Hospital RN
- Coding Specialist-Inpatient
- Patient Service Specialist
- Emergency Department Unit Coordinator/Registration Associate
- Janitor
- IT Director
- Certified Athletic Trainer
- Certified Sterile Processor
- Certified Surgical Technologist
- Dietary Aide/Cashier
- Environmental Services Tech
- Occupational Therapist
- Physical Therapist
- Speech/Language Pathologist
- Perioperative RN



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**Are you passionate about cleaning and want to be part of a healthcare team? If so, Welia Health is looking for new team members.**

The expertise of our Environmental Services and Janitorial Staff are essential and valued members to the Welia Health care team. Job duties include using the correct procedures to maintain clean and sanitary surfaces, removing and cleaning messes and spills, restocking supplies, resetting patient rooms. Environmental Services and janitorial staff must be comfortable in the hospital and clinic settings including cleaning occupied patient rooms. Assignments will include patient rooms, procedure and operating rooms, restrooms, hallways, lobby, and visitor areas. We offer a competitive pay and benefit package.

Welia Health is an equal opportunity provider.  
[Weliahealth.org/join-our-team/](http://Weliahealth.org/join-our-team/)

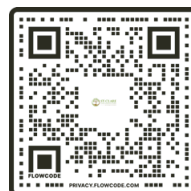


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12 months, 40 hours per week, with benefits. \$15.67 to \$17.77 per hour plus \$0.55 per hour shift differential. High school diploma, or equivalent, and current driver's license required; must be able to lift 50 lbs.

Apply online at [www.isd138.org](http://www.isd138.org) under ABOUT - Employment - View Our Open Positions - Maintenance/Custodial.

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Part-Time, 40 hours bi-weekly

Looking to start a career in nutrition? Already have some customer service experience? If so Welia Health is looking for a new team member in nutritional services.

**The Dietary Aide/Cashier assists customers at the serving line and at the cash register.**

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We offer a competitive pay and benefit package.  
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**Contract Writer wanted for our Source community guide.**

We are looking for a writer who will update the information from our previous Source Community Guide and work with the editor and publisher to write additional stories/information for this year's guide.

You will be given a deadline for turning in copy and can work on your own time to complete. If interested, please contact Jeff Andres, Publisher at 651-407-1258 or email [jeff@northstarmedia.net](mailto:jeff@northstarmedia.net)



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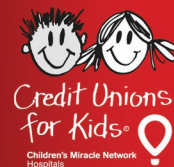
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Looking for a place you can call "home?" Contact me and let's get started on your search!



Meghan Rudnitski  
(612) 703-6444

Teamrudnitski.com

Meghan.teamrudnitski@gmail.com

