



NEW BEGINNINGS: Fall sports teams return to a (hopefully) normal season. **PAGES 17 - 23**



BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR

Carbing up for a long run

New teachers to all of the schools within Isanti County were treated to a delicious lasagna lunch, courtesy of the Rotary Club of Cambridge and Isanti, and North 65 Chamber of Commerce, during the 23rd Annual New Teacher Luncheon held at the Cambridge Library. Besides the meal, each teacher was introduced and they were given a gift bag with various items from local businesses. See pages 14 and 15 for photos of the new teachers from Cambridge-Isanti and North Branch Area Schools.

Indoor playground set to open in Isanti

BY LORI ZABEL
NEWS@COUNTYSTAR.COM

Start with a foundation of experience, erect some sturdy walls of skill and passion, throw in a couple kids, sprinkle with dreams, and you've got – My Jungle Gym!

Isanti resident Scott Boecker will throw open the doors to his dream project on Friday, Sept. 10 – a 6,000-square-foot children's fitness and play center at 16 Main Street West, in Isanti. The project is a culmination of two years' planning and draws from all areas of Boecker's life experience.

Originally from the Twin Cities, he began coming up to Isanti years ago for the BMX track. He has raced since he was nine years old and currently coaches there, including his daughters Meila, 10, and Taya, 13.

"I've been in this area as a BMXer and gotten to know some of the people in the community," Boecker said. "There's not a whole lot of things for kids to do in this community. I thought, 'Wow, this would be a great place to



LORI ZABEL | COUNTY STAR

Meila Boecker demonstrates one of the climbing walls at My Jungle Gym.

open a kids' fitness center."

His interest in fitness began around age 15 with body-building, earning him the titles of Mr. Minnesota in the teenage division and again later as an adult. He owned a fitness club for 15 years and has always had a passion to teach others how to get healthy and stay strong.

SEE **PLAYGROUND**, PAGE 2

North Branch honored for COVID-19 response

CONTRIBUTED
LEAGUE OF MN CITIES

The city of North Branch is the winner of the 2021 City of Excellence Award in this year's COVID-19 Response topical category for their work bringing high-speed internet service to the community.

The City of Excellence Awards are given each year by the League of Minnesota Cities in three population categories and one topical category. The awards recognize cities for outstanding programs or projects. Each winning city will receive a plaque, a check for \$1,000, and recognition in League publications and promotional activities throughout the coming year.

Prior to the pandemic, North Branch's

city center had fast and reliable access to several high-speed fiber internet providers. However, 70 percent of North Branch's geography outside that core lacked basic cell service and were reliant on dial-up. It became clear when COVID-19 hit that high-speed internet access was a critical need of all residents for work, telemedicine, and distance learning.

As part of their COVID-19 response, the council and staff configured a public-private partnership that would quickly and efficiently establish high-speed internet service for all residents. A draft plan that had been developed three years prior was quickly updated for today's technology and

SEE **AWARD**, PAGE 8



BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR

The North Branch City Council was presented with their 2021 City of Excellence Award by representatives of the League of Minnesota Cities during their Aug. 24 council meeting.

Featured Listings at CENTURY 21 Moline Realty

<p>NEW LISTING!</p> <p>2742 310th Ave, Brook Park Country living on 7 beautiful acres! 2BR w/possible 3rd on Main level. Nice woodwork throughout. Formal DR, country kit. New wood stove, newer furnace, water heater & pressure tank. 48 x 26 pole bldg/garage.</p> <p>\$192,000</p>	<p>NEW LISTING!</p> <p>31478 Jackson Rd NE, Cambridge Unique 4BR, 3BA on 50 acres w/loads of character & modern updates throughout! MF mstr suite, MF laundry, remodeled kitchen, stone FP, 40x70 pole bldg. Too many features to list! Call for a showing!</p> <p>\$579,000</p>	<p>NEW LISTING!</p> <p>343 Birch St. S, Cambridge Great location! This 3BR, 2BA home is full of character w/original hardwood floors, trim, & a beautiful built-in hutch. Bright kitchen & lg dining room. Priced to sell! Call for a showing.</p> <p>\$242,700</p>	<p>NEW LISTING!</p> <p>1220 W 4th St, Rush City Excellent location just off I-35 across from Kwik Trip. Front lobby, 3 offices on MF w/additional work space & kitchen/break room in the back. 2 additional offices on the upper level. Large corner lot!</p> <p>\$180,000</p>	<p>NEW LISTING!</p> <p>XXX Oakwood Ln, Pine City Come & enjoy 2.3 peaceful acres w/access to the Snake River! Mix of wooded & open spaces. Electric on the property so you can hook up your camper. Located between 135 & Hwy 65 just 10 minutes to Pine City.</p> <p>\$56,000</p>
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PLAYGROUND: New business to offer private parties, organized fitness classes

FROM PAGE 1

"I'm really interested in kids' fitness," he said, "because, with all the technology, I want to get kids active and get off the electronics as much as possible and be active and be kids."

And the final piece Boecker brings is his full-time job: he's a police officer in the city of Wyoming, with experience in community policing at events like bike rodeos and National Night Out.

"As a police officer, I enjoy working with the kids and the community," he said. "That's why I'm building this business – it's what I like to do."

EQUIPMENT FOR EVERYONE

The main attraction of My Jungle Gym is a brand new, eight-apparatus obstacle course – think American Ninja Warrior – that weighs about 4,000 pounds and cost \$60,000.

"I had to bring it in from a semi," Boecker said. "Each one of these beams is about 100 pounds, and I had to put them all together like a jigsaw puzzle."

The course will feature horizontal ladders, rings, cargo net, swing circles and more, with large padded blocks to cushion falling children.

There will be 6-foot and 11-foot warped walls for future ninjas to scale, plus a rock wall for climbing. The toddler room includes a large wooden and plastic play structure and a couple smaller play pieces.

He chose the features based on what his two girls have enjoyed at similar play spaces.

"When we went to a place that had the obstacle course like this, the kids really loved it," Boecker said. "It was a good workout. So you're having fun, you're getting stronger, and you're getting in better shape."

BIRTHDAY PARTIES WELCOME

While it's fitness up front, it's party in the back where Boecker has a large open space to host birthday parties. Kids will enjoy some time on the obstacle course, then adjourn to the back room for food and music from the DJ set-up complete with disco lights.

"As a parent, it's great," Boecker said. "You don't have to do anything – just pay the money. Kids show up and people take care of it and clean up afterwards, and you don't have to do anything. Our birthday parties are one of the key things I want to do."

Information about parties can be found at www.myjunglegymmn.com, where families can even send out electronic invitations.

Boecker is hopeful the room can be

MY JUNGLE GYM

16 Main St. W, Isanti

Phone: 763-688-3982

Web: myjunglegymmn.com

Email: myjunglegym@outlook.com

Facebook: My Jungle Gym

used for other activities in the future like parent/child yoga classes or workshops on nutrition.

WORK AND PLAY

What exactly will a kid's workout look like?

Boecker's goal is to offer two-hour blocks of activity for groups of up to 15 kids, aged about 6 to 15.

"The first hour will be like fitness class," he said, with warm-ups, then instruction on going through the obstacle course intermingled with jumping jacks, push-ups or sit-ups, "and the second hour will be open play."

He'll also provide certain hours just for open play for all ages, including toddlers.

Costs will be in the range of about \$12 per child per day, with discounts of \$2 per additional child to a low of \$6. And – surprise! – parents are free.

"I want the parents to do stuff with their kids in here," Boecker said. "I want to promote child/parent togetherness. To be in here, you have to have your parent with you – you can't just get dropped off."

To further promote interaction between parents and kids, Boecker is adamant about promoting the gym as a "no cellphone zone."

"I don't want kids to be on their cellphones. I don't even want the parents to be on their phones," he said. "If you're on your phone, it's going to be because you're taking pictures of your kid. I don't want you surfing the internet. I want you to be interacting with your kid and having fun with them."

STARTING SLOW AND RAMPING UP

Even with Boecker's experience, skill, passions and dreams, it hasn't been easy to bring My Jungle Gym to its grand opening. He and his brother have done all the remodeling of the building since he bought it in June of 2020 – all while Boecker has worked full-time and been a single parent to his girls.

Plus he's one of the many business owners who can't find part-time staff



LORI ZABEL | COUNTY STAR

My Jungle Gym owner Scott Boecker said the inspiration for what types of equipment would be incorporated into the new business was what he saw his daughters Meila (left) and Taya (right) enjoyed playing on at a similar indoor playground.

right now, so he's facing working most shifts at the gym himself.

"I think for the first couple months we'll be open less hours," Boecker said. "I will be open like two hours in the morning, two hours in the afternoon, then two hours at night or something to start."

The best way to find out hours of operation is to check the Facebook page "My Jungle Gym," where Boecker will post weeks ahead what his hours will be. As he's able to hire employees, more open hours will be added.

With just days to go till the doors open, Boecker remembers checking out the space when it was a thrift store.

"I came in here three or four times throughout the two years," he said, "looking around and going home figuring out what I'm going to do and how I'm going to lay it out. It's been rewarding just taking the building, the vision, and making it happen."

GRAND OPENING AND OPEN HOUSE

My Jungle Gym's Grand Opening and Open House is scheduled for Friday, Sept. 10. There will be a ribbon cutting ceremony at 4 p.m., with the Open House to follow until 6 p.m.



LORI ZABEL | COUNTY STAR

Meila and Taya swing on some of the "Ninja Warrior" like equipment.

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A listing of all garage sales and a map will run in the Sept. 16 issue of the Isanti-Chisago County Star.

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TUES & WED

Vaccination clinics

Isanti County Public Health will be holding COVID-19 vaccination clinics at the Isanti County Government Center from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. throughout the month of Sept. All three vaccines will be available. Walk-ins are accepted, but preregistration at <https://prepmo.health.state.mn.us/appointment/en/clinic/search> or by calling 763-689-4071 is encouraged.

WEDNESDAYS

Viking Vittles

Viking Vittles will be available for pickup starting June 16 from 3:30 - 5:30 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church and Stacy Lions Park. Beginning June 23, they will also be available for pickup at North Branch Central Park. Call Donna at 612-363-5072 for more info.

Preschool Storytime - NB

The North Branch Library will be hosting a storytime for kids ages 3-5, with siblings also welcome, from 10:30 - 11 a.m. from Sept. 8 through Dec. 15. The event will feature “fun, singing songs, reading books, and learning.” Afterward, there will be time for crafts, activities, or play. No preregistration is required. Call 651-674-8443 for more information.

THURSDAYS

Braham Farmers Market

The Braham Farmers Market will be open each Thursday from 3-6 p.m. at the south end of the Frandsen Bank parking lot. New vendors are always welcome.

Connect for Well-Being

Family Pathways and Cambridge Medical Center is hosting a six-week series, with a variety of topics for living a healthy life. The series begins Sept. 2 and will run each Thursday through Oct. 7. Meetings will take place from 10 - 11 a.m. at the Cambridge Medical Center Education Building - Birch Room, 801 Dellwood Street South. To register or for more information, call Collette at 651-257-7905 or email collette@familypathways.org.

FRIDAYS

Isanti Farmers Market

The Isanti Farmers Market will be open each Friday from 2 - 6 p.m. at 400 West Dual Boulevard, Isanti.

SATURDAYS

Cambridge Farmers Market

The Cambridge Farmers Market, located in the City Center Market parking lot, is open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

North Branch Farmers Market

The North Branch Farmers Market will be open beginning July 10 and running through Oct. 30. The market will be located again at the Members Cooperative Credit Union and be open from 8 a.m. to noon.

SEPT. 8

Learn about recycling

Customers of Quality Disposal Services are invited to a free presentation on what the company is able to recycle, which differs from the previous hauler. The presentation will be held at 2 p.m. in the Library Room at the Braham Event Center. Refreshments will be served.

SEPT. 9

Concert Series

Common Ground United Methodist Church will be hosting their next concert series, featuring Kenny Krona, at North Folk Winery starting at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased at showtix4u.com.

Growing giant pumpkins

Isanti County Master Gardeners will be hosting a free virtual presentation via Zoom by Anoka Technical College Horticulture Professor Travis Gienger. The topic will be how Gieger grew his 2,350-pound pumpkin named “Tiger King,” which won the 2020 World Champion pumpkin weigh-off. Call 763-689-8254 for more information or to receive an access code for Zoom.

SEPT. 10

Curling Club fundraiser

Cambridge Curling Club will be hosting a “Raise the Roof” fundraising event from 5 - 9 p.m. at the Isanti County Fairgrounds. There will be a pasta bar served at 6 p.m., with a short video presentation at 7 p.m. The event will also feature a silent auction, games of chance, and a keg. Tickets are \$30 each or \$240 for a table. Reservations are being accepted by Aug. 27 at 763-286-9693 or willitsfam@gmail.com.

SEPT. 11

Isanti Street Dance

The final street dance of the summer will be held from 7 p.m. - 11 p.m. at the corner of 1st Ave and Main Street, Isanti, featuring the band Good for

Gary. Various food and drink trucks will be on site.

Ruby's Pop-Up Pantry - North Branch

Ruby's Pantry food distribution will be held 10-11:30 a.m. at Access Church, 4359 392nd St. North Branch. Registration starts at 9:30 a.m. For \$20 donation receive grocery items. Open to anyone; no income requirements. Bring own boxes. For info call (651) 260-8505 or visit www.rubyspantry.org. Distributions will be the second Saturday of the month at this location.

SEPT. 12

Oktoberfest

St. John's German Lutheran Church, 900 County Road 5 NW, will be hosting their annual OktoberFest, featuring brats, brews, entertainment, dancing, and more. The event will run from 4 - 8 p.m.

SEPT. 14

Curious Creatures

Isanti will be hosting their monthly kids outdoors educational event from 9 - 10 a.m. This month's theme is “Sunflowers,” and will be held at River Bluff Preserve. This event is free to all 2 - 5 year olds who reside in the City of Isanti. There is a \$2 charge for non-residents. Preregistration is required by emailing isantiiparks@cityofisanti.us or by calling 763-444-5512.

SEPT 16

Teen Book Club

The Cambridge Library will be hosting a book club from 5 - 6 p.m., with the featured book being “Five Flavors of Dumb” by Antony John. Copies of the book are available at the library. The meeting will be outside on the patio, weather permitting.

Book Club - Cambridge

The Cambridge Library will be hosting their monthly book club from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. This month's book is “The Twelve Tribes of Hattie” by Ayana Mathis. Copies of the book are available at the library. Required registration can be found at ecrlib.org and clicking on the events tab. In case of inclement weather, the meeting will be held via zoom. Call 763-689-7390 for more information.

Sidewalk chalk contest

The Sidewalk chalk contest, which was supposed to be held in conjunction with the Cambridge Arts Fair but was

canceled due to rain, has been rescheduled from 2 - 6 p.m. at the corner of Ashland and 2nd Ave SW.

SEPT. 17

Customer Appreciation

The 16th Cambridge Customer Appreciation will take place downtown Cambridge from 4 - 8 p.m. Free hot dog meals will be served, along with a two concert stages, a car show, kids games, and more.

Golf tournament fundraiser

Isanti County Beyond the Yellow Ribbon is hosting their 8th four-person scramble at The Purple Hawk. There will be putting and chipping contests from 11 - 11:45 a.m. The Presentation of Colors by Cambridge American Legion Post 290 at 11:45 a.m. Registration is \$75 per golfer (\$40 for any service members or veterans) and includes 18 holes of golf, a cart, a light supper, and drawings. To register or for more information, contact Gail Genin at gail.genin@yahoo.com or by calling 763-222-3826. Pre-registration deadline is Sept. 9.

SEPT. 18

Rocket launching

The Cambridge Public Library invites anyone 10-years-old and up to stop by the lawn on the Fern Street side of the building to learn how to build and launch a soda bottle rocket. This event will run from 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. Registration is required by going to ecrlib.org and clicking on the events tab.

Ruby's Pop-Up Pantry - Isanti

Ruby's Pantry food distribution will be held 9-11 a.m. at New Hope Church-Isanti, 114 Dahlin Ave, Isanti. Starting at 7:30 a.m., time tickets will be given out for when food can be collected. For \$20 donation receive grocery items. Open to anyone; no income requirements. No boxes required as distribution will be drive-thru only. For info call Joyce at (612) 760-4179 or Facebook at Ruby's Pantry Isanti MN.

Farm and Cidery Tour

Isanti County Master Gardeners is hosting a free tour of Sapsucker Farms, located near Mora, from 10:30 a.m. - noon. The tour will include a presentation by the farm's owners about growing organic food, tapping trees for maple syrup, and producing Yellow Belly hard apple cider. To register or for more information, call 763-689-8254.

SEPT. 20

Book Club - North Branch

The North Branch Library will be hosting their monthly book club meeting from 11 a.m. - noon. This month's book is “All American Boys” by Jason Reynolds and Brendan Kiely. Copies of the book are available at the library. Required registration is available at ecrlib.org and clicking on the events tab. Email nbmail@ecrlib.org or call 651-674-8443 for more information.

SEPT. 23

Senior Dining curbside distribution - Rush City

Catholic Charities will be holding a curbside frozen meal distribution from 10 - 11:30 a.m. at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 425 S. Frandsen Ave, Rush City. Participants must be 60 years of age or older to be eligible and complete an annual registration form. There is no cost. Meals are available in quantities of 10, up to 30 per calendar month. Visit ccstcloud.org/events for more information.

SEPT. 25

Fall Festival

North Branch Chamber of Commerce is hosting the return of the Fall Festival from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Central Park. Besides the vendors, there will be rides, food, a kids corner, scarecrow contest, plus more. Go to northbranchchamber.com for more information.

SEPT. 30

Senior Fair & Health Screening

North 65 Chamber of Commerce is hosting a Senior Fair & Health Screenings at Cambridge City Center Mall (adjacent to Cambridge City Hall) from 9 a.m. - noon. There will be vendor booths, senior resources, prize drawings and giveaways, plus coffee and meal options. This event is free to the public.

SEPT 30 - OCT 2

Book Sale

The Cambridge Friends of the Library will be holding their quarterly book sale in the Opportunity Room of the library. Hours are noon - 6 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 30, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 1, and 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 2. Proceeds will support future library programs.

Submit information for upcoming events to:

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OPINION

Vikings' most imposing foe may be injuries

Well, football season is once again upon us! As a die-hard Vikings fan, I've been anxiously awaiting this time of the year with a measure of optimism. I've already changed my ringtone to "Skol Vikings," and switched over to donning my Vikings-themed masks wherever they are required (it's sad that this is becoming part of yearly rituals).

Following the three preseason games, however, I will admit that there is a level of skepticism sprinkled into that optimism. While it certainly looks like we have shored up much of the defensive issues we experienced last season, there are still some concerns, especially when it comes to the offense and the team's depth.

We still possess some of the best talent in the NFL at skill positions (running back and wide receiver). And unlike many, I've always been a supporter of our quarterback, Kirk Cousins. However, at the moment I am concerned about how this talent will be utilized. New offensive coordinator Klint Kubiak certainly comes from a great coaching lineage, but so far it seems like he's going through on-the-job training. Midway through their preseason, they were still trying to figure out if Kubiak should be calling plays from the sideline or up in the coaches booth.

And while the entire first-team offense hasn't collectively played a down together, the plays that Kubiak has called have been very bland, resulting in the team not scoring an offensive touchdown until late in the final preseason game. I can only hope he's been holding out on displaying his full offensive schemes until the regular season.

More concerning, though, is our team depth. We've already seen the team's limited options should the injury bug or COVID rears its ugly head (again, it's sad that is even an issue again this year). First-round draft pick, offensive tackle Christian Darrisaw hasn't seen any action due to injury, which has revealed the all-too-familiar cracks in the offensive line. Tight end Irv Smith Jr. will now miss several games, leaving us with only one player at that position who has caught a touchdown pass in an NFL regular season game. Linebacker Anthony Barr also remains questionable for the season opener.

Highest on that concern list is at quarterback. Cousins has proved himself to be extremely resilient, as he has yet to miss a regular season game with the Vikings due to injury. But with the exception of Tom Brady or Russel Wilson, current quarterbacks just seem to be prone to getting injured at some point in time. If that should happen (knock on wood it doesn't), our current backup is rookie Kellen Mond, who has only made headlines for contracting breakthrough COVID.

I am writing this column on Tuesday morning, and between when it was written and when it will be published, all NFL teams will have reduced their rosters to 53 players. Here's hoping the Vikings have managed to find some depth at these key positions via the waiver wire. If not, there are going to be many, many Vikings fans who will need to do some heavy praying that certain players remain healthy for the entire season.

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.



Worth a Thousand Words

Bill Stickels III



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A comment from a 'squeaky wheel'

To the editor,

I have read the Aug. 19 issue of the *Isanti-Chisago County Star* and was interested in the on-going conversation about handicapped parking at the Cambridge Library. According to one council member I'm one of those "squeaky wheels" he mentioned at the Aug. 16 council meeting. That comment doesn't sit too well with me.

The question my original letter asked was why the present design was approved. Now doesn't seem the time for a costly, needed correction.

The council member stated "We did what was needed to be 100% ADA compliant." Wouldn't it also have been compliant if the parking area and the grass on the west side of the building had been

switched around so parking access to the library would have been easier, closer and safer for everyone?

I'm not acquainted with the council member that made that "squeaky wheel" statement, but I do question his opinion on this matter. Hopefully neither he nor any of his family, loved ones or friends will be told that if something is compliant it's "good enough."

My hope is that there may someday be an area where people can at least be dropped off near the east or west library entrance.

Chris Hanson
Cambridge

SEE MORE LETTERS TO THE EDITOR, PAGE 5

LETTER GUIDELINES

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

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

GUIDELINES FOR ALL SUBMISSIONS

- Letters must be submitted by 5 p.m. Mondays to editor@countystar.com or via mail to 930 S. Cleveland St., Cambridge MN 55008
- Letters to the editor must be 400 words or less.
- Each letter writer may have one letter

published every 30 days, or four print cycles (exceptions made for rebuttals).

- Anonymous letters will not be published. Letter signatures must include the writer's first and last name, community of residence and phone number. Phone numbers will not be published.
- Only letters originating from writers who live, work or have some other relevance to the *Star* circulation area will be published.
- An identification line may be added to the writer's letter identifying his or her occupation or title as it applies to the topic of the letter.
- Special rules apply during election season.

PAID ENDORSEMENT POLICY

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

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

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

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

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

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Excited to be moving forward together

Staff are back in the building this week and preparing to welcome students and families to the start of the 2021-22 school year!



NB School News
Sara Paul

North Branch Area Public Schools will begin the year at a Level 1 on the school district's Safe Learning Continuum, which means students will attend school five days a week on a traditional schedule. We are committed to providing a five-day in-school option because we know kids need to be in school to excel!

Unlike so many school districts across the country, NBAPS has a year of experience at keeping kids in school and managing the pandemic. Providing in-person instruction was a point of pride for our community last year. School districts from across the country have reached out and we have been happy to share our work with them in hopes that more students will have the opportunity to be in school.

We have been vigilant to collect local data to inform our decision making. Last year, providing the opportunity to be in school came with required protocols and mandates. For example, students that were identified as close contacts were required to quarantine. When reflecting on that

mitigation strategy, our data showed that students identified as close contacts missed over 10,000 days of school which impacted learning! Furthermore, our data showed that less than one percent of students identified as "close contacts" tested positive.

This year, Minnesota school districts have been given guidance and the authority to make local decisions. We are working in consultation with local and regional public health officials to monitor COVID variants. Our summer programming data from operating at a Level One compels us to do all we can to keep kids in school. We are implementing a layered approach to COVID mitigation, and as COVID cases increase in our schools, mitigation strategies will increase, and we will move to higher levels on our Safe Learning Continuum.

NBAPS will continue to offer the Distance Learning Academy for any family with concerns about in-person education. The Distance Learning Academy will continue to provide a quality option for families as we seek to serve all of our families to the very best of our ability.

I am so thankful for our dedicated staff! The love for our students and the love for learning can be felt each and every day in our schools. I am energized and excited to move forward together!

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

Cambridge Memory Cafe set to reopen

To 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 highlight the opening of the Cambridge Memory Café!

The Cambridge Act Memory Café is a place where people experiencing memory loss and their care partners can get together with other people who are on the same path in a supportive and engaging environment. The Memory Café encourages laughter, support, and sharing concerns



Cambridge ACT on Alzheimer's Survey Team

without feeling judged, embarrassed, or misunderstood. It gives people with the disease an opportunity to get out of their homes and spend time sharing a positive experience with their care partners. You can look forward to a warm and inviting atmosphere. You will have a wonderful time.

The Café will meet the first Tuesday of each month. Please note, we are meeting at a new location. The Café will begin meeting Tuesday, Oct. 5 at 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. We will meet at Grace-Pointe Heritage Center. The address is 322 River Hills Place North, Cambridge 55008. We look forward to seeing you!

For more information about the Memory Café, contact Julie Tooker at 763-306-5066 or jaeftooker@aol.com.

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.

Preschool storytime at North Branch library continues into fall

CONTRIBUTED
EAST CENTRAL REGIONAL LIBRARIES

Children and their families are invited to Preschool Storytime on Wednesdays from 10:30-11 a.m., starting Sept. 8 at the North Branch Area Library. Have fun, sing songs, read books, and learn with the librarian, Miss Amelia. Afterward, there will be time for crafts, activities, or play.

This program is recommended for ages 3-5, and siblings are always welcome. No registration necessary. Storytime will be held in the Community Room.

North Branch Area Library, a branch of East Central Regional Library, is located at 6355 379th St., North Branch, and can be reached at 651-674-8443. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram: @eclrlmn.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

From 'America first' to 'America worst'

To the editor,

Once upon a time we had a real strong Commander in Chief whom put America first and would defend our country with force. What's happening in Afghanistan now would have never happened under Mr. Trump. His message to the Taliban was very clear, if one of our service members is hurt there will be very serious consequences. After President Trump's message, not one of our soldiers were injured.

Now that we have a coward in charge look what has transpired: as of 3:30 p.m. 8-26-2021, 13 soldiers are killed and 15 seriously injured. Back in April Joe Biden, whom I will not call a president, clearly stated there was no threat to the US. Then August 20, Biden states that he made it clear to the Taliban, any attack on our forces or disruptions will be met with swift and forceful response. When the Taliban seized Kabul and founded the Islamic Emirates of Afghanistan while our so called leader was vacationing and acted like he did not see this coming?

Then addresses our nation and starts off with his \$3 trillion build back America's welfare program giveaways. And as an afterthought addresses the true crisis on every American's mind in a disconnected and seemingly uncompassionate manner - reading the teleprompter and turning away from the hard questions. This administration Biden, Harris, Kirby, Blinkin, Austin and Psaki in my opinion could not run a radio flyer red wagon assembly line. This administration is an American embarrassment. Many Democratic supporters such as Joe Scarborough and Geraldo Rivera (both were staunch Democrat supporters) are just ripping into Biden. Joe Scarborough states Democrats cannot protect us in our cities, at the border or across the world. The border crisis is another catastrophe thanks to Biden/Harris. ICE agent Thomas Feeley resigns after Biden's border policies threaten our national security, Google his comments.

We have taken several steps backwards with this incompetent, dysfunctional leadership including Pelosi who has a huge fund raiser (\$30,000/plate) in the midst of the Afghanistan debacle where no one has a mask on while she demands all of Congress to wear masks. Lastly, this administration trusted the Taliban in which is a terrorist group, letting Isis criminals out of prison before the evacuation of Americans. Stranded Americans screaming to be helped out of Afghanistan, Biden has no answer for them. Why did he pull out the troops from the airbase in Bagram? Our hearts grieve for the loss of lives of our serviceman, for their families, and for those Americans in

Afghanistan who remain in grave danger because of the Biden Administration

Jerry Grell
Cambridge

Who really is running our country?

To the editor,

Progressive Democrats are continuing to deceive we, the people. So who is really running our country? During the 2020 Presidential election campaign, Democratic candidate Joe Biden had many cognitive issues. He didn't know who he was talking to, didn't know where he was, and didn't even know what office he was running for (he thought he was running for senate). And he was the Democratic candidate for the highest office in our country - the most important and stressful job of any country. What's that all about?

It seems like a sinister, deceitful plot to gain the presidency. Biden, they thought, was the most benign candidate, not a socialist and not too extreme. Once Biden was elected, they could eventually eliminate him as President using the 25th Amendment - but at least they would have gained control of the country. Democrats crave ultimate power and will do anything to get it.

So who is really running our country? A few times in his speeches Biden has said, "I hope saying this doesn't get me in trouble." It's obvious he is just reading words that someone else has given him. In our democracy where we elect our leaders, someone is making decisions and leading our country that we, the people, have not elected. That should scare us all. Talking with our enemies (russia, China, Iran, North Korea), making decisions in Afghanistan, running our military, making economic decisions - running our country, safeguarding our borders... we don't know where these decisions come from, and we should.

So when media says, "Joe Biden says..." or "Why is Biden doing this?" He is just reading a script, and his words have nothing to do with his decision-making. This should cause all of us to be concerned.

David E. Johnson
Cambridge

Commissioners' action takes away voters' voice

To the editor,

The Commissioners' vote on June16, 2021, to make the Auditor/Treasurer an appointed position was unwarranted due to NO issue exists to resolve and a contract wasn't signed on March 25, 2021. They

willfully infringed upon residents' RIGHT OF VOICE, CHOICE, VOTE, and ignored vast opposition. Only Commissioner Warring voted in opposition. Voters elected them into office, entrusted them to run the county efficiently, and within budget. NOT TO INFRINGE ON VOTERS' RIGHTS! It appears trusting these commissioners was a mistake!

Auditor/Treasurer Struss' plan is to remain in office to retirement. We are lucky to have him based on his work ethic and his efficient job of running the office and the county's elections! I support the job he is doing and so should the residents of Isanti County.

Commissioners' OPTIONS in accordance with state Bills SF1731 and HF 968 changed Statute 375A.1205 Subdivision 1 (APPOINTING COUNTY OFFICERS) which states: A COUNTY BOARD SHALL ONLY USE AUTHORITY TO APPOINT UNDER THE FOLLOWING CIRCUMSTANCES. OPTION:(3) There is a signed contract with County Board and Incumbent Auditor/Treasurer that provides the incumbent officer will be appointed to position, retain tenure, pay, and benefits, equal to or greater than length of service. Webster's legal definition of SHALL: WORD COMMAND which has always, or has been a compulsory meaning; as denoting obligation. It has peremptory meaning and it is imperative or mandatory. A signed contract must exist before Public Notice was put in paper.

On April 17 I asked Mr. Struss if he had signed contract/agreement. He responded back on April 19 "I have not signed an agreement or formally agreed to appointment. The county board needs to determine the county's organizational structure before I can make a decision." During the July 7 meeting, Chairwoman Morris said they had an agreement but didn't acknowledge it was signed on June 16. The meeting audio of June 7 and June 16 is on the Isanti County website.

The Commissioners, now BOSS over this office, have degraded the integrity of our elections and the basic foundation of our democracy in place for 240+ years which many of us have served to preserve. This matters because from city to federal government bit by bit our elected representatives are taking our VOICE AWAY! If we don't act our DEMOCRACY WILL CEASE TO EXIST!

In 2024 a Petition with 10% of voters filed will rescind the Commissioners actions. Question: Do you want Auditor/Treasurer an elected position? (YES) or (NO) will be on a ballot.

Donald Mullins
Cambridge

MILESTONES

OBITUARIES

Jean M. Edstrom

Jean Maxine (Jadlowski, Oelrich) Edstrom, of Cambridge, went to be with her Heavenly Father on Aug. 23, 2021. She was 88 years old.

She was born June 19, 1933, to Clarence and Ethel (Augustine) Jadlowski in Beltrami County, MN.

Jean graduated from Bemidji High School. She married Archie Oelrich and had five children. After living in several places, they finally settled on a farm in rural Isanti. Archie passed away in 1972. Jean met John Edstrom (of North Branch, MN) and they were married Oct. 2, 1982, at 2 p.m. Together they built a home in Springdale township where they enjoyed watching the deer, pheasants and birds, and spending time with family and friends. Her most important relationship was with Jesus. Her greatest desire was that all of her family and friends would go to heaven when they died.

She is survived by her loving husband John, children, Debra (David) Soderman, Lance (Chris) Oelrich, Duane (Kathy) Oelrich, Dale (Brenda) Oelrich, Darrel (Deb) Oelrich; sister Sandy Wrolstad, 16 grandchildren, 25 great grandchildren and one great great grandchild.

A private graveside service will be held with a Celebration of Life at a later date. Online condolences can be made at [StrikeLifeTributes.com](https://www.strikelifetributes.com).



Thomas P. Coleman

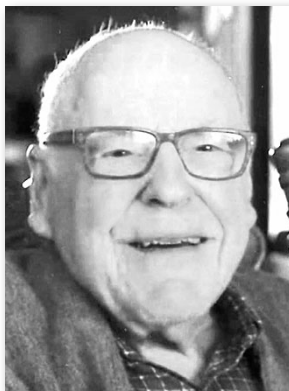
Dr. Thomas Paul Coleman, 98, of Cambridge passed away peacefully on Wednesday, Oct. 21, 2020, at Ecumen in North Branch.

He now celebrates his new life in Heaven with his parents, William and Christine Coleman; his son Eric; his son-in-law John Peterson; his brothers James and Donald, and his sisters Jane Jensen and Marian Anderson.

Tom leaves behind his wife of nearly 66 years, Elaine of Ecumen North Branch; his children, Judy Peterson of Cambridge, Minnesota, and Bill (Susan Mazze) of Redondo Beach, California; six grandchildren and one step-granddaughter; and five great-grandchildren.

He is also survived by his sister Arlene Coleman of Yucaipa, California, as well as many nieces, nephews, and other relatives and friends.

A Memorial Service will be held at 2 p.m., Friday, Sept. 10, 2021, at First Baptist Church in Cambridge. Visitation will be one hour prior to the service. The service will be live streamed on First Baptist Church and Carlson-Lillemoen Funeral Home Facebook pages. Condolences at www.carlsonlillemoen.com. Arrangements by Carlson-Lillemoen Funeral Home and Cremation Services of Cambridge.



Frank W. Snider

Frank Snider, died Aug. 10, 2021, at the Elim Home in Princeton. He was 81 years old.

Frank was preceded in death by his parents, Forrest and Mamie (Seward) and sisters, Betty Snider and Dorothy Cooper. He is survived by his wife, Mary Jane; his children, Jodi (Otto Christianson), Floyd, Jane (Steve Groven) and Franklin; step-children, Sherry (Cathleen), Brad (Mary Lou), Steven, Tammy (Eric Johnson) and Tyler (April); brother, John Snider; sister, Geneva Snider; and five grandchildren.

A Celebration of Life will be held Sunday, Sept. 19 from 1 - 5 p.m., at the Mille Lacs County Historical Society, 101 10th Ave S, Princeton, MN. Online condolences can be placed at [StrikeLifeTributes.com](https://www.strikelifetributes.com).



Kathleen J. Otto

Kathleen Otto, of North Branch died at her home surrounded by her loving family on Aug. 25, 2021. She was 77 years old.

Kathleen Joyce Otto was born Dec. 20, 1943, in Virginia, Minnesota to Stanley and Joyce (Olson) Petroskey. She was raised in Eveleth, Minnesota and graduated from Eveleth High School. Kathleen married Richard Otto on Feb. 23, 1963, in Millerville, Minnesota. They lived in Douglas County and dairy farmed for several years. In 1986 they moved to the Cambridge area and in 2015 they moved to the North Branch area.

Kathleen was very active in Women's Ministries in various capacities. She was an active member of Grace Gospel Church in Isanti. Kathleen's hobbies and interests included being an impeccable quilter, an extraordinary crafter, enjoyed interior decorating, and hosting guests in her home. She was very artistic.

She is survived by her husband, Richard; six children, Jackie (Bryan) Lutz, Annette (Jeff) Hoch, Steve (Kriston) Otto, Kristie (Shannon) Boettcher, Lynnae (Craig) Meuer, Rachel (Chris) VanAnda; 22 grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; two siblings, Karla Chopp, Stanley "Butch" (Toni) Petroskey; and by many other relatives and friends.

A Celebration of Life will be held 11 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 4 at New Hope Community Church-Cambridge Campus. A time for visiting will be held one hour prior to the service at the church. Online condolences can be placed at [StrikeLifeTributes.com](https://www.strikelifetributes.com).



Roseanne K. Beck

Roseanne "Rose" Beck, of North Branch, died August 29, 2021 at Regions Hospital in St. Paul, MN, due to Covid-19. She was 33 years old.

Roseanne Kay Beck was born April 1, 1988, in South St. Paul, MN, to Laureen (Fogel) and Frank Williams. She attended primary school in Isanti and graduated from Cambridge-Isanti High School in 2006. She continued her education at Pine Technical College where she received her A.A.S and later worked for Family Services in Chisago County.

Rose married Joshua Beck on Sept. 25, 2010, and they made their home in North Branch. On July 9, 2013, they welcomed a son, William, and Rose thought



the world of her little boy.

She loved anything outdoors including fishing, hunting, and camping. She was born with a green thumb and became an avid gardener. She enjoyed watching her flowers grow and bloom as well as teach others around her about gardening. Rose was a very skilled makeup enthusiast. She loved teaching others skills and trends and taking her nieces shopping. Rose knew how to light up a room with her green eyes, smile, and bubbly personality. She had the best Minnesotan accent that made everyone around her laugh. Rose was also an animal lover and especially cared for her cat, "Dukey." She was a generous loving mother, wife, daughter, sister, friend and great contributor to our community. Rosie will be lovingly remembered and dearly missed by all who knew her.

She was preceded in death by her grandfather, Walter Dunham.

Roseanne is survived by her husband, Josh; son, Will; mother, Laureen (Ken) Simons; father, Frank (Kim) Williams; sisters, Tamara Kelly, and Teresa (Jim) Cwik; brother, Daniel (Kelsey) Williams; grandparents, Dr. Duane (Marilyn) Fogel, and Brunhild Dunham; and by many other relatives and friends.

A visitation will be held from 4 - 8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 10 at Strike Life Tributes in Cambridge. Funeral services at 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 11 at Cross Pointe Church, 34047 Blackfoot St NW, Cambridge, with a visitation also one hour prior to the service at the church. Interment Isanti Union Cemetery. Online condolences can be made at [StrikeLifeTributes.com](https://www.strikelifetributes.com).

Helen M. Johnson

Helen M. Johnson died on Thursday morning, Aug. 19, 2021, at the age of 97 years, at Elmhurst Commons, her home in Braham, Minnesota.

Helen was born to Albert and Elizabeth (Rosell) Nelson in Rush City, one of two daughters and five sons, all of whom preceded her in death. Her half sister, and three half brothers, also preceded her in death.

Following high school graduation, Helen attended Minneapolis Business College, and subsequently worked at PICK Electric in Braham, the first electric cooperative in Minnesota. Her initial role at PICK Electric was to accompany Russell Hegstrom, recruiting farmers to join the

electric cooperative. Subsequently, Helen worked as the secretary to the General Manager, Beauford Johnson.

Helen married Beauford Johnson on June 26, 1944. They had four children: Marlene Johnson, B. Wayne Johnson, Marlys Johnson and Warren E. Johnson. Beauford died in 1970.

Helen was active in her community, serving in various leadership roles at the Evangelical Covenant Church of Braham, on the board of the Christian Women's program, a founding board of the Isanti Country Historical Society and in leadership roles for the Braham Community Food Shelf. She served on the Board of Directors of East Central Electric Association from 1989-1995, one of the first two women elected- with Gladys Brynaldson - to that board.

In the 1962-63 school year, the Johnson family hosted Braham's third AFS exchange student, New Zealander, Graham Collins. The family has remained close to him all these years, reinforced by Helen's trip to New Zealand in 1973, and Graham's several visits to Minnesota.

In the early 1970's, Helen actively managed the family tree farm, overseeing short term workers for summer tree trimming and fall tree cutting for holiday Christmas tree sales. During this period she also worked at Face to Face Health and Counseling Center in St. Paul and as the bookkeeper at Split Infinitive Advertising and Public Relations. In the 1980's, Helen and Phyllis Londgren established PEP Services (Professional, Efficient & Prompt) in Braham, providing office services to individuals and businesses in the Braham area.

Helen is survived by her children, Marlene Johnson, B. Wayne Johnson (Anna), Marlys Johnson (Robert Nesheim) and Warren E Johnson; step daughter Rosalind Anderson; nine grandchildren; nine great grandchildren; sister-in-law, Ruthie Nelson (Clarence); brother-in-law James Gerdin (Dorothy); and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

A Memorial Service was held at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 31, 2021, at the Braham Ev. Lutheran Church with Pastor Julie Beck officiating. Inurnment was in the Rice Lake Cemetery in Braham. In lieu of flowers, memorials are encouraged to the Helen M Johnson Scholarship Fund, (St Paul Foundation, 101 Fifth Street East, Suite 2400, St. Paul, MN 55101). Arrangements were by the Rock Ingebrand Funeral Home of Braham. Condolences may be posted at www.aifuneralhome.com.



BIRTHS

Nolan John McCallum

Nolan was born on Aug. 26, 2021, and weighed 6 pounds 0 ounces. Parents are Edward and Sandra McCallum of Cambridge. Grandparents are Anna May McCallum of Braham, and Pam and Terry O'Keefe of Oak Grove.

Rosie Beth Markusson

Rosie was born on Aug. 29, 2021, and weighed 7 pounds 1 ounce. Parents are Kayla and Zachary Markusson of North Branch. Grandparents are Linda Markusson of North Branch, Larra Ponce of Wyoming, and Ron Markusson of Rush City.

Send your business news, accomplishments and awards to editor@countystar.com.

OBITUARIES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

Mary J. Hockert

Mary Jeannette Hockert, of Cambridge, passed away peacefully at her home on July 7, 2021. She was 95 years old.

Mary was born on Feb. 3, 1926, in Browns Valley, MN to Walter and Rose Piechowski. She married James Joseph Hockert on Nov. 28, 1946. After retiring from Medtronic, Mary and James traveled the United States and Europe before finally settling in Florence Gardens, AZ and Garrison, MN. Mary's final move was to Cambridge in 2009.



She loved to play golf and listen to music. But most importantly, she loved spending time with her family and her many friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents; Walter and Rose; husband of 70 years, James; daughter Rosemarie and sons James and Thomas, three brothers and two sisters.

Mary is survived by her daughters Mary Jo Elliott, Claudette Christensen and Annette Brown; sons Mike and Nick and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Memorial Mass of Christian Burial 11 a.m., Saturday Sept. 11, 2021, at Christ the King Catholic Church, 230 Fern St. N. Cambridge. Friends may gather one hour prior to Mass at the church. Private interment at Judy Kay Memorial Garden. Condolences at www.carlsonlillemoen.com. Arrangements by Carlson-Lillemoen Funeral Home and Cremation Services of Cambridge.

Duane L. Peterson

Duane "Duke" L. Peterson passed away on Monday, July 19, 2021, at GracePointe Crossing surrounded by family. He was 96 years old.

Duke was preceded in death by his parents John and Myrtle (Anderson) Peterson; wife Corneil "Corky"; brothers, Myrlin and Dale; and sisters, Virginia and Janet.

He is survived by his children, Sharon (Tom) Lynch of Mora, Greg Massey of Columbia Heights, Chris (Bill) Dahlquist of Cambridge, Nicole (Tim) Laman of Stanchfield, and Rachel Peterson of Grasston; 14 grandchildren, Mari (Peter)Perugini, Frances (Mike) Steckelberg, John (Loretta) Steckelberg, Tonya (John) Wannarka, Amanda (Keith) Tweeter, Jessica (Nate)Kaczynski, Han-na (Mike) Massey, Erica Gerrity, Mary (David) Dahlquist-Acosta, Lukas Hanson, Marcus (Rachel) Dahlquist, Amelia and Kevin Laman, Nicholas Peterson; 15 great grandchildren; brothers, Myron and Frank; sisters, Betty (passed away 7/27/21), Joanne, Delyte and Ione; many nieces, nephews , other relatives and friends.

A Memorial Service will be held at 1 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 12, 2021, at the Siloa Lutheran Church with Pastor Mary Fiel officiating. The service will be live streamed to the funeral homes Facebook page. Memorial visitation will be held two hours prior to the service at the church. Inurnment will be in the Siloa Lutheran Cemetery.

If you wish to send flowers, please order them through Cheri's Flower Basket in Sandstone (320-245-2243 or www.cherisflowerbasket.com) as this is where Duke's daughter Rachel works. Arrangements are by the Rock Ingebrand Funeral Home of Braham. Condolences may be posted at www.aifuneralhome.com.



BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR

Ziebarth recognized during New Teachers Luncheon

Roger Anderson of the Rotary Club of Cambridge and Isanti presents Isanti Intermediate School Principal and Cambridge City Council Member Mark Ziebarth with the Vocational Service Award, which is presented annually at the New Teachers Luncheon to a member of the Rotary who have made a significant impact in advancing vocational service.

Local choral advocate receives award

CONTRIBUTED

AMERICAN CHORAL DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION OF MINNESOTA

Cambridge area resident Neil Johnson recently received the Advocate for Choral Excellence (ACE) Award from the American Choral Directors Association of Minnesota at an award banquet located at Saint John's University in Collegeville MN.

Mr. Johnson was nominated by long-time Isanti County resident and ACDA-MN member Arne Everson. The award was officially presented by Dr. Richard Robbins, Northeast District Chair for ACDA-MN, and choral director at the University of Minnesota-Duluth.

The ACE Award program was first established in 2008 and has recognized 86 noteworthy individuals or advocates within a geographic region for their outstanding contributions to the choral arts within their communities. Eight such advocates from all corners of the state were honored at the 2021 event.

ACDA of Minnesota is a professional organization serving over 750 choral directors who lead choirs in academic institutions (K-university), communities, and houses of worship throughout the state.



CONTRIBUTED

Neil Johnson is presented with his Advocate for Choral Excellence, presented by the American Choral Directors Association of Minnesota.

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FIVE STAR STORIES

Here are the five most-read stories on our website from Aug. 22 - 28.

1. Prank Pizza Ranch sign stirs up social media frenzy
2. Peterson officially charged in death of Vangrinsven
3. Pedestrian killed while crossing highway
4. Isanti and Chisago County Court Reports, Aug. 9-13
5. Alumni prove 'Once a Bluejacket, always a Bluejacket' during All School Reunion

Go to countystar.com to see these stories and more from previous issues.



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FROM PAGE I

ABOUT THE LEAGUE

The League of Minnesota Cities is a membership association dedicated to promoting excellence in local government. The League, governed by a Board of Directors consisting of local elected and appointed city officials, serves its more than 800 member cities through advocacy, education and training, policy development, risk management, and other services.

The high voltage direct current (HVDC) transmission system that connects central North Dakota and Minnesota will be purchased by Nexus Line, LLC,

He adds, "We're glad to see our power supplier move toward a more sustainable future while balancing cost effectiveness and reliability. The sale of Coal Creek Station is in the best interests of ECE and our nearly 63,000 members."

FINANCIAL FIASCO

“The sale subsidizes an unprofitable coal plant with ratepayer and taxpayer money. GRE customers will bear the cost of keeping the dirty coal plant polluting our air and water — while putting taxpayer dollars at risk to experiment with unproven carbon capture and sequestration. There is no reasonable scenario where this ends well for consumers and our shared environment. Instead we should be moving to clean, renewable energy development across the region.”



Social media, websites, apps, blogs, e-newsletters. You name it. Millennials use all of these digital newspaper platforms and more to access the local news, information and advertising that impact their lives.

That's why today's newspapers have adopted a digitally driven strategy when developing new products for young consumers. Makes sense for a group that uses smartphones over any other device to access the local newspaper content they crave.

In fact, **Millennials make up 30% of all local newspaper readers.** It's why newspaper advertising is your best bet to reach this elusive group of active consumers.

Source: Aggregate of market studies conducted by Coda Ventures for state newspaper associations in Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota and Tennessee.



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Special Offer for Readers
5 screening package for \$149

Play Inc. Arts presents special musical in commemoration of 9/11

CONTRIBUTED
PLAY INC ARTS

“Don’t let tall buildings block the view of your dreams...” is one of the many quaint sayings peddled by Warren, a struggling twenty-something in New York City. Warren is one of four characters in the musical “Ordinary Days” presented for three weeks by Play Inc. Arts at their gallery in the Cambridge Public Library. Each character is relatable, real, unique, and decidedly normal or “ordinary.” Each is trying to grasp an elusive “place in the world.” Warren wants to be a part of something, but feels like a speck among thousands of specks. Deb is convinced that everybody has a “big picture” of how their life should be, but she has no idea how to draw her own. Jason is trying to connect with his girlfriend Claire, who continues to push him away now that he has moved in. Claire is afraid to move on from a loss so tragic that she hasn’t even told Jason about it. Ordinary Days is a four person musical told in one act of almost constant music. It is set a few years after 9/11, and the events of that day

play a significant part in Claire’s journey. She sees herself as a before and an after, as many in our world, do. Through the course of the ninety minutes, Claire and Jason reminisce, fight, get engaged, and break up. Deb and Warren meet each other as Warren is trying to return a lost graduate thesis of Deb’s that he found. The two are not kindred spirits but eventually Deb starts to see Warren’s view of the world and the beauty in the things that don’t stand out. Selected by the Play Inc Arts board of directors several years ago to commemorate the 20th anniversary of 9/11, Ordinary Days highlights the event, without that day being the center of the story. It is part of the world and anchors people to a time and place, but like all tragic events, it is something that we all eventually are able to move on from. Due to the small cast size, directors Aaron Knudsvig and Shannon Shogren have actually triple cast the show. Knudsvig says, “we have such great talent, and we planned on double casting the show, that it was really hard to not cast a third group.” He added, “we really didn’t think about

what we were doing to ourselves.” The show plays at the Play Inc. Studio and Gallery attached to the Cambridge Public Library on Sept. 10, 11, 17, 18, 24, and 25 with each weekend being played by a different cast. All performances are at 8 p.m. and will be done by 10 p.m. The directors really hope that this show offers a unique experience for the audience. It has moments that will have you laughing uproariously, moments that you will look at with recognition of your own real life experiences, and moments that will make you cry. “In the end, it is a story of everyday people, trying to connect in a world that feels increasingly isolated,” says Knudsvig, “and I think it is important to be reminded that not all stories have or need superheroes or grand adventures. Sometimes seeing yourself in the stories is what we really need.” Tickets are available www.playincarts.org and are limited to 36 per performance. With limited capacity, it is expected that there will be very few, if any, walk up tickets available.

PLAY INC ARTS



ordinary days

A MUSICAL BY
Adam Gwon



Sept. 10-11, 17-18,
24-25

All Performances at 8:00
at the

Play Inc Gallery and
Studio at the Cambridge
Public Library

Tickets available @
www.playincarts.org



Earthworms threaten our forest floors

BY JERRY VITALIS
CHISAGO COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS

Mary Beth Breckenridge, a nationally published home and garden writer, wrote an article in the Akron Beacon Journal about the good and “not so good” characteristics of earthworms. Her article was later published in the St. Paul Pioneer Press in 2017. This article on Earthworms blames them for changing the forest floor in ways that threaten the survival of some native plants including our beloved Trilliums. Non-native earthworms have moved into woodland areas that had evolved to survive without them. The worms speed up the decomposition of the spongy forest floor, disrupting the delicate balance of the animals, plants, and other organisms that depend on it. Biologist Dr. Kathryn Flinn conducts research related to the worms and their impact on the envi-

ronment. She reports that we have no early history of worms because they left no skeletons or fossils. One theory is that if they did exist is Minnesota in Pre-historic times, they were scrapped away during the time of the glaciers. Mary Beth explained the difference between the earthworms in the garden and those in the forest floor. In the garden they eat the fallen leaves, twigs, and other organic matter from the ground surface and enrich the soil with their castings. This makes ready nutrients that the plants need as a natural fertilizer. In normal conditions, leaf litter builds up on the forest floor faster than it can decompose thus forming a thick spongy surface called a “duff layer” that holds moisture and keeps organisms in the soil below from freezing in the winter. All sorts of living things depend on the duff layer. Many animals and insects

use it for habitat and food. Some plants need its loose texture for their tender roots to spread. And wild flowers like the Trillium need the spongy surface to protect their seeds from birds and small mammals and to provide the right conditions during the long germination process. When earthworms move in and eat up the duff area, plants are forced deeper into the soil where it is less suitable for their needs. In highly populated deer areas, they eat the tree saplings and other plants while pounding down the duff layers. There are a few things than can help a little. Dump unused fishing bait in a trash can rather than on the shoreline or in the weeds. Also, hikers are encouraged to scrape off the mud on their footwear before they leave the hiking area to remove any worm cocoons that may have attached to that footwear.

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DON'T THUMB IT UP.

ISANTI COUNTY COURT REPORT

The following felony charges were filed in Isanti County Court on Aug. 23 - 27. All individuals are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

Tanner James Porter (DOB 03/16/2000) of Isanti, was charged Aug. 24 with two counts of domestic assault, one count of assault - 3rd degree - substantial bodily harm, and one count assault - 5th degree - 2/more prev convict in 3 years.

Logan James Overvold (DOB 08/22/2000) of Cambridge, was charged Aug. 25 with criminal vehicular operation - substantial bodily harm - driver who causes collision leaves scene.

CHISAGO COUNTY COURT REPORT

The following felony charges were filed in Chisago County Court on Aug. 23 - 27. All individuals are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

Emily Sue Lozier (DOB 07/11/1993) of Cambridge, was charged Aug. 23 with drugs - 5th degree - possess schedule 1,2,3,4 - not small amount marijuana.

Scott Andrew Gunderson (DOB 12/23/1979) of Annandale, was charged Aug. 25 with burglary - 3rd deg - steal/commit felony or gross misd.

Erick Gene Christianson (DOB 06/14/1995) of North Branch, was charged Aug. 26 with drugs - 5th degree - possess schedule 1,2,3,4 - not small amount marijuana.

Scott Michael Dudley (DOB 12/06/1960) of Center City, was charged Aug. 26 with one count possess ammo/any firearm - conviction or adjudicated delinquent for crime of violence, and two counts possess pornographic work - computer disk/electronic/magnetic/optical image w/porn.

Squirrel hides winter stash in squad

STAFF REPORT
NEWS@PINECOUNTYNEWS.COM

The Pine County Sheriff's Office reports that an encounter between a deputy and a small woodland animal got a little nutty this week.

According a sheriff's press release, an officer was driving down the road when a squirrel popped up out from underneath the computer on his squad vehicle and jumped out onto the dash.

The officer said the squirrel gave him a quick stare down, then it ran across the dash and along the drivers' side window – which was closed – and went somewhere behind him.

The officer pulled over and opened all of his doors to get the squirrel out, but it was nowhere to be found.

However, further investigation revealed that apparently the squirrel believed that the back of the patrol unit was a good place to store its winter food.

“These nuts have now been placed in evidence,” read the press release. “If anyone sees a



PHOTO PROVIDED

An officer of the Pine County Sheriff's Office discovered what is believed to be a squirrel's winter stash in the back of his patrol unit. The squirrel under suspicion made a clean getaway from the vehicle and is still at large in Pine County.

squirrel looking for his food, we are looking for said squirrel for

questioning in relation to this incident.”

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Isanti County 763-689-3532

Chisago County 651-257-2890

Kanabec County 679-1737

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2021

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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.

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.

Converge

NorthBrook Church
Meeting at GTI North Branch Theatre (38450 Tanger Dr,
North Branch, MN 55056)
Church Office: 651-277-0100
Frank Gomes, Pastor.
Please join us Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. for Worship
Sunday School for all ages at 8:30 a.m. (during the
school year)
Nursery for infants & Children's Church (2 yrs old-K)
during worship.
Email: office@nbchurchmn.org
Website: nbchurchmn.org

Springvale Church
10:30am Sunday Service at
410 County Road 6 NW
Stanchfield, MN 55080
763-689-1373
Online service at springvalechurchmn.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 Evangelical Free Church
9am Sunday Worship Service, Sanctuary seating, broad-
cast to parking lot, Facebook live- Safe
distancing Practiced
Pastor Leroy Scheumann
29237 Roanoke St NW
Isanti, MN 55040
www.oxlip.org
763-444-5134

Lutheran

Braham Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA)
West Central Drive & County Road 4, Braham
320-396-2755
Pastor Julie Beck
Sunday: 9:00 a.m. Worship Service - BELC
Sunday: 9:00 a.m. Worship Service Live on Facebook
Sunday: 9:30 am Worship Service on KBEK 95.5 FM
Thursday: 6:00 pm Campfire Worship
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. 10am Worship with
nursery available. 11am Fellowship
my.calvaryofrushpoint.org.
Office: calvaryrushpoint@gmail.com

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 Service 9:30 a.m.
Home of Heavenly Sunshine Preschool
email:
office@faithlutheranisanticom

First Lutheran Church (ELCA)
43779 Gates Ave., Harris.
651-674-4498. Handicapped
accessible. Pastor Scott Simmons. Sunday Worship
9:30am, with Sunday School 10:30am coffee
and fellowship.
Email: firstlutheran@q.com
www.firstlutheranharris.org

Joy Lutheran Church (Missouri Synod)
1155 Joy Circle, Cambridge
Pastor Daniel Lewis
763-689-4355
www.joylutheran.net
8 a.m. Traditional Service
10:30 a.m. Contemporary Service
9:15 a.m. Adult Bible Class

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
Wednesday Worship 6pm in-person
longlakeluth.org

Salem Lutheran Church
4638 381st Ave. NW, Dalbo, MN 55017. 763-689-1687
Join us for worship every
Sunday at 10:30am, Sunday
school for 3 yrs to 6th gr.
begins at 10:30am. Coffee
fellowship after worship
www.salemlutherandalbo.com

Spring Lake Lutheran Church (ELCA)
8440 Erickson Road, PO Box 958, North Branch, MN
55056 (9 mi. E. of Cambridge on Hwy. 95, North one
block on Erickson Road).
651-674-4606.
Pastor Vicki VanderVegt.
slchurch.org
Email: slchurch@gmail.com
Thursday, September 2nd -
9:00am Men's Coffee
Saturday, September 4th -
8:00am Daisy Circle
9:00am WELCA Workday
Sunday, September 5th -
8:30am Worship in person & via Zoom, Communion,
Fellowship
Tuesday, September 7th -
1:30pm Iris Circle
7:00pm Council Meeting
Wednesday, September 8th -
10:00am AA Meeting
Thursday, September 9th -
7:00pm Women of Grace Bible Study

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.
Pastor Ben Hollingstead.
8am and 9:30am Services,
Sunday School during 9:30am Service.
Email
stjohns@midconetwork.com. Website -
stjohnslutheranchurch-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 Jon Yurk
In-person and online Worship Sundays at 9 a.m.
Coffee hour following Sunday Worship.
Email:
office@trinitynorthbranchl.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.
Everyone Counts!

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
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
763-689-6987
34006 Petersburg St NE, Cambridge MN
justpassinihs@gmail.com
JustpassinThru.net
Pastor Tom Bakke
Sunday mornings at 10 am
Sunday nights and Wednesdays

River of Life Church
Meeting at 150 Birch St. N., Ste 170, Cambridge. (Across
from Minnco Credit Unon) Mark Radeke, Pastor. 763-689-
5115.
Sundays 9am & 10:30am
Nursery at both services
River Kid's for ages 4 yrs to 5th gr at the 10:30am service
riveroflifehome.com

Pentecostal

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

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THURSDAY PRIME TIME							SEPTEMBER 9, 2021						
	6:00	6:30	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30	
BROADCAST STATIONS													
2	KTCA	PBS NewsHour (N) (cc)		This Old House	Ask This Old House	Poirot "Peril at End House" (cc)		Shakespeare and Hathaway -- Private		Lucy Worsley's Royal Myths & Secrets (cc)		East-Enders	East-Enders
4	WCCO	News	Wheel of Fortune	Big Brother A houseguest is evicted. (N)		CBS Fall Preview	Young Sheldon	Bull A woman goes against legal advice.		News	The Late Show With Stephen Colbert (cc)		James Corden
5	KSTP	News	News	Holey Moley (N) (cc)		When Nature Calls With Helen Mirren (N)		The Hustler "A Real Imposter at Work" (N)		5 Eyewitness News (cc)	Jimmy Kimmel Live! (cc)		Nightline (N) (cc)
9	KMSP	FOX 9 at 6p (N)	FOX 9 at 6:30p (N)	MasterChef (cc)		Call Me Kat	Call Me Kat	FOX 9 at 9p (N)		FOX 9's 10 at 10 (N)	TMZ (N) (cc)	Access Hollywood (N)	Dish Nation (N)
11	KARE	NFL Kickoff 2021 (N) (Live) (cc)			NFL Football Dallas Cowboys at Tampa Bay Buccaneers. (N) (Live) (cc)					News		The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon	
23	WUCW	Family Feud (cc)	Family Feud (cc)	Coroner "Eyes Up" (N)		The Outpost "The Price of Immortality"		Family Feud (cc)	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	Extra (N) (cc)	Daily-MailTV (N)	Daily-MailTV (N)
23	WFTC	Big Bang	Big Bang	News	News	Mod Fam	Mod Fam	Big Bang	Creek	TMZ (N)	Shat Nat.	Dateline (cc)	
41	KPXM	Chicago P.D.		Chicago P.D.		Chicago P.D.		Chicago P.D. "Saved"		Chicago P.D.		Chicago P.D.	

Pride celebration returns to Pine City on Sept. 18

EAST CENTRAL MINNESOTA PRIDE

East Central Minnesota Pride is pleased to announce that its 16th Pride celebration, to be held Saturday, Sept. 18, will have a full lineup of fun and entertainment.

After a long stretch of physical distancing and other restrictions, the LGBTQ+ communities in the counties of Pine, Isanti, Chisago, Kanabec and Mille Lacs will once again gather in person while adhering to current safety protocols.

The annual “Pride in the Park” celebration runs from 1 to 5 p.m. that Saturday afternoon at Robinson Park in Pine City. Duluth-based blues/funk/jam band Jacob Mahon & the New Salty Dog will play a high energy, genre eccentric set inspired by the likes of Frank Zappa, John Denver and A Tribe Called Quest. Minneapolis-based Rebel Queens aim to take the crowd on a turbo-speed wild ride through vintage-inspired rock ‘n’ roll! Martina Marracchino, a unicorn storyteller, known for their talent in theater, singing and dancing, will emcee the event.

New this year is a wide range of food trucks. In the mix are Burnsville-based Tacos Tacuba, Brooklyn Park-based Run Tell That BBQ and Pine City-based Cabin Coffee. Minneapolis-based Sandy’s Grill & Italian Ice will be parked a block north at Three Twenty Brewing Co., 135 5th St. SE.

At 7 p.m., LGBTQ+ film screenings will take place at Pine Center for the Arts, 265 5th St. SE, shown by the Highway 61 Film Festival.

At 9 p.m. there will be a drag performance at Froggy’s Bar & Grill, 209 5th St. SE. Though Froggy’s has opened its doors to many different types of entertainers over the years—from rock to

rap—including national acts, this will be its first ever drag show. The event is free and open to anyone over 18.

Froggy’s bartender and cook, Aren Dilts, said, “Froggy’s has always been a welcoming and loving place to gather with friends. A small town doesn’t mean a small mind and I feel like hosting this event full of love and light is the best way to show that.”

Dilts added, “Pine City is ready and very capable of expanding the diversity in our area. I feel having local, family-owned businesses that support LGBTQ+ is just another way that proves Pride is for everyone, in every town, no matter the size.”

East Central Minnesota Pride, billed as “Minnesota’s Small-Town LGBTQ+ Pride”, has been held since 2005, missing only 2020 due to the pandemic.

This will be the first year the event is held on a Saturday to mutually benefit area businesses and celebrants.

“The safety and well-being of our community is the number one consideration,” explained Pride organizer Julie Redpath of Chisago City. “We looked at ways to make the event fun and enjoyable, yet safe.” Both the Minnesota Department of Health and Pine County Health and Human Services are collaborating to provide Covid-19 vaccines to those interested at East Central Minnesota Pride on that Saturday afternoon, Sept. 18.

The voters of Minnesota make this activity possible, through a grant from the East Central Regional Arts Council, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

Stay tuned for updates at www.EastCentralMinnesotaPride.org.



CONTRIBUTED

Jacob Mahon & the New Salty Dog will be performing during the “Pride in the Park” at Robinson Park in Pine City on Saturday, Sept. 18.

Mora Fly-in set for Sept. 18

CONTRIBUTED

CITY OF MORA AND AIRPORT ADVISORY BOARD

Mora Municipal Airport (KJMR) will be hosting its annual fly-in event beginning at 8:00 a.m. and running until 12:00 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 18, 2021. This is an event for the entire family, with free gifts for youth and adults. Admission is free.

Scheduled activities:

- The event will open with the Presentation of Colors by the American Legion Club of Mora at 8:00 a.m.
- The Mora Lions Club will be serving an all-you-can eat pancake breakfast for \$6 per person with Pilots in Command eating for free. All proceeds will go to the Mora Lions Club to support community based projects and donations.
- A paper airplane contest is scheduled at 10:00 a.m. The contest is open to all ages; however, the prize of a free airplane ride

provided by a local pilot will be awarded to the youth (age 17 or under) with the winning paper airplane flight.

Other attractions and details:

- Hawk Aviation will be offering airplane rides for \$35 a person.
- This year’s event will again include a static tractor display. All tractor owners are encouraged to bring their equipment to the event.
- Airport equipment will also be on display.
- All pilots will receive a 5¢ discount on aviation fuel on the day of the event.

This event is scheduled rain or shine.

The Mora Fly-In is brought to you by the City of Mora and its Airport Advisory Board, with support from Kwik Trip, Mora Lions Club, Short Elliott Hendrickson Inc., SPIRE Credit Union and the local aviation community.

Mora Municipal Airport is located at 2085 Mahogany Street, Mora, MN 55051.

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Cambridge-Isanti High School: (front row, from left) Amber Strom, Courtney Strelow, Ana Abraham, Tyler Hayft, (back row) Emily Lindell, Melissa Carstensen, Pam Austad, Jeremy Miller, Principal Steve Gibbs, and Jeremiah Semler



North Branch Area High School: (front row, from left) Supt. Sara Paul, Elizabeth Budahn, Samantha Weiss, Alyssa Nelson, Whitney Murphy. Back: Asst. Principal Glen Stevens, Jessica Konrad, Principal Coleman McDonough, Andrew Timmer, Brianne McClellan, Erin Theobald, Annetta Dickman, Activities Director Andrea Schmidt



Cambridge Middle School: (from left) Tricia Anderson, Carolyn Helland, Hailey Schwarze, and Principal Chad Gerlach



Isanti Middle School: (from left) Kyle Groves, Marina Day, Principal Randy Pauly



North Branch Middle School: (from left) Asst. Principal Matt Lattimore, Elizabeth Budahn, Ben Paro, Principal Kelly Detzler, Activities Director Andrea Schmidt



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Cambridge Primary School: (from left) Becca Dey, Megan Erickson, Principal Rhonda Malecha, and Patti Merry



Sunrise Elementary School: (front row, from left) Supt. Sara Paul, Jamie Dary, Taylor Neil, Vicki Kristo, Natalie Sandstrom. Back: Kaiya Carlson, Rachel Nordenstrom, Jake Harren, Principal Taylor Swanson



North Branch Early Learning: (from left) Supt. Sara Paul, Caitlin Podratz, Amy Kahl, and Director of Teaching and Learning David Treichel



Norse Area Learning Academy: (from left) Brianne McClellan (center), with Supt. Sara Paul, and Director of Teaching and Learning David Treichel



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(from left) Matt Johnson, Principal John Droubie



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Cambridge-Isanti libero Abigail Wimmer digs out a serve during the Jackets' match versus Rochester Mayo.

BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR



C-I's Chloe Hajek hits a backhand return during her first singles match against Forest Lake.

BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR

FALL SPORTS SOUNDBITES

Jacket volleyball has up and down start to season

BY BILL STICKELS III
EDITOR@COUNTYSTAR.COM

VOLLEYBALL

It was the best of times, it was not quite the worst of times, but close for the Blue-jacket volleyball team as they began their 2021 campaign with a 3-0 sweep over Coon Rapids in their season opener, but followed that up with by getting swept 3-0 against visiting Rochester Mayo.

In the win over the Cardinals, C-I cruised to 25-10, 25-20,

25-10 set wins. The Jackets evenly distributed the ball, with Brooklyn Dickey recording eight kills, Ada Schlenker adding seven, and Ivy Wadzink, Makenzie Coplan, and Alice Steman each recording five. The Jackets are going with a two setter rotation this year, with Wadzink recording 16 assists and Dickey earning nine. New libero Abigail Wimmer came up with nine digs to lead the team defensively.

The following evening, the Jackets had a few stretches of

solid play, but an equal number of mistakes. That, coupled with Mayo, who has made multiple appearances in the state tournament in recent years, finding their early season groove, led to a 18-25, 16-25, 13-25 loss for C-I. Coplan did come up with 11 kills for the Jackets, but no other player reached five. Mayo also did a good job keeping the Jackets out of system by forcing Wadzink and Schlenker to play more defense and thus taking them out of the offense. Wadzink had 13 digs and Schlenker had nine.

The Vikings started their season with a pair of tough opponents, losing to neighbor Forest Lake 3-2, and getting swept by Wilmar 3-0 in the Breakdown Side Out Classic.

Against the Rangers, the two teams alternated set wins, with the Vikings winning the second and fourth sets by identical 25-23 scores, and Forest Lake winning the first set by that same score and the third set 25-8. The Rangers clinched the win with a 15-11 fifth set. Paige Peaslee looks to have returned to form following a knee injury in November, picking up 12 kills to lead the team's attack. New setter Maddie Helin earned 20 assists.

Against Wilmar, the Cardinals held the Viking offense in check, with Lindsey Bunes' six kills tops for North Branch. The final scores were 15-25, 23-25, 16-25.

GIRLS TENNIS

Like volleyball, the Jacket girls tennis team split their first two matches of the season, beating Forest Lake 4-3 but losing to Annandal by the same score. The first doubles team of Maddie Lawrence and Maddie Troolin were the lone Jackets to win both of their matches.

The Vikings' hectic first week of the season came to a



BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR

North Branch's Ava Gerten gets her feet tangled up with a sprawling Hermantown goalie during the Vikings' season opener versus the Hawks. The sophomore proved to be quite the headache for the Hawks keeper, scoring four goals in the game.

conclusion with three more matches, although two more matches got rained out. The Vikings started with a solid 6-1 win over Fridley on their home court. However, that was followed by a 7-0 shutout at the hands of Blaine, and a 5-2 loss to Totino Grace. Rachel Wurdemann at first singles and Katelyn Money and Jaden Volkman at third doubles each recorded two wins.

GIRLS SOCCER

The Vikings have gotten off to a 3-0 record this season, beating Hermantown 7-1, Duluth Denfeld 2-1, and St. Paul Highland Park 4-2. Sophomore Eva Gerten and senior Lilly Johnson have packed a majority of the team's offensive punch, with Gerten scoring seven goals in the three games, and Johnson scoring three.

C-I's lone scheduled game

last week was postponed due to the potential of thunderstorms.

BOYS SOCCER

North Branch started their season with one game getting postponed due to lightning, but they did get a game in the next day, tying Mesabi East 2-2. Brady Verdon and Wyatt Peek scored for the Vikings, with both goals coming in the second half to come back from a 2-0 deficit.

Like the girls team, the C-I boys also had their first game of the season postponed due to thunderstorms.

GIRLS SWIMMING AND DIVING

The Jackets opened their season with a 104-74 loss to Forest Lake. The Rangers took first in every single event until swimming the last three events as exhibition only.



BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR

North Branch's Rachel Wurdemann hits a return during her first singles match versus Fridley.

VIKING VOLLEYBALL

Head coach: Mike Selbitschka
Assistant coaches: Tammi Minke (V), Abby Moon (JV), Jessica Konrad (B), Ron Trunk (9th)
Who are the players to watch this year? Paige Peaslee coming back from her ACL injury will be one to watch. To be honest, we have some great talent all around and have several players that could really make an impact this season!
What will be the keys to the team's success this year? Our success depends on how quickly the girls understand their roles on the team. We have some great girls that have a lot of give, they will be fun to watch this year.
What challenges will the team face? Our team needs to stay healthy this fall and continue to compete at a high level. We have many games with 4A schools that will be a challenge for us, but also good for our training.
What are your goals for the 2021 season? Our goal for this season is to make it to the State Tournament again after missing the opportunity last year with our season getting shut down due to Covid.
Who is the opponent to watch for this year in the conference/section? Our Challenge for the conference will be Monticello again, they were strong last year and young. As for our Section, we have some nice teams. They all have some nice players coming up, especially Cloquet, Hermantown and Grand Rapids.



2021 Viking volleyball: (front row, from left) Makenna Runk, Gina Jensen, Keah Kent, Lydia Kuhlman, Isabell Esget, Alexia Kane, Lindsey Meizo, Stephanie Hannon, Ava Sittlow, (back row) coach Abby Moon, coach Ron Trunk, coach Jessica Konrad, Lindsey Bunes, Rylee Ramberg, Paige Peaslee, Lauren Hicks, Maddie Helin, coach Tammi Minke, and coach Mike Selbitschka.

BLUEJACKET VOLLEYBALL



2021 Bluejacket volleyball: (front row, from left) Rachel Vick, Abi Bergloff, Abby Semler, Sophie Meissen, Taylor Anderson, Abigail Wimmer, (back row) coach Niki Pftutzenreuter, coach Ellen Wander, Jordyn Paitl, Ivy Wedzink, Brooklyn Dickey, Alice Steman, Makenzie Coplen, Sky Arends, Ada Schlenker, Lauren Schreder, and coach Colin Dickey.

Head coach: Colin Dickey
Assistant coaches: Ellen Wander, Niki Pftutzenreuter, Christine Steman, Heidi Heifort.
Who are the players to watch this year? Senior Makenzie Coplan will be looked upon to provide the leadership we know she is capable of. Ada Schlenker will be looked upon to build from a strong performance last year. We will also look to Junior setter Brooklyn Dickey and Senior Setter Ivy Wadzink to feed the ball to our big hitters.
What will be the keys to the team's success this year? We only have 3 returners from last year's varsity team so in essence this is a brand new team so look for them to build good team chemistry early on.
What challenges will the team face? Our entire back row graduated so will look to Junior Abigail Wimmer and Senior Abigail Semler to step up which I'm confident they both can do.
What are your goals for the 2021 season? To continue to improve on what we have accomplished the past 3 years. The girls have bought into what we are trying to do as a program and it is starting to pay off.
Who is the opponent to watch for this year in the conference/section? Conference: Monticello and North Branch, Section: Andover and Forest Lake.

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BLUEJACKET FOOTBALL



BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR

2021 Bluejacket football (in numeric order): Ryan Cooper, Merle Mauer, Andre Hall, Ari Sullivan, Brayden Johnson, Colton Skoglund, Ethan Bouley, Elias Dee, Logan Henderson, Braden Jones, Devin Larson, Wyatt Arndt, Adam Hamed, Jaxson Skoglund, Brayden Coplan, Preston Anderson, Kaden Graham, Owen Maikkula, Isaac Maurer, Tyvion Williams, Xavion Bell, Jonny Ziebarth, Cyrus Mattson, Denver Westman, Lincoln Larsen, Darren Spencer, Colten Deitz, Lucas Daigle, Connor Johnson, Drew Matheny, Landon Wilson, Broc Miller, Leo Scott, Carter Hermanson, Kemuel Acosta, Ben Boisen, Josh Carlson, Laiken Brasch, Trevor Boettcher, Dalton Muehlberg, and Cooper Laase.

Head coach: Shane M. Weibel

Assistant coaches: Matt Braaten, Joe Lakeberg, Jody Ledahl, Brandon Houtsma, Lance Olson.

Who are the players to watch this year? Adam Hamed, Ari Sullivan, Andre Hall, Braden Jones,

What will be the keys to the team's success this year? Getting skill people into space and staying healthy

What challenges will the team face? Depth keeping people healthy

What are your goals for the 2021 season? Compete, compete, compete. Have a great football season and a normal one.

Who is the opponent to watch for this year in the conference/section? Andover is the returning champ and should be the favorite, Elk River was added to the section.

VIKING FOOTBALL

Head coach: Justin Voss

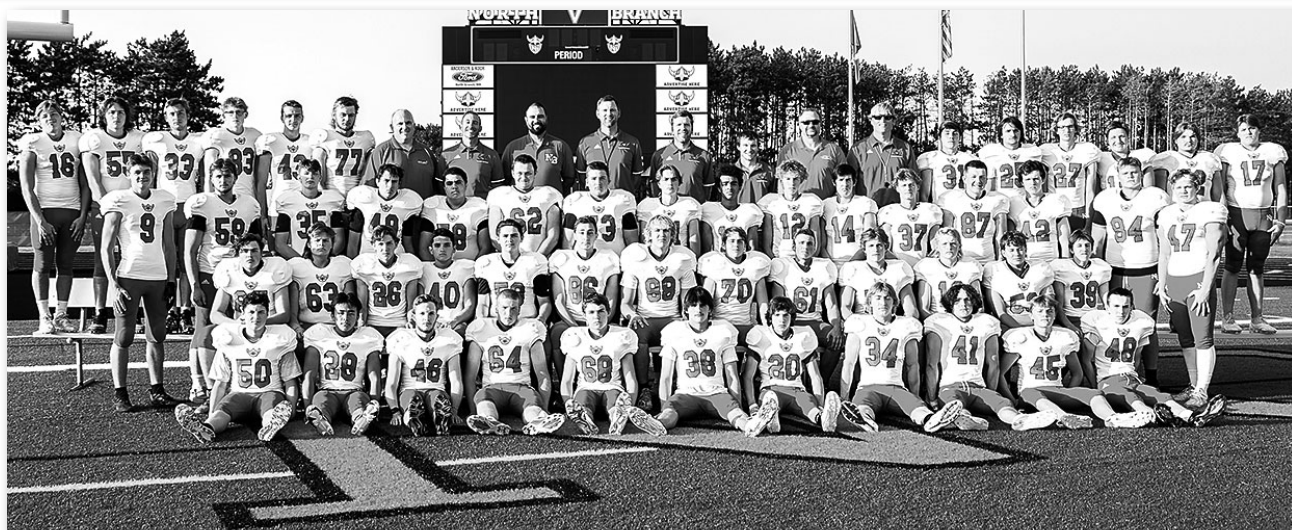
Assistant coaches: Kyle Kahl, Sean Huset, Dan Johnson, Brent Lundgren, Andrew Timmer, Ian McWilliams, Mason Niedekorn.

Who are the players to watch this year? We continue to ask our Seniors to set up and be leaders within our football family. From off the field, to the classroom and in our community we lean on our Seniors to guide us in the right direction by the positive actions they make.

What will be the keys to the team's success this year? For us we look at our keys to success in a few different ways. On the field it will be so important for us to take care of the football on offense as well as create big plays within our offense structure. For Defense we want to create turnovers and limit opposing teams big plays, and certainly for Special Teams we want that unit to be a spark for us that helps create or turn the momentum in our favor. Off the field is just as important to us. We want to continue to develop good young people that learn what it means to sacrifice for a great good and are able to show kindness.

What challenges will the team face? I think like a lot of teams, the football season is a grind. We want to be sure that we challenge our students to embrace the grind and stay positive through all the ups and downs the season will bring. We feel if our guys can continue to build each other up with a positive attitude and embrace the grind with strong effort we'll be able to see continuous improvement throughout the year!

What are your goals for the 2021 season? Our goal is to continue to find ways to invest in who we are, which is a Family and push our students to realize the importance of a positive attitude and strong effort. Along with that we want our guys to display kindness towards one another and to their peers! We



AMY WITTE | COUNTY STAR

2021 Viking football (in no particular order): Brian Bossard, Aidan Duffeck, Luke Cornelius, Abraham Pierre, Nathan Franklin, Austin Herman, Gabriel Huset, Ashton LaBelle, Jackson Marcussen, Ryan O'Day, Cole Olson, Hunter Peterson, Nathan Skiba, Samuel Sonnek, Isaiah Stokes, Andrew Thauwald, Landon Weiskopf, Vincent Boeck, Loghan Croal, Adam Johnstone, Matthew Lavalla, AJ Pavak, Preston Peterson, John Robotti, Samuel Robillard, Tyler Schneidewind, Joe Steeves, Michael Thao, Carter Triggs, Jaxson Willie, Austin Anderson, Michael Dragicevich, Tyler Hendricks, Hunter Deshane, Jaden Dodge, Joe Donahue, Ayden Droz, Ty Ellsworth, Lavonte Fisher, Thomas Harkey, Tanner Helin, Jarad McWilliams, Zachary Monson, Aiden Olson, Malachi Pasholk, Logan Grundhauser, Jayden Roske, Gavin Goeltl, Everett Thomsen, Jacob Tiegen, and Landen Ullmann.

feel if we can invest in these ideals that our students will have an outstanding experience being a part of North Branch Football!

Who is the opponent to watch for this year in the conference/section? Our district continues to have strong football teams in and this year is certainly no

different. After the success that Grand Rapids had last year I believe they have earned that right to be a team to watch again this year. Of course Hermantown, Cloquet and Duluth East continue to compete at a high level and will be strong teams in our district again.

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VIKING GIRLS TENNIS

Head coach: Joel Santjer
Assistant coaches: Andy Spofford
Who are the players to watch this year? Half of our varsity squad this year is made up of seniors with quite a bit of experience on varsity, and the other half will be brand new to varsity. The seniors have really stepped up taken a leadership role, looking to help out not only those new to varsity, but also those new to the team. All six of them will contribute to the team in many ways on any given day.

What will be the keys to the team's success this year? The top of our order will be where we are looking to score points, while those playing 3 and 4 singles and 3 doubles will be young, new to varsity, and focused on learning and getting better each time we go out.

What challenges will the team face? Though we have decent numbers this year, we are still a small team playing against much larger ones. The biggest challenges are the ones we always face- getting new players up to speed really quickly and continuously developing a young team into competitive tennis players.

What are your goals for the 2021 season? To continue to grow the program, fight and compete in the conference and section, and to continue to teach these young players the benefits of competition and involvement in High School sports.

Who is the opponent to watch for this year in the conference/section? With a section of 17 teams, it's hard to pick one. We'll get after each one we play and fight to the last point.



BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR

2021 Viking girls tennis: (front row, from left) Hailey Bistodeau, Brooke Rothe, Ashley Bistodeau, Jadyn Volkman, Jillian Horsfall, Molly Bushinger, (back row) Rachel Wurdemann, Sophia Helinsky, Carrie Hall, Justine Joyal, Nora Toussaint, Jayla Holevas, and Katelyn Money.

BLUEJACKET GIRLS TENNIS



CONTRIBUTED

2021 Bluejacket girls tennis (in no particular order): Keziah Bulabon, Christy Haglund, Chloe Hajek, Maddie Lawrence, Natalie Randall, Madeline Troolin, Leslie Bleess, Ava Lowman, Erin Baker, Hannah Bingham, Morgan Okerlund, Isabelle Sullivan, Lyla Hajek, and Evie Porta.

Head coach: Thea Lowman

Assistant coaches: Sabrina Willette, Jennifer Magnuson, James Sullivan.

Who are the players to watch this year? Returning senior letter-winners Keziah Bulabon, Chloe Hajek, Maddie Lawrence, Natalie Randall, and Madeline Troolin as well as returning junior letter-winner Ava Lowman

What will be the keys to the team's success this year? The core of our team is a group of athletes who are passionate about tennis and are positive leaders, which is an excellent combination. We are looking for these players to help guide those new to varsity. These core leaders and several other players have been working on their tennis games and competing in tournaments in the off-season, so we're focusing on using their past experiences and successes as a foundation for confidence during tough matches.

What challenges will the team face? Replacing seniors lost to graduation is always one of the challenges of a season. Half of the doubles line-up from last season graduated, so we're working on finding those doubles pairings that will be most effective for the team.

What are your goals for the 2021 season? Overall, our goal is to become a stronger, deeper tennis team by boosting our individual tennis games each time we step on the courts. In doing so, we're looking to clinch those 4 team points needed to win each match.

Who is the opponent to watch for this year in the conference/section? Conference: Becker, Chisago, Monticello. Section: Elk River and Duluth East typically prove to be top teams. This year Brainerd and Pequot Lakes have been added to our section, and both have strong programs.

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BLUEJACKET BOYS SOCCER



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2021 Bluejacket boys soccer: (front row, from left) Kenny Sanchez, Roggie Sanchez, Franky Stricker, Porter Nelson, Ethan Brown, Cash Vangelof, Adam Stebbins, Shawn Martin, Colin Rouse, (middle row) Jaxson Nins, Jack Hutchens, Jaime Madsen, Josh Bauer, Justin Sauze, Tristen Oelrich, Isaiah Brady, Austin Carpenter, Corbin Halsteinsgord, (back row) Jayden Kuhlman, Trey Darling, Alex Simpson, Logan Carpenter, Michael Williams, Erik Kindem, AJ Nelson, Gavin McDonald, Trevor Rettmann, Josh Foley, and Grady Arends.

VIKING BOYS SOCCER

Head coach: Jake Borash
Assistant coaches: Chad Johnson, Parker Johnson
Who are the players to watch this year? Tanner Bollman - GK; Did incredibly well last year and exceeded expectations. Now we see him in his final year and hopefully he goes out with a bang.
Nick Bovitz - M; Absolute workhorse. He never stops working and he always wants to be involved.
What will be the keys to the team's success this year? Staying healthy. The skill is quite high on a lot of the players, but the size and depth is smaller. Just need to keep everyone in game shape the best we can. Staying positive and building on the little successes.
What challenges will the team face? Physical soccer. The boys aren't afraid to get hit, but we don't have a huge size on our end. Making sure they stay disciplined and continually work hard for not only themselves, but their teammates as well.
What are your goals for the 2021 season? Compete in every game regardless of the size or physicality of the opponent. Have effective possession in the middle third of the field. Stay positive and healthy for the entirety of the season.
Who is the opponent to watch for this year in the conference/section? Monticello is going to be a tough matchup for Conference and Cloquet always plays very physical so we have to get ready to stay strong for them near the end of the season.



AMY WITTE | COUNTY STAR

2021 Viking boys soccer: (in no particular order) Tony Baker, Tanner Bollman, Nickolas Bovitz, Drew Detzler, Jacob Edmands, eric Elizarraga-Flor, Chazz Johnson, Garrett Korkowski, Christian Macmillan, Lake Mechtel, Wyatt Peek, Justin Ramos, Bryce Rehm, Jace Sperry, Brady Verdon, Carson Weber, and Kobe Yang.

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VIKING GIRLS SOCCER

Head coach: Josh Kopp
Assistant coaches: Sherri Keller, Logan Delmont
Who are the players to watch this year? Our seniors. We will really be looking to all of them to step up and contribute this year. Lilly Johnson and Emmie Meyer are coming off All-Conference years and Paris Kopp as an All-Conference Honorable Mention.
What will be the keys to the team's success this year? Playing a balanced style of soccer. We have the skill to move the ball with control as well as getting vertical up the field. Defensively our girls can press well as a group and stay organized to control opposition movements.
What challenges will the team face? We have some large shoes to fill with the departure of graduates playing some very key roles. Finding the right individuals to fill those spots will be a challenge.
What are your goals for the 2021 season? Our girls have the standard that we expect to be competitive day in and day out. We expect to play well. We expect to do well in our conference and to make a run in our Section 7AA.
Who is the opponent to watch for this year in the conference/section? St. Francis is going to be extremely tough, and Monticello is fully expected to be in the running, but I wouldn't count anyone out. With soccer moving to a three-class system, it makes for an interesting year in the section. I definitely feel Cloquet will be a section opponent to watch closely. And I certainly wouldn't leave out the hometown program!



BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR

2021 Viking girls soccer: (front row, from left) Ava Gerten, Sharis Garcia, Paris Kopp, Lilly Johnson, Abby Randall, Sharleen Garcia, Isabel Linnerooth, (back row) Olivia Lorge, Drew Moryn, Summer Fruth, Madi Whitman, Emmie Meyer, Peyton Verdon, Ava Mohs, Lucy Anderson, and Danna Garcia.

BLUEJACKET GIRLS SOCCER

Head coach: Michael Galligan
Assistant coaches: Steve Larson, Viva Anderson, Tyler Hayft
Who are the players to watch this year? Senior Captains Jenna Hari, Rachel O'Donovan, and Kaitlin King have already begun to provide excellent leadership for the squad. Our attack this year is an all Junior group, Emily Nystrom will be at the helm as a center midfield playmaker with Jaidan Wilkinson, Payton Danileson, and Anika Larson in the forward line generating the shots. O'Donovan and Hari round out the attack with excellent support from the defensive midfield positions. The defense will be anchored by Junior Mariah Martin, a 4 year starter with a level of tenacity that is destructive to opposing attacks. Martin will be joined in the center defense by freshmen starter Audrey Herbst who plays with the maturity of a veteran. On the outside in defense will be Junior Sophia Masters and Sophomore Carley Halstengard, both players making great strides in the past year to catapult into starting positions. In the goal this year is a returning field player we've converted to Goalkeeper, Samantha Schmidt, Sam is an incredibly fast learner with a drive to do all she can for her team and we're excited to see her progress through the season.
What will be the keys to the team's success this year? Creating the chemistry needed to keep our defensive line organized and working together and in concert with the goalkeeper is imperative to holding back opposing attacks. We must transition to a more complex offensive team with the ability to create attacks from all parts of the field to



BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR

2021 Bluejacket girls soccer: (front row, from left) Victoria Fiereck, Payton Danielson, Carley Halstensgard, Sophia Schwappach, Audrey Venhuizen, Amelea Criswell, Ava Hari, Halle Bergman, Remijia Challander, Adelin Martel, Claire Michaels, Jenna Hari, Anika Larson, Jaleia Pitschka, (middle row), Phoenix Fure, Ava Hilger, Zoe Tweeten, Tanya Ngo, Christiana Smisson, Deanna Brown, Kayla Wilkinson, Makenna Caza, Mariah Martin, Rachel O'Donevan, Jaidan Wilkinson, Audrey Herbst, Olivia Goldeman, Kendall Tweeten, Ariendha Faucher, (back row) Delainy Gates, Kira Zagars, Shay Zagars, Kirsten Ziesmer, Samantha Schmidt, Jenessa Bliss, Teddi Sullivan, Emily Nystrom, Gloria Friedland, Abby Herbert, Kayleigh Weidendorf, (side photo) Athena Cooper, and Sophia Masters.

increase our scoring potential. To that end we've made a lot of adjustments, moving players to new positions where their speed and skills can be tapped for additional chances.
What challenges will the team face? Considering the changes in lineup and increased complexity of formation it will take quick adjustment and adap-

tation to become a smooth running cohesive squad on the field.
What are your goals for the 2021 season? Operate as a close knit squad that takes care of each other. Compete with strength and honor at the highest level of conference and post season play.
Who is the opponent to watch for this year in the conference/section? St.

Francis will likely be a tough defending Mississippi 8 conference champion with a lot of players returning.
 Centennial, Andover, and Blaine are perennial top tier teams in Section 7AAA and look to be very good again.

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BLUEJACKET BOYS CROSS COUNTRY



BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR

2021 Bluejacket boys cross country: (front row, from left) Oliver Meyer, Owen Goetz, Aiden Knudsvig, Malcolm Blake, Austin Burgess, Zander Gallmeier, Chase Imker, Dax Gustafson, (second row) Aiden Larkin, Ethan Kock, Judah Porta, Lucashio Larsen, Hunter Jacobson, Kevin Hansen, Leo Edblad, Micah Gustafson, Ethan Bergloff, Brian Rogers, Judd Woehle, (third row) Phillip Yerigan Robert Mollinedo, Keagen Lowman, Connor Bickford, Brennan Blake, Weston Catton, Austin Peterson, Vincente Tighe, Jonas Kennedy, Josh Provost, Jacob Hadjiyanis, (back row) Noah McGovern, Dwayne Peterson, Tyler Gustafson, Elric Breeding, Tristen Carpenter, Reese Bickford, Aiden Timmar, Evan Goebel, Vicente Reyes, and Travon Williams.

Head coach: Josh Lowman
Assistant coaches: Linda Droubie, Katie Adams.

Who are the players to watch this year? Jaxon Jones, state entrant and all-conference, Blake Roberts, all conference

What will be the keys to the team's success this year? Staying healthy and pack running for both squads.

What challenges will the team face? Developing a duo or trio of front runners to complement our depth.

What are your goals for the 2021 season? Both squads are looking to maintain their spots in the top three of our conference. They also both look to walk into some stiff competition in the newly formed 7AAA section.

Who is the opponent to watch for this year in the conference/section? Big Lake returns a talented squad and looks to defend their Mississippi 8 title on their home course as they host. Monticello will be right there pushing them with the Bluejackets looking to mix it up as well. Sections: Centennial, Duluth East, Forest Lake, and Andover.

BLUEJACKET GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

Head coach: Josh Lowman
Assistant coaches: Linda Droubie, Katie Adams.

Who are the players to watch this year? Makenna Sjoberg, all-conference, Kendyl Izzo, out last year with broken foot.

What will be the keys to the team's success this year? Staying healthy and pack running for both squads.

What challenges will the team face? Gaining experience (graduated our entire team minus Makenna).

What are your goals for the 2021 season? Both squads are looking to maintain their spots in the top three of our conference. They also both look to walk into some stiff competition in the newly formed 7AAA section.

Who is the opponent to watch for this year in the conference/section? Monticello looks again to be the team to beat with the girls from Becker following behind them. After that, it will be a dog fight from teams like Chisago Lakes, Cambridge-Isanti, Big Lake and Princeton mixing it up. Sections: Forest Lake, Duluth East, and Andover.



BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR

2021 Bluejacket girls cross country: (front row, from left) Winny McCourt, Athena Schoen, Adella Carass, Kendyl Izzo, Bekah Treichel, Lydia Smisson, Brooke Jankovich, Ava Milz, Kenna Sjoberg, Faith Foley, Molly Larson, (back row) Ashlynn Montague, Lily Atkins, Ellie Anderson, Kelly-Jo Hansen, Siena Paterson, Anastacia Carpenter, Samantha Kinnunen, Grace Pardo, Taylor Kinnunen, Autumn Lundeen, Audrey Blake, and Ava Anderson.


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VIKING BOYS AND GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

Head coach: Norm Nagel
Assistant coaches: Juanita Worthey
Who are the players to watch this year? On the boys side Captain and senior Zach Johnson will lead our boys this year. Alex Dick, Andrew Witkowski, Paulk Boelk, Josiah Zderad and Jarett Nelson will fight for the varsity race. On the girls side senior and Captain Cora Hudella will lead our girl runners. Norah Judson, Mykala Sierra, Evelina Gilkerson, Kylie Anderson and transfer Hanna Reed will be our top runners
What will be the keys to the team's success this year? To stay healthy.
What challenges will the team face? Our numbers are a little down from last year and we need to keep the kids engaged and focused this year. We Have 3 seniors on the boys side and only 2 on the girls side. The boys

are a little more experienced and should be competitive.
What are your goals for the 2021 season? If we can stay away from injuries and Covid , I think this years team will be competitive. It will be nice to have a normal schedule and go to the bigger invites. Milaca will be the showcase meet this year and we are off to Hibbing to see our friends up north. I think a lot of kids don't know where Hibbing is and where Bob Dylan is from.
Who is the opponent to watch for this year in the conference/section? In the conference Big Lake and Monticello will be the favorites. Cambridge and Becker also will be tough. In Section 7aa it could be anyone's to take. This year we moved to 3 classes, (about time) so some of the bigger schools we will not be in our section. It will be nice to compete against schools that are the same size as us.



CONTRIBUTED

2021 Viking boys cross country: (in no particular order) Zach Johnson, Alex Dick, Josiah Zderad, Andrew Witkowski, Gabe Wurderman, Travis Mihajilovich, Jarett Nelson, Jordan Strum, Zach Sway, and Paul Boelk. **2021 Viking girls cross country:** (in no particular order) Cora Hudella, Norah Judson, Elinor Tetzloff , Kylie Anderson, Evelina Gilkerson, Rosie Gilkerson, Maddy Doohen, Ruby Hanson, Grace Nigbor, Soliel DeLorge, Hanna Reed, Makenna Peterson, and Sonja Malone.

BLUEJACKET GIRLS SWIMMING AND DIVING



BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR

2021 Bluejacket girls swimming and diving: (front row, from left) Ciara Rawson, Jovie Ebertowski, Svea Ekerholm, Maddy O'Brien, Alexandra Lindman, Taylor Flynn, Alison Willits, Olivia Linder, Sophia Jensrud, Milly Kroschel, Katelin Willits, Per Ekerholm, Arianna Melby, (middle row) Elaina Bellows, Adalyn Schulz, Brynn Jennissen, Alyssa VanHout, Morgan Zdon, Ayla Clark, Jenna Anderson, Annie Hennen, Gracelyn Szynal, Emily Rath, Delanie Walber, Kasey Catton, Emma Bellows, Alaina Christlieb, (back row) Lilia Tohm, Kharis Lund, Norah Haglund, Sophie Robyn, Katelyn Berg, Zoey Pisula, Jillian Edblad, Trinity Smith, Malory Williams, Jenna Kusch, Olivia Thompson, Nadia Timmann, Cassandra Thompson, Olivia Hanson, and Mackayla Nestrud.

Head coach: Gary Gotz
Assistant coaches: Kate Goebel - Varsity Asst., Jamie Dary- JV Asst., Parker Brown - Diving
Who are the players to watch this year? We have a very strong group of Senior this year including Emma Bellows, Katelyn Berg, Kasey Catton, Mae-gan Jones , Millie Kroschel, Zoey Pisula and led by Captains Jillian Edblad and Caiya Gibbs. Some other strong section performers this year will be Juniors Olivia Hansen and Cassandra Thompson , Sophomores Quincy Gibbs and Ari Melby, and Freshman Olivia Thompson.
What will be the keys to the team's success this year? Lots of hard Work! We have a fairly large, fairly young squad this year so the key will be for the older girls to step up and be leaders and the younger girls to follow and find their place in the lineup.
What challenges will the team face? We are young and we do not have a great number of year round swimmers compared to many of the teams we compete against, and that's okay. We just have to work that much harder during the season
What are your goals for the 2021 season? Our goals for this year are to grow as a team and for everyone to work hard, find success and most of all have fun!
Who is the opponent to watch for this year in the conference/section? Conference - Monticello is always powerful. Section 7AA Blaine and Anoka will return strong teams this year.

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PUBLIC HEARING

**NORTH BRANCH
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the North Branch City Council will hold a meeting for a PUBLIC HEARING on Tuesday, September 14, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, at the North Branch City Hall, 6408 Elm Street, North Branch, Minnesota. The purpose of this public hearing is to allow the public to give testimony regarding the establishment of a police body-worn camera program for the City of North Branch Police Department and to provide comments regarding the draft North Branch Police Department Body-Worn Camera Policy. The hearing shall continue until all evidence and testimony have been received.
Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on Sept. 2, 2021

PROBATE

**STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF CHISAGO
DISTRICT COURT
FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT**
Court File No.: 13-PR-21-98
In Re: Estate of Shane William Arndt,
Decedent.
NOTICE AND ORDER FOR HEARING ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION OF INTESTACY, DETERMINATION OF HEIRS, AND APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE
A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy, Determination of Heirs and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed with this Court. If no objections are filed, Beverly J. Arndt whose address is PO Box 552 Rush City, MN 55069, will be appointed as personal representative(s) of the Estate of the Decedent in an unsupervised administration.
Any objection to the Petition must be mailed or filed in the electronic filing system, together with the court filing fee, to Chisago County Judicial Center, 313 N Main St, Center City, MN 55012. If proper, and no objections are filed, the Petition may be granted.
IT IS ORDERED AND NOTICE IS GIVEN that a default hearing has been scheduled on September 7, 2021 at 8:30 a.m. by this Court. No appearances are required. Any Objection must be either mailed or electronically filed instead of made

personally and must be received by 9:00 a.m. on the date of the default hearing or it may note considered. Due to Court Order ADM20-80001 of the Minnesota Supreme court, this court will rule on the Petition in this case after administrative review of submissions without appearance unless an objection is filed. This hearing will be held via Remote Zoom.
If objections are filed, the hearing will be rescheduled. No telephone conference will be required unless there are questions.
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that notice shall be given by:
publication once a week for two consecutive weeks in a legal newspaper in the county where the hearing is to be held, the last publication of which is to be at least ten (10) days before the time set for hearing; and
mailing via U.S. Post Service a copy of this Notice and Order at least fourteen (14) days prior to the hearing date to all interested parties and parties who have filed a demand for notice.
A charitable beneficiary may request notice of the probate proceedings be given to the Attorney General pursuant of the Minnesota Statutes section 501B.41, subdivision 5.
NOTICE OF FURTHER GIVEN that (subject to Minn. Stat. 524.3-801) all creditors having claims against the Estate are required to present the claims to the Court administrator within four months after the date of this Notice or the Claims will be barred.
BY THE COURT
Dated: August 18, 2021
12:10:01 p.m.
Catherine Trevino
Judge of District Court
Attorney for the Petitioner
Joseph M. Flanders
Flanders Law Firm LLC
2600 Eagan Woods Drive Suite 270
Eagan, MN 55121
Phone: 612-424-0398
Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on Aug. 26 Sept. 2, 2021

FORECLOSURES

**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 a mortgage dated **December 23, 2005**, executed by **Richard Weikert, a single person**, as mortgagor(s) to **S & C Bank** as mortgagee in the original or maximum principal amount of Twenty-three Thousand One Hundred Seventy-five and 00/100 (\$23,175.00) Dollars, recorded with the **Isanti County Recorder, State of Minnesota**, on **January 4, 2006**, as Document No. **360441**; which was thereafter assigned to **Lake Area Bank** by instrument dated **February 15, 2008** and recorded with the **Isanti County Recorder on October 8, 2008 as Doc. No. 393554**; that there has been compliance with all notice provisions and conditions precedent as required by law; that no action or proceeding has been instituted at law to recover any part of the debt secured by said mortgage; that there is claimed to be due thereon the sum of Eighteen Thousand Eight Hundred Fifty-two and 73/100 (\$18,852.73) Dollars on this date; and that pursuant to the power of sale therein contained, the mortgage will be foreclosed and the tract of land lying and being in Isanti County, Minnesota, described as follows, to-wit:
Lot 2, Block 11, Villages on the Rum Third Addition, Isanti County, Minnesota.
Property address: 924 Whiskey Road, Isanti, MN 55040
Parcel I.D. #: **16-096-1310**
Transaction Agent: **N/A**
Transaction agent's Mortgage Identification Number: **N/A**
Mortgage Originator: **S & C Bank** will be sold by the sheriff of said county at public auction on **October 20, 2021**, at **10:00 o'clock A.M.** at **Sheriff's Office, 2440 Main Street South, Cambridge, Minnesota 55008**, to pay the debt secured by the mortgage, including costs and attorneys' fees allowed by law subject to redemption by the mortgagor(s), his heirs or assigns, within **six (6)** months from the date of sale.
TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, unless otherwise provided by law, the date on or before which the mortgagor(s) must vacate the property if the mortgage is not reinstated under Section 580.30 or the property is not redeemed under Section 580.23 is **11:59 p.m. on April 20, 2022**, (if that date is a Saturday, Sunday or holiday, then

the date to vacate is the next date thereafter which is not a Saturday, Sunday or 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.
Notice Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act. This communication is from a debt collector and is an attempt to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for that purpose.
Dated: August 18, 2021
Lake Area Bank, Assignee of Mortgagee
Christopher L. Olson, GDO LAW, Attorney for Lake Area Bank, 4770 White Bear Parkway, #100, White Bear Lake, MN 55110 (651) 426-3249
Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on Aug. 19, 26, Sept. 2, 9, 16, 23, 2021

NOTICES

CAMBRIDGE SELF STORAGE AUCTION
This is notice of intent to sell items in unit A80 at Cambridge Self Storage. If Joe Bauer fails to pay in full his unit by 9:00 a.m. on 09/10/2021, His unit containing household and garage items will be auctioned 09/13/2021 at 9:00 a.m. at www.storageauctions.net.
Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on Aug. 26, Sept. 2, 2021

NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS
9/2/2021
Minnesota Housing Finance Agency
400 Wabasha Street North, Suite 400
St. Paul, MN 55102
Aaron Keniski, 651-296-4452
These notices shall satisfy two separate but related procedural

requirements for activities to be undertaken by the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency.
REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS
On or about September 18, 2021, the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency will submit a request to the HUD administering agency for the release of the HUD Risk Share Mortgage Insurance Program under Section 542 (c) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 to undertake a project known as Heritage Court Apartments for the purpose of the construction of 32 units of permanent residential housing for Multifamily use with estimated project costs of \$10,201,132 and an estimated HUD Risk Share loan of \$902,000. The project will be located at the southeast corner of the intersection of Cherokee Avenue and 400th Street in North Branch, MN 55056.
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
The Minnesota Housing Finance Agency has determined that the project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency, 400 Wabasha Street North, Suite 400, St. Paul, Minnesota 55102, where the ERR can be examined or copied weekdays 8:30 A.M. to 5 P.M. The ERR will also be made available to the public for review either electronically or by U.S. mail. Please submit your request by email to aaron.keniski@state.mn.us.
PUBLIC COMMENTS
Any individual, group, or agency disagreeing with this determination or wishing to comment on the project may submit written comments to the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency. All comments received by September 17, 2021 will be considered by the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which of the above Notices they are addressing.
RELEASE OF FUNDS
The Minnesota Housing Finance Agency certifies to HUD that Rachel Robinson in her capacity as Certified Environmental Officer consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation

to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. HUD's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency to use Program funds.
OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS
HUD will accept objections to its release of funds and the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency's certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency; (b) the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58; (c) the grant recipient has committed funds or incurred costs not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by HUD; or (d) another Federal Agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted via email in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to Ray Stiles at the Minnesota Office of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Multifamily, at Ray.Stiles@hud.gov. Potential objectors should contact HUD via email to verify the actual last day of the objection period.
Rachel Robinson, Certifying Officer
Minnesota Housing Finance Agency
Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on Sept. 2, 2021

**BRAHAM MINI STORAGE
NOTICE OF SALE OF STORED PROPERTY**
Notice is hereby given that the contents in the following storage unit will be sold to the highest bidder to satisfy charges due for rent plus incurred costs by Braham Mini-Storage:
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Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on Sept. 2, 9, 2021



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351 Antiques

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369 Want to Buy

Cash paid for old sports card collections. Call Tom 612-701-7396.

CASH PAID for sports cards collections, action figures and video games. Will travel to seller. Call/Text Travis 612-208-5169.

404 Garage Sales

Multi-family garage sale, 319 S. Park St., Mora. Wednesday, Sept. 1, noon-4pm, Thursday, Sept. 2, 8am-4pm, Friday, Sept. 3, 8am-4pm. Energy King wood stove, and stove cord of birch wood, \$500, Antique wood table and four chairs, oak kitchen cabinets, fishing equipment, trail cameras, GPS, interior doors w/frames, medical equipment/Hoyer-lift \$100, dehumidifiers, big mirrors, PVC plumbing, aluminum saw horses, trailer tail lights, porcelain dolls, blankets, quilts, towels, turkey deep fry burner, gas leaf blower and much much more.

Moving Sale: 9/3 7am-?. 12foot aluminum boat w/trolling motor/oars/decoys/seats/cushions. TV cabinets, love seats, Generac-generator, coffee table, push-mower, air compressor, weed-whip, fishing equipment, oak patio door valance, weight lifting bench w/weights, lawn/garden, lots of miscellaneous. 2590 Ivory Street, Mora. 8.5miles NW of Mora, off Joplin, watch for signs.

404 Garage Sales

Garage Sale: 9/2 12-6pm, 9/3-9/6 8am-5pm, Clothes;name brand mens, womens, teens, newborn- 18-months, mens tools, many cookie jars, baby items, misc. 5414 421st Ave NW.

506 Real Estate

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GREEN THUMB FAVORITES

Your Lawn and Garden Guide

Shade trees that can make yards more comfortable

Various factors motivate the decisions homeowners make when designing their landscapes. Some may be motivated by the ways additions will affect the resale value of their homes, while others may be guided by a love for a particular type of plant. Comfort is yet another motivator, and shade trees can make yards more comfortable as the mercury rises. According to the Arbor Day Foundation, the following are some popular shade trees that can add beauty to a landscape and make it more comfortable come the dog days of summer.

- Quaking aspen:** The quaking aspen has the widest natural range of any tree in North America, spanning 47 degrees of latitude, 110 degrees of longitude (nine time zones) and elevations from sea level to timberline. That impressive range is no doubt why the United States Forest Service notes that the quaking aspen can grow in greatly diverse regions, environments and communities.
- Northern catalpa:** The Arbor Day Foundation notes that the northern catalpa is easily identifiable thanks to its heart-shaped leaves and twisting trunks and branches. Nature enthusiasts, and particularly those who enjoy birdwatching, may be happy to learn that the flowers of the catalpa are frequently visited by hummingbirds.
- Red sunset maple:** Its name alone makes many people think of lazy summer days spent lounging in the yard. The red sunset maple provides ample shade and comes with the added benefit of producing an awe-inspiring blend of red and orange leaves come the fall. Red sunset maples can survive in a range of habitats and their adaptable

roots means they can thrive in various soil types.

- Northern red oak:** The state tree of New Jersey, the northern red oak is, according to the Arbor Day Foundation, both beloved for its aesthetic appeal and valued for its adaptability and usefulness. Northern red oaks can tolerate urban conditions, but they do not do well in hot climates.
- Sawtooth oak:** Another tree that produces some awe-inspiring color, the sawtooth oak is a durable, adaptable shade tree. Golden yellow leaves in the spring will give way to dark green in summer, only to turn yellow and golden brown in the fall. Experts note that the sawtooth oak can thrive in warmer climates where shade trees that can coexist with high temperatures can be hard to find.

Shade trees can add beauty to a property and make a yard more comfortable. Homeowners are urged to discuss shade trees with a local lawn and garden professional prior to planting.

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Deadline: Monday, September 13, 2021, 4:30 p.m. AA/EOO

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September 2021



Mary Stanko

Executive Director Chamber of Commerce

I have been asked numerous times, "What is a Chamber of Commerce? What do you guys do?" Several of our members are not really sure of the benefits of belonging to a chamber. Just a little history - The first chamber of commerce was founded in 1599 in Marseille, France as the "Chambre de Commerce". As a non-governmental institution, a chamber of commerce has no direct role in the writing and passage of laws and regulations that affect businesses. However, it does lobby for businesses on a local, state and national level. We are a non-profit organization and solely membership based. The chamber works for the benefit of its members and the community by offering:

Regional Collaboration - networking on a regional level with local city governmental positions, county organizations and state authorities.

Professional Development - The chamber on a weekly basis seeks development training for our members and their employees. Additionally, your chamber will be holding specialized training sessions that will present here in North Branch instrumental topics for the health and well-being of our business community.

Marketing & Promotional Resources - we daily promote our members to visitors and residents alike seeking local business resources. The door is open to walk-in requests 52 weeks a year! Additionally, we offer free marketing strategies, affordable marketing opportunities in various distributions and social media advertising.

Event & Community Involvement - We currently are planning our 2021 Fall Harvest Festival held on September 25th and the "Fruits of the Harvest" Wine Tasting event being held on September 24th. There will be so much happening in 2022!!

Come by and talk with me any time about how your local Chamber of Commerce can benefit you! As always, the door is open. The coffee is on. You are always welcome to stop in and talk together about the future.



Charlie Hult

Board of Directors

It's hard to think September is already here and Fall is just around the corner. To say this year have been a little crazy is a big understatement, I remember

everyone saying I can't wait for 2020 to be done with and 2021 to begin. Well, so far, I feel 2021 have been just as crazy, in my 44 years with Lambert Lumber, I have never seen the prices of materials climb to record highs, and along with that the shortage of other materials throughout the industry.

On the bright side, prices have started to come down and lead times have started to shrink. I heard COVID was a big part in this. Mills had planned on a 20% drop in the economy, so they cut back in producing some of the building materials; but, new housing never slowed down and everyone was behind manufacturing these products, along with staffing, trucking and so it goes.

Growing up in North Branch we have all seen our community change over the years and the one thing that I feel hasn't changed is pride that we all have in our community. There are so many good things that are happening in our city, from the Schools, Businesses, Churches, and the Chamber.

It was great to have Midsummer by Legion back again along with the Chambers', golf outing, Fall Harvest Festival, Wine Tasting; and all the other community events sponsored by our local businesses and Churches.

I just want to part by saying this will be my last year as a Chamber Board member and over the years it's been a pleasure working with the staff and other board members, I would encourage anyone to become a board member, if possible, and get involve with the different committees of the chamber. It's a great experience in helping our community.



NORTH BRANCH AREA
CHAMBER of COMMERCE

Fall Harvest Festival

Sun. Sept. 19th - Omelette Breakfast

- American Legion North Branch
- 8:00 am to Noon
- Brought to you by: Son of the American Legion

Fri. Sept 24th - "Fruits of the Harvest" Wine Tasting Event

- Tailgater's North Branch, MN 55056
- Buy Tickets Online @ www.northbranchchamber.com

Sat. Sept. 25th - Fall Foliage Car Rally

- Anderson and Koch Ford Dealership North Branch
- 8:30 am Registration - 9:30 am Tour Begins

Sat. Sept. 25th - Fall Harvest Festival

- Central Park North Branch
- 9:00 am until 4:00 pm
- So Many Vendors, Scarecrow Contest, Silent Auction, Kid's Attractions, Food Trucks, & more!

Sun. Sept. 26th - St. Gregory's Booya

- St. Gregory's Catholic Church North Branch
- 10:30 am to 1:30 pm
- Silent Auction, Mystery Wine Booth, Prizes, Cash Raffle.

Join us!

A teacher takes a hand, opens a mind, and touches a heart.

On August 26th the chamber had the pleasure of welcoming 19 new teachers to our community! Please take a moment to welcome them~

Appreciated

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Kaiya Carlson	Brianne McClellan	
Jamie Dary	Whitney Murphy	
Annetta Dickman	Taylor Neil	
Jake Harren	Alyssa Nelson	
Amy Kahl	Rachel Nordenstrom	
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		Natalie Sandstrom
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Fruits of the Harvest WINE TASTING INVITATION

September 24, 2021

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