

**SPECIAL PRIMARY ELECTION:** Get to know more about the Isanti Mayor candidates. **PAGE 7**

## Isanti seeks outside help for finances

BY BILL STICKELS III  
EDITOR@COUNTYSTAR.COM

Still reeling from the unexpected death of Finance Director Mike Betker, the city of Isanti will look towards a familiar outside agency for assistance with the more detailed tasks within the finance department until a permanent replacement can be hired.

According to City Administrator Josi Wood, she, along with Assistant Finance Director Pamela Dahlheimer and other staff can handle much of the day-to-day finance tasks. However, many aspects of the job are above any of their levels of knowledge. For those duties, Wood requested the council approve hiring Abdo Financial Services, LLC.

Wood said the contract would be for up to 10 hours per week, with up to four hours being done on-site and the remainder being done remotely. The contract would run from March 24 through Aug. 29, with the city being able to cancel the contract with 30 days' notice.

"We are hoping we will be able to get a (permanent) finance director by July 1," Wood said. "Should that not be possible, I want to make sure we have everything solidified through the budgeting process."

Besides specifically assisting with the 2026 budget and capital improvement process, they would assist with candidate interviews for the permanent finance director position. She said the estimated cost would be \$3,900 per week, but that

amount would fluctuate depending on the actual hours worked and if there would be more or less time needed on site as the city would be covering travel expenses.

Interim Mayor Luke Merrill questioned if the city could get a lower rate if they sent out requests for proposals.

"I know that a lot of business accountants are around 100 to 150 (dollars) per hour," Merrill said.

Wood said they might, however, the city needs someone helping out immediately. She added she was already familiar with Abdo since they were the ones who the city contracted with prior to Betker being hired, and she was satisfied with their work back then.

Councilmember George Hemen wanted to make sure that whoever was doing the work — either in the short-term or long-term, was following Betker's "model."

"He has a very unique model compared to other finance directors," Hemen said. "I would hate to have it completely redone and a new model put into place."

"The interim services would be working hand-in-hand with myself," Wood said. "We would be using the same model, at least through all the interim services."

Merrill offered that the city go with Abdo for the time being, but also to do an RFP to see if another company was willing to ask for a lower rate. That proposal was unanimously approved by the council.

**'He has a very unique model compared to other finance directors. I would hate to have it completely redone and a new model put into place.'**

**George Hemen**  
Isanti Council member



BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR

### CIHS has talent

Aliviah Xiong performs a traditional dance during the Cambridge-Isanti High School Talent Show. Proceeds from the show's admission go to the High School Student Council.

## Isanti County holding 'Beyond the High' presentation April 16

The Isanti County Substance Use & Recovery Coalition will host a community panel event focused on the dangers of cannabis use, addiction, and psychosis on Wednesday, April 16, at the Performing Arts Isanti High School Auditorium. "Beyond the High" features Heather and Randy Bacchus and their family's tragic experience with high-potency cannabis and youth mental health.

"Beyond the High" will offer an overview of the potency of today's cannabis and its negative impact on the neurological development of adolescent brains. The Bacchus' story highlights their son's encounter

with cannabis at age 15 and the struggles to overcome its addictive nature. Through their painful experience, they learned that cannabis could lead to psychosis, depression, anxiety, and suicidal ideation. It resulted in their son's death at age 21.

Over the last decade, the concentration of THC has increased in commercial products, and concentrations exceeding 30% are not uncommon in states that have legalized recreational use.

"The weed of yesterday is not the weed of today," says Michelle Dowling, LADC, social worker for Isanti County and Co-Founder and Chair of the Drug

Coalition Board. "It's important for everyone to know that and for adults to prevent use in young people's lives, whose bodies are not yet fully developed and can suffer much harm later on."

The strength and addictive properties of these cannabis products can create even more severe psychological and emotional issues, especially when consumed at younger ages.

Reliable marijuana research has proven difficult due to the variety of ways people ingest cannabis,

SEE PRESENTATION, PAGE 8

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# Cambridge teen meets with Congress in Washington, D.C. advocating for Tourette Syndrome Community

15-year-old Eric Baar from Cambridge was one of 108 young people selected nationwide to attend the Tourette Association of America's (TAA) Youth Ambassador training in Washington, D.C., where they met with Rep. Pete Stauber and the offices of Rep. Angie Craig, Sen. Amy Klobuchar, and Sen. Tina Smith to advocate for greater support for people living with Tourette Syndrome and other Tic Disorders.

It is estimated that 1 in 50 school-aged children in the U.S. are affected by Tourette Syndrome or another Persistent Tic Disorder, conditions that cause involuntary movements and sounds known as tics. Tourette Syndrome is a neurological disorder that impacts individuals of all races, ethnicities, and genders. Due to the complexity of the condition, approximately 50% of those with Tourette Syndrome remain undiagnosed. Because the condition is highly stigmatized and often misunderstood, individuals with Tourette Syndrome often face bullying, misdiagnoses, and a systemic lack of support, all of which can have a deep impact on quality of life and sense of belonging.

The TAA Youth Ambassador Program brings together, trains, and supports youth, teens, and young adults to advocate for people living with Tourette Syndrome and other Tic Disorders in their community. The goal is for TAA Youth Ambassadors to educate their peers, school administrators, local leaders, and elected officials about Tourette Syndrome. TAA Youth

Ambassadors spread tolerance and understanding while dispelling myths and stereotypes that are often associated with this misunderstood and misdiagnosed condition. Learn more about the TAA's Ambassador programs. "I'm really excited to be chosen as a Youth Ambassador! I want to help people understand what Tourette Syndrome is all about," said Eric. "I know that by sharing my story with members of Congress and other leaders, I can help others feel less alone and show that everyone deserves respect and support."

**'The Youth Ambassador Program is designed to strengthen the resilience of young people living with Tourette Syndrome and other Tic Disorders.'**

**Amanda Talty**  
President & CEO of TAA

"The Youth Ambassador Program is designed to strengthen the resilience of young people living with Tourette Syndrome and other Tic Disorders, while providing them with the tools needed to take action and advocate for change at the personal, local, and national level," said Amanda Talty, President and CEO of the TAA. "By sharing their stories and experiences, these ambassadors not only educate others about Tourette Syndrome, but also inspire hope, and foster a sense of community."

In Washington, D.C., Eric took part in public speaking workshops, built leadership and advocacy skills, and connected with other young advocates. The training culminated in the TAA's annual 'Trip to the Hill' on Tourette

National Advocacy Day, where Eric met with congressional representatives to share his personal story and raise awareness about the challenges of living with Tourette Syndrome. - Tourette's Association of America



Eric Baar from Cambridge in Washington D.C. as a Youth Ambassador for the Tourette Syndrome Community.

## Local residents honored for dedicated service to area senior living communities

BY JULIE VENNEWITZ  
JULIE.VENNEWITZ@VIVIE.ORG

Each year, LeadingAge Minnesota's Stars Among Us awards recognize individuals whose commitment and dedication enhance the quality of life for seniors and their communities. Two of this year's regional award recipients are Shay Grant of Cambridge and Dale Oscarson of Rush City.

Shay Grant, Life Enrichment Director at The Levande by Vivie, was honored as Caregiver of the Year. Shay has been a dedicated and inspiring member of The Levande community since it opened. Starting as a housekeeper, she worked her way up to become the Life Enrichment Director, embodying servant leadership and an unwav-

ering commitment to both residents and team members. Her career path reflects her relentless dedication to improving the lives of everyone around her.

Dale Oscarson received the Volunteer of the Year Award in recognition of his service at The Rushseba by Vivie. After facing personal health challenges in 2022, Dale turned his experience into a positive force, focusing on giving back to the community that helped him in his time of need. He now visits The Rushseba twice a week, providing support, activities, and bringing smiles to the faces of all residents, in rain, snow, or sunshine—even driving his golf cart there to ensure he never misses a visit.



LeadingAge Minnesota President and CEO Kari Thurlow (left) and Board Chair Jerry Carley (right) with Shay Grant (center).



LeadingAge Minnesota President and CEO Kari Thurlow (left) and Board Chair Jerry Carley (right) with Dale Oscarson (center).

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**MON, WED & FRI**  
**Exercise with Connie**  
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**MON & WED**  
**500 Cards**  
 At the Chisago County Senior Center 38790 6th Ave., North Branch at 12:45 p.m.

**MON & THUR**  
**Alcoholics Anonymous**  
 7p.m. Main Street Church 6500 Main Street, North Branch, MN. Enter east door. Informational Hotline is 763-312-1088

**MON - FRI**  
**Senior Dining**  
 North Branch, Chisago County Senior Center 11:45 a.m. Diners need to pre-register at least one day in advance call 651-674-1956 between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. An annual registration form is required before dining.

**MONDAYS**  
**Bridge**  
 1 to 3 p.m. at the Cambridge SAC, 140 Buchanan St, Cambridge

**Scrabble (2nd Monday)**  
 10 a.m. to Noon at the Cambridge SAC, 140 Buchanan St, Cambridge

**Women's only Adult Children of Alcoholics and Dysfunctional Families**  
 7 p.m. at Cambridge Lutheran Church, 621 Old Main St N, Cambridge Mn 55008 For more information contact Rebecca at 612-702-2844 or CoraJayne 612-210-1605

**Mahjong**  
 Noon to 3 p.m. at Cambridge SAC, 140 Buchanan St, Cambridge

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

**TUES & THURS**  
**Boxing for Those w/Parkinson's**  
 Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10:15 a.m. and 5 p.m. at 115 Adams Street South, Cambridge. For more information, call 763-221-6883.

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

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

**Memory Cafe**  
 A social gathering for people with memory loss and their loved ones to connect, build support networks, and have fun. First Tuesday of every month, 10 - 11:30 a.m. at GracePointe Crossing Heritage Center, 322 River Hills Place North, Cambridge. Contact Julie at 763-306-5066 for more info.

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

**Dominos**



North Branch Public Library is hosting a yoga class from 6:30 to 7:15 p.m. April 3

At the Chisago County Senior Center 38790 6th Ave North Branch at 10 a.m.

**Dominoes**  
 10 a.m. to Noon at the Cambridge SAC

**PrimeTime Singers Rehearsal**  
 Senior citizens, age 60 and over. 1:30 p.m., at Cambridge Lutheran Church, 621 Old N. Main St, downstairs in the Choir Room. No auditions or fees required; new members always welcome. 612-619-2111.

**WEDNESDAYS**  
**Cribbage**  
 9 to 11 a.m. at the Cambridge SAC, 140 Buchanan St, Cambridge

**Wizard**  
 11 a.m. to noon at the Cambridge SAC, 140 Buchanan St, Cambridge

**Pinochle**  
 12:30 to 3 p.m. at the Cambridge SAC

**Mahjong**  
 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. at the Cambridge SAC, 140 Buchanan St, Cambridge

**Alanon**  
 7 p.m. at the Isanti Alano Club, 790 Heritage Blvd. Isanti. 763-444-4605

**Painting with Ms. Jackie**  
 from 1 to 2:30 p.m. through April 23 at Cambridge Library. Each session has a different topic. Geared toward ages 12 and up. Registration is required. Please register if you can attend all sessions.

**THURSDAYS**  
**East Central Baby Cafe**  
 Free drop-in breastfeeding support from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Adult Enrichment Center, 540 5th Ave NW, Cambridge, MN. For more info. call 763-689-1711.

**Cambridge-Edgewood AFG**  
 Cambridge-Edgewood Al-Anon Family Group meets from 7-8 p.m. at Cambridge Lutheran Church, 621 Old Main Street N. Visit minnesotanorth-al-anon.org for more information.

**Parkinson's Support Group**  
 Third Thursday of the month - 1-2:30 p.m. Walker Methodist Levande, 2011 6th Lane SE, Cam-

bridge, MN for more info call 763-325-0100

**Bingo**  
 At the Chisago County Senior Center 38790 6th Ave North Branch at 10a.m.

**Hand and Foot**  
 At the Chisago County Senior Center 38790 6th Ave North Branch at 12:30p.m.

**500**  
 12:30 to 3 p.m. at the Cambridge SAC, 140 Buchanan St, Cambridge

**Bunco**  
 Third Thursday 10 a.m. to Noon at the Cambridge SAC, 140 Buchanan St, Cambridge

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

**Fresh Beginnings Alanon Family Group**  
 From 7-8 p.m. at Access Church, 4359 392nd Street, North Branch. Visit minnesota-al-anon.org for more information.

org for more information.

**Tax help with AARP**  
 AARP tax-aid volunteers will be available for assistance by appointment only at the North Branch Area Library between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. through April 10. For an appointment, please call Seven County Senior Federation at 320-679-4700.

**FRIDAYS**  
**Cribbage**

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

**SATURDAYS**  
**Tax help with AARP**  
 AARP tax-aid volunteers will be available for assistance by appointment only at the Cambridge Public Library between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. through April 12. For an appointment, please call Seven County Senior Federation at 320-679-4700.

**APRIL 3**  
**AI for Small Business**  
 Noon at the Chisago County HRA/EDA Office in North Branch. This interactive workshop is designed to demystify artificial intelligence and introduce business owners to its transformative power. Register: [https://mnscu.rschooltoday.com/public/costoption/class\\_id/293569](https://mnscu.rschooltoday.com/public/costoption/class_id/293569)

**Yoga at the library**  
 Join the North Branch Public Library from 6:30 to 7:15 p.m. for gentle, slow-flowing yoga open to all levels. Led by local registered yoga teacher Ursula. This class is intended for adults. Registration at [eclib.org](http://eclib.org) required.

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## There's a whole lot of pots and kettles out there

I feel like I'm becoming a broken record on this, but the two major political parties continue to show their hypocrisy and it is driving us independents crazy.

The latest major dust-up between the two parties centers around Tesla. Republicans are lambasting Democrats who are turning their backs on the American manufacturer of E-vehicles because of the actions and statements made by co-founder and CEO Elon Musk through his role in leading DOGE. They're not wrong with this criticism. E-vehicles have been promoted by Democrats as desperately needed in the future to slow down environmental impact. But now that the CEO of one of the top makers of EVs has partnered with President Trump, all of a sudden he and his company are their mortal enemies. And it's not like they are simply switching to another EV company. They are going back to gas-fueled cars.

Worse yet, many Democrats, including Minnesota Governor Tim Walz, almost are giddy at the financial downfall of an American company.

However, Republicans are just as guilty of being hypocrites on this topic. For many years, they have looked down on EVs, even mocking them. But now that Musk is one of the party's biggest supporters (both vocally and financially), those same people, including President Trump himself, who loves repeating the insipid saying "Drill baby, drill," are now actively promoting the buying of Teslas.

Republicans also aren't shy about delighting in the financial downfall of an American company simply because they don't agree with something associated with it. The prime example of this is the numerous posts over this weekend celebrating the poor box office results of a "woke" movie version of Disney's "Snow White."

Another recent example is the whole Gulf of Mexico/America fiasco. Republicans are offended by the long-standing name of the body of water and are insisting everyone fall in line with its renaming. Democrats, on the other hand, are calling this push trivial and a waste of time.

Funny, but I remember those exact same sentiments being expressed back during Minnesota's debate over renaming Lake Calhoun to Bde Maka Ska. Only then, it was the Democrats insisting on the name change and the Republicans were in opposition of it.

Then there's the whole issue of censorship. Republicans have been touting how they are banning censorship, and they immediately turn around and order the removal of all things that have even a hint of being DEI. Meanwhile, the Democrats are rightly crying foul on that, but at the same time continuing to push for the removal of historical pieces they find offensive.

I could go on, but I will end this column with a saying both political parties should heed: "When you point your finger at something, there are three fingers pointing back at you."

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



Worth a Thousand Words

Bill Stickels III



### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Make America united again

To the editor,

How sad it is to see those who hate Israel and Jewish people so vocally hateful and violent. I remember after the Holocaust and all the horrors revealed, the phrase was "Never again." Supporting terrorism and vicious murder and attacking the innocent is hard to understand.

Elon Musk just sent a space ship to rescue those left in the space station; this is the same man who is helping this administration to cut waste, fraud and abuse, in our government finances. He is donating his talents and time. We thank him for volunteering and helping. He is taking attacks on his businesses, and receiving death threats, and why?

Those attacking do not want to accept the election results. Most voters want a smaller government with the waste and fraud gone, also the border enforced and illegal criminals bringing in drugs being deported.

Why did the Biden administration bring in all these illegals and criminals, they never told us why. Most voters want change, to have safe streets, laws being enforced, respect for one another again, free speech. Not right or left, but one nation under God with liberty and justice for all.

Accountability should be restored. When rioters destroy property, they should face consequences. I thought that is why we have laws. Policemen, firemen, emergency personnel, our servicemen and women, all these are working for our safety, risking their lives for us; we appreciate and thank them.

I think a Bible verse fits here --Isiah 5:20 Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil, who put darkness for light, and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter.

Our country has been through many battles for decency, law and order. Our founders faced much opposition and we have had many wars. I believe, pray and hope our Country will come together

again. We have a great country, and great people. We need to pray for those who hate to have a change of heart, and love freedom of speech, and respect for others.

Another Bible verse—Luke 10:27 You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself.

Let's love and respect one another. For you are our hope, O Lord. We can make America united again.

Judy Hansen  
Cambridge

#### There are no kings in America

To the editor,

The first three articles of the U.S. Constitution establish separate powers — our system of checks and balances. The Office of the President does not interpret the law. The judicial branch does. When the president says that a judge is a "radical activist" because he informs the president that what the president is doing is not legal, the president is actively undermining the rule of law.

When the president's entire cabinet and Republicans in Congress all relay the same message, calling for impeachment of judges who do not agree with the president, something Bush-appointed Supreme Court John Roberts admonished, (pointing out that the appellate process is used, impeaching judges is not), well, then, you have an organized propaganda machine intentionally working to undermine the U.S. Constitution and the limits placed on the office of president.

There are no kings in America. Join protest movements at every state capital across the United States, noon, April 5. The Constitution is a lot more than the 2nd Amendment.

LW Nelson  
Cambridge

## Your Best Source for Community Information

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# Cambridge re-introduces monthly column

In the summer of 2021, the city of Cambridge engaged in a strategic planning process. The plan, available on the city's website, included eight core strategies to achieve the City Council's vision for Cambridge.

One of these strategies is to foster engaged, informed, and involved citizens and community. Over the years the city has explored several avenues to improve its communication with residents, ranging from expanded use of social media, to podcasts, to quarterly newsletters. Each communication method has its own strengths and shortcomings in a way that has often left citizens feeling uninformed, and the city feeling frustrated as it seeks to reach its citizens and provide effective, up-to-date communication on local efforts.

One effort to improve communications is the implementation of a formal communications plan. This plan, approved by the city council during the March 3, 2025 meeting, provides directives on what is expected of staff and council as the city looks to provide information to the public. This plan details roles and responsibilities around communication, it details the platforms the city will be communicating on, and provides basic guidance on minimum communication levels that can be expected in a given year.

This includes guidance on informational posts that will appear on social media, as well as a schedule outlining monthly guest columns that will be authored by one of the city's department heads on topics that are important to all residents. Examples of these columns, which the public will see throughout 2025, include: a primer on the 2026 budget process and information about what a tax levy is and how it is different from tax rate, or a column from the new Chief of Police outlining the department's front-facing efforts to be more visible and approachable in the community.

The city of Cambridge aims to be more active in its participation in both the Isanti-Chisago County Star and County News-Review newspapers, in its presence on social media platforms including Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn, as well as its updates to the city website.

One item to highlight on the city website is the relatively new "projects" tab. This is a feature where the city intends to provide the most current information possible on high-profile topics of community interest such as the Highway 95 expansion project, the Cambridge Shores project, the city's legislative priorities, etc.

I sincerely hope that this thoughtful, and intentional, focus on enhanced communication helps Cambridge residents feel more informed about their city government. We have a fantastic community full of people who want to see Cambridge thrive. Hopefully, this communications effort can be a step in the right direction and help residents feel more informed about, and connected to, their city government.

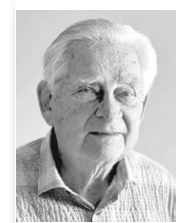
**EVAN VOGEL is the City Administrator for the city of Cambridge. If you have questions about this column, please feel free to email him at [evogel@ci.cambridge.mn.us](mailto:evogel@ci.cambridge.mn.us) or contact City Hall at (763) 689-3211.**



**Cambridge City Views**  
Evan Vogel

# Reporting from Southwest Florida

Kathy and I are fortunate to have returned to the Southwest Florida area to enjoy the sunshine and reunite with friends. Hurricane Ian devastated Legacy Harbour Marina in Ft. Myers where we slipped our boat for 30 plus years. This year we rented a home for three months on a canal in Cape Coral.



**About the Town**  
Gene Johnson

Wood structures on Ft. Myers Beach, with few exceptions, are gone. There is more sand than buildings, leaving people homeless, businesses without customers, and a large amount of insurance claims piling up. The tourist industry is devastated.

Legacy Harbour and City Marina in Ft. Myers were a total loss. Legacy Harbour is underway to rebuild on the same footprint. This project will begin before the year is over. The marina of 131 slips was almost totally destroyed by Hurricane Ian with a 12-foot surge driven by a 150-mph wind. The surge lasted four and a half hours. There were 76 boats in the marina at the time, and 67 were destroyed.

The harbor master, Eric Ravenschlag, continues his duties while the marina is being rebuilt. The loss of customers who became close friends, along with their pets, has emotionally affected his daily life.

Eric said some people who were formerly at Legacy Harbour have purchased boats and are now in other marinas or in homes on the canal. Now, two and a half years later, he is still waiting for his home insurance roof claim to be paid.

Out motor yacht, the Front Page, continues to have life after being salvaged and sold. We have learned that she is high and dry in the mangroves at Cayo Costa State Park. We received a

call from an upstate New York woman wintering at Pine Island. While walking on the beach at Cayo Costa, she found a notebook with personal information about us that came off the Front Page. She thought we should know about it so she contacted us in Cape Coral. We met her on Pine Island at Bokeelia where she handed over the notebook and we had a lovely visit as we thanked her for being a Good Samaritan.

We visited Sanibel Island where recovery from three hurricanes is currently underway. The mangroves had a lot of damage and the dead ones along the roads have been cleared. A group is planting new mangroves in the damaged areas. Sand from the Gulf, which has been washed up over roads, parking lots and lawns, is placed in huge piles. Many businesses are still closed. Rental property is still available, but many rental facilities are closed for repair, now two and a half years later.

Most people think it will be another five to ten years before the area is restored from hurricane damage. Ten years of garbage was created in 24 hours by Hurricane Ian. Overall, the economic impact of Hurricane Ian is estimated to be the largest for the area in 500 years.

## FRIENDS COUNT

Friendships really count. We were invited to dinner by friends Joanne and Jim Benson, originally from Oklahoma. We have boated with them in Florida and the Bahamas. When we arrived at the restaurant, we were seated at a table for seven. They told us we should try to guess who else was coming. We were not successful in guessing, but were pleasantly surprised when Bill and Cathy Swanson from White Bear Lake arrived. They lived across the street from us at the corner of Fourth and Johnson Streets. The Bensons and Swansons had met at their church in Ft. Myers.

**GENE JOHNSON** is Publisher Emeritus of Press Publications, owner of the Isanti-Chisago County Star. He can be reached at [ppinfo@presspubs.com](mailto:ppinfo@presspubs.com).

# Stop sign etiquette



**Ask A Trooper**  
Jesse Grabow

**Question:** I have a new driver in the house. We were having some discussion on where a person needs to stop when coming to a stop sign and other situations. Can you please write about that? Thanks!

**Answer:** Congratulations on the new driver. Here is what a person needs to know when it comes to stopping your vehicle.

**Stop Signs:**

- Come to a complete stop at stop signs.
- If there is a marked stop line, stop before the

line.

- If there is a pedestrian crosswalk, stop before entering the crosswalk.
- Yield the right-of-way to pedestrians, bicyclists, and traffic before proceeding.

**Obstructed View:**

- If your view of the intersection is obstructed, be prepared to stop again for traffic or pedestrians in your path.

**A portion of state statutes were used with permission from the Office of the Revisor of Statutes. If you have any questions concerning traffic related laws or issues in Minnesota, send your questions to Trp. Jesse Grabow – Minnesota State Patrol at 1000 Highway 10 West, Detroit Lakes, MN 56501-2205. (You can follow him on Twitter @MSPPIO\_NW or reach him at, [jesse.grabow@state.mn.us](mailto:jesse.grabow@state.mn.us)).**

# Innovation in the Classroom: Where Learning Comes to Life

Earlier this week I had the opportunity to tour our high school with some community members, and what we experienced left me energized and hopeful—not just for our students, but for the future of education itself.



**NB School News**  
Sara Paul

We visited multiple classrooms and teachers emphasized the importance of building, designing, brainstorming, and pitching. Students are preparing products to sell and working to solve real-world problems with creative solutions. Across the building, the ener-

gy was unmistakable—learning was happening, but it wasn't confined to worksheets or lectures. It was alive.

Behind every one of these student-led projects was something even more powerful: a teacher leading with an entrepreneurial mindset.

The teachers we visited are shifting the model from passive learning to active doing. They're asking students not just to memorize, but to apply; not just to listen, but to create. In doing so, they're helping young people develop the very skills that will serve them in an ever-changing world—critical thinking, adaptability, collaboration, and innovation.

One teacher shared how their students were tasked with developing a product, branding it, and then marketing it to a real audience. Another

had students entering a competition that required them to tackle a current issue using both research and original design. The pride in both the teachers and students was obvious—and well-earned.

These experiences aren't just fun additions to a curriculum. They are the curriculum, reimagined. They represent a shift in how we think about education, one that values application over rote learning, relevance over routine. They reflect a belief that students learn best not by being told, but by doing—and sometimes by failing and trying again.

It's easy to talk about the importance of preparing students for the future. It's much harder to actually do it. But these teachers are doing it every day, often with limited time and resources, driven by a deep belief in their students' poten-

tial.

As we left the school, the community members were in awe of the entrepreneurial mindset of our teachers. I left appreciative of educators who are willing to take risks, try new approaches, and empower students to do the same.

To those teachers, I say thank you. You're not just teaching content—you're shaping creators, problem-solvers, and leaders. You're helping students discover their own potential and giving them the tools to make an impact.

Skol, Vikings. Let's keep pushing forward.

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



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



## OBITUARIES

### Donna Jean Maki

Donna Jean Maki of Anoka, formerly of Glenwood and Cambridge, MN, passed away on March 16, 2025.

Donna was born on January 11, 1931, in Alexandria, MN to Harry and Florence Longaker of Glenwood, MN, owners of the Glenwood Movie Theatre. Donna was the eldest of three sisters. She spent her youth enjoying summers at Lake Minnewaska and helping

at the concession stand of the family's movie theater. She loved watching all the films that came to town.

In 1949, Donna graduated from Glenwood High School and went on to attend St. Cloud State College where she earned her teaching degree. Her third teaching position in 1955 was teaching spring Kindergarten in Barnum, MN. It was in the principal's office on her first day of teaching where Donna met Jack Maki. Donna and Jack were married on July 3, 1955, in Glenwood, MN.

They honeymooned at the Maki Cabin on Lake 14 in Britt, MN. The cabin later became theirs, and they spent many summers there, hosting an annual family reunion every 4th of July.

In July 1956, they moved to Cambridge, MN, where Jack accepted a position as the 9th-grade science teacher. Their son, Jeffrey Allan, was born in September 1956, the second birth in the new Cambridge hospital.

The Maki family grew with the addition of their daughter, Kristine Maria, in June 1965.

Donna continued her teaching career as the kindergarten teacher in Isanti from 1963-1965. Afterward, she was a substitute teacher from 1971-1983, filling both short and long-term vacancies. Later, Donna served as a Title 1 Para- Professional in Isanti from 1983-1998. She found great joy in helping students learn to read and hearing them say "NOW I GET IT."

Donna and Jack were active members of the Cambridge community. Donna joined the American Legion Auxiliary Unit #190 in 1958 through Jack's eligibility (U. S. Navy). She was involved with the Girls' State Scholarship and Americanism Committee and served as Unit President in 1975. The Auxiliary family was a significant

part of Donna and Jack's life, including attending conventions, honoring veterans on Memorial Day, raising money for scholarships and veterans' needs, and providing a legacy of "Service, not Self."

Donna also founded the Cambridge Homemaker's Club, which continued for over 30 years. The group held monthly meetings at members' homes, with coffee and dessert, and organized trips to the General Mills test kitchen and Lee Ann Chin's original restaurant.

Donna was a fantastic cook, she enjoyed preparing and sharing nutritious meals with family and friends. She also enjoyed sewing, and making clothes for her family. She was a devoted soap opera fan and an avid genealogy researcher, building her family tree back to the 1600s.

Donna loved to travel and often planned trips with her two sisters. She and Jack attended over 20 Navy reunions and dedication of the WWII Memorial in Washington DC. The enjoyed several cruises, a trip to Alaska, and a month-long tour of Russia, Sweden, and visits to extended family in Norway and Finland.

Donna is survived by her sisters, Mary Boyle and Maggie Cleason of Glenwood, MN; her son Jeffrey of

Britt, MN; her daughter, Kristine Maki-Olson of Coon Rapids, MN; her grandchildren, Matthew Olson of Chicago, IL, USAF Major Patrick (Katy) Olson of Omaha, NE, US Army Captain Katrina (Matthew) Primmer of Seattle, WA, Allison(Zak) Woullet of Chisholm, MN, and Taylor(Sam) Utterberg of Brooklyn Park, MN; and her great-grandchildren, Cameron and John Olson, Finnley and Rowan Woullet, and Henrik and Kasper Utterberg. She is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

Donna was preceded in death by her husband Jack in 2018.

Memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, April 4 at Cambridge Lutheran Church 621 Old North Main St. Cambridge, MN.

Friends may gather one hour prior to service at the church.

Private interment at Ft. Snelling National Cemetery.

Memorials preferred to [ci-dollarsfor-scholars.org](http://ci-dollarsfor-scholars.org). Donations can be made on the website or via text by texting "CIDFS" TO 44-321

Arrangements by Carlson-Lillemoen Funeral Home 763-689-2244

Online condolences can be shared at [www.carlsonlillemoen.com](http://www.carlsonlillemoen.com)



### Dennis Romano Vosika

April 4, 1990 - March 18, 2025

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of Dennis Romano Vosika. He was our son, life partner, brother, nephew, uncle, cousin, and friend. Our social butterfly and a friend to all! His positive attitude, great hugs, big smile, and contagious laugh will be deeply missed!

Dennis was born in the Philippines on April 4, 1990. He and his three brothers (Dexter, Dexie & Dexon) spent three years being cared for by the Children's Shelter of Cebu (CSC) before being adopted in 1997 by Darrell and Beth Vosika of Cambridge, MN. There he and his brothers joined the four Vosika girls (April, Tammy, Julie & Heidi).

As the youngest of eight children, Dennis kept everyone entertained with his goofiness. He was also fortunate to have many of his fellow CSC friends living nearby to support him.

Dennis attended both the Cambridge public schools and the Cambridge Christian School. He loved playing soccer and was a part of the school teams.

He was employed at several places. Most recently at Kwik Trip in Mankato which he really enjoyed.

At 18, Dennis was diagnosed with kidney failure. He started dialysis treatment until he was blessed to get a transplant in 2014. The transplant went well for a while, but in 2018 he started dialysis treatments again and remained on them three days a week. Despite these difficulties, he remained positive.

In 2015, he began dating Kelsey Ogren. They were best friends and built a life together over the past 10 years that included their "fur babies" (Roxi, Rocco & Ravyn).

Family, fishing, cabin time, and sports were some of Dennis's favorite things. He deeply loved his nieces and nephews and ranked among the best uncles ever. He enjoyed attending every possible game or performance - even trading work shifts so he could be available for them. He and Kelsey taught many of them to fish at the family cabin. Caleb, Isabelle, Audrey, Ruby, Naomi, Kaelynn, Himeko, Ethan, Akihiko, Carter, Hiroyuki, Anders, Brennan, and Atsuki were incredibly blessed to have Dennis as their uncle.

A Celebration of Life service will be held on Saturday, March 29 at Cambridge Primary School - 310 Elm Street N, Cambridge, MN 55008. Visitation will start at 2 p.m. and the service will begin at 3 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in memory of Dennis to either the Children's Shelter of Cebu ([www.cebushelter.org](http://www.cebushelter.org)) or the American Kidney Fund ([www.kidneyfund.org](http://www.kidneyfund.org)).



### Diane Gail Gunderson

Diane Gail Gunderson (Carpentier), a beloved wife, mother, grandmother, and friend, passed away peacefully on March 14, 2025, in Rockport, Texas, at the age of 81. Born on April 21, 1943, in Minneapolis, Minnesota, to Earl and Virginia Carpentier,



Diane was the third of four siblings and a graduate of Edison High School in Minneapolis. She spent much of her early life helping in her family's grocery store in Northeast Minneapolis.

Diane married Elgin F. Gunderson of Cambridge, MN in November 1972, uniting her son with his five children. They soon had a daughter together, creating a large, blended family with seven children of which she was very proud. They

lived in Cambridge, MN; Brookings, OR; Hayward, WI, and Rockport, TX, creating lasting memories in each place they called home.

Diane's various interests and talents were a reflection of her lively personality. She enjoyed traveling the country and around the world with Elgin, keeping up with current events, playing golf and Mahjongg, oil painting, decorating (especially for Christmas), home cooking for family holidays, and hosting many friends and family at their lake home on the Chippewa Flowage in Wisconsin.

Her grandchildren affectionately called her BAGMA. She took great joy in winning at Scrabble and Trivial Pursuit, crafting her famous culinary triumph: Tuna Salad, and cherishing time with her grandchildren. She loved teaching them how to bake cookies and engaging in lively games of Sequence, cards, and dominoes.

Diane was preceded in death by her husband Elgin, her parents, brothers David Carpentier and William Carpentier, sister-in-law Linda Carpentier, stepson Steven Gunderson, son-in-law Mitchell Nusbbaum, and granddaughter Laura Anlauf.

She is survived by her sister Candee (Michael) Alexander of MN; children David (Jennifer) Gunderson of Collierville, TN; and Virginia (Scott) Cross of Rockport, TX. Bonus children Bradley (Shelly) Gunderson of N Ft. Myers, FL; Lynda Gunderson (Michael) of Goodyear, AZ; Diane (Jeffrey) Anlauf of Cambridge, MN and Gail (Curtis) Scherer of Hayward, WI; step daughter-in-law Kim Gunderson.. Her grandchildren include Karen, Michael, Meghan, Paige, Harbour, Taylor, Madelyn, Ian, William, Alaina, Ella, Jack, Grant, Courtney, Chloe, and Emma; great grandchildren Isabella, Zarya and Mylo; as well as many nieces, nephews and friends.

A memorial service will be held this summer in Cambridge, MN; date to be determined. Funeral arrangements are being coordinated by Maxwell P. Dunne Funeral Service of Corpus Christi, TX.

### Arlene Janet Ringer

Arlene Janet Ringer, 89, passed away peacefully on Christmas Day, December 25, 2024, in Cambridge, MN. Born on April 3, 1935, in Sunrise Township, Rush City, MN.

Arlene was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Albert "Bud" Ringer; her daughter, Janet Ternes; her grandson, Jackson Ternes; and her brothers, Dennis Nelson and Harvey Nelson.

She is survived by her loving sons, Allen (Debra) Ringer of Pine City, Arlan (Robin) Ringer of Rush City, and Dale Ringer of Cambridge; son-in-law, Eric Ternes of Vadnais Heights; grandchildren, Brandon (Jill) Ringer, Aaron Ringer, Amanda (Bradley) Eddy, Emily Ringer, Heidi Ringer (Conner Bergman), Molly Ringer, Caitlin (Derek) Ostman, Allison (Owen) Krueger, and Mackenzie Ternes; eight great-grandchildren; sister, Lois (David) Denker of Isanti; and many nieces, nephews, other relatives, and friends.

Memorial Service 11 a.m., Saturday, April 5, 2025 at Cambridge Lutheran Church. Visitation one hour prior to the service. Interment in the church cemetery. Condolences at [www.carlsonlillemoen.com](http://www.carlsonlillemoen.com). Arrangements by Carlson-Lillemoen Funeral Home and Cremation Services of Cambridge.



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Our mission is to HELP WOMEN and their loved ones make sense of all the complex medical and personal information about breast cancer, so they can make the BEST DECISIONS for their lives.

## ISANTI MAYOR PRIMARY SPECIAL ELECTION (TOP TWO ADVANCE TO AUGUST 12 SPECIAL ELECTION)

The city of Isanti will be holding a special primary election on Tuesday, April 8 and a special election on Tuesday, Aug. 12 in order to elect a new mayor to fill the remainder of Jimmy Gordon's term, which runs until Dec. 31, 2026. The top two candidates in the primary election will advance to the Aug. 12 election. Isanti residents who are eligible to vote can do so between 7 a.m. and 8 p.m. at their regular polling location — Isanti City Hall or Isanti Community Center.

The Isanti-Chisago County Star asked all three candidates the same four questions and gave them a maximum total word limit of 400. Their unedited answers are below. The Star will not be doing a second election guide ahead of Aug. 12, however we will re-run these questions and answers from the remaining two candidates on our website. We may also re-run them in our physical edition — space permitting.



**SHERYL DAVIDSON**

City of residence:  
Isanti

### Why are you running for mayor?

I am running for Mayor because I love our community and want to play an active role in shaping its future. As our city grows, I am committed to ensuring that progress reflects the needs and values of our residents while maintaining the character that makes our community special.

### How do you propose to balance lowering taxes with providing requested amenities?

As a taxpayer, I understand the desire for lower taxes, and as a community member, I recognize the value of strong infrastructure and inclusive amenities. Balancing these priorities requires careful budget analysis to ensure that spending aligns with community needs and priorities.

I also believe that community involvement plays a key role in bringing amenities and events to our city without overburdening taxpayers. That's why I'm in the process of establishing a community engagement committee focused on increasing volunteer participation and securing sponsorship opportunities. By bringing together people with diverse skills and ideas, we can support popular events and introduce new initiatives with less reliance on city resources and taxpayer dollars.

### Isanti and the surrounding area continues to be a popular destination of people looking to move. What are your thoughts about the city's current and future growth?

Isanti continues to grow, with a projected population of 10,000 by 2034. This growth brings a younger, more diverse community, with many residents seeking a small-town atmosphere while still expecting access to key amenities.

To ensure we maintain Isanti's charm while meeting the needs of a growing population, we must plan ahead. Thoughtful development and strategic investments in infrastructure will help us accommodate this growth while minimizing financial impacts on residents. By proactively addressing these challenges, we can create a balanced approach that preserves our community's character and enhances its future.

### Besides taxes, if you were only allowed to focus on one topic during your term as mayor, what would that topic be and why?

If I could focus on one agenda topic for the rest of this term, it would be community engagement. A strong, connected community is built on transparency, inclusion, and open communication. Residents should feel welcome, heard, and informed about the decisions shaping our city.

To achieve this, I would prioritize increasing transparency by making city information and meeting minutes more accessible, encouraging greater attendance at public meetings, and creating more outreach where residents can share their ideas and concerns in a relaxed setting. Establishing a community engagement committee is a key step toward fostering stronger connections and ensuring that every voice is considered in the decision process.



**JEFF JOHNSON**

City of residence:  
Isanti

### Why are you running for mayor?

I am running for mayor because I have seen firsthand the positive changes we can achieve together. In my first term as your mayor, I eliminated corruption in City Hall, increased city revenue, improved infrastructure, and modernized police and public safety standards, all while keeping property taxes low. Now, I want to continue serving Isanti by keeping taxes low, balancing the budget, and addressing challenges like inflation's impact on families. My goal is to build on our progress and ensure every resident benefits from a transparent, thriving, and safe community.

### How do you propose to balance lowering taxes with providing requested amenities?

Balancing taxes and amenities requires innovative solutions. By eliminating corruption and streamlining expenses, I was able to keep taxes low while improving infrastructure and public safety. Moving forward, I will prioritize community needs through careful budgeting and partnerships, ensuring residents benefit from vital amenities without unnecessary financial burden. My experience managing budgets and building consensus among citizens and city leaders has prepared me to lead Isanti toward an even brighter future. Fiscal responsibility and transparency will continue to guide all of my decisions.

### Isanti and the surrounding area continues to be a popular destination of people looking to move. What are your thoughts about the city's current and future growth?

Isanti's growth reflects its appeal, and my focus is on managing this responsibly. By improving infrastructure, increasing revenue, and ensuring public safety meets modern standards, while keeping taxes low, I laid the foundation for future development in my first term as your mayor. I will continue balancing growth with our community's values—keeping taxes low, supporting local businesses, and preserving Isanti's unique charm. Thoughtful planning ensures our city remains a destination where families can thrive.

### Besides taxes, if you were only allowed to focus on one topic during your term as mayor, what would that topic be and why?

If I had to focus on one agenda item, it would be addressing inflation's impact on families. Rising costs strain households, and I would work to provide relief by maintaining low taxes, enhancing local services, and creating opportunities to support financial stability. I will advocate for initiatives such as expanding tax relief for families, partnering with local businesses to offer more affordable services, and working with other local and state government officials to find synergy, efficiency and savings for you. Additionally, I will work to attract and support small businesses that create good-paying jobs, ensuring our local economy remains strong. Together, we can ease this burden while ensuring Isanti remains resilient and prosperous.



**LUKE MERRILL**

City of residence:  
Isanti

### Why are you running for mayor?

To be the strong, vocal leader that our community needs. We need leaders that will fight for the people & their rights to live a safe, happy and healthy life. Without being taxed to the hilt to do it!

### How do you propose to balance lowering taxes with providing requested amenities?

This is something that I have been very adamant about since I got on City Council. Every dollar we spend on unnecessary amenities is another dollar that residents are taxed. We already have plenty of amenities: Including our great parks, events for kids, the rodeo, the community center, BMX arena, etc.

When evaluating a recreational amenity and its feasibility, I look at its rough cost, and divide that cost by 2,500 (number of homes in Isanti). That will quantify the cost of the amenity per household. For example, the amphitheater was nearly \$300,000 to build. Which means roughly every single home was taxed \$120 for that project. The average resident will likely never even go to the amphitheater. Was it worth taking \$120 from every household for that project? No, I don't think it was. For comparison, one street dance costs roughly \$5,000, and 2000-3000 people attend. The street dance has higher attendance, by far, in just one event, than the amphitheater will get in a whole year. The amphitheater has an expected lifespan (before needing major repairs) of 20 years. So, basically \$15,000 per year is the cost/depreciation of the facility. That means the amphitheater and its events cost taxpayers 3x as much, per capita. Value added to the community MUST be considered when spending the community's money. I would rather we spend money on the necessary amenities: good streets, sidewalks, police, safe drinking water, plowing, etc.

### Isanti and the surrounding area continues to be a popular destination of people looking to move. What are your thoughts about the city's current and future growth?

I'm a proponent of natural market growth, meaning no forced subsidies of the growth. Especially with housing. If you move here from the metro, to "get away from the metro", do not expect Isanti to become like the metro. The majority of the community wants Isanti to stay small, responsible & safe. I think the city of Isanti is currently on a healthy track of natural market growth.

### Besides taxes, if you were only allowed to focus on one topic during your term as mayor, what would that topic be and why?

Every decision we make is taxpayer centralized, so this question isn't necessarily easy to answer. If I had to choose one goal, it would be that THE PEOPLE have the freedom to do what they decide with their: money, property, families and businesses, while the city stays out of the way, but helps facilitate when necessary.

## American Red Cross honors donors amid growing need for support

This March, the American Red Cross is celebrating its annual Red Cross Month by honoring the generous donors who make its mission possible. Central to the organization's ability to alleviate suffering in the face of emergencies is the unwavering support from corporate partners that contribute to all facets of the Red Cross mission. These companies, alongside countless other donors, provide essential resources that help ensure readiness in the face of crisis.

Now more than ever, families and communities are experiencing the need for

humanitarian aid. As disasters like wildfires, floods and hurricanes become more frequent and intense, swift Red Cross response efforts are essential. And with severe weather increasingly impacting blood drives, the need for blood remains constant. These challenges only highlight the importance of consistent support from donors who trust the Red Cross to apply their gift where the need is greatest.

Donors who support the greatest needs of the Red Cross, and their employees and customers, play an essential role by making annual

financial pledges that allow the Red Cross to be prepared to respond to both everyday emergencies and large-scale disasters. Their generosity ensures that the organization can quickly provide critical assistance to people in need.

Each day, the Red Cross helps more than 25,000 people — from supporting families affected by home fires and collecting life-saving blood to distributing comfort kits to veterans and so much more. With the ongoing and unpredictable nature of disasters and emergencies, donors that support the greatest needs are

vital to the organization's ability to offer help and hope.

"We are incredibly grateful for donors that provide us with the flexibility to support all areas of our mission," said Anne McKeough, chief development officer at the American Red Cross. "Their willingness to contribute resources where the need is greatest — whether for disaster relief, lifesaving blood, support for the military community or other critical programs — ensures we can be there when help can't wait."

This Red Cross Month, the organization thanks its valued corporate partners who donate

at least \$250,000 annually to support its mission. Their generous contributions, including those from Circle K, are instrumental in helping the Red Cross continue to carry out its lifesaving work.

As part of Red Cross Month, the organization is asking people to give blood or donate to disaster relief to provide services like emergency shelter, food, supplies, basic health care, emotional support and financial assistance. ~ The American Red Cross

# PRESENTATION: Event to feature panel discussion, family's experience with son's death via marijuana use

FROM PAGE I

the levels of potency, and variables related to mental health, socio-economic conditions, access to health care, and educational backgrounds. In 2023, more than 400 individuals in Isanti County were assessed by the Department of Human Services Behavioral Health Division for substance use, misuse, or abuse. Marijuana contributed to roughly 1-in-10 of screening cases.

Beyond the High is a free event and will take place at the Cambridge-Isanti High School Performing Arts. Doors open at 5:30 pm with pizza and an opportunity to explore resources from community partners. The program will start at 6:00 pm, followed by a panel discussion. Parents, students, family members, and caregivers of all ages are encouraged to join in this community conversation. Parental discretion is advised for younger audiences, due to the sensitive nature of the topics for discussion.

To learn more, please contact the Isanti County Substance Use & Recovery Coalition at 763-689-8149 or email at michelle.dowling@co.isanti.mn.us - Isanti County

# Talking tax season tips with University of Minnesota

As the tax filing deadline approaches, being prepared can save you time, money and stress. David Horn, the director of the Master of Business Taxation Program at the University of Minnesota's Carlson School of Management, shares his insights on what to keep in mind this tax season.

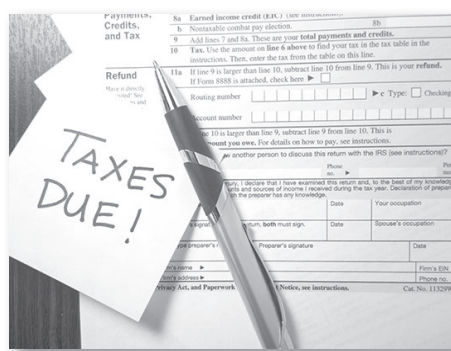
**Q: Are there any significant changes this year?**

Horn: One thing is constant: the deadline to file your tax return is April 15. However, you may file an automatic extension to file your return six months after April 15. It's important to remember if you extend your return, you're still required to pay any taxes owed by April 15.

2024 was pretty light with federal tax legislation for the everyday individual taxpayer. It was an election year, which often means there isn't a lot of activity from Congress because no one wants to rock the boat. Other than brackets, deductions, and thresholds being indexed to inflation, the tax laws are mostly the same as 2023 for individual taxpayers.

**Q: What are some of the biggest challenges this tax season?**

Horn: One of the Trump administration's first actions was to announce a hiring freeze and personnel cuts across the federal government, which includes the IRS. There is some uncertainty about how this will impact the agency during filing season; however, a reduction in IRS staffing may result in the delayed processing of returns and issuing refunds. Filing early is always a good rule of thumb. The earlier you file, the sooner your return will be processed and the sooner you will receive any potential tax refund. As we get closer to the filing deadline, contacting the IRS with questions gets



more difficult.

**Q: What is your advice to make tax preparation go smoothly?**

Horn: It's all about understanding your sources of income and deductions. I advise clients to go through all their financial accounts and understand where they potentially could be receiving tax documents. That may include a W-2 for wages from your employer, 1099 forms for investment and savings accounts, a 1098-E for student loans, etc. Gathering all the relevant documentation will streamline the return preparation process.

Another issue affecting more people this year is increased reporting around peer-to-peer payment systems, such as Venmo and PayPal. In 2024, the threshold for reporting transactions from these services was reduced from \$20,000 to \$5,000. If you received \$5,000 or more in payments through one of these applications for goods and services sold, you're going to get a 1099-K document. However, using these platforms to collect expense reimbursements amongst friends and family should not be reported on Form 1099-K. Consult with a tax professional to help decipher the reporting requirements if you receive a 1099-K.

**Q: How do I avoid tax scams?**

Horn: The IRS generally initiates contact through the mail. If you ever get a phone call or email from someone claiming they're from the IRS stating that you owe money and threatening to call law enforcement, that is a scam and you should hang up. The IRS also doesn't accept payments through unusual sources, such as Apple gift cards. That is another red flag that it is a scam. For more tips to avoid potential scams, visit the IRS website.

**Q: What is the University of Minnesota doing in regard to the ongoing shortage of tax professionals?**

Horn: The University of Minnesota plays an important role in the pipeline of developing tax professionals. For nearly 45 years, the Carlson School's Master of Business Taxation (MBT) program has built a reputation as one of the top graduate tax programs in the nation. Its 1,300+ alumni are influencing some of the world's largest companies and firms, with many holding top positions as senior corporate tax executives and managing tax partners.

**David Horn joined the Carlson School of Management in 2024 and currently serves as the Director of the MBT program. David began his career in the tax department at Ernst & Young, where he specialized in corporate and partnership taxation, and then served as the head of the tax department at Proto Labs, Inc., managing the company's global income tax function. Prior to the Carlson School, he was an associate professor at Metropolitan State University.** - Carlson School of Management



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# Let's Go Fishing prepares for upcoming season

**STAFF REPORT**  
NEWS@COUNTYSTAR.COM

As the ice slowly but surely melts away from area lakes, Let's Go Fishing's local chapter eagerly anticipates another year of taking veterans, seniors, the disabled, and families on a fun, two-hour lake excursion.

The East Central Minnesota Chapter of the non-profit organization is one of the most active chapters. Last year, it took out over 1,500 guests, including 88 veterans, on a total of 225 trips between Rush and Chisago Lakes. These trips vary between fishing or simply cruising the lake.

This year, the group looks at significantly increasing that number by adding to the number

of trips being offered. Previously, volunteers led three or four trips per day Monday through Thursday from the two locations. This year, they are adding a 10 a.m. trip on Fridays.

"Adding Fridays will add 30 more trips to our schedule," said Chapter President Rick Olseen.

With the increase in the number of trips, however, comes a need for more volunteers. Each trip requires a captain and at least two mates, whose jobs are to be at the ready for any needs from the guests, including baiting hooks, unhooking fish, or even casting outlines.

"If you enjoy being out on the water and are interested in sharing this experience with our guests, please consider becoming one of

our volunteers," Olseen said.

The organization is holding an informational/training meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 1, at the North Branch Library. There will also be on-boat training in mid-May. If anyone isn't able to attend the April 1 meeting, feel free to contact Olseen at 612-419-8827 to receive additional information.

The organization will also be holding its primary fundraiser, a pancake breakfast, raffle, and silent auction, on Saturday, May 3.

For more information on Let's Go Fishing, including how to become a volunteer or how to schedule a trip, go to [www.eastcentralmn.lgfw.com](http://www.eastcentralmn.lgfw.com).



CONTRIBUTED

Let's Go Fishing holds it's informational/training meeting on April 1.

# Spring burning restrictions began Monday

**BY KAREN HARRISON**  
KAREN.HARRISON@STATE.MN.US

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is restricting the open burning of vegetative debris due to increased wildfire risk resulting from dry conditions in central Minnesota beginning Monday, March 24 at 6 a.m.

The restrictions apply in the following counties: Anoka, Benton, Chisago, Hennepin, Isanti, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, Morrison, Pine, Ramsey, Sherburne, Stearns, Todd, Washington, and Wright.

The DNR will not issue permits for open burning of brush or yard waste

in these counties until restrictions are lifted.

"Wildfire danger is especially high in spring because dormant or dead vegetation from the previous year has dried out and there is no snow protection," said Karen Harrison, DNR wildfire prevention specialist. "Even after precipitation, fine fuels, such as grass and small twigs, can dry out quickly from wind or low relative humidity, making them easy fuel for a wildfire."

Harrison encourages residents to use alternatives to burning to dispose of yard waste, such as composting, chipping, or taking brush to a collection site. For more information, visit

the composting for woodland owners page of the DNR website ([mndnr.gov/wildfire/prevention/debris-composting.html](http://mndnr.gov/wildfire/prevention/debris-composting.html)).

People cause more than 90% of wildfires in Minnesota. If a fire rekindles or escapes, the person who set it is liable for any damage caused, as well as for wildfire suppression costs.

Burning restrictions will be adjusted as conditions change. For more information and daily updates on current fire risk and open burning restrictions, visit the statewide fire danger and burning restrictions page of the DNR website ([mndnr.gov/burnrestrictions](http://mndnr.gov/burnrestrictions)).

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# Cambridge-Isanti High School follows district motto beyond graduation

BY BILL STICKELS III  
EDITOR@COUNTYSTAR.COM

The Cambridge-Isanti Schools' motto — "Every Student, Every Day" — has been embraced by all the schools as the guiding principle for working with students at every grade level. At the high school, however, they have taken that motto a step further into helping every student to prepare for life after graduation, no matter what that might look like.

According to CIHS Principal Dr. Steve Gibbs, that principle is simple: It doesn't matter what your post-graduation plans may be, as long as you have a plan.

"One of our strategic objectives... is all students will graduate with a plan for their future," Gibbs said.

Gibbs references the annual graduation ceremony as a way the high school punctuates that objective.

"For anyone who has been at the graduation ceremony, when I invite the kids to stand if they have a post-high school plan, by the end of that experience, every kid is standing," Gibbs said. "And that is a real joy that we can celebrate the kids at that moment."

## STARTING THE PROCESS EARLY

To accomplish this, the high school gets students thinking about life after graduation all the way back to when they are first entering the high school as freshmen.

"The registration is that first step," said Assistant Principal Elizabeth Young. "We take a lot of pride in what courses we have to offer. We try to entice our students to try different things. It is a constant, revolving thing. We meet with every student one-on-one, not only making sure they have the right credits to graduate but also to have conversations about 'what do you like to do? Tell me more about you.'"

According to Career, College, and Assessment Coordinator Katie Soler, the next step is make sure the school provides a solid path towards that post-graduation plan.

"The thing that I get to do is looking at them as a person, and what they want to do, and then choosing how the school can reflect that and how they can build into that person they want to become," Soler said. "So when they leave our building, they are ready to go to become their future self."

Soler said there is a process the students go through as they go from grade to grade. In ninth grade, they take a two or three-day career unit in a social studies class. In tenth grade, there is a mandatory career development class students take.

"We do lots of hands-on activities to get kids interested and involved," Soler said. "Kids don't know they want to do something until they know that career exists."

She said they take many field trips and partner with local businesses and industries so kids know what is available right here in the area.

"We want our kids and families to stay here in our community and be great and productive citizens," Soler said.

"We do tours, we go to colleges, tech schools," Soler added. "We're looking at what's best for each person (and) not just pushing each person into a four-year college."

Additionally, another one of the activities for each sophomore is to do a mock interview, complete with creating a resume and cover letter.

Soler concluded that by the time the students reach their junior year, they will hopefully have a solid idea about what their career goals might be.

Based on those goals, the school then partners with area professionals for "career spotlight" events. These events are about an hour long where

students get to connect with someone who is already in that field.

One of the events that has taken off recently is "Career Connections Day," which allows students to sign up for talking with area professionals in up to 40 different careers. The school holds Career Connections Day twice a year, and it is open to all sophomores through seniors, meaning each student has six opportunities to what is out there.

In terms of post-secondary education, not only does the school offer post-secondary education options for four-year colleges, but there are now several PSEO options for getting credits for two-year colleges and trade schools.

In order to help future students, the school has re-introduced senior career planning sessions where, either in a larger group or one-on-one, the school collects data about what that year's seniors are planning on going into and where they are at in their post-graduation planning. This will help the school guide what courses and curriculum it should be keeping or adding in the future.

## CELEBRATING SUCCESSFUL PLANS

As graduation day nears, the school has set up what they call "Decision Day" on May 1.

"We have gotten to the point where once students receive that (acceptance) letter from college or if the jobs they have through on-the-job training has turned into a full-time job, they are coming to tell us," said Senior Advisor Jennifer Ryberg. "So we celebrate them every day, but May 1 is traditionally the decision day when we celebrate every one of our Bluejackets."

The school also offers a couple more events designed to celebrate specific forms of achieving career plans. One that has traditionally been held throughout virtually



BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR ARCHIVES

One of the primary focuses at Cambridge-Isanti High School is making sure that by the time they walk across the stage to receive their diploma, every student has a plan for what they want to do after graduation.

every school is an athletic signing day where seniors who have committed to compete in sports at any level of college are recognized.

The second was started three years ago where students who are enlisting in one of the branches of the military are recognized and publicly reciting their oath.

"The impact on the entire CIHS community, with the military students and the athletics students, strengthens the ability the whole student body sees there is a future athletically and through the military," said Activities Director Matt Braaten.

"Every Student, Every Day

is quite a task," concluded Gibbs. "But you can see the different commitments that people have to make sure that it is every student, every day. Whether its you want to go play sports, go into the military... I graduated in the 1900s and the question everyone got was 'Where are you going to college?' I would be shocked if anyone in our high school asks that question today. We hear a lot of 'What's your next step? What's your post-high school plan?' Because we want every kid to know that whatever you are choosing to do in the next phase of your life is important."

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# The story behind the infamous Whiskey Road

If there is one road in Isanti County that everyone has likely heard of, it's Whiskey Road. Transecting north to south through the city limits of Isanti, Whiskey Road's unique name has a history all its own.

What started as a simple transportation route through the undeveloped countryside east of the Rum River, Whiskey Road evolved into a two-lane blacktop road adorned with homes and several businesses.

Like much of the area in the settlement years of 1860-1890s, for many years, the only traffic was generally by foot or hoof. Running on the west edge of the City of Isanti, Whiskey Road's namesake likely leaves visitors and some citizens alike curious about its origins.

Although there is no record showing the formal naming of the road, there are several stories fact and fiction that lay claim to the evolution of the name, Whiskey Road. Throughout Isanti County's history, if one thing is certain the liquor question has been raised an untold number of times both politically and spiritually speaking. Isanti County was no stranger to what was a politically charged topic. During the county's early development, there were of course scattered saloons to quench the thirst of its citizens, but even those watering holes became a source of contention. Countless attempts were made to pass the sale of liquor in the county in the 1900s. Further stifling the flow of spirits, a statewide prohibition law known as "Bone Dry" passed in 1917 snuffing out the sale, manufacture, consumption, and transportation of liquor in the state. Like many small communities across the area, Isanti County had its fair share of wild, rebellious, and often tragic events related to the sale, production, and consumption of liquor. Looking back through time, one can find stories of illegal stills, car chases, gun fights, and bootlegging if one dares to dig. One such story found Sheriff Claes Johnson and County Attorney Soderquist busting up an illegal moonshine still in Stanford Township. Headlines from that faithful day in 1925 read, "Authorities made a raid on a farm in Stanford and in the basement secured 33 barrels of mash, 20 sacks of cane sugar, 10 pounds of yeast, a quantity of moonshine, and a still that was hailed as one of the largest specimens ever brought in by our sheriff."

Folks wishing to imbibe in spirits had an alternative to stills and bathtub brew. Neighboring Bethel, in



CONTRIBUTED

Not a drop of liquor to be found along the Main Street businesses of Isanti in 1915.

Anoka County, was by some accounts "soaking wet" when it came to liquor and its availability. During the dry years in Isanti County, there was a tantalizing trail that led south to Bethel. Through the sugar sand, sporadic oak savanna, fledgling farmland, and stagnant swamps, a route christened with the name Whiskey Road by locals became the chosen path for some. Only 6 miles from its origin in the Village of Isanti, Whiskey Road to Bethel was a fairly short jaunt for many determined defectors. However, for those residing in the southern part of the county, Bethel lay only a mile from the border. For some, tiptoeing through the woods was the only thing that separated oneself from sobriety and the spirituous temptation brought on by thirst.

As the availability of liquor flowed from Bethel, so would the occasionally overloaded buckboard wagon or automobile. For the brave wishing to test the limits of local law and order, Whiskey Road certainly further solidified its namesake as not only a route to consume but to also transport illegal booze into Isanti County. Much like today, there were only a couple of routes to and from Bethel. Those wanting to run the gauntlet on Whiskey Road oftentimes were met with law enforcement and the stalwart citizens of Isanti County. Not only did vigilant community members keep a watchful eye, but there was an initiative to rid the county of anything related to liquor. So much in fact, that in 1921, there was a push by regional tem-



CONTRIBUTED

Sheriff Claes Johnson standing next to a confiscated still around 1920.

perance leagues to change the name of the Rum River to the Volstead River in honor of the father of prohibition, Andrew J. Volstead.

As time progressed, so did Isanti County's citizens' views concerning liquor. After several failed attempts to pass liquor sales, Isanti County would officially become "wet" in December of 1965 thanks to a 48-vote margin in the City of Cambridge. Hailed as the last dry county in the state, Isanti County would finally permit the public sale of liquor. Isanti followed suit in December of 1967 and opened a municipal liquor store just a few blocks east of Whiskey Road.

**SAM KLOCKSIE** is Executive Director of the Isanti County Historical Society, which is located at 33525 Flanders St. NE, Cambridge. He can be reached at 763-689-4229 or [director@isanticountyhistory.org](mailto:director@isanticountyhistory.org).

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**North Isanti Baptist Church**  
Lead Pastor: Travis Blake  
2248 313th Ave. NE, Cambridge, MN 55008. www.nibchurch.com  
Email: nibchurch@msn.com  
763-689-3576.  
8:30am Worship Service (traditional style)  
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**South Isanti Baptist Church**  
3367 Cty. Rd. 5 NE, Isanti.  
763-772-3832, Pastor Randy Barrows.  
Sunday Worship 9:30am. Wednesday "Life & Light" Bible studies for all ages. Adults & children. For info call or go to southisantibaptist.org.

**Springvale Baptist**  
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springvalechurchmn.org

**Sunrise Bible Church**  
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### Catholic

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stelizabeth-isanti.org.

### Evangelical Covenant

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### Evangelical Free

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www.wyanettevangelicalfree.org  
Pastor Bruce Talso 763-221-4469  
Sunday School 9:30 am  
Morning Worship 10:30 am  
Mondays - Women's Evening Bible Study 6:00 pm  
Tuesdays - Men's Bible Study 5:00 pm  
Wednesdays - Midweek Bible Study/Prayer 2:00 pm  
Thursdays - Women's Morning Bible Study 9:30 a.m. at Heart Matters Ministry, 403 1st St. Princeton  
A LOVING CHURCH PROCLAIMING A LIVING MESSAGE!

### Lutheran

**Braham Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA)**  
West Central Drive & County Road 4, Braham  
320-396-2755  
**Sunday:** 10:00 a.m. Worship Service - BELC  
**Sunday:** 10:00 a.m. Worship Service  
Live on Facebook  
Office hours 9:00 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Tuesday thru Thursday

**Calvary Evangelical Lutheran Church Of Rush Point (ELCA)**  
Pastor Vicki Vandervegt.  
320-358-4829, 600 Rush Point Dr.  
10:30am Worship with Fellowship following  
my.calvaryofrushpoint.org.  
Office: calvaryrushpoint@gmail.com

**Cambridge Lutheran Church (ELCA)**  
621 Old North Main Street, Cambridge  
763-689-1211  
8:30 a.m. Traditional Service  
9:15 & 10:30 a.m. Contemporary Service  
www.cambridgelutheran.org - fb.com/CambridgeLutheran

**Christ Ev. Lutheran Church (WELS)**  
32962 Vickers St. NE, Cambridge, 763-689-5333  
Pastor Samuel L. Biebert.  
Sunday Worship 9am, Sunday School/Bible Class 10:30am  
www.christcambridge.com

**First Lutheran Church (ELCA)**  
43779 Gates Ave., Harris.  
651-674-4498. Handicapped accessible.  
Pastor Vicki VanderVegt  
Sunday Worship 9:20am  
Coffee & fellowship following service  
Email: firstlutheran@q.com  
www.firstlutheranharris.org

**Joy Lutheran Church (Missouri Synod)**  
1155 Joy Circle, Cambridge  
763-689-4355  
www.joylutheran.net  
Pastor James Ritter  
8:30 a.m. Traditional Service  
10:30 a.m. Contemporary Service

### Living Branch Lutheran Church (LCMS)

6486 Elm St (PO Box 335), North Branch  
651-674-5576  
Pastor Glen Kleppe  
Sunday Worship 8am  
Sunday School @ 9:15am  
Sunday Adult Bible Study @ 9:15am  
Tuesday Adult Bible Studies @ 1pm  
Wednesday Youth Group @ 6:30pm  
Lent Services Tuesdays @ 7pm  
March 4th - April 8th  
www.livingbranch.org  
office@livingbranch.org

**Long Lake Lutheran Church (ELCA)**  
3921 277th Ave NW Isanti, MN 55040  
763-444-5315  
Pastor Sue Olson  
All Are Welcome!  
Sundays  
9:00 am Worship & 10:30 Sunday School  
Holy Communion: 1st and 3rd Sundays  
Wednesdays  
5:00 Lenten Soup Supper  
6:00 Lenten Worship  
7:00 Confirmation

**Salem Lutheran Church**  
4638 381st Ave. NW, Dalbo, MN 55017.  
763-689-1687  
Join us for worship every Sunday at 9am  
Sunday school for 3 yrs to 6th gr. begins at 9:30am  
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  
**8:15am** Worship with fellowship following

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

28168 Jodrell St. NE, North Branch  
Located 6 mi. E. of Isanti on Co. Rd. 5; (or 7 mi. W. of North Branch on Co. Rd. 5); then 1-1/2 mi. S. on Co. Rd. 12. 763-444-5988, Paul Anderson, Pastor;  
Sunday 9am Worship;  
10:20am Adult Bible Study;  
Thursday 6:30pm Bible study.  
Email: stjohnlutheran@att.net

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

**St. Stephen's Lutheran Church (Missouri Synod)**  
400 SE 8th St., (Isanti #4 E.), PO Box 37, Braham  
320-396-3103  
9:30am Sunday School & Adult Bible Study.  
10:30am Worship.  
ststephensbraham.org

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

### Methodist

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

### Non-Denominational

**Grace Gospel Church**  
37126 MN-65, Stanchfield, MN 55080  
763-308-5618  
Coffee fellowship: 9:45am  
Service: 10:00am  
Pastor: Tim Miller  
www.gracegospelmn.org  
info@gracegospelchurchmn.com  
Located just north of Grandy on 65, across from East Central Diesel, with three large crosses near the road.  
We look forward to having you!

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

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

### 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  
Thejourneynlcc.org

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

**ME MINNESOTA EQUIPMENT**  
JOHN DEERE  
Hwy. 65 N, Isanti, MN  
www.MinnesotaEquipment.com  
763-444-8873

**Affow TANK AND ENGINEERING CO.**  
763-689-3360

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

**To Advertise in this Spot, Contact:**  
**Kellie Champion**  
Classified Ad Consultant  
651-407-1237  
Email: sales@countystar.com

## NOTICES

### CAMBRIDGE SELF STORAGE AND ISANTI SELF STORAGE

This is notice of intent to sell items located at Cambridge Self Storage and Isanti Self Storage. Charles Anderson B19, Travis Gren J62, Taylor Johnson J44, Mark Landon B16, Josh Scurry-Handy A75, Brandon Barrow E407, Casey Quanrud E169, Mark Stelmack E29, Corissa Wilson S36, and Lisa Lewis E445, do not pay their balances in full by April 7, 2025 at 9AM, online auctions will be held April 8, 2025 at 9AM at [www.storageauctions.net](http://www.storageauctions.net). The units appear to contain household and garage items.

**Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on March 20, 2025**

Authority for Judicial Ditch 6 will hold a Landowner Information Meeting to discuss Judicial Ditch 6 beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Immediately following the Landowner Information meeting, there will be a Regular Joint Board meeting for Judicial Ditch 6 seated as the Drainage Authority.

Immediately following the regular Joint Board meeting for Judicial Ditch 6, there will be a Regular Joint Board Meeting for Judicial Ditch 1 seated as the Drainage Authority.

All interested parties are invited to attend and participate in these meetings. These meetings are being held in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103E.

Amanda Usher  
County Administrator  
**Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on March 27, 2025**

### ISANTI COUNTY SUMMARY PUBLICATION OF THE MARCH 4, 2025, REGULAR MEETING OF THE ISANTI COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

The complete minutes are available for public inspection in the Administration office at the Isanti County Government Center, 555 18th Avenue SW, Cambridge, MN 55008 or online at [www.co.isanti.mn.us/agendacenter](http://www.co.isanti.mn.us/agendacenter)

Members Present: Chairman Alan Duff; Commissioners: Steve Westerberg, Bill Berg, Todd Christensen.

Members Absent: None.  
Meeting called to order by Chairman Alan Duff.

• Approved the following County Business Items: February 18, 2025, County Board Meeting Minutes and Minutes Summary, Community Health Board Actions, Personnel Committee Recommendations, Agreement with Century 21 Moline Realty, Inc., Utility Permits, Claims and Warrants, and the Consumption and Display Permit Renewal for Cambridge Curling Club Inc.

• A public hearing to amend the Isanti County Cannabis Ordinance, Section 3.3 Hours or Operation and Section 4 Temporary Cannabis Events was held. Motion to make these amendments to the ordinance was made and carried.

• Approved the list of 2025 construction projects and authorized the County Engineer to finalize plans and advertise for bids and purchase a 1-ton Pick-up Truck for Highway department.

• Approved final plat of Hosch Bauer Hills Addition.

• Approved the purchase of 18 acres Adjacent to Springvale County Park.

• Established Absentee Ballot Board and Established UOCAVA Absentee Ballot Board for the City of Isanti Special Elections.

**Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on March 27, 2025**

### SUMMARY PUBLICATION

The City Council of the City of Cambridge adopted Ordinance 803 to rezone certain parcels in the Oak Meadows plat. The amendment changes the zoning from PUD 1-05 to PUD 2-2025. The property is located on the east side of Old Main St. S. and north of 19th Ave SE. The complete ordinance is available for public inspection at the office of the City Administrator, 300 3rd Ave NE, Cambridge, Minnesota.

ATTEST:  
Evan C. Vogel, City Administrator  
**Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on March 27, 2025**

### SUMMARY PUBLICATION

Ordinance 802 amends Title XV Land Use, Chapter 156 Zoning, Section 156.007 Definitions, 156.040 Business Districts, 156.041 Industrial Districts, and 156.091 Veterinary Clinics. The amendment clarifies requirements for pet groomers as separate from those for overnight pet boarding. A complete copy of the ordinance is available at City Hall, 300 3rd Avenue NE, Cambridge for inspection.

ATTEST:  
Evan C. Vogel, City Administrator  
**Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on March 27, 2025**

### SUMMARY PUBLICATION

The City Council of the City of Cambridge adopted Ordinance 801 to rezone Outlot A of Heritage Townhomes from PUD Planned Unit Development District 2-2020 to PUD Planned Unit Development District 1-2025. The amendment changes the uses from townhomes to a parking area, a semi-permanent housing site, and a multi-family flex site. The property is located north of 18th Ave SW between Fern St S and East Rum River Dr S. The complete ordinance is available for

public inspection at the office of the City Administrator, 300 3rd Ave NE, Cambridge, Minnesota.

ATTEST:  
Evan C. Vogel, City Administrator  
**Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on March 27, 2025**

## PROBATE

### STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF ISANTI DISTRICT COURT TENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT Court File No.: 30-PR-25-13

In Re: Estate of Carol Kay Feldheim a/k/a Carol K. Schroeder-Feldheim, Decedent.

NOTICE OF AND ORDER FOR HEARING ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION OF INTESTACY, DETERMINATION OF HEIRS, FORMAL APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on April 29, 2025 at 2:50 p.m., a hearing will be held in this Court at Isanti County Government Center, 555 18th Ave. SW, Cambridge, Minnesota, remotely via Zoom, on a petition for the adjudication of intestacy and determination of intestacy and determination of Decedent's heirs, and for the appointment of John K. Pearson, whose address is 4919 County Road 6 NE, Stanchfield, MN 55080, as personal representative of the Decedent's estate in an unsupervised administration.

Any objections to the petition must be raised at the hearing or filed with the Court prior to the hearing. If the petition is proper and no objections are filed or raised, the personal representative will be appointed with the full power to administer the Decedent's estate, including the power to collect all assets; to pay all legal debts, claims, taxes, and expenses; to sell real and personal property; and to do all necessary acts for the Decedent's estate.

Notice is further given that, subject to Minn. Stat. § 524.3-801, all creditors having claims against the Decedent's estate are required to present the claims to the personal representative or to the Court within four (4) months after the date of this notice or the claims will be barred.

BY THE COURT  
Dated: March 7, 2025  
/s/ Amy Brosnahan  
Judge of District Court  
LINDBERG LAW OFFICE, P.A.  
Grant W. Lindberg  
MN# 0347644  
100 Buchanan St. N., Suite 2  
Cambridge, MN 55008  
Telephone: (763) 689-6896  
Facsimile: (763) 689-6819  
e-mail: [grant@lindberglawoffice.com](mailto:grant@lindberglawoffice.com)

ATTORNEY FOR PETITIONER  
**Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on March 20, 2025**

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

Court File No. 30-PR-25-11  
Estate of Donald Ferdinand Kettler aka Donald F. Kettler, Decedent

NOTICE OF INFORMAL PROBATE OF WILL AND APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is given that an application for informal probate of the Decedent's Will, dated October 26, 2015, ("Will"), and Codicil to Will, dated September 24, 2018, has been filed with the Registrar. The application has been granted.

Notice is also given that the Registrar has informally appointed Kurt T. Kettler, whose address is 31956 Tucker St. NE, Cambridge, Minnesota, 55008 as personal representative of the Estate of the Decedent. Any heir, devisee or other interested person may be entitled to appointment as personal representative or may object to the appointment of the personal representative. Unless objections are filed with the Court (pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 524.3-607) and the Court otherwise orders, the personal representative has full power to administer the Estate, including, after 30 days from the date of issuance of letters, the power to sell, encumber, lease or distribute real estate.

Any objections to the probate of the Will or appointment of the Personal Representatives must be filed with this Court and will be heard by the Court after the filing of an appropriate petition and proper notice of hearing.

Notice is also given that (subject to Minnesota Statutes section 524.3-801) all creditors having claims against the Estate are required to

present the claims to the personal representative or to the Court Administrator within four months after the date of this Notice or the claims will be barred.

Dated: March 11, 2025  
Registrar

Dated: March 11, 2025  
Court Administrator: Erin Boettcher  
Attorney for Personal Representative  
Chelsie Troth  
Troth Law, LLC  
210 Main Street S.  
Pine City, MN, 55063  
Attorney License No: 0395709  
Telephone: (320) 629-2727  
FAX: (320) 629-0009  
Email: [chelsie@trothlaw.com](mailto:chelsie@trothlaw.com)  
**Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on March 20, 2025**

### STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF ISANTI DISTRICT COURT TENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT Court File No.: 30-PR-25-12

In Re: Estate of Shar Feldheim a/k/a Shar Kreag Feldheim, Decedent.

NOTICE OF AND ORDER FOR HEARING ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION OF INTESTACY, DETERMINATION OF HEIRS, FORMAL APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on April 29, 2025 at 2:30 p.m., a hearing will be held in this Court at Isanti County Government Center, 555 18th Ave. SW, Cambridge, Minnesota, remotely via Zoom, on a petition for the adjudication of intestacy and determination of Decedent's heirs, and for the appointment of John K. Pearson, whose address is 4919 County Road 6 NE, Stanchfield, MN 55080, as personal representative of the Decedent's estate in an unsupervised administration.

Any objections to the petition must be raised at the hearing or filed with the Court prior to the hearing. If the petition is proper and no objections are filed or raised, the personal representative will be appointed with the full power to administer the Decedent's estate, including the power to collect all assets; to pay all legal debts, claims, taxes, and expenses; to sell real and personal property; and to do all necessary acts for the Decedent's estate.

Notice is further given that, subject to Minn. Stat. § 524.3-801, all creditors having claims against the Decedent's estate are required to present the claims to the personal representative or to the Court within four (4) months after the date of this notice or the claims will be barred.

BY THE COURT  
Dated: March 7, 2025  
/s/ Amy Brosnahan  
Judge of District Court  
LINDBERG LAW OFFICE, P.A.  
Grant W. Lindberg  
MN# 0347644  
100 Buchanan St. N., Suite 2  
Cambridge, MN 55008  
Telephone: (763) 689-6896  
Facsimile: (763) 689-6819  
e-mail: [grant@lindberglawoffice.com](mailto:grant@lindberglawoffice.com)

ATTORNEY FOR PETITIONER  
**Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on March 20, 2025**

## PUBLIC HEARING

### CAMBRIDGE FORMER DIRECT CARE & TREATMENT CENTER DEMOLITION - EAW AVAILABLE

The MN Department of Administration Real Estate & Construction Services (RECS) plans to have five buildings and two small storage sheds demolished, along with surrounding sidewalks, roads, paved areas, and two 30,000-gallon underground storage tanks on the former Cambridge Direct Care and Treatment Center located at 1425 East Rum River Drive South in Cambridge, MN (the Site). Four unoccupied townhomes and their paved access will remain. Following demolition, the former building's footprints will be graded and restored. An Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) has been prepared pursuant to MN Rules, Chapter 4410.

Public comments on this EAW are open from March 11, 2025 through April 10, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. The EAW can be found by visiting the Environmental Quality Board (EQB) Monitor website (<https://www.eqb.state.mn.us/eqb-monitor>) and selecting the March 11 issue within the 2025 archive or by visiting the Administration Building (50 Sherburne Ave, St. Paul, MN 55155). Please contact Emily Bolles to set up an appointment to view the EAW in person.

Public comments may be directed to Emily Bolles at [emily.bolles@state.mn.us](mailto:emily.bolles@state.mn.us).

**Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on March 20, 2025**

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING NORTH BRANCH CITY COUNCIL

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the North Branch City Council will hold a meeting for a PUBLIC HEARING on Tuesday, April 8, 2025 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 an unmanned aerial system (drone) program for the City of North Branch Police Department and to provide comments regarding the draft North Branch Police Department Unmanned Aerial System (drone) policy. The hearing shall continue until all evidence and testimony have been received.

Persons interested in providing comments may do so in writing at or before the public hearing. Comments may be mailed or emailed to:

Chief Dan Meyer  
6408 Elm St  
North Branch, MN 55056  
[danm@ci.north-branch.mn.us](mailto:danm@ci.north-branch.mn.us)  
**Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on March 27, 2025**

### ISANTI COUNTY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

March 24, 2025  
Notice is hereby given the Isanti County Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, April 24, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.** at the Isanti County Government Center, 555 18th Avenue SW, Cambridge, MN 55008 to consider the following requests:

1. The request of TK Wilderness, 39164 Holly Street NW, Stanchfield, MN 55080 for an interim use permit for mining of sand, gravel, peat, and black dirt (soil) to haul off the existing spoils from the property mining interim use permit dated May 16, 2016. Legal description is the NW ¼ of the NE ¼ & the NE ¼ of the NE ¼ of Section 1, Township 37, Range 25, Dalbo Township.

2. The request of Carl Noelting, PO Box 808, Hayward, WI 54843 and Richard Sontseby, 39502 Rhinestone Street, Dalbo, MN 55017 to amend a Conditional Use Permit dated September 10, 1998 for an automobile sales business. Legal description is Pt E ½ of the NW ¼ of NE ¼ of Section 36, Township 37, Range 25, Dalbo Township.

3. The request of Megan Swanberg, 25751 Lily Street NW, Isanti, MN 55040 for a Conditional Use Permit Rural Tourism request to operate an event center for wedding venues and events. Legal description is the SW ¼ of the NW ¼ of Section 16, Township 34, Range 24, Stanford Township.

Trina Bergloff  
Isanti County Zoning Administrator  
"PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a quorum of the Isanti County Board of Commissioners may be in attendance at this meeting with one member of the Isanti County Board of Commissioners as the designated voting representative to the Isanti County Planning Commission. Any other members of the Isanti County Board of Commissioners will be attending as members of the audience with no participation, membership, or voting rights at this meeting of the Isanti County Planning Commission."

This further serves as notice that if the legal criteria are met for members to participate in the meeting by telephone or interactive technology, some members may do so.

If you would like to attend this meeting via-Tele-Conference, please go to the Isanti County webpage at [www.co.isanti.mn.us](http://www.co.isanti.mn.us) for instructions.

**Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on March 27, 2025**

### ISANTI COUNTY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

March 20, 2025  
Notice is hereby given the Isanti County Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, April 10, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.** at the Isanti County Government Center, 555 18th Avenue SW, Cambridge, MN 55008 to consider the following requests:

1. The request of Wade Hollister, 5839 253rd Avenue NW, St. Francis, MN 55070 to present a preliminary plat of Cross Creek Meadows. Legal description is the S ½ of the NW ¼ of the SE ¼ & Pt. of the SW ¼ of the SE ¼ of Section 14, Township 34, Range 25, Stanford Township.

& Aaron Staehne, 18465 182nd Street NW, Big Lake, MN 55309 to present a preliminary plat of Pine Meadow Estates. Legal description is Pt. of the SE ¼ of the SW ¼ of Section 16, Township 35, Range 25, Spencer Brook Township.

3. The request of Scott Kittelson, 28658 Flamingo Street NW, Isanti, MN 55040 to present a preliminary plat of Wiese Acres. Legal description is the SE ¼ of the SE ¼; Except 450' of S 1,000' of Section 27, Township 35, Range 24, Bradford Township.

4. The request of Mackenzie Perry & Hunting Homes 4 U Corporation, 350 County Road 6 NE, Stanchfield, MN 55080 to present a preliminary plat of Maple Ridge Meadows. Legal description is the NW ¼ of the NW ¼; Except: That Pt of the 636.50' of the NW ¼ of the NW ¼ Lying S of the N 421.00' therefore & lying N of the S 215' of Section 34, Township 37, Range 24, Maple Ridge Township.

5. The request of Gary Savsten & Savsten Trust, 39796 Polk Street NE, Stanchfield, MN 55080 to present a preliminary plat of Ericksons Acres Rearrangement. Legal description is Lots 1 & 2 Block 1 Erickson Acres Rearrangement of Section 18, Township 37, Range 23, Stanchfield Township.

6. The request of Levi LaRowe, 30802 Rendova Street NE, Cambridge, MN 55008 to present a preliminary plat of LaRowe's Rendova Woodlands. Legal description is the NE ¼ of the NE ¼ of Section 15, Township 35, Range 23 & the NW ¼ of the NW ¼ & Pt. of the SW ¼ of the NW ¼ of Section 14, Township 35, Range 23, Isanti Township.

7. The request of Mark, Amy, Michael and Philomena Pauly, 557221st Avenue NW, Oak Grove, MN 55011 to present a preliminary plat of Saint Joseph Junction. Legal description is the SW ¼ of the NE ¼ Fct & the SE ¼ of the NE ¼ of Section 34, Township 35, Range 24, Bradford Township.

Trina Bergloff  
Isanti County Zoning Administrator  
"PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a quorum of the Isanti County Board of Commissioners may be in attendance at this meeting with one member of the Isanti County Board of Commissioners as the designated voting representative to the Isanti County Planning Commission. Any other members of the Isanti County Board of Commissioners will be attending as members of the audience with no participation, membership, or voting rights at this meeting of the Isanti County Planning Commission."

This further serves as notice that if the legal criteria are met for members to participate in the meeting by telephone or interactive technology, some members may do so.

If you would like to attend this meeting via-Tele-Conference, please go to the Isanti County webpage at [www.co.isanti.mn.us](http://www.co.isanti.mn.us) for instructions.

**Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on March 27, 2025**

### ISANTI COUNTY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

March 20, 2025  
Notice is hereby given the Isanti County Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, April 10, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.** at the Isanti County Government Center, 555 18th Avenue SW, Cambridge, MN 55008 to consider the following requests:

1. The request of Word of Life Ministries of Louisville, Inc. 3640 County Road 6 NW, Stanchfield, MN 55080 and Steven Russell, 3073 234th Lane NW, St. Francis, MN 55070 to create a 33' wide parcel of land for the purpose of gaining access to a 20-acre parcel and for this 33' wide parcel not to take a building right from the quarter quarter section; and to vary the Isanti County Zoning Ordinance requiring that all new private access drives intended to service two building sites shall have a 66' wide easement. Legal description is the SE ¼ of NE ¼ Except: COMM AT SE CNR OF SE ¼ of NE ¼; N 930'; W 235'; S 930'; E to POB. & EXCEPT: MNDOT ROFW PLAT 30-47 PARCEL 32 (0.37AC) of Section 12, Township 36, Range 25, Wyanet Township.

2. The request of Joseph Charles, 29438 Tucker Street NE, Cambridge, MN 55008 & Vance Cuyo, 29516 Tucker Street NE, Cambridge, MN 55008 to construct a detached garage with less than the required setback from the centerline of the County Road. Legal description is Lot 2 Block 1 North Wind Meadows of Section 24, Township 35, Range 23, Isanti Township.

3. The request of Lee & Barb Lutterman, 6742 338th Avenue NW, Princeton, MN 55371 & Spencer

**PUBLIC NOTICES CONTINUED**

Sommerlot, 12591 97th Avenue, Milaca, MN 56353 to construct a single family dwelling with less than the required setback from the ordinary high watermark of a general development lake. Legal description is the W 60' Lot 2 & the E 12' Lot 1 Green Lake Beach of Section 27, Township 36, Range 25, Wyantett Township.

Trina Bergloff  
Isanti County Zoning Administrator  
This further serves as notice that if the legal criteria are met for members to participate in the meeting by telephone or interactive technology, some members may do so.

If you would like to attend this meeting via Tele - Conference, please go to the Isanti County webpage at [www.co.isanti.mn.us](http://www.co.isanti.mn.us) for instructions.

Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on March 27, 2025

**ISANTI COUNTY COURT REPORT**

The following felony charges were filed in Isanti County Court on March 16 - 22. All individuals are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

**Matthew James Smisek** (DOB 06/26/1989) of Cambridge, was charged March 17 with two counts of Violate No Contact Order - Within 10 years of the first of two or more convictions; one count of Assault-2nd Degree-Dangerous Weapon; one count of Violate No Contact Order - Possess Dangerous Weapon; and one count of Fleeing a Peace Officer in a Motor Vehicle.

**Brady John Snyder-Smith** (DOB 02/19/1995) of Isanti, was charged March 17 with one count of Check

Forgery-Offer/Possess W/Intent to Defraud; and one count of Possession or Sale of Stolen or Counterfeit Check; Crimes.

**Brittney Lynn Case** (DOB 01/03/2000) of Cambridge, was charged March 18 with Damage to Property - 1st Degree - Value Reduced Over \$1000.

**Jack Leonard Williams** (DOB 07/23/1968) of Isanti, was charged March 18 with 12 counts of Violate No Contact Order - Within 10 years of the first of two or more convictions.

**Nicholas Adam Alderink** (DOB 08/10/1977) of Princeton, was charged March 18 with two counts of Theft-Take/Use/Transfer Movable Prop-No Consent.

**CHISAGO COUNTY COURT REPORT**

The following felony charges were filed in Chisago County Court on March 16 - 22. All individuals are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

**Anthony Gorden Struwve** (DOB 05/14/1987) of Otsego, was charged March 18 with Theft-Take/Use/Transfer Movable Prop-No Consent.

**Ashlee Rose Klapperick** (DOB 02/17/1989) of Mora, was charged March 18 with one count of Criminal Vehicular Homicide - Operate Vehicle with Negl-Und Infl Cannabis/hemp edible/products; and three counts of Criminal Vehicular Operation - Substantial Bodily Harm - Under Influence Control Substance.

**Neil Andrew Munson** (DOB

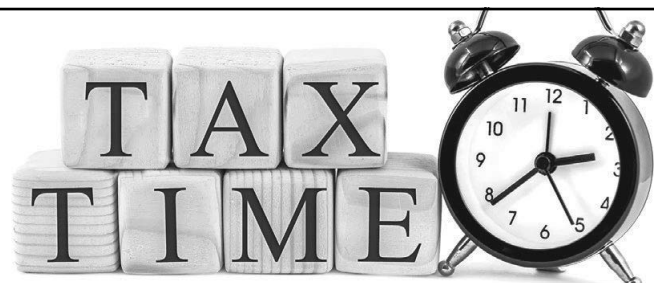
05/21/1989) of Shafer, was charged March 20 with Threats of Violence - Reckless Disregard Risk.

**Kallie Renee Rose Romero** (DOB 10/17/1998) of North Branch, was charged March 20 with Drugs - 5th Degree - Possess Schedule 1,2,3,4 or paraphernalia residual - Not cannabis/hemp.

**Jeffery Paul Pavelka** (DOB 04/11/1965) of Inver Grove Heights, was charged March 20 with Financial Transaction Card Fraud-Use-No Consent.

**Nicholaos Michael Kremetis** (DOB 12/21/1987) of Stillwater, was charged March 20 with Fleeing a Peace Officer in a Motor Vehicle.

**File with confidence, call and make your appointment today!**



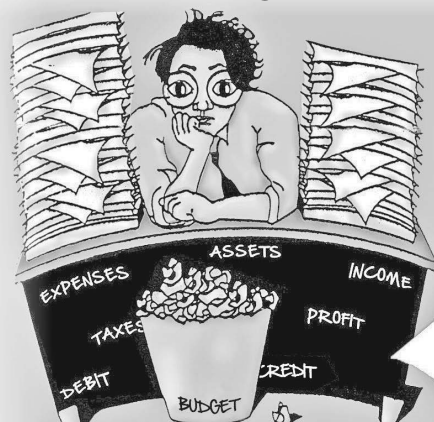
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**CLASSIFIEDS**

<p><b>16</b> Lost &amp; Found</p>	<p><b>52</b> Cars</p>	<p><b>107</b> Home/Business Cleaning</p>	<p><b>150</b> Help Wanted</p>	<p><b>201</b> Child Care</p>	<p><b>362</b> Miscellaneous</p>	<p><b>369</b> Want to Buy</p>	<p><b>452</b> Rentals/ Residential</p>	<p><b>502</b> Real Estate For Sale by Owner</p>
<p>We can help! Place a LOST &amp; FOUND line ad FREE for 1 week! Call 763-250-9159 to place your ad in the Kanabec County Times, Pine City Pioneer, Isanti-Chisago County Star, &amp; Advertiser.</p>	<p>Are you interested in purchasing a Tesla? Please use this referral link to receive a special bonus offer from Tesla before you place your order. <a href="http://ts.la/carter53772">http://ts.la/carter53772</a></p>	<p><b>Housekeeping:</b> Affordable housekeeping service, great attention to detail and flexible schedule. Call 612-244-6714</p>	<p>Press Publications is looking to hire a sales representative to help our community business grow through print and digital products. Send your resume to Patty Steele at <a href="mailto:Marketing@PressPubs.com">Marketing@PressPubs.com</a> or call 651/407-1213.</p>	<p><b>Deb's Tiny Tots</b> experience. Infant thru school ages. Certified CPR/First Aid. Braham. 763-333-4990.</p>	<p>Buying sports card collections call Tom 612-701-7396</p> <p>Looking for that perfect gift for an anniversary or birthday? Think about giving a subscription to the Kanabec County Times. Call our office today (320)679-2661 to start delivery - we accept Visa or Mastercard!</p>	<p>Old convertible cars, signs, gas pumps, pickups, tonka toys, bikes, mini bikes, watches 218-372-8758</p>	<p><b>Mora Studio Apartments</b> \$740-\$770/month, includes utilities. Washer/Dryer on-site. No pets, no smoking/vaping/e-cigs. 612-470-3319, <a href="mailto:moratroveproperty@gmail.com">moratroveproperty@gmail.com</a></p>	<p>2 homes between Mora and Hinckley, 12 minutes from I-35. 3 bedroom with attached two car garage and two bedroom with single garage, both on city lots. Will consider C4D sale. Call Fred 320-232-3573</p>
<p><b>50</b> Trailers</p>	<p><b>102</b> Services</p>	<p><b>150</b> Help Wanted</p>	<p><b>358</b> Firewood</p>	<p><b>16-Inch</b> seasoned, mixed hardwood. Two cord loads- \$475. 20-inch outdoor stove wood, mixed hardwoods. Two cord loads- \$450. Delivery charge over 25 miles. 320-679-1815.</p>	<p><b>Trumpet Player</b> needed for flag raising ceremony to honor living veterans. Need taps played live, Sunday, 5/25/2025, 10:00 a.m.. Job is paid. Contact Tex at Woodsong Campground or text 970-531-0132.</p>	<p><b>452</b> Rentals/ Residential</p>	<p><b>501</b> Real Estate Wanted</p>	<p><b>You've Got It! Somebody Wants It!</b></p>
<p><b>For Sale:</b> 2023 Rockwood 2205S Mini Lite Travel Trailer \$35,500 Slept in 2 nights. Water/sewer never used! Located in Pine City. Includes Equalizer Hitch. Call Lajla Hansson 763-957-0479</p>	<p><b>Alterations and</b> clothing repairs, 25 years experience. 320-396-4152 Contact Rosemary. Braham</p> <p><b>Get up to 50 channels</b> free. No monthly charge. Dave's TV and Antenna. Call 320-515-0270.</p>	<p><b>GREENHOUSE HELP WANTED</b> Hugo Feed Mill and Hardware hiring seasonal workers for May &amp; June. Duties: Helping customers and plant care. Hours and days flexible. Call Steve 651.429-3361</p>	<p>Press Publications NOW HIRING a part-time copy editor to help proof content on a contract basis. Applicants should be knowledgeable in AP style and have journalism experience. If interested, email <a href="mailto:whitebearnews@presspubs.com">whitebearnews@presspubs.com</a> or call 651/407-1227.</p>	<p><b>Terry's Firewood:</b> 16 or 22 " mixed hardwood or red oak. Delivery available. 651-245-6735</p>	<p><b>Need a Legal Published?</b> Call 763.689.1181</p>	<p><b>For Rent:</b> 2 bedroom apartment with detached garage in the City of Pine City. \$1,200.00 per month. Available March 2025. For more information please call 320-629-7537 or 320-364-3997</p>	<p><b>Recently married</b> Army Veteran looking to buy 10+ acres to build a home or purchase an existing home to raise a family. Preferred location Isanti or Chisago County. Call or text 651-278-5882</p>	<p><b>Sell it in the classifieds -</b> 651-407-1237 or email <a href="mailto:stardclass@countystar.com">stardclass@countystar.com</a></p>

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# EMPLOYMENT

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**CITY CLERK**

EST. 1881  
CITY OF NORTH BRANCH

Salary: \$36.05 – \$42.83 per hour  
Opening Date: March 10, 2025  
Closing Date: April 4, 2025

The City of North Branch, MN is seeking a City Clerk for the Administrative Department. Position duties include performance of routine and complex clerical and administrative work. Provide oversight, direction and maintenance of official city records, public documents, election administration, municipal licensing, and ordinances as prescribed in Minn. Stats. § 412.151. This position will provide administrative support to the City Administrator.

**Minimum qualifications** include a high school diploma and associate's degree in office administration, or Business Administration and three (3) years of clerical experience. Desired qualifications include election certification and Municipal Clerk Certification and previous experience as a Municipal City Clerk. The City Clerk position is a Teamsters Union position, and the City provides excellent benefits.

Applications available at North Branch City Hall or our website [www.ci.north-branch.mn.us/](http://www.ci.north-branch.mn.us/)

The completed application must be accompanied by a cover letter and resume. Application must be received by 4:00 PM on April 4, 2025 and can be emailed to [matthewh@ci.north-branch.mn.us](mailto:matthewh@ci.north-branch.mn.us), or mailed to/dropped at City of North Branch, Human Resources, PO Box 910, North Branch, MN 55056. EOE/AA

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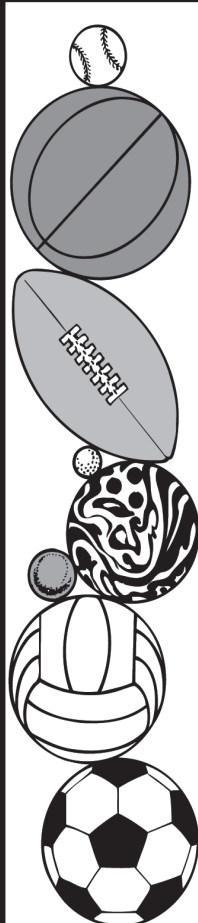
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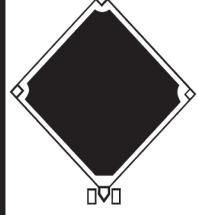
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**Social Worker/ Case Manager – Aging & Disabilities Division**

To provide case management services to the aging and disabled population of Chisago County. Case management professionals in this assignment attend to supporting the needs of the individual by constructing a service delivery plan that addresses environmental, social, safety, physical, and rehabilitative needs and supporting person centered planning.

**Chisago COUNTY USA**  
\$35.91 to \$47.29 DOQ.

Apply online at Minnesota Merit System at <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/mnmeritsystem> by April 9, 2025.

**Case Aide – Aging & Disabilities Division**

Provides case aide support to the Chisago County Health and Human Services Aging and Disabilities Division performing a variety of tasks supporting various social services programs, performing related work as assigned. \$23.88 to \$31.45 DOQ.

**Chisago COUNTY USA**

Apply online at Minnesota Merit System at <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/mnmeritsystem> by April 9, 2025.

**NOTICE OF VACANCY ON CITY COUNCIL**

EST. 1881  
CITY OF NORTH BRANCH

The North Branch City Council is seeking applicants to fill the vacancy to represent the City until the expiration of the term, December 31, 2026.


To apply to fill the vacancy, submit a completed application to the City Administrator prior to the vacant position deadline of **March 28, 2025**: Interviews will be held on Friday, April 4, 2025 with an expected appointment by the City Council on Tuesday, April 8 to fill the vacant seat.

Matthew Hill, City Administrator  
6408 Elm St  
PO Box 910  
North Branch, MN 55056  
[matthewh@ci.north-branch.mn.us](mailto:matthewh@ci.north-branch.mn.us)

You can obtain an Application for City Council Vacancy at North Branch City Hall or by entering the following link.  
<https://www.ci.north-branch.mn.us/Council%20Vacancy%20Application.pdf>

EOE/AA

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**If interested, please contact Jeff Andres, Publisher. 651-407-1258 or [Jeff@northstarmedia.net](mailto:Jeff@northstarmedia.net)**

**Notice of Employment Opportunity Grantsburg School District PHYSICAL EDUCATION TEACHER**

**JOB DESCRIPTION:** Full-time middle school physical education teacher beginning in the 2025-26 school year.

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Candidates must have or be eligible for WI DPI certification in Physical Education and Adaptive PE. Health certification is preferred.

**REQUIREMENTS:** Successful candidates will plan, organize, and deliver lessons consistent with the Physical Education curriculum of their students' grade levels. This includes organizing skill development and game sessions for students in Middle School grades. There is a focus on participation, cooperation, and skill acquisition that furthers motor, cognitive, and physical abilities. The candidate will also work with special education teachers to design and implement specialized instruction for students.

Preference may be shown to candidates with successful coaching experience and have an interest in coaching opportunities.

Coaching positions may be available for the 25-26 school year.

**HOW TO APPLY:** Applicants are encouraged to apply by using the Wisconsin Education Career Access Network (WECAN) site at <https://wecan.education.wisc.edu/#/>. This position will be open until filled.

**CONTACT:** Kris Wallace, Grantsburg School District, 500 E. James Ave., Grantsburg, WI 54840, [kris.wallace@gk12.net](mailto:kris.wallace@gk12.net)

**DESCRIPTION:** Grantsburg School District is a PK-12 School System of 800 students that is located in NW Wisconsin. It is located just over an hour from the Twin Cities Metro area. Grantsburg is on the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway and is the home of Crex Meadows Wildlife Center. Grantsburg is also home to one of Wisconsin's first virtual charter schools in iForward, providing online education for 1200 students statewide.

The School District of Grantsburg is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, religion, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, pregnancy, status as a parent, national origin, age, disability (physical or mental), family medical history or genetic information, political affiliation, military service, or other non-merit based factors.



**Notice of Employment Opportunity Grantsburg School District DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS, FULL TIME**

**REPORTS TO:** District Administrator

**GENERAL FUNCTION:** Director of Buildings and Grounds shall be responsible for the operation, maintenance, improvement, safety and security of all buildings, grounds (including parking lots, playgrounds, athletic fields, landscaping) and related equipment for the Grantsburg School District. In coordination with the administrative team, this individual shall develop and maintain comprehensive preventive maintenance, energy management, in-service training, product testing, facilities improvement, safety and other related programs. They shall see that all buildings and grounds provide a safe, clean, healthy and attractive educational environment for all occupants and visitors. The Director of Buildings and Grounds shall oversee all maintenance, custodial and grounds keeping personnel.

**POSITION REQUIREMENTS/SKILLS:**


1. Education: Minimum of a high school diploma with additional training related to skilled trades, facility management, or management desired. Preference given to candidates who hold Technical Education or College Education credentials, licenses, and/or degrees.
2. Experience: Education, training, and experience in dealing with all aspects of safety, maintenance, and custodial programs including developing budgets, short-range and long-range planning, purchasing, management of employees. Successful supervisory experience in an educational setting is preferred.
3. Background Knowledge: Extensive knowledge in principles of construction; electrical, plumbing, heating and cooling systems; security; building automation systems; and grounds keeping.
4. High level of enthusiasm for the position and educational systems as well as willingness to pursue training for any mechanical systems in the school and other areas as requested by the District.
5. Ability to work well with school board members, administrators, staff, students, and the community, i.e., skills and abilities in leadership, interpersonal relationships, communication, and organization.
6. Technology skills to enable completion of reports, monitoring systems, and software related to maintenance and inventory.
7. Be able to lift 65lbs and stand for extended periods of time.
8. Valid Driver's License.

**SALARY:** Dependent upon experience, education, and credentials/licenses.

**APPLICATION DEADLINE DATE:** Job Posting Open Until Filled

Apply at <https://wecan.waspa.org/> by sending a letter of application, resume, transcripts, three letters of reference, and credentials.

Josh Watt, District Administrator  
Grantsburg School District  
480 E. James Ave.  
Grantsburg, WI 54840  
[jwatt@gk12.net](mailto:jwatt@gk12.net)  
715-463-5499



The School District of Grantsburg is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, religion, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, pregnancy, status as a parent, national origin, age, disability (physical or mental), family medical history or genetic information, political affiliation, military service, or other non-merit based factors.

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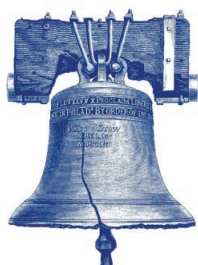
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