

WE GOT NEXT: Meet the C-I, North Branch winter sports teams in annual showcase. **PAGES 16 - 20**

‘It’s going to be great’

New Illuminate Isanti hosts excited for event’s start

BY BILL STICKELS III
EDITOR@COUNTYSTAR.COM

Karla Anderla and Jen Beauchane just couldn’t stand the thought of Illuminate Isanti being extinguished after only running for three years. So, when the Isanti City Council strongly alluded to canceling the event due to what it considered excess city expenses setting up and putting on the event, the two stepped up to take the reins, creating a volunteer group to take over the Christmas light display in Bluebird Park.

“People might say I’m crazy,” Anderla admitted. “It’s not like we have the time to do it, we don’t. We felt it was an important event that the city had started. It had great potential. It was a great idea. We just felt there was a lot of things being done that wasn’t promoting it the way it could have been. It wasn’t going in the

direction it could have gone. It could have grown a lot, and I felt it wasn’t really growing.”

Thus, “Isanti Together” was born.

“We know a lot of people in the community, have been part of other groups with them,” said Anderla, who is the owner and operator of the popular Now That’s Waffles food truck. “We’re kind of a force to be reckoned with. So, we weren’t going to let this thing go.”

After an extended negotiation period, Isanti Together and the city reached a memorandum of understanding agreement. Basically, Isanti Together was charged with fundraising, setting up a majority of the displays, running the event, and then tearing it down afterward.

For its part, the city would allow public works to transport all the wooden storage containers holding the displays to Bluebird

Park and set up the larger displays. There was no maximum time limit to accomplish those tasks, just as long as it took to complete the job, and with the condition that city tasks, such as snow removal, take top priority.

The city is also acting as fiscal host for the event. Under the agreement, Isanti Together needed to at least raise enough money to cover the costs of holding the event, such as paying Santa, purchasing giveaway merchandise, adding to or replacing displays, etc. As of the week before Thanksgiving, they had raised around \$20,000, which was enough to cover all of this year’s expenses. Any additional funds collected will go into a fund earmarked for future Illuminate Isanti events.

According to Anderla, the

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Volunteers from newly formed Isanti Together spent hours setting up the displays for this year’s Illuminate Isanti.

Cambridge approves cannabis store, with added condition

BY BILL STICKELS III
EDITOR@COUNTYSTAR.COM

The Cambridge City Council’s decision on which cannabis store application to approve might best be compared to a high-stakes track race — complete with a photo finish and official review. In the end, one of the two potential cannabis stores walked away with the prize; however, it is yet to be determined if it is the true “winner.”

According to City Administrator Evan Vogel, based on the council’s request, the security camera timestamp was reviewed, indicating when the potential owner of the cannabis store proposed for North Main Street physically dropped off his application at City Hall, and compared it to the email received

‘There is still a legal risk involved with this decision.’

Evan Vogel
City Administrator

timestamp for the application from the potential owner of the cannabis store proposed for North Cleveland Street.

Based on those two timestamps, the owner of the North Main Street location “won” the race by a mere nine minutes. However, when reviewing each application, it was determined that the North Main Street owner originally didn’t provide a copy of his driver’s license, meaning the North Cleveland Street location’s owner was first to turn in a complete application.

Vogel said based on those findings, and understanding the council appeared to be solidly against raising the maximum number of stores allowed to two, it was

SEE CANNABIS, PAGE 10

Isanti County asking state to allow local option sales tax referendum

BY BILL STICKELS III
EDITOR@COUNTYSTAR.COM

Isanti County is taking the first steps towards holding a local option sales tax referendum, which could be on the ballot as early as the 2026 general election. If approved, the sales tax increase would pay for the construction of a new Highway Department facility.

According to County Engineer Justin Bergerson, based on state statute, a local government my call for a local option sales tax referendum vote; however, first it must obtain state legislative approval to do so. If it gained that approval, a referendum vote would have to be called within two years of the legislative approval.




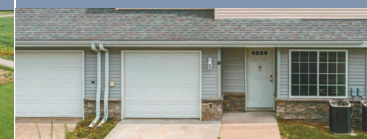
Bergerson said the governing body must adopt a resolution that identifies the proposed tax rate, describes the capital project to be funded, and provides documentation of its regional significance and the estimated revenue needed to complete the project. It must also

contain a maximum number of years to collect the sales tax.

Bergerson said the estimated amount to be collected is currently \$23 million, which includes the facility construction, plus administration, engineering, and additional costs. He said the tax could also reimburse the cost to purchase the land, which the county has already completed. He said the amount is intentionally set a little higher to allow for some wiggle room. If that wasn’t added, any overages in the project’s costs would have to come from a capital improvement or general fund, or be assessed to residents via a levy increase.

Based on a .25%, which equates to 25 cents for every \$100 spent, it is estimated the county would raise \$1.7 million annually. To allow for some possible fluctuations in consumer spending, Bergerson said the county would set an expiration date of 25 years, as state statute dictates an expiration at whichever comes first:

SEE ISANTI COUNTY, PAGE 8

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‘A Very Good Christmas Carol’ coming to Event Center

BY HOPE MURRAY
NEWS@COUNTYSTAR.COM

The characters of Ebenezer Scrooge, Bob Marley, Tiny Tim and more will be brought to life in “A Very Good Christmas Carol” at the Braham Event Center on Dec. 19.

What makes this production different from other depictions of Charles Dickens’ classic novel, however, is that only two performers will be part of the show, portraying London street urchins acting as narrators and some of the larger roles in the production.

The rest of the actors? They will be plucked straight from the audience during the performance.

But introverts need not be concerned. These parts are on a strictly volunteer basis, said Jeffrey Nolan, who acts in the show with Hawken Paul. The pair also adapted the script and direct the show.

“I think that the reason why we wanted to make this a show that involves the audience quite a bit is that I think ‘A Christmas Carol’ is such a lovely story about community, and that was what we really wanted to highlight with our production,” Nolan said. “By making it involve the audience so much and having people come on stage, I think we’re often able to get a really lovely bond with our audience and with them, with each other, by the end of our show. We can just say to the audience this is such a big story, we just need your help to tell it.

“That was the hook behind it and that’s why the show came about, and then it’s been gradually growing a little bit each year as we’ve been able to tour more and more and more people have been hearing about us.”

CLASSIC

For those unaware of the Dickens



SUBMITTED

Hawken Paul, left, and Jeffrey Nolan perform a scene from “A Very Good Christmas Carol.” The production is coming to the Braham Event Center on Dec. 19.

classic, “A Christmas Carol” tells the story of Ebenezer Scrooge, a miserly man who, on Christmas Eve, is visited by the ghost of his long-deceased business partner Jacob Marley. Marley tells Scrooge he will be visited in the night by three spirits who represent Scrooge’s past, present and future. Scrooge learns how his behavior affects others and what will happen if he doesn’t change his ways.

This is the third year Nolan and Paul have been performing their two-man show. They were first contacted by the Northern Lights Opera Company in Park Rapids to produce a two-man “Christmas Carol” that would be suitable for traveling to other venues.

“And then we got to writing, and we got to thinking about it, and we realized that we could make this an audience

interactive show,” Nolan said. The audience will help not only with acting out roles and improvising lines but will add sound effects and take part in the singing of Christmas songs.

“And then we also have people come up for a dance scene as well, and we teach a little dance,” Nolan said. While he noted that there are songs in the show, it is not a musical.

“We just sing a little bit,” he said. It is also similar to old-time road shows in that the actors show up to different venues prepared only to see an empty space. There is no scenery to speak of.

“It’s just the two of us,” Nolan said. “The whole show fits into the back of my car. It’s all of our costumes and props that we carry around a big steamer trunk.”

FAMILY FIRST

Nolan describes this iteration of the show as a comedy with serious elements, especially when it comes to Tiny Tim’s illness and the change Scrooge undergoes through his visits from the three spirits.

“For the large bulk of it, it is funny and we’re having a good time,” he said. “But I think the story has so much heart in it that when Hawken and I were writing it we thought it would be a real shame to lose that.

“When we originally were starting, we were thinking of making it more of like a parody of it and the more we read the story and were taken by it, we said we really wanted to tell a very earnest version of this albeit a little funnier. Scrooge’s redemption is treated very seriously, and I appreciate how we are able to, yes, make it a much more lighthearted version, still having the room in it to when we see the Cratchits mourning Tiny Tim, it feels real; it feels affecting. And we see the terror that Scrooge has about what his life might become if he doesn’t change.”

The pair opened this year’s tour, as is tradition, in Park Rapids right after Thanksgiving. They will take it to several small venues across the state.

“It’s a completely family-friendly show. Families are encouraged, and it’s two hours with an intermission, so it’s super easy,” Nolan said.

He added that bringing children to the production is a great way to get them interested in acting and theater.

“It’s a lovely way to get your kids involved on stage,” he said, “and it’s a super fun night where you’re gonna laugh. You’ll maybe cry a little bit, too.”

Tickets for the 6 p.m. production are free. Just contact the Event Center either by calling 320-396-3177 or by visiting its website, brahamcenter.org.

Parents, guardians urged to prioritize kids’ safety around cold water

As temperatures fall and ice begins forming on ponds, small lakes, and other waterways across the state, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources reminds parents and guardians to talk with their kids about the importance of safety on the ice and around the water. It’s especially important with many children at home over Thanksgiving break.

Falling into the water this time of year, whether through thin ice or into open water, can turn tragic quickly. It has the potential to incapacitate even the strongest swimmers, so it’s up to parents and guardians to teach their kids about the dangers of cold wa-

ter, and ensure they’re properly supervised anytime they’re around water. Already this season, a DNR conservation officer and other rescue personnel saved two teenagers who fell through thin ice in northern Minnesota.

“Kids tend to be curious about the water, but they might not understand the dangers,” said Capt. Adam Block, boating law administrator for the DNR. “Every type of waterway can be dangerous this time of year, from small neighborhood ponds all the way to our largest lakes and rivers.”

Wearing a foam-filled life jacket is the best way to

stay safe around cold water or survive an unexpected fall in. Foam is better than inflatable life jackets this time of year, since the latter might not fully inflate in cold water. In addition, Block recommends people carry a phone in case they need to call for help, let others know where they’re going and when they plan to return, and plan for how to deal with an unforeseen incident.

For more information about surviving a fall into cold water, visit the DNR cold water dangers webpage (mndnr.gov/safety/boatwater/cold-water.html). -MN DNR

Inside Sales Representative

Northstar Media is looking for a motivated person who likes to work with customers over the phone as an Inside Sales Rep. Mon, Tue, Wed, 20-25 hours per week in the Cambridge office. Responsibilities include classified ad sales, service and church directory ad sales, and special page/section ad sales in the Isanti-Chisago County Star, Pine City Pioneer, North Pine County News, Kanabec County Times and Advertiser as well as being able to sell into other newspapers, shoppers and online. Must have strong phone skills, be able to multitask, be good with computers and have strong organizational skills. Wage is \$16-18/hour.



If interested, please submit resume to Jeff Andres, Publisher jeff@northstarmedia.net



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MON, WED & FRI
Exercise with Connie
At the Chisago County Senior Center 38790 6th Ave., North Branch. From 10:30-11:30 a.m.

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

Monday's 7 - 8 p.m. at Access Church, 4359 - 392nd St., North Branch. Visit minnesotanorth-al-anon.org

Book Club
Third Monday 11 a.m. to noon at Isanti SAC, 140 Buchanan St., N. #164 Cambridge. Isanti County Library lends the books and there is no cost to participate. For info: sacs@midco-network.com

TUES & THURS
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 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
First Tuesday of every month, 10 - 11:30 a.m. at GracePointe Crossing Heritage Center, 322 River Hills Place North, Cambridge. Contact Julie at 763-306-5066 for info.

Music
Chisago County Senior Center 38790 6th Ave. Music provided before the meal 11:15 a.m.

Dominos
At the Chisago County Senior Center 38790 6th Ave North Branch at 10



The Helios Masonic Lodge is hosting a Potao Feed for Scholarships on Dec. 6

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

PrimeTime Singers
Cambridge Lutheran Church, 1:30 p.m. A community choir for ages 60+, no audition or fee required. Fellowship follows rehearsal. Info: 612-619-2111.

Grief Share
Faith Lutheran Church, 109 2nd Ave. NW, Isanti. Meets 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 2 p.m. 763-444-9201.

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

Chisago County Drop-In Center
Open 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Main Street Church, 6500 Main Street, North Branch. For individuals 18 yrs or older living with mental illness. Info: 651-213-5600 or Adult-mentalhealth.org.

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

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

Parkinson's Support Group
Third Thursday of the month - 1-2:30 p.m. The Levande, 2011 6th Lane SE, Cambridge, MN for info call 763-325-0100

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 info. call 612-251-6556 or email acanorthbranch@gmail.com

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

Medicare and Medicaid 101 Open House
Third Thursday of the month from 1-3 p.m. Get your questions answered by trained agents. (763) 689-7390 or ecrlib.org for info.

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

DEC 5
Craft and Christmas Tea
At Friendship Cafe/ Senior Activity Center, Located: 140 Buchanan Street N, Cambridge. 1 p.m. Call for more details, 763-689-6555, ask for Shirl. Call to reserve your spot as seating is limited.

DEC 6
A Live Nativity

3 - 6:30 p.m. at Long Lake Lutheran Church, 3921 277th Ave NW, Isanti, MN. There is a special showing from 2-3 p.m. for those with special needs, wheel chairs, or others that need assistance.

Christmas for Kids
Free event begins at 8:45 a.m. at Christ Lutheran Church 1 mile east of Cambridge on Hwy 95. Registrations for ages 3-10. Call 763-689-5333 with any questions.

Christmas tree lighting ceremony
There will be a parade from 5:30-6 p.m. and a tree lighting at Central Park in North Branch, at 6 p.m. Special guest Santa Claus

Potato Feed for Scholarships
3 - 7 p.m. at Helios Masonic Lodge #273 for a baked potato feed to support their scholarship program for area youth. Curbside and to-go orders available.

DEC 7
A Live Nativity
9 a.m. at Long Lake Lutheran Church, 3921 277th Ave NW, Isanti, MN.

The East Central Grad Band Winter Concert
2 p.m. at Hardy Performing Arts Center, 430 8th Avenue NW, Cambridge. For more info. contact Justin and Crystal Kennedy, at jckennedy@mac.com

DEC 11
Free Community Dinner
At Faith Lutheran Church, 109 2nd Ave NW, Cambridge. Christmas Carols at 5:30 p.m. Dinner at 6 p.m. Please see Facebook page to let us know you're coming and see the menu.

OPPORTUNITIES TO GIVE AND SERVE

THRU DEC 12
Star of Hope Holiday Food Drive
Join the Isanti-Chisago County Star in helping fill our food shelf this holiday season. From Nov. 1 to Dec. 12 donate a non-perishable food item at our office 930 Cleveland St. S Cambridge or one of our partner locations: Peterson's North Branch Mill, 38964 Branch Ave, North Branch ; Empire Insurance 6063 Main St. Suite A, North Branch; Scout and Morgan Books 114 Buchanan St N, Cambridge; Minnesota Equipment, 233 Cajima St NE, Isanti. Financial donations are also accepted.

Rush City Christmas Caring Tree
The Christmas Caring Tree will be set up in the Rush City Public Library on Tuesday, Nov. 18 until Friday, Dec. 12. The tree will be decorated with

Christmas Wish tags from children in the Rush City School District. Select a Wish tag(s), purchase gift(s) for the child and return unwrapped to the library by Fri., Dec. 12. Your generosity will be appreciated on Christmas morning. Questions, call Marilyn at 651-674-7336 or Shari at 320-358-3463.

TOY DRIVES
Northwoods Electric in Stanchfield & Idle Hands Tattoo 303 Credit Union Drive Northeast Suite 5, Isanti. Bring a new unwrapped toy. All toys collected will be donated to local Charities to help families in need before December 15.

Isanti County Lions Club Annual Christmas Project Bring unwrapped gift(s) for any age to First Bank and Trust in Cambridge by December 15.

CHRISTMAS SPONSORSHIP
Pump Republic has decided to sponsor a local Isanti/Cambridge family this year for Christmas. Nominate a family in need via Pump Republic's Facebook page. A name will be drawn on Nov. 23 to make sure we have plenty of time to shop for gifts and get them to you by Dec. 20.

MINNCO ANGEL TREE
Visit Minnco's Virtual Angel Tree or an In-Branch Angel Tree, select an individual or family from the list, then purchase and wrap presents for them. Yours may be the only gifts they receive this year. Please Hurry! Gifts must be returned to a Minnco location by Saturday, December 13!

SALVATION ARMY'S RED KETTLE CAMPAIGN THRU DEC. 23
Volunteers needed: The Salvation Army seeks bell ringers for two kettles at Cambridge Walmart, and one each at Fleet Farm, Cub and Coborn's in Isanti. Shifts available Nov. 28-29; Thursday-Saturday the weeks of Dec. 1, 8 and 15; and Dec. 22-23. Sign up at registertor-ing.com. For questions, contact Wes Harding at 763-222-5762.

DEC. 20
Stuff The Squad
10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at County Market in North Branch. Donate nonparishable food item or cash to benefit local food shelves. Featuring cocoa with Cop.

Looking for a new job?
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ISANTI-CHISAGO
COUNTY STAR



‘Maybe next year’ comes earlier than expected

Here it is, a week after Thanksgiving, and Vikings fans are already proclaiming what seems to be Minnesota sports fans’ official motto: “maybe next year.”

Truth be told, several probably made that statement a couple of weeks ago after the home loss to the Chicago Bears. That number greatly increased the following week after the team’s abysmal performance against the hated Green Bay Packers. But what put even the most optimistic fans over the edge was the Vikings’ first shutout loss since 2007 — at the hands of the Sam Darnold-led Seattle Seahawks, no less.

Now, at this point, I have to repeat my proclamation that letting Darnold leave in favor of J.J. McCarthy is not the cause of our current woes. The injury-prone, patchwork offensive line has to take the brunt of the blame.

Anyone under center behind that line, including the most mobile quarterbacks in the league, would have seen their stats take a dive. This is especially true of Darnold, who once infamously admitted to “seeing ghosts” while playing for the New York Jets in a game against the New England Patriots in which Darnold threw four interceptions.

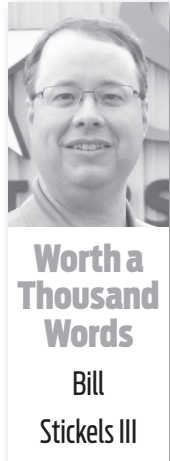
Even if the Vikings had kept Darnold and he played close to as well as he did for a majority of last season, it would most likely only have resulted in us overpaying for yet another “one and done” playoff run. As I have also repeatedly stated, Darnold was a head-case, as evidenced by the “seeing ghosts” comment. And, once a head-case, always a head-case.

Getting back to the here and now, I entered this season cautiously optimistic about McCarthy. Even after witnessing several of his rookie mistakes, I was saying as long as he doesn’t keep repeating the same mistakes, I have hopes for him. Admittedly, it’s hard to assess if he is making the same mistakes, as he keeps getting injured (which is another issue altogether). But I must reluctantly admit that when he is on the field, he’s not trending in the right direction.

I guess the same can be said for Max Brosmer, the one-year wonder for the Gophers, who, during the preseason, was giving Vikings fans the thought of the second-coming of San Francisco’s “Mr. Irrelevant” Brock Purdy. It has only been one game for Brosmer, but that was a very ugly game.

This has left me hoping McCarthy can stay healthy enough to play all of the rest of the games. It’s not that I’ve given up on Brosmer, though. I just want the same quarterback to play the remainder of the season, and it would be better if it were our first-round draft pick. That way, we can give him a good, no-pressure trial run to see if maybe it will be “next year.”

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.



Worth a Thousand Words
Bill Stickels III



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Appeal to Heaven

To the editor,

Jonathan Edwards prayed, and revival came to the American Colonies. History has been changed time after time because of prayer. It still works if we don’t.

So join with us in the Appeal to Heaven, Sunday December 7, 5 p.m. at Grace Gospel Church, Grandi.

Bob Lex
For Concerned Citizens

Kudos to GracePointe Crossing

To the editor,

With the change in seasons from autumn to winter (today, December 1, is the start of meteorological winter) darkness comes early and closes around us. Colored lights on evergreen trees are enhanced by the darkness and improved by the sparkle of snow. As an older adult, I still experience outdoor Christmas displays with the same wonder I had as a child and I know I am not alone.

Kudos to the life enhancement team at GracePointe Crossing for this display which seems to have captured the imagination and pleasure of residents, their families, and the community alike. Mission accomplished!

Eileen Stitz
Cambridge

Countering Trump’s ‘accomplishments’

To the editor,

A Nov. 27 letter writer gave an accounting of Trump’s accomplishments during the first 10 months of his second term. This frequent writer will appar-

ently support Trump regardless of what Trump does, says or represents, and he has the right to do that and to express his opinions.

However, I take great exception to many of his claims and I present just a few here.

He writes that “north of 70% of illegals that are deported have criminal records here or criminal records abroad”. I don’t know whether that’s true or not, but, if true, it means that 30% have no criminal records and were harassed, detained, arrested, or deported anyway. Considering that, before the deportments began, the administration claimed it knew who the illegals were and where they lived, that 30% figure is unacceptably and outrageously high.

He writes about the “. . . massive tax breaks. No tax on tips, overtime, Social Security . . .” These tax breaks come with restrictions and limits, and many who earn them will pay tax on them.

He refers to the bombing of drug cartel boats and the killing of their crews as “sending a message”. I call it a provocation of war. These boats might have been carrying drugs and they might have been bound for the US, but we don’t know either. They were in international waters and not a threat to the security of our country. I don’t support the spread of illegal drugs, but we could have detained these vessels and their crews, obtained proof of their cargo and their intentions, and given due process.

Finally, he cites Trump’s cutting of waste, fraud and abuse “to reduce our \$38 trillion deficit created by previous administrations”. DOGE was an abject failure, and the deficit increased by \$8 trillion during Trump’s first term and already another \$1 trillion since his second inauguration.

Loren Brabec
Braham

Your Best Source for Community Information

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Noon Tuesday

ADVERTISING DEADLINE:
4 p.m. Tuesday

CLASSIFIED DEADLINE:
4 p.m. Tuesday

LEGALS DEADLINE:
Noon Monday



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Towing rules and regulations

Question: I saw a guy in a Chevrolet Suburban towing a guy on a motorcycle using a tow strap going down the street in town. It crossed my mind, is that legally ok to do that for a long distance?



Answer: Minnesota statute says:

- When one vehicle is towing another the drawbar or other connection must be of sufficient strength to pull the weight being towed.
- The drawbar or other connection may not exceed 15 feet from one vehicle to the other.
- When one vehicle is towing another and the connection consists of a chain, rope, or cable, the connection must display a white, red, yellow, or orange flag or cloth not less than 12 inches square.

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

Historical Society launches interactive digital memory trail, connecting community to local history

The Chisago County Historical Society (CCHS) has launched a new, innovative Digital Memories Trail, featuring twenty locations in every city and township that showcase the history of that community. Supported by Chisago County, this interactive trail transforms local history into an engaging, approachable experience for residents and visitors alike.

The Digital Memories Trail offers brief, informative snapshots of historical landmarks, important events, and community memories designed to deepen people’s understanding of what it means to live in Chisago County. Each story reveals how the area has fundamentally been shaped by its people, businesses, and cultures.

“This project moves history from the archive and puts it directly into the community,” said Lora Tatinger, Executive Director of CCHS. “Whether you’re a visitor, a lifelong resident or a newcomer, the Digital Memories Trail provides a wonderful opportunity to connect with the rich history of our area, encouraging a stronger sense of local pride and connection.”

The Digital Memory Trail features two easy ways to explore:

1. On Location: Each city and township has installed a Digital Memories Trail marker with a unique QR code. All of these locations are listed on the Main Map flyer, which is available at CCHS. Scanning the code instantly accesses that location’s historical story and connects to a county-wide map for navigation.
2. Virtually: The Main Map and the entire Digital Memories Trail is also accessible online via the CCHS website at <https://chisagocountyhistory.org/Digital-Memories-Trail.html>. This option allows anyone to explore the memories of Chisago County from anywhere in the world.

The CCHS encourages families, history buffs, and community groups to follow the trail and uncover the hidden stories in their own backyards. ~ The Chisago County Historical Society

Cambridge seeks applicants for parks, trails, recreation and planning commissions

Cambridge officials are seeking volunteers to fill upcoming vacancies on two key advisory commissions in early 2026.

The city is accepting applications for three seats on the Parks, Trails and Recreation Commission. Two positions carry three-year terms, while one is designated for a youth representative serving a one-year term. Youth applicants must be in grades 9–12. Residency within city limits is required, though the City Council may consider applicants from the Urban Service Area if needed. The commission meets quarterly, with additional sessions as needed, and advises the council on parks, trails and recreational programming.

Applications are due by 4:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 9, 2026. Interviews are scheduled for the regular City Council meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 20, 2026, at about 6 p.m. Interested residents may contact Amy Norling at 763-552-3257 or anorling@ci.cambridge.mn.us, or pick up forms at

City Hall or online.

The city is also seeking applicants for three seats on the Planning Commission, each carrying a three-year term. Eligible applicants must live within Cambridge or the city’s Urban Service Area I. The commission oversees the Comprehensive Plan, reviews development proposals, and hears conditional use, interim use and variance requests. Meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m., with additional meetings as needed.

Applications for the Planning Commission are due by 4:30 p.m. Dec. 26, 2025. Questions may be directed to Jacob Nosbush at 763-552-3255 or jnosbush@ci.cambridge.mn.us. Forms are available at City Hall or online.

The city will use applicant lists for both commissions to fill any unexpected vacancies that arise in 2026. ~ City of Cambridge

Talking digital detox and mental health with University of Minnesota

The holiday season is meant to bring rest and celebration, but it often becomes stressful as we rush through to-dos, check off lists and even lose sight of what actually matters to us. Any change in routine — even if invited — can stir emotions and demand extra mental energy. Technology and artificial intelligence has the potential to support, but also undermine our intentions, depending on how intentionally we navigate them.

Sabine Schmid, PhD, with the University of Minnesota Medical School, discusses why intentionally disconnecting from electronic devices, AI and all things virtual this season may support our mental health, and how reconnecting with people, nature and the physical world can help us feel more grounded and human.

Q: Why do so many people feel drawn to “unplug” during the holidays?

Dr. Schmid: The seductive allure of digital tools, while undeniably enriching, is also subtly drawing us away from our bodies, our relationships and the physical world right in front of us. Holidays interrupt our routines, and that disruption gives us a chance to notice just how much of our daily life is mediated by screens and digital notifications. Many of us spend the year immersed in virtual spaces — constantly reachable, constantly stimulated, unaware of the consequences, until we can suddenly realize something’s gone missing.

Humans evolved in physical environments: in contact with other people, nature, touch, movement, shared meals and shared silence. When the gap between our digital life and our physical life becomes too wide, it creates tension. The desire to unplug isn’t a rejection of technology; it’s our nervous system signaling a need to reduce certain inputs for optimal functioning.

Q: What are your tips for disconnecting from electronic devices without creating new stress?

Dr. Schmid: It’s helpful to start with intention rather than strict rules. Instead of saying “no screens at all,” try identifying what you hope to gain: more presence with loved ones, a calmer mind, time out-

doors or simply relief from constant alerts.

Then consider small, manageable steps:

- Designate short “device-free windows” each day.
- Leave your phone in another room during meals or conversations.
- Replace one digital habit with a physical one: a walk, a puzzle, a handwritten card or cooking with someone.

If you feel anxious without your devices, that’s normal. It signals how intertwined our tools have become with our routines. By approaching unplugging with curiosity rather than judgment, you create space for choice rather than deprivation.

Q: How can reconnecting with the physical world support mental well-being during the holidays?

Dr. Schmid: Our bodies are constantly sending us information — through breath, temperature, muscle tension and sensory input. When we spend most of our time in digital environments, we stop noticing these signals. Reconnecting with the physical world reactivates our senses and grounds us in something real and stable.

Being in nature, touching snow or soil, listening to wind or voices instead of notifications — these experiences calm our physiological stress systems. Sharing physical space with others reminds us that relationships are built through eye contact, tone of voice and shared activity. Even simple tasks like cooking, decorating or taking a walk invite our minds back into our bodies. Presence is a physical act, not just a mental intention.

Q: What advice do you have for people who feel lonely or disconnected in an increasingly digital world?

Dr. Schmid: Loneliness often feels sharper at the holidays because we expect closeness — and the contrast can be painful. Technology can help us stay connected, but it can also create a sense of distance if it replaces embodied, in-person moments.

My advice is to reconnect with something physical, even if it feels small: reach out to one person in real time, take a walk in a familiar neighborhood, visit a public

space like a library or café or join a community activity. Being around others — even strangers — helps remind us that we exist in a shared physical world.

It’s also important to allow yourself the full range of emotions that holidays bring. Loneliness isn’t a sign of failure; it’s a signal that connection matters deeply to us. And connection doesn’t always require words — sometimes it’s found in shared silence, shared space or shared experience.

Q: How does your academic work at the University of Minnesota inform your clinical perspective on unplugging and reconnecting with the physical world?

Dr. Schmid: In the mood disorders program at the University of Minnesota Medical School, we explore, study and apply a variety of exciting and innovative interventions for depression. The detrimental effects of chronic stress and social isolation on our mental and physical health are well established. A significant part of my work focuses on evidence-based, mindfulness-based and cognitive-behavioral approaches — all of which return people to the present moment and to their physical environment.

Research consistently shows that time in nature, in-person connection, sensory grounding and mindful attention reduce symptoms of stress and depression. None of these require technology; they require presence.

Unplugging during the holidays isn’t about rejecting innovation — it’s about remembering that our bodies and brains are built for real-world contact. When we reconnect with the physical, we reconnect with our humanness.

Dr. Sabine Schmid is a clinical psychologist and associate professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the University of Minnesota Medical School. Her education mission centers around empirically validated team-based patient care, interprofessional learning, and mentorship of trainees across disciplines. ~ The University of Minnesota Medical School

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OBITUARIES

Celestine Beverly Glidden

Celestine Beverly Glidden, of Grasston, passed away peacefully at home on Wednesday, November 26, 2025, after battling cancer for several years. She was 50 years old.

Celestine was born on April 3, 1975, in Mora, Minnesota to parents Vincent and Beverly (Prah) Glidden. When she was seven, her father joined the Military, so she spent most of her school years in Texas and Germany before graduating from Minnetonka High School in 1993. She started college in Texas but soon transferred to Hawaii where she graduated with a bachelor's degree in biology. She continued her education at the U of M Mankato campus, where she earned a bachelor's degree in nursing.

Celestine started her career in nursing with a few years in Sandstone and the Brainerd State Hospital before finding her home at the Cambridge Medical Center where she specialized in mental health and addiction. She enjoyed over 14 years there, even being able to work side by side with her dad for a few years before her declining health forced her to step back from the work she loved so much.

Celestine took on the caretaker role for her beloved grandma Betty Prah until her passing in 2011 and was so proud to be able to purchase her farm and make a home for herself there.

After reconnecting with a longtime friend Jim Cadman, Celestine and Jim were united in marriage on June 2, 2023, at the Open Arms Church in Grass-ton.

Celestine was an active member at Open Arms and took part in numerous activities, including helping in the kitchen whenever possible. She loved the outdoors and spending a sunny day on the boat fishing. She had a deep love for animals and had many beloved dogs and cats over the years. She loved her family and friends and was "Auntie C" to many. She will be forever remembered for her strength, deep care and compassion for all, and her adventurous and adaptive spirit. She will be missed.

Celestine was preceded in death by her mother Beverly Glidden and brother Toivo Glidden.



James Lee Spencer

James Lee Spencer, passed away peacefully on November 24, 2025, at the age of 88 in Princeton, Minnesota. Born on August 25, 1937, in Cambridge, Minnesota.

Jim's early life in Cambridge was filled with fond memories and the love of his parents, Ronald "Barney" and Frances (Larson) Spencer. He graduated from Cambridge High School in 1955, marking the beginning of a lifetime of service and commitment. Following high school, Jim honorably served in the United States Army, a period of his life that would instill in him a sense of discipline and patriotism that he carried with him always.

On October 29, 1966, Jim married the love of his life, Darla Wedel, in Deerpark, Minnesota.

Jim's professional life was as varied as it was successful. He began his career at Gillespie Auto in Cambridge and then went on to own and operate Freedom Auto in both Cambridge and Princeton for over two decades. Even after retiring from the car business, Jim's industrious spirit led him to work at FleetGo and later at Menards in Cambridge for 20 years.

A lifelong member of Cambridge Lutheran Church, Jim's Christian faith was a guiding force in his life. He led the men's group with passion and was an integral part of the church community, particularly known for his involvement in the annual lutefisk dinners, which he approached with both reverence and a sense of humor.

Jim's interests outside of work and church were many and varied. Jim's passion for life extended to his love of golf, where he was a regular in the men's league at the Purple Hawk and his trips to Florida. He took immense pleasure in attending his grandsons' activities and supporting them in every endeavor. An avid sports fan, Jim held a Blue Jacket athletic pass and could often be found cheering on the local teams with enthusiasm and pride.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his infant son, Darren.

Jim is survived by his wife, Darla Spencer of Cambridge; his son, Luke (Michelle) Spencer of Bradford; his grandsons, Lucas Spencer (Kenzie) of Bradford, and Darren Spencer (Madeline) stationed in Hawaii; and his siblings, Don (Marilyn) Spencer of Cambridge, Kay Heinemann of Elk River, and Michael (Charlotte) Spencer of Bella Vista, AR, many nieces, nephews other relatives and friends.

Funeral Service 11 a.m., Thursday, December 4, 2025 at Cambridge Lutheran Church. Visitation one hour prior to the service. Interment in the Cambridge Lutheran Cemetery with Military Honors provided by the Cambridge Legion Honor Guard. Condolences at www.carlsonlillemoen.com. Arrangements by Carlson-Lillemoen Funeral Home and Cremation Services of Cambridge.



Wendell Peterson

Wendell Peterson, 91, of Isanti, MN died November 25, 2025 at his home with family by his side.

Wendell was born April 28, 1934 in Rush City, MN to Alice (Hawkinson) Martin, and was later adopted by Vernon Peterson, Alice's second husband. His family moved to Iowa where he graduated from Essex Community Schools while helping his family on their farm. After graduation, he moved back to Cambridge, MN and attended Gale Institute to become a Train Depot Agent. He worked in this field for two-years in and near Chippewa Falls, WI for the Chicago NW Railroad. He was then drafted into the US Army, where he proudly served from 1955-1957 as a Radio Telegrapher, learning both Morse and International Code. After his honorable discharge from the Army, he built his own home in Cambridge on the Rum River and began farming 100+ acres, which he loved. He also began working at the Cambridge State Hospital, where he worked for 26-years. During this time, he and his first wife, Dorothy, raised three-sons, Jerald, Michael, and Dorn. While working at the State Hospital, he also drove school bus for 17-years for Cambridge-Isanti Public Schools, was janitor at the Cambridge Clinic, and sold O's Gold seed corn in his spare time. To call him a jack-of-all-trades, would never do him justice. He also loved being a father, and later grandfather and great-grandfather.

In 1982, he married Laurie and the couple moved to Charlotte Harbor, FL in 1984. They both worked full time and made many lifetime friends. While in Florida, Wendell especially enjoyed water sports and recreation of all types, traveling both domestic and abroad, HAM radio operation, selling real estate, flying in the local Civil Air Patrol, and socializing with friends. Wendell retired from Charlotte County Board of Commissioners in 2001, and after Laurie's retirement in 2015, the couple moved from Florida back to Isanti, MN to be near family.

Wendell was a deeply spiritual man who loved God and enjoyed fellowship at his local church, no matter where he lived. He was baptized in 2004 at Peace River Wesleyan Church in Port Charlotte, FL and sang in the Church Choir for 17-years. He LOVED watching The Chosen TV series, and seeing the Bible come alive. His favorite Bible verse was Isaiah 43:1b.

Wendell is survived and will be deeply missed by his beloved wife Laurie of 44-years, sons Jerald (Re-nee) Peterson, Michael (Pam) Peterson, Dorn Peterson (Missy Opatz), grandchildren Jeremy Peterson (Jessica), Aaron Peterson (Jaylene), Tonia (Derek) Nelson, Traci Jo (Nick) Enger, Ashley (Andy) Jung, and many great-grandchildren, half-sister Pam (Ar-nie) Nelson, brother-in-law Dennis (Chery) Buckley, nephew Dale (Candy) Bisbee, nieces Norma (Larry) Fast, Catherine Witzke, Sandra Allen, and many cousins, great and great-great nieces and nephews. His "special friends," include his cousins, Kenny Blosberg, David Blosberg, and many others. He was preceded in death by his parents, sister, Elaine and half-sister, Lotus.

A Celebration of Life will be held 11 a.m. on Saturday, December 6, 2025 at Strike Life Tributes in Isanti with visitation one hour before and followed by a luncheon on location. Online condolences can be placed at StrikeLifeTributes.com.



Theodore "Ted" John Erickson

Theodore "Ted" John Erickson, age 92, of Isanti passed away November 30, 2025 at home.

Ted was born January 21, 1933 in Stanford Township, Isanti County, Minnesota to George and Amy (Anderson) Erickson. He attended school in St. Francis and then enlisted in the US Navy. On September 1, 1954 he married Barbara Wirz in Hawaii. They made their home in Hawaii for a year and a half and later in California and then St. Paul, Minnesota. In 1962 they moved to the farm in rural Isanti. Ted worked as an airplane mechanic for Northwest Airlines for 37 years. He also farmed on the side, both with crops and cattle. Ted's passion was restoring John Deere tractors. Ted and Barb were both active members at Long Lake Lutheran Church.

Ted will be lovingly remembered by his son, Michael (Lynn) Erickson; daughter, Nancy (Ernest) Sandahl; four grand-daughters, Heather (Nate) Blue, Sara (Andrew) Stolt, Jennifer Sandahl (James Bennett) and Melissa (Brandon) Johnson; seven great-grandchildren, Madelyn, Eleanor, Finley, Amelia, Griffin, Erick and Nora; and by many other relatives and friends. Besides his parents he was preceded in death by his wife, Barbara; brothers, Kenneth and Curtis; and sister-in-laws, Dorothy and Geraldine.

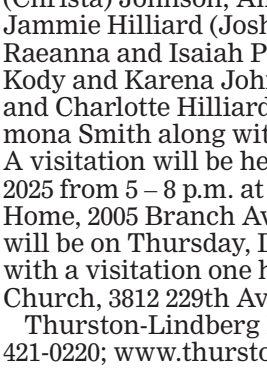
Funeral service 11 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 9 at Long Lake Lutheran Church in Isanti. A visitation will be held one hour prior to the service at the church. Interment will be in Long Lake Community Cemetery with Military Honors provided by the Isanti VFW. Online condolences can be placed at StrikeLifeTributes.com.



Dorothy E Hilliard

Hilliard, Dorothy E. age 83 of Cambridge formerly of Anoka passed away on November 25, 2025. She was preceded in death by her husband, Harold; brothers, Kenneth, Glen and Robert Baker; sisters, Beverly Blumer and Darlene Lenz. Dorothy was survived by her children, Clif (Nadine), Robyn (Paul) Perlewitz, Holly and James; grandchildren, Erik (Christa) Johnson, Amanda Hilliard (Jake Ryding), Jammie Hilliard (Josh Hieserich), Daniel Hilliard, Raeanna and Isaiah Perlewitz; great-grandchildren, Kody and Karena Johnson, Chloe Ryding, Emmett and Charlotte Hilliard; sisters, Marlys Lick and Ramona Smith along with many nieces and nephews. A visitation will be held on Wednesday, December 3, 2025 from 5 – 8 p.m. at Thurston-Lindberg Funeral Home, 2005 Branch Ave, Anoka. Funeral Services will be on Thursday, December 4, 2025 at 11 a.m. with a visitation one hour prior at Trinity Lutheran Church, 3812 229th Ave NW, St. Francis.

Thurston-Lindberg Funeral Home, Anoka, 763-421-0220; www.thurston-lindberg.com



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OBITUARIES

Karen Larson Obituary

Karen Eleanor (Baker) Larson, 88, of Cambridge, passed away peacefully on Saturday, November 15, 2025, at her home with family by her side.

Karen was born April 16, 1937 in Minneapolis, MN, to Doris Mae and James Baker, Sr. Karen graduated from Robbinsdale High School Class of 1955. After high school, Karen worked at Cinerama Theatre in St. Louis Park as an usher.



Karen met Barney Larson while she and her friend Patsy were out hitch-hiking on the backroads north of Cambridge. Barney Larson and Shannon Foote, picked up the girls on their motorcycles. Karen got on the back with Barney; Patsy got on the back with Shannon and the rest is history.

On October 1, 1955, Karen was united in marriage to Bernard “Barney” Larson in Weber, MN. They made their home in Cambridge. From this union, three children were born: Michael in 1956, John in 1957, and Lori in 1960. While her children were young, Karen was a stay-at-home mom. In 1959, they built their first house in Edgewood, then they built a house on Paul’s Lake in 1970. In 1975, Karen and Barney began as joint owners of Larsons Cycle which was located on Adams Street at that time and they moved to an apartment right above the business. In 1997, the business relocated to its current location on Garfield Street and the Adams Street location & their apartment was torn down and they bought the home in which she would spend her remaining years. In 2001, ownership of the business

went to sons Mike & John, but Barney & Karen remained actively working at “The Shop” for many years. Karen retired in 2008.

From 1974 -1979, Karen & Barney were fortunate enough to participate with management of the Teams USA at six of the International Six Day Trials (ISDT’s). Their joint participation in the IS-DT’s as well as their business sales awards, allowed Karen & Barney to travel extensively around the world including Italy, France, Germany, Isle Of Man, England, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Sweden, Hawaii, Jamaica, Caribbean and Japan, among others places.

Karen was one of the six founding members of the Norsemen Motorcycle Club, founded in 1960 & was a lifetime member. Karen worked tirelessly at every Norsemen racing event whether it be arrowing enduro courses (with a baby on her back), checking at enduros, tabulating scores or working at the food shack. Karen was also a member of the Northern Eagles MC (1956-61) & Straight Arrows Enduro Riders (1974-1979). Karen volunteered her time for years working at the indoor short-track races at the Mpls Armory during the winters, organizing clean-up & play-days at the Cambridge track, spending off-race Sundays at flea markets and trade-shows. Karen also helped with the Norsemen’s Adopt-A-Highway program.

Karen always looked forward to the yearly trip to the Black Hills in South Dakota for the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally with Barney. Karen and Barney took their family to Sturgis beginning in 1967 & she went to the Rally for 44 years in a row. In her later years, Karen enjoyed going to the Antique Motorcycle Show/Auction in Las Vegas, the Blind Lizard Motorcycle Rally on Nicolett Island in the summer, and the Back-To-The-Fifties Car Show in Mpls each

year. Always with Barney.

Karen had a very special circle of close friends. For many years, Karen and her friends would get together every month to play cards and she absolutely loved every minute of these get-togethers. I can still hear the laughter.

Karen was a lifetime member of the Cambridge Lutheran Church (although she didn’t attend regularly during racing season) and made sure all her children were confirmed in the Church.

Karen was preceded in death by her husband of 62 years, Barney Larson; parents, James Baker, Sr., & Doris Baker; son, John Larson, parents-in-law, Milton & Evelyn Larson; brother, James Baker Jr.; nephew James Baker III, and grandson, Nick Bistodeau,

Karen is survived by her son, Michael Larson (Tina Hjeltman) of Isanti; daughter, Lori Larson of Cambridge; sister, Julie Pizarro of Washington; sister-in-law, Sandra (John) Steinbring of Anoka; grandchildren, Jason (Cassie) Larson, Michelle Larson, Jessia Larson (Chad Valland), Sarah (Andy) Anderson, Joey Bistodeau, Rachel (Geoff) Bistodeau-Purtle; daughter-in-law, Sandra Larson; and great-grandchildren, William, Joey, Olivia, Eli, Payton, Abel and Emily, along with many other relatives & friends.

A private family service will be held at a later date. Karen’s ashes will be intermingled with those of Barney’s and interred at the Cambridge Lutheran Church Cemetery.

A special heartfelt thanks to Paula Sutherland for her dedicated & devoted care and friendship she gave Karen in the past few years. Also our thanks to St. Croix Hospice Care for their caring service to Karen.

Twin gifts highlight ECE’s community mission

East Central Energy marked National Cooperative Month with a pair of donations underscoring its long-running commitment to community support across its 14-county service area.

At the co-op’s headquarters, Deb Eck, board chair of East Central Energy’s Operation Round Up®, accepted an \$80,000 contribution made possible through a larger-than-usual balance of unclaimed capital credits. The funds, designated for charitable and educational purposes, will be distributed to organizations throughout the region in the coming year.

Not far away in Isanti, another group of ECE employees spent the morning working side by side with volunteers at Ruby’s Pantry. Before sunrise, crews helped unpack boxes, sort produce and prepare hundreds of grocery shares for families driving through the monthly distribution at New Hope Community Church. For \$25 per share, each vehicle received an assortment of staples including milk, meat, pasta and fresh vegetables, offering a boost to tight household budgets.

This month’s event carried special meaning for volunteers and the ECE

team. Karla Blake attended in honor of her late husband, Al, who served Ruby’s Pantry for a decade as director of food sourcing. Known for his leadership, compassion and commitment to helping others, Al left an imprint that remains visible in the community he served.

In his memory, ECE presented a \$5,000 donation to support Ruby’s Pantry’s mission of feeding families across Minnesota and Wisconsin. Karla presented the check to Executive Director RoxAnn Sahr, noting how deeply the organization supported her family during Al’s illness. “Being able to play a part in giving back means the world to me,” she said.

To further honor Al’s legacy, the first 200 vehicles received reusable cooler bags filled with items selected by Karla and the couple’s children, Claire and Andrew. Each bag included three of Al’s favorites — tuna, whole-grain brown rice and dark chocolate — a small nod to the “strength and sweetness” that defined him. Drivers offered condolences and memories as they pulled forward, creating a morning marked by both sorrow and gratitude.



CONTRIBUTED

Deb Eck, Board Chair of East Central Energy’s Operation Round Up®, accepts an \$80,000 check on behalf of the program from ECE VP/CIO Ty Houglum.

ECE leaders say the dual donations — one supporting a regional grant program and the other aiding a grassroots food distribution — reflect the cooperative’s core values.

Volunteer opportunities remain open at Ruby’s Pantry locations across Minnesota and Wisconsin. More information is available at rubyspantry.org and eastcentralenergy.com. ~East Central Energy

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Chisago County Public Health awarded national accreditation

Chisago County Public Health announced it has been awarded national accreditation through the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB). Established in 2007, PHAB is a non-profit organization that administers the national accreditation program, which aims to advance and transform public health practice by championing performance improvement, strong infrastructure, and innovation.

“We’re proud to be recognized by PHAB for meeting national standards that strengthen effectiveness and support continuous quality improvement,” said Courtney Wehrenberg, Public Health Administrator. “We hope this recognition reassures our community, partners, funders, and elected officials

that our services are responsive, accountable, and aligned with the foundational needs of those we serve.”

The national accreditation program, which receives support from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, sets standards against which the nation’s governmental public health departments can continuously improve the quality of their services and performance. Standards emphasize Foundational Capabilities and are aligned with the 10 Essential Public Health Services. More than 80 percent of the U.S. population now reap the benefits of being served by a health department that has undergone PHAB’s rigorous, multi-faceted, peer-reviewed assessment process to ensure it meets a set of quality standards and measures.

“National accreditation through PHAB has benefits that extend far beyond the health department itself,” said PHAB President and CEO Dr. Joneigh Khaldun, MD, MPH, FACEP. “The accreditation process helps health departments identify key areas for improvement, ensuring they provide the highest level of service to their communities. With this accomplishment, communities served by accredited health departments can trust that their department is strong, capable, and committed to protecting and promoting public health.”

Often called the “backbone” of the public health system, public health departments are on the front lines of communities’ efforts to protect and promote health and prevent disease

and injury. Across the nation, health departments provide services aimed at promoting healthy behaviors; preventing diseases and injuries; ensuring access to safe food, water, clean air, and life-saving immunizations; and preparing for and responding to public health emergencies.

Chisago County Public Health offers programs that support families, promote healthy lifestyles, prevent disease, and prepare for emergencies. As our community faces ongoing challenges such as chronic disease, mental health concerns, and access barriers, we are dedicated to using evidence-based strategies and strong partnerships to advance health and well-being for all. - Chisago County Public Health

W O R S H I P *guide*

Baptist

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

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

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

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

Catholic

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

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

Evangelical Covenant

Karmel Covenant Church
5799 County Road 6, Princeton MN 763-389-3169
Lead Pastor: Jason Hovis
Pastor of Youth: Kohl Hanson
Sunday School for All Ages (school year only): 9-10 a.m.
Sunday Worship (in person & online): 10:30-11:30 a.m.
Wednesday Programming (school year only):
Family meal at 5:30 p.m. with AWANA and Youth Group from 6:30-8 p.m.

Evangelical Free

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

Kost Evangelical Free Church
37405 Kost Trail, North Branch, MN – Jct. of CR 11 & CR 72
651-583-3281 • Kostchurch.org
Pastor Josh Jensen
Sunday worship service 9:30 am followed by fellowship & Sunday School
Youth group Wednesdays 7 pm
Respawn Gaming Ministry for teen boys – 2 Fridays per month.

Oxlip Evangelical Free Church
29237 Roanoke St NW, Isanti
(1 mile West of Cty 5 and Hwy 47)
763-444-5134 oxlip.org
9am Worship Service
10:45am Christian Education
Awana children's ministry Wednesdays 6 to 7:30pm

Wyanett Evangelical Free Church
12 Miles West of Cambridge on Hwy 95
www.wyanettevangelicalfree.org
Pastor Bruce Talso 763-221-4469
Sunday School 9:30 am
Morning Worship 10:30 am
Mondays - Women's Evening Bible Study 6:00 pm
Tuesdays - Men's Bible Study 5:00 pm
Wednesdays - Midweek Bible Study/ Prayer 2:00 pm
Thursdays - Women's Morning Bible Study 9:30 a.m. at Heart Matters Ministry, 403 1st St. Princeton
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Lutheran

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

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

Cambridge Lutheran Church (ELCA)
621 Old North Main Street, Cambridge
763-689-1211
Traditional service: 8:30 a.m.
Contemp service: 9:15 & 10:30 a.m.
KidZone 9:15 & 10:30 a.m.
www.cambridgelutheran.org
Facebook: fb.com/Cambridgelutheran
YouTube: tinyurl.com/Cambridgelutheran

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

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

Joy Lutheran Church (Missouri Synod)
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
ADVENT Services Tuesdays 7pm
Dec. 2nd, 9th & 16th
Sunday Worship 10am
Sunday School 9am
Sunday Adult Bible Study 9am
www.livingbranch.org
email: office@livingbranch.org

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

Salem Lutheran Church
4638 381st Ave. NW, Dalbo, MN 55017.
763-689-1687
Join us for worship every Sunday at 10:30
Sunday School 11:00 resuming in the Fall
Coffee fellowship after worship
www.salemlutherandalbo.com

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

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

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

St. Stephen's Lutheran Church (Missouri Synod)
400 SE 8th St., (Isanti #4 E.), 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 & 10 am Worship
9 am 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.
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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.
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Journey of Faith
Bible based worship.
651-600-9878.
faiththroughaction777@gmail.com
Sunday fellowship 9am
Worship & Youth Ministry 10am
Come as you are. All welcome.
Junction Bowl. 123 Cajima Street, NE, Isanti. Refreshments served.

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

Pentecostal

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

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CANNABIS: Concerns over hazardous waste at proposed store location prompt added condition

FROM PAGE I

No matter which levy amount the council chose, Moe said the increase is primarily due to a sharp increase in staff insurance rates. She said she projected a 10% in-

Community and Economic Director Marcia Westover indicated that technically, the council was approving an interim use permit application, so it could attach such a condition to its

Ultimately, the council approved Berg's motion on a 3-2 vote, with Godfrey and Christian voting nay.

JJ's lost its restaurant, Karma Grill, in April 2019. By March 2020, the state had not exercised its right to revoke the license, at which point the city granted an official extension for JJ's to find a new restaurant tenant.

In this case, Minnesota statute does not show precedent for a golf course or club to serve that type of liquor without a restaurant operating on-site, according to the staff report.



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Drop Locations






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ME MINNESOTA
EQUIPMENT

Minnesota DNR EagleCam goes live

The EagleCam shows the nesting behavior of a breeding pair of bald eagles, featuring the same active nest as last season. This season, however, viewers will enjoy an improved view of the nest, as the camera has been repositioned and an antenna has been added to offer a sharper image. Since 2013, the Nongame Wildlife Program has provided the DNR EagleCam as a way for people to easily connect with nature as they witness the fascinating lives of breeding birds.

The EagleCam is going live on GivingTuesday, a global movement to inspire generosity. Donations to the Nongame Wildlife Fund ensure a future for Minnesota’s at-risk wildlife and support the maintenance and repairs of the EagleCam. Xcel Energy also generously donates its services to make the EagleCam possible. Gifts to the Nongame Wildlife Fund can be made on Minnesota income tax forms or the DNR website (mndnr.gov/donate).

“The recovery of the bald eagle population is a conservation success story. The DNR’s EagleCam celebrates this success and gives us a unique oppor-

tunity to witness these once endangered birds as they prepare for and raise new chicks,” said Kristin Hall, Nongame Wildlife Program supervisor. “Donations to the Nongame Wildlife Program helped restore the bald eagle population in Minnesota and aided their recovery nationally. That shows what is possible for the hundreds of at-risk wildlife that still need our help.”

The previous EagleCam, located at a different site, is also live and continues to display the territory once occupied by the original EagleCam nest, which fell in April 2023. It provides viewers an opportunity to see other wildlife that occasionally visit the site.

Both cameras can be viewed on the DNR website (mndnr.gov/eaglecam) and on the DNR YouTube channel (youtube.com/channel/UCkibG4ONyUmGlnOR3F3qq6Q). Viewers can also find information on bald eagles and learn about the work of the DNR Nongame Wildlife Program.

Viewers tuning into the DNR EagleCam this month will observe an eagle pair courting and upgrading their nest. They bring in new nesting material and



large sticks each year as a bonding activity. The pair typically increases their activity at the nest as winter progresses and will usually have two or three eggs by mid-February, which the adults incubate for about 35 days. Both adults participate in incubating the eggs and caring for the chicks. Once the chicks hatch, the camera will show the intriguing process of bald eagles raising their chicks. The EagleCam pair successfully fledged two eaglets last season. ~MNDNR

Rush City woman faces assault charges after incident involving throwing rocks, acid

STAFF REPORT
NEWS@COUNTYSTAR.COM

According to the criminal complaint, Pine County law enforcement responded to the report of Shirley Marge Hockensmith, 45, throwing rocks at a man in Rush City, with the man saying that she threw muriatic acid at him. He said he and Hockensmith got into an argument about a missing cat and cigarettes. The parties accused each other of using illicit substances.

The man told officers that after Hockensmith threw rocks at him, she then tackled him to the ground and wrapped her hands around his neck and choked him, saying she was going to kill him. He said the choking made it more difficult to breathe.

According to the complaint, after the man was able to get Hockensmith off of him, she then picked up a tote bin containing muriatic acid, a corrosive liquid used for cleaning, and dumped it onto the man.

Law enforcement observed dried white spots on the man’s face and jacket and multiple objects strewn about the yard. The tote bin had a residual of a liquid that had a faint cleaner smell to it with rubber gloves nearby.

Hockensmith had left the residence, and law enforcement was unable to reach her. Later that day, law enforcement was called to a report that Hockensmith was blocking the man at the residence when he was trying to leave on his motorcycle. According to the report, Hockensmith took his keys and ran behind the house. When a Pine County deputy arrived, he saw the man on his knees while Hockensmith was holding the back of his head and yelling at him. Law enforcement also observed red marks on the man’s neck and discolored hair where the dried liquid was that morning.

After being given a miranda warning, Hockensmith’s statement to law enforcement was incoherent, but it is believed that she said she was the victim of both incidents after the man got mad she would not give him cigarettes.

The felony assault by strangulation comes with a maximum jail sentence of three years and/or a \$5,000 fine. The terroristic threats felony charge comes with a maximum jail sentence of five years and/or a \$10,000 fine. The domestic assault misdemeanor charge comes with a maximum jail sentence of 90 days and/or a \$1,000 fine.

First-come, first-served seats to be offered for 2026 DNR Roundtable

The 2026 Minnesota Department of Natural Resources’ Roundtable — an annual gathering of conservation partners focused on discussing fisheries, wildlife, and ecological and water resource topics and encouraging partnerships — will again include a no-cost, open registration opportunity.

The 2026 DNR Roundtable will be held Friday, Jan. 9. The opportunity to register for one of a limited number of first-come, first-served slots

will open at noon on Monday, Dec. 8 via a registration link on the DNR’s Roundtable webpage (mndnr.gov/roundtable).

Anticipated topics for the 2026 Roundtable include the science behind fish and wildlife limits, the 75th anniversary of Wildlife Management Areas, balancing management of aquatic vegetation, wake impact research, the future of fair chase and more. Program details will be available closer to the event. ~MNDNR

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Christmas Coloring Contest

Color in the scene below and drop off at locations listed under the rules to win!

Winners from each location and age group will be awarded a prize.
Open to junior artists ages 4-10. Age group 4-6 & age group 7-10.

Contest Rules:

- Contest open to children ages 4-10. Employees of this newspaper, contest sponsors and their immediate family members are not eligible to win.
- Use crayons, markers or poster paint to color entries.
- All entries must be received by 3 p.m. December 15.
- Winners will be notified and announced in this newspaper on December 18, 2025.
- All entries are property of this newspaper and may be printed.



Name of Artist: _____ Age: _____

Mail or drop off your completed picture with entry form to one of the addresses listed below:



Coborn's Marketplace
Attn: Customer Service Desk
209 6th Ave. NE Isanti, MN 55040



Walmart
2101 2nd Ave SE, Cambridge, MN 55008

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320-358-4211
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STUDENT ACHIEVERS



Cambridge IS: Sawyer Wahl

Sawyer Wahl, a 5th grade student at Cambridge Intermediate School, is a student who exemplifies the CI Character Traits each day! He is a member of the 5th Grade Math Masters Team! He strives for excellence in all that he does. Sawyer is a great friend and treats others with compassion! Outside of school, Sawyer loves to spend time with his dog Jersey.

Sawyer makes CIS a better school!!



Art and Science Academy: Tobin Miller

Tobin Miller, a fourth-grade student, was named this month's STAR student in recognition of his exceptional character and resilience at Art and Science Academy in November. He constantly radiates a positive attitude, uplifting his peers and brightening even the most challenging school days with his enthusiasm and smile. His true strength shines brightest in his ability to persevere through difficulty; faced with tough assignments or setbacks, Tobin never gives up, instead tackling obstacles with determination and a proactive approach that inspires everyone in the classroom. This winning combination of optimism and grit makes him a truly deserving recipient of this honor.



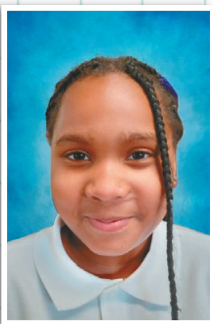
Life Work Center: Joel Kusick

Joel Kusick is being recognized as the Life Work Center Student Achiever for his outstanding flexibility, initiative, and dedication. Recently trained as a substitute dishwasher, he has stepped into multiple kitchen assignments—often with only minutes' notice—and consistently adapts to schedule changes with a positive attitude. Joel also demonstrated strong self-advocacy by enrolling in Driver's Ed and independently coordinating transportation through the Chisago Lakes bus garage to ensure he arrives to class on time. At the Life Work Center, he willingly volunteers to fill in at community worksites when other students are absent. Joel's commitment to working, learning, and helping others makes him a standout student, and the Life Work Center is proud of his efforts!



Cambridge IS: Scarlett Bartels

A 5th grade student at Cambridge Intermediate School, Scarlett Bartels is a fantastic example of a student who shows the Bluejacket Way in all that she does. Scarlett works hard in all subject areas and is a member of the 5 Grade Math Masters Team! When she is not in school, Scarlet enjoys dancing and is in competitive dance. She is a good friend to her classmates. CIS is very proud of Scarlett!



Art and Science Academy: Serenity Dudley

Serenity Dudley, a third grader at Art and Science Academy is highly deserving of our STAR student award for the month of November. Serenity consistently demonstrates a positive attitude at school. She always comes to class ready to learn, treats others around her with kindness, and handles any challenge in her path with a smile. Serenity shines as a respectful, attentive listener who follows directions willingly and consistently, helping our classroom run smoothly every day. Her positive attitude makes our classroom and school a better place to learn. We are so proud of you, Serenity, keep up the amazing work and continue being a great example of a STAR student at ASA.



NBAHS: Mars Lairson

Mars Lairson (12th grade) is an exceptional candidate for this recognition. She has maintained perfect attendance and a 4.0 GPA, consistently showing remarkable dedication to her academic success. Mars is not someone who typically seeks recognition through athletics or other high-profile activities; instead, she leads quietly and confidently through her actions. As our top cadet in the JROTC program, she exemplifies discipline, character, and leadership. Her hard work in both the classroom and in service deserves to be seen and celebrated. Behind her steady excellence, there is surely an inspiring story that reflects the very best of our students.

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CAMBRIDGE-ISANTI BLUEJACKET GIRLS WRESTLING

Head coach: Kyle Willette
Assistant coaches: Paul Washburn
Who are the players to watch this year? Ava Lapoint, Alyssa Mertens, Ashlyn Bondeson, Hanah Tilus-Tierny, Taitum Kostecka
What will be the keys to the team's success this year? With so many new athletes continuing to build culture and believing we have done the work to be recognized as a competitive team.
What challenges will the team face? Growing pains, higher numbers are a great thing to have but come with the challenges of having more athletes and personalities on a team.
What are your goals for the 2025-26 season? Have a good showing at the girls individual section Tournament. 5-6 placing with a few in the top 4.
Who is the opponent to watch for this year in the conference/section? As Girls wrestling continues to grow this is hard to say. Mora has become somewhat of a rival with us being so close and both having larger girls programs. Forest lake still seems to be the leader in section 7 for Girls wrestling.



BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR

2025 - 2026 Cambridge-Isanti girls wrestling: (Front Row, from left) Caylee Svee, Alysa Mertens, Capt. Ava Lapoint, Capt Ashlyn Bondeson, Izzy Brandstrom, Paige Washburn, (Middle Row) Raini Cowan, Kimber Senlycki, Taitum Kostecka, Sophia Meeks, Reagan Hansen-Richter, Anna-bell Bauer, Kiley Bremer, (Back Row) Asst. Coach Paul Washburn, Olivia Waldhoff, Hannah Tilus-Tierny, Heidi Shatek, Khloe Kronsberg, Merideth Robertson, Samantha Brekke, Audia Marks, Violet Hawley, Head Coach Kyle Willette. Not pictured: Adilynn Blais, Avery Blais, Janel Ortiz.

CAMBRIDGE-ISANTI BLUEJACKET BOYS WRESTLING

Head coach: Neil Jennissen
Assistant coaches: Jesse Jennissen, John Henderson, Erick Harcey, Kyle Willette and Nate Nassif, Also helping out in the Varsity room will be 3rd year coach Cole Kubesh and first year coach J.J. Preston.
Who are the players to watch this year? Bryce Huntley, AC/26-9, Brady Huntley, 2nd Sect./26-8, Wyatt Wald 2nd Sec./3x-AC/41-8, Grady Jennissen, AC/5th sec./28-22, Ben Westover, ACHM/22-29/6th sec., Embry Meeks, 9-14/4th sec., Brock Brown, AC/4th Sec., 36-16, Shawn Henderson, 20-21/5th sec.
What will be the keys to the team's success this year? C-I Boys will be returning eight section place winners and seven others with a wide range of experience.
What challenges will the team face? If they can stay healthy and spread out in their weights they should make a strong challenge for a top spot in what should be a pretty balanced section



BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR

2025 - 2026 Cambridge-Isanti boys wrestling

dual meet campaign.
What are your goals for the 2025-26 season? Challenge their dual marks from last season and look for them to make a challenge for conference and

section honors.
Who is the opponent to watch for this year in the conference/section? In the conference, Becker and C-I. As always, the Jackets will compete in one of the

toughest sections in Minnesota. Forest Lake is the preseason favorite, with Elk River and C-I also having strong teams.

NORTH BRANCH VIKING WRESTLING



JORGE PERALES | COUNTY STAR

2025 - 2026 North Branch wrestling: (In no particular order) Tucker Kavorik, Domonic Taylor, Joey Graupman, Mason Hentry, Nicholas Andreotti, Aiden Schwartz, Logan Rediske, Vincent Kaiser, Aiden Loren, Lucas Hunter, Max Oseth, Jackson Loren, Lionel Santos, Lucas Schwartz, Landan Anderson.

Head coach: Kyle Kahl
Assistant coaches: Dave Kaiser, Justin Baker, Michael Thao, Ryan Henry.
Who are the players to watch this year? Logan Rediske Sr 160 , Aiden Loren Sr. 172 , Aiden Schwartz Jr 145, Mason Henry So 133.
What will be the keys to the team's success this year? This year is about growth and development. With a young team we need to find a way to learn and grow whether we win or lose.
What challenges will the team face? What challenges will the team face? We are a very young team, we will rely on a big 9th grade group to fill many varsity weights.
What are your goals for the 2025-26 season? None listed
Who is the opponent to watch for this year in the conference/section? In the conference, Becker and C-I. Grand Rapids is the preseason favorite from our section.

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NORTHERN EDGE BOYS HOCKEY

Head coach: Jason Hehir
Assistant coaches: Vince Beaman and Brad Heinen.
Who are the players to watch this year? Seniors Paul and Matt wolt-ers, Gage Husby, Gavin Gutierrez, Hunter Sanders, and Juniors Riley Dufour and Ben Fruth.
What will be the keys to the team's success this year? Biggest keys for our success is our effort and attitude. If we play hard and give everything, this team will have good success..
What challenges will the team face? Biggest challenge will be the 3rd voice in 4 years at head coach. Putting the boys in the best spot to succeed.
What are your goals for the 2025-26 season? Our goal is to be a tough team to play against. Do the little things that help the group as a whole.
Who is the opponent to watch for this year in the conference/section? In the M8 its Monticello and Chisago Lakes.



2025 - 2026 Northern Edge boys hockey: (In jersey numerical order) Jameson Grady, Brandon Stearns, Riley Dufour, Ben Crandall, Paul Wolt-ers, Hunter Sanders, Clayton Nephew, Ian Smith, Isaac Fontaine, Kaden Swenson, James Gosiak, Evan Scott, Matthew Wolters, Max Myhers, Isaac Carlson, Stephen Gerten, giles Dehaan, Andrew Heinen, Gavyn Gutierrez, Peyton Dufour, Andrew Gerhard, Grady Price, Ben Fruth, Alex Hoffman, Grant Nicholls, Benjamin Norton, Tanner Schmeling, Nikolai Heinicke, Gage Husby, Isaiah Johnson, Levi Steeves, Jamison Zerwas, and Hunter Schroeder.

CAMBRIDGE-ISANTI BLUEJACKET BOYS HOCKEY



2025 - 2026 Cambridge-Isanti boys hockey: (In jersey numerical order) Zach Bauer, Brock Vagts, Scott Asmussen, Kaden Mortenson, Wes Terhell, Isaac Boughton, Levi Machovec, Bennett Bergloff, Cooper Smith, Trevyn Westphal, Riley Dirksen, Jackson Ziebarth, Jayden Fiandaca, Colin Maki, Henrik Lillemo, Blake Wotachek, Jacob Bostrom, Daniel Klossner, Jonah Deleeuw.

Head coach: Scott Overby
Assistant coaches: Jeremy Anderson, Tanner Murphy
Who are the players to watch this year? Bennett Bergloff, Blake Wotachek, Jackson Ziebarth, Ike Boughton, Wes Terhell
What will be the keys to the team's success this year? Playing well in our de-fensive zone and limiting mistakes. Our young guys and new guys to the varsity line up need to gain experience and work to get better every week.
What challenges will the team face? Many new faces at the Varsity level. A lot of guys that will need to step into bigger roles. We need to replace a lot of scoring that was lost from last year.
What are your goals for the 2025-26 season? To continue to improve and be a team that competes hard every game.
Who is the opponent to watch for this year in the conference/section? Monti-cello is always a tough opponent in the Mississippi 8 conference. In section 7AA we still having the always strong Grand Rapids. Rock Ridge will be tough and Duluth East will be much better than they have been recently

NORTHERN TIER STARS GIRLS HOCKEY

Head coach: Joe Fredrickson
Assistant coaches: Brad Nowak, Jenna Kurkowski-Dek-anick, Sydney Green
Who are the players to watch this year? Tori Thurmer F jr., Payton Buckley F sr, Bailey Meier jr D, Elsie Scheider G sr
What will be the keys to the team's success this year? With only two returning letterwinners it will have to be hard work, attitude and the ability to look to the next shift will be our strengths as a young team grows in the process.
What challenges will the team face? Losing 12 varsity players to graduation and 3 to transfer- getting players into new roles with additional ice time should be season-long development that builds us as the season progresses into the playoffs.
What are your goals for the 2025-26 season? Our goal is to be a tough team to play against and compete hard in every game to put us in a position to be in every game.
Who is the opponent to watch for this year in the confer-ence/section? Conference-Chisago Lakes
Section opponents- Andover has been at the top of the Section for a number of years and they reload each year. Grand Rapids Greenway, Forest Lake, Blaine and Duluth are also top teams and have strong offense skills as well.



2025 - 2026 Northern Tier girls hockey: (In jersey numerical order) Emma Meier, Aliya Swenson, Brooke Jankovich, Tori Thurmer, Josephine Noll, Kylie Cheney, Elana Ward, Kaylynn Yelk, Emma Thunstrom, Makyla Thurman, Amber Grecula, Ella Ziebarth, Mikenna Uphoff, Vanessa Fiedler, Emily Olson, Sydney Miller, Adelyn Gutierrez, Hannah Westman, Jaida Green, Kenzie Larson, Halle Larson, Brynn Hehir, Cadence Blakeborough, Dazie Peterson, Payton Buckley, Elsie Schnei-der, Laike Middag, Bailey Meier, Sofia Sighel, and Rilee Meinen.

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CAMBRIDGE-ISANTI BLUEJACKET GYMNASTICS

Head coach: Wendy Rooney
Assistant coaches: Cassie Guenther and Nic Morgan
Who are the players to watch this year? Aubrey returns as a two-time individual state qualifier and a state medalists on beam. She was our highest all-around gymnast last season. Anika Michaelis, Julia Henderson, Lilly Gravem, Paislie Guenther, and Rilynn Herbst also return with a lot of varsity experience.
What will be the keys to the team's success this year? Staying healthy is always a factor, but it's an even bigger factor this year due to the size of our team. We don't have a big team, so injuries or illnesses will really take a toll on our team scores. Luckily, every athlete on our roster is very talented and driven and will be important contributors to our team's success.
What challenges will the team face? Staying healthy and gaining confidence and consistency with our new skills and routines
What are your goals for the 2025-26 season? The team is eager to show that just because we're small in numbers it doesn't mean we aren't a team to be reckoned with. We hope to finish amongst the top teams in both the Mississippi 8 Conference and Section 7AA.
Who is the opponent to watch for this year in the conference/section? Monticello returns from a state-medal winning performance last year and should be very strong again. We have one of the toughest conferences in the state, so almost every dual meet will showcase top level teams. I expect Forest Lake and Elk River-Zimmerman to be our main competition for the Section title.



BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR

2025 - 2026 Cambridge-Isanti gymnastics: (Front Row, from left) Skyler Reichow, Scarlett Spike, Mara Shreifels, Aubrey Wilson (captain), Nya Rejman, (Back Row) Paislie Guenther, Julia Henderson (captain), Chloe Rist, Jovie Ebertowski (manager), Anika Michaelis, Rilynn Herbst (captain), Lilly Gravem

NORTH BRANCH VIKING GYMNASTICS



JORGE PERALES | COUNTY STAR

2025 - 2026 North Branch gymnastics: (In no particular order) Brooke Giese, Ella Dick, Olivia Erickson, Tianna Coston, Sophia Thorsen, Brielle Nilsson, Emma Fenton, Lily Bernard, Ava Schroeffer, Laci Doolittle

Head coach: Christine Johnson
Assistant coaches: Rylie Halbur and Jessica Audette
Who are the players to watch this year? We have many solid all around seniors including Brooke Giese and Ella Dick who are back to compete Varsity. Ella Dick represented NB at state last year on Beam and Vault. Brooke is a consistent gymnast all around and she will be working on upgrading her vault. Ella and Brooke are the captains and have a strong work ethic and have incredible team spirit.
Sophia Thorsen had a solid year last year and struggled with an injury at sections. Sophia has a strong floor routine with amazing height in her tumbling and leaps/jumps. Currently working on upgrading her vault and bar skills.
Emma Fenton has dedicated her off season to increasing her bar routine which will help increase her all around score.
What will be the keys to the team's success this year? Staying in the moment, enjoying time with the team and being positive about the small steps. Being consistent throughout the year, and not allowing one negative having a major impact on the meet and/or season.
What challenges will the team face? With only 10 girls, we can't lose anyone to injury.
What are your goals for the 2025-26 season? Have multiple gymnasts qualify for the state gymnastics meet. Add advanced skills throughout the season, not at just the end. Be positive and work as a team. Consistency towards the end of the season. Keeping the energy high at every meet.
Who is the opponent to watch for this year in the conference/section? Big Lake and Becker

NORTH BRANCH VIKING DANCE

Head coach: Chloe Kavanagh
Assistant coaches: Marissa Minor
Who are the players to watch this year? Not applicable to dance
What will be the keys to the team's success this year? 1) Working hard on technique, skill building, and strength 2) Bonding together as a team 3) Celebrating the small successes together
What challenges will the team face? We are a slightly smaller team than some, but we will not let that hinder us at all!
What are your goals for the 2025-26 season?
1) Advance our scores throughout the season
2) Keep our positivity and excitement up at every meet 3) Continue raising our placement in our conference 4) Continue to feel connected as a team 5) And of course, we are hoping for State!
Who is the opponent to watch for this year in the conference/section? Zimmerman



JORGE PERALES | COUNTY STAR

2025 - 2026 North Branch dance: (In no particular order) Addy Lewerenz, Leota Johnson, Shanna Swanstrom, Madeline Grovender, Brynley Riveness, Alexis Sway, Annabella Freudenberg, Evelina Gilkerson, Shakarah Jackson, Kailey Perrault, Zooley Mendez, Kaiah Riveness, Madisyn Gruetzman, team manager Natalie Doonan



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CAMBRIDGE-ISANTI BLUEJACKET GIRLS BASKETBALL

Head coach: Kitri Hakes
Assistant coaches: Mandy Crittenden, Emily Lindell, Selena Schmidt
Who are the players to watch this year? Kallie Ostlund, Allie Troolin, Finley Nelson, Reese Oliver, and Scarlet Porta.
What will be the keys to the team's success this year? Defensive stops and maintaining composure on the offensive side.
What challenges will the team face? We have a young roster with the added challenge of changing the roles of our returners and newcomers. Girls are adjusting to playing a bigger role on both ends of the court.
What are your goals for the 2025-2026 season? For our team to improve individually and as a team as well as to have our players gain confidence/comfortability with their skills.
Who is the opponent to watch for this year in the conference/section? Monticello has a very skilled group of girls and had an impressive season last year.



BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR

2025 - 2026 Cambridge-Isanti Bluejacket girls basketball (In no particular order) Kenna Sjöberg, Ava Milz, Finley Nelson, Anya Lowman, Avery Crittenden, Sophie Maikkula, Scarlet Porta, Kallie Ostlund, Allie Troolin, Reese Oliver, Maci Hirsch, Amelia Vang.

NORTH BRANCH VIKING GIRLS BASKETBALL



JORGE PERALES | COUNTY STAR

2025 - 2026 North Branch girls basketball: (In jersey numerical order) Isabel Nuveen, Addyson Leim, Carolyn Lombard, Sophia Petersen, Eva Glanz, Lauren Thiel, Sharis Garcia Velazquez, Sharleen Garcia Velazquez, Annabelle Lattimore, Ainslee Hunter, Natalia Rosales, Alyssa Rediske, Madison Orf.

Head coach: Claire Patterson
Assistant coaches: Brandon Hunter and Hunter Brandel
Who are the players to watch this year? Our entire starting lineup is new this year, so all these girls are stepping into new roles. It will be fun to see who rises up to fill the roles left behind by the 7 seniors from last season.
What will be the keys to the team's success this year? The key to our success this year will be defense. We need to be strong defensively and let our defense lead to easy offensive opportunities.
What challenges will the team face? As I mentioned previously, our entire starting lineup and really our entire roster is brand new from last year. We have very little Varsity experience, so I'm expecting there to be some growing pains as girls learn the faster pace and talent of the Varsity level as well as figuring out what their role on our team is.
What are your goals for the 2025-26 season? Our main goal this year is to grow. Our theme and motto for our team is Better Than Yesterday, so our focus is to improve every day as individual players and together as a team.
Who is the opponent to watch for this year in the conference/section? Monticello is always a top team in our conference and in our section Rock Ridge and Hermantown are always tough.

CAMBRIDGE-ISANTI BLUEJACKET BOYS BASKETBALL


Head coach: Mike McDonald
Assistant coaches: Jeremy Bickford, Jeff Salo, Grant Lillemoen, Matt Crawford
Who are the players to watch this year? We return 2 juniors who started as 10th graders, Jameson Epple and Eddie Lundeen, plus 2 juniors who were key reserves last year (Peyton Coplan and Lane Nelson). Dakota Wolcyn, Jack Robert, Tate Lines, and Cruz Dissing will all play key roles on this year's team.
What will be the keys to the team's success this year? Consistency will be key this year. With a young team, we must be consistent on both ends of the floor. This could be within a game or from game to game. We do have decent overall size this year. This, hopefully will help us get stops on the defensive end and give us second chance points on the offensive end..
What challenges will the team face? Playing a tough Class AAAA non-conference schedule and a very competitive Mississippi 8 Conference schedule.
What are your goals for the 2025-2026 season? To play with toughness, passion, and compete for each and every possession of every game. Get better each and every day and be that "veteran", seasoned, team that will be tough to play against.
Who is the opponent to watch for this year in the conference/section? Conference: Becker and Monticello Section 7AAAA: Andover.



BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR

2025 - 2026 Cambridge-Isanti Bluejacket boys basketball (In jersey numerical order) Jameson Epple, Austin Donnay, Lane Nelson, Jack Roberts, Cruz Dissing, Trey Gustafson, Ricky Fisk, Dakota Wolcyn, Peyton Coplan, Brady Salo, Tate Lines, Logan Majorowicz, Sam Johnson, Dimitri Shilo, Eddie Lundeen, Luke Schreifels.


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NORTH BRANCH VIKING BOYS BASKETBALL

Head coach: Rob Johnson
Assistant coaches: Josh Beaver, Nathan Appleby, Everett Appleby, Jim VanEereden, Jim Rue
Who are the players to watch this year? Jacob Knoespel, Ethan Thorsen, Vincent Dufeck
What will be the keys to the team's success this year? To count on each other and build a team atmosphere.
What challenges will the team face? A lot of new things on both ends of the court
What are your goals for the 2025-26 season? Cut down on mental mistakes, build a positive team culture, improved defensive play
Who is the opponent to watch for this year in the conference/section? n Section 7AAA, Duluth Denfeld won the section last year and has a fast team while Hibbing has quite a few returning players. There are no “easy”teams in our section this year, but Denfeld and Hibbing pose to be great opponents.
In the Mississippi 8 conference, Monticello and Becker always have competitive teams and are well coached. I think Cambridge and Chisago will also see improvements over last season with a lot of returning players.



JORGE PERALES | COUNTY STAR

2025 - 2026 North Branch boys basketball: (In no particular order) Seniors: Jacob Knoespel, Ethan Thorsen, Vincent Dufeck, Trystyn Johnson, Andrew Karnes, Beau Hibbard, Dom Moe Juniors: Kingston Droz, Brandon Giese, Isaih Yang, Jayden Carty Sophomores: Henry Chistensen, Dhaylen Bachrodt, Ethan Thelander, Parker Krosschell, Blake Onasch, Apollo Leija, Jacob Gilles, Mitchell Lutz.

CAMBRIDGE-ISANTI BLUEJACKET BOYS SWIMMING & DIVING

Head coach: Kate Goebel
Assistant coaches: Melissa Willits, Kurt Williams
Who are the players to watch this year? My diver Eddie will be looking to get to the state meet! He placed well last year in our section and has been working hard in the off season! I'm looking for great races from many of my upper classmen including: Ethan Rock, Aiden Larkin, Gabe Ludwig, Josh Clinkenbeard, Reid Streed, James Haigh, Austin Burgess, and Judd Woehrle. !
What will be the keys to the team's success this year? Our team size grew by more than 10 guys! So, getting these new guys hooked will help grow the program. With only losing 1 senior last year, this is the biggest team we've had in about 10+ years. We need to look to improve our own times since we swim in a very fast and competitive section and conference. Our success will come from personal bests and supporting each other.
What challenges will the team face? It is a challenge to win meets with being in a section and conferences where most athletes swim year round - when we only have a few that swim off season. But, we have a focus to improve as a team with points earned and our time drops.
What are your goals for the 2025-2026 season? We want to break our own school record in our Varsity Medley and I want Eddie to get that state meet spot. I want the new guys to learn a lot from my varsity and be eager to step up. I have 7 seniors and I want them to have their best season ever.
Who is the opponent to watch for this year in the conference/section? Monticello



BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR

2025 - 2026 Cambridge-Isanti Bluejacket boys swimming and diving: (In no particular order) Timothy Harcey, Jacob Ostman, Oliver Severs, Matthew Jendro, Mason Jansson, Nate Reitz, Thor Bloch, Ben Bodo, Clayton Buzzell, Mikah Simon, Griffin Vaughn, Cullen Beeler, Michael Bednar, Wyatt Biggins, Devin Perry, Taylor Larkin, Hunter Moench, Wyatt Rock, Jordan Rikimotto, Jaxon Strecker, Henry Keillor, Peyton Reinitz, Nate Christlieb, Morgan Weeks, Reid Streed, Andrew Wilson, Josh Clinkenbeard, Wyatt Nickel, Eddie Steman, Aiden Larkin, Ethan Rock, Gabe Ludwig, James Haigh, Judd Woehrle, Austin Burgess, Dax Gustafson.

CAMBRIDGE-ISANTI, NORTH BRANCH UPCOMING HOME SCHEDULES: DECEMBER 5 - 12

To see both schools' full schedules, go to www.mississippi8.org. Schedules are subject to change with minimal advanced notice based on weather, availability of officials, or other reasons. Note: Northern Tier girls hockey is a co-op between Cambridge-Isanti, St. Francis, and North Branch. Northern Edge boys hockey is a co-op between

North Branch and St. Francis. Their home games are at East Bethel.

Friday, December 5
•C-I boys basketball vs. Coon Rapids (7 p.m.)
•C-I boys hockey vs. Princeton (7 p.m.)

Saturday, December 6
•Northern Tier girls hockey vs. Grand Rapids (2

p.m.)
•NB girls basketball vs. Hibbing (1:30 p.m.)

Tuesday, December 9
•C-I boys swimming & diving vs. Chisago Lakes (5:30 p.m.)
•C-I boys basketball vs. Zimmerman (7 p.m.)

Thursday, December 11

•C-I girls basketball vs. Rogers (7 p.m.)
•NB wrestling vs. Monticello (5 p.m.) & C-I (7 p.m.)
•NB gymnastics vs. C-I (6 p.m.)
•Northern Edge boys hockey vs. C-I (7 p.m.)

Friday, December 12
•C-I girls basketball vs. Princeton (7 p.m.)
•NB boys basketball vs. Big Lake (7 p.m.)

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FORECLOSURES

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT DEFAULT has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:

DATE OF MORTGAGE: October 26, 2016

ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$117,000

MORTGAGOR(S): Danielle Christine Voss

MORTGAGEE: East Central Minnesota Habitat for Humanity, Inc.

DATE AND PLACE OF RECORDING:

Recorded: October 27, 2016, Office of the County Recorder, Isanti County, MN

Document Number: A462094

ASSIGNMENT(S) OF MORTGAGE: None

TRANSACTION AGENT: None

TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION

NUMBER ON MORTGAGE: None

LENDER UNDER DEED OF TRUST NOTE: None

COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Isanti County

Property Address: 332 3rd Avenue NW, Cambridge, MN 55008

Tax Parcel ID Number: 15.041.1310

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: The East Half of Lot 43, Auditor's Subdivision Number 8, Village (now City) of Cambridge, Isanti County, Minnesota.

AMOUNT DUE AND CLAIMED TO BE DUE AS OF DATE OF NOTICE: \$90,339.00

THAT all pre-foreclosure requirements have been complied with; that no action or proceeding has been instituted at law or otherwise to recover the debt secured by said mortgage, or any part thereof;

PURSUANT to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above-described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows:

DATE AND TIME OF SALE: December 23, 2025

PLACE OF SALE: Isanti County Sheriff's Office, 2440 Main St. S., Cambridge, MN 55008

To pay the debt secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any, on said premises and the costs and disbursements, including attorneys' fees allowed by law, subject to redemption within six (6) months from the date of said sale by the mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns.

Minn. Stat. 580.04(b) provides: "If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, the notice must also specify the date on or before which the mortgagor must vacate the property if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property redeemed under section 580.23."

If this statute applies, the time to vacate the property is 11:59 p.m. on June 23, 2025. If the mortgagor's redemption period is reduced to five weeks as set forth below, the time to vacate the property is 11:59 p.m. on January 27, 2025.

MORTGAGOR(S) RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION: None

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

DATED: November 6, 2025

Larkin, Hoffman, Daly, & Lindgren,

Ltd.

Attn: Craig W. Hardie
Attorneys for Mortgagee
8300 Norman Center Dr.
Suite 1000
Minneapolis, MN 55437
(952) 835-3800

Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on November 6, 13, 20, 27; December 4, 11, 18 2025

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE
Minn. Stat. 580.025, 580.04
Minnesota Uniform Conveyancing Blanks

Form 60.2.1 (2009)

DATE: November 21, 2025

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that default has occurred in the conditions of the following described Mortgage:

INFORMATION REGARDING MORTGAGE TO BE FORECLOSED

1. Date of Mortgage: August 3, 2015

2. Mortgagors: Clare Leon Morrisette and Valerie Kay Morrisette, Husband and Wife.

3. Mortgagees: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), solely as nominee for Members Cooperative Credit Union.

4. Recording Information:

Recorded on August 24, 2015, as Document Number A452340, in the Office of the County Recorder of Isanti County, Minnesota.

5. Assignments of Mortgage, if any:

Assigned to Towne Mortgage Company DBA AmeriCU Mortgage by written assignment recorded on 10/24/2025, as Document Number A540628, in the recording office stated in paragraph 4.

INFORMATION REGARDING MORTGAGED PREMISES

6. Tax parcel identification number of the mortgaged premises: 07.003.0400 and 07-003-1000

7. Legal description of the mortgaged premises:

Parcel 1:

The East 545 feet of the South 200 feet of the North 817.4 feet of the Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter (NE 1/4 of NE 1/4) of Section 3, Township 35, Range 22, Isanti County, Minnesota, excepting therefrom the East 545 feet of the North 200 feet thereof. Subject to the existing County State Aid Highway Number 21 along the East line thereof.

AND

Parcel 2:

The South 400 feet of the North 1017.4 feet of the Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter (NE 1/4 of NE 1/4) of Section 3, Township 35, Range 22, Isanti County, Minnesota, excepting therefrom the East 545 feet of the North 200 feet thereof. Subject to the existing County State Aid Highway Number 21 along the East line thereof.

Check here if all or part of the described real property is Registered (Torrens)

8. The physical street address, city, and zip code of the mortgaged premises: 32350 Cedar Crest Trl NE, North Branch, MN 55056.

OTHER FORECLOSURE DATA

9. The person holding the Mortgage:

is not a transaction agent, as defined by Minn. Stat. 58.02, subd. 30.

The name(s) of the residential mortgage servicer and the lender or broker, as defined in Minn. Stat. 58.02, is/are Towne Mortgage Company DBA AmeriCU Mortgage.

10. If stated on the Mortgage, the name of the mortgage originator, as defined in Minn. Stat. 58.02, is Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), solely as nominee for Members Cooperative Credit Union.

INFORMATION REGARDING FORECLOSURE

11. The requisites of Minn. Stat. 580.02 have been satisfied.

12. The original principal amount secured by the Mortgage was \$ 183,673.00.

13. At the date of this notice the amount due on the Mortgage,

including taxes, if any, paid by the holder of the Mortgage, is: \$149,465.62.

14. Pursuant to the power of sale in the Mortgage, the Mortgage will be foreclosed, and the mortgaged premises will be sold by the Sheriff of Isanti County, Minnesota, at public auction on 01/29/2026, 10:00 AM, at 2440 Main St S, Cambridge, MN 55008

15. The time allowed by law for redemption by Mortgagor or Mortgagor's personal representatives or assigns is six (6) months after the date of sale.

16. Minn. Stat. 580.04(b) provides, "If the real estate is an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling, the notice must also specify the date on or before which the mortgagor must vacate the property if the mortgage is not reinstated under section 580.30 or the property redeemed under section 580.23."

If this statute applies, the time to vacate the property is 11:59 p.m. On 07/30/2026.

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

Name of Mortgagee or Mortgage Assignee:

Towne Mortgage Company d/b/a AmeriCU Mortgage

Name and address of Attorney for Mortgagee or Mortgage Assignee: Schneiderman & Sherman P.C.

8530 Eagle Point Blvd.

Suite 100

Lake Elmo, MN 55042

25-003362-1

Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on December 4, 11, 18, 25; January 1, 8, 2025

PROBATE

STATE OF MINNESOTA COURT COUNTY OF ISANTI TENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT DISTRICT COURT PROBATE DIVISION Court File No. 30-PR-25-102

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

Estate of Scott Edward Hammer, Decedent

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on January 13, 2026 at 3:00pm a hearing will be held in this Court at 555 18th Avenue Southwest, Cambridge, Minnesota, for the adjudication of intestacy and determination of heirship of the Decedent, and for the appointment of Paul Hammer, whose address is 1227 Birch Avenue, Superior, WI, 54880 as Personal Representative of the Estate of the Decedent in an UNSUPERVISED administration. Any objections to the petition must be filed with the Court prior to or raised at the hearing. If proper and if no objections are filed or raised, the Personal Representative will be appointed with full power to administer the 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 Estate. 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.

BY THE COURT

Dated: 11/14/2025

Judge of District Court Carrie Doom

Dated: 11/13/2025

Court Administrator Erin Boettcher

Attorney for Petitioner Yvonne Michaud Novak

Novak Law Group

202 West Superior Street, Suite 303

Duluth, MN, 55802

Attorney License No: 0333578

Telephone: (218) 720-2888

FAX: (218) 260-2712

Email: yvonne@ymnlaw.com

Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on November 27; December 4, 2025

MINNESOTA ISANTI COUNTY DISTRICT COURT 10TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

File Number: 30-PR-25-103

Case Type: Informal Probate

In re the Estate of Anna Fuhol,

Deceased

Notice of Informal Probate of Will and Appointment of Personal Representative and Notice to Creditors

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND CREDITORS:

Notice is hereby given that an application for informal probate of the above-named Decedent's

Last Will dated August 21, 2002

has been filed with the Probate Registrar, and the application has been granted. Notice is also given that the Probate Registrar has informally appointed the following:

Name Lawrence Fuhol

Address 515 Heritage Blvd NW Isanti MN 55040

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 pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 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 to the appointment of the personal representative, 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 Minn. Stat. § 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 (4) months after the date of this Notice, or the claims will be barred.

Attorney for Personal Representative

CLARK A JOSLIN

Attorney License No.: 52802

221 NW 2nd Avenue

Cambridge MN 55008

Telephone: 763-689-4101

E-Mail: cjoslin@joslinmoore.com

Probate Registrar

Date 11/24/2025

Court Administrator Erin Boettcher

Date 11/24/2025

Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on December 4, 11, 2025

PUBLIC HEARING

CITY OF HARRIS CHISAGO COUNTY, MINNESOTA PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing shall be held before the City of Harris Planning Commission on **Monday December 15th at 7:00 PM** at City of Harris City Hall located at 43970 Ginger Ave, Harris, MN, regarding the following matters:

The purpose of this hearing is to consider an application for a

Conditional Use Permit at **45560 Forest Blvd** to have storage unit for rental purposes in the R-2 Zoning District.

As such both written and oral comments will be heard. The Planning Commission will make a recommendation to the **City Council** for their consideration. The City Council will consider the applications at the **January 12th, 2025**, meeting.

Contact the City of Harris at 651-674-7546 or clerk@harrismn.com with any questions or concerns.

Additional information is available from the city office during normal business hours. The public is invited to comment during the hearing or provide written comments at or prior to the hearing. All persons desiring to be heard with reference to the proposal will be heard at this meeting.

Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on December 4, 2025

NOTICES

SUMMARY PUBLICATION OF CITY OF NORTH BRANCH ORDINANCE NO. 400-25

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING NORTH BRANCH CITY CODE, CHAPTER 18: BUSINESSES, ARTICLE III: ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

The City Council of the City of North Branch has adopted Ordinance No. 400-25. This Ordinance amends Chapter 18: Businesses, Article III to allow intoxicating liquor, on-sale licenses to be acquired by bowling centers.

The complete text of Ordinance No. 400-25 may be obtained at no charge at North Branch City Hall, 6408 Elm Street, North Branch, MN 55056.

Dated this 25 day of November, 2025.

Kevin Shieber, Mayor

Attested By:

Mathew Hill, City Administrator

Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on December 4, 2025

SUMMARY PUBLICATION OF CITY OF NORTH BRANCH ORDINANCE NO. 401-25

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE NORTH BRANCH CITY CODE REMOVING REFERENCES TO THE ABOLISHED PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION.

The City Council of the City of North Branch has adopted Ordinance No. 401-25. This Ordinance amends the North Branch City Code to remove all references to the North Branch Public Utilities Commission, also known as the North Branch Water & Light Commission, which was abolished by voter approved referendum in November of 2023 pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 412.391.

The complete text of Ordinance No. 401-25 may be obtained at no charge at North Branch City Hall, 6408 Elm Street, North Branch, MN 55056.

Dated this 25 day of November, 2025.

Kevin Schieber, Mayor

Attested By:

Tonya Kostuch, City Clerk

Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on December 4, 2025

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA COUNTY OF BARNES IN DISTRICT COURT SOUTHEAST JUDICIAL DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION OF B.E.S.R., MINOR CHILD.

Case No. 02-2025-DM-00062

NOTICE OF FILING OF PETITION

Jamie Lynn Stanton Ring

and Dylan Miles Stanton Ring,

Petitioners,

v.

Matthew Tyler Engelstad, and the Executive Director of the North Dakota Department of Human Services, Defendant.

[¶1.] PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Petition in the above-entitled matter has been filed with the Clerk of District Court in and for Barnes County, North Dakota, requesting a final decree of adoption of B.E.S.R., born January 8, 2015, minor child should said petition be granted.

[¶2.] Pursuant to N.D.C.C. §§ 14-15-11 and 14-15-19, notice must be given by publication of the petition at least once a week for three consecutive weeks in the official newspaper of the county. The last publication as required under this subsection must be at least ten days before the time set for hearing.

[¶3.] You are hereby notified that Petitioners will request entry of the County Final Decree of Adoption of B.E.S.R. Any person opposed to the granting of this Petition should voice objection hereto or forever be silent. Said petition will come on for hearing before the Honorable Nicholas D. Thornton, Judge of the District Court in and for Barnes County, North Dakota, in the chambers of said Court located in the Barnes County Courthouse in the City of Valley City, County of Barnes, North Dakota on Dakota on January 7, 2026, at 11:30 a.m.

Dated this 24th day of November, 2025.

/s/ Lynn Slaathaug Moen

Lynn Slaathaug Moen

(ND ID#06716)

NILSON BRAND LAW

36 Main St W

Mayville, ND 58257

701-786-6040 (Office)

701-997-0870 (Fax)

lynn@nilsonbrandlaw.com

ATTORNEYS FOR PETITIONERS

Jamie & Dylan Stanton Ring

Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on December 4, 11, 18, 2025

OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE ON THE PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD

The City of Isanti is currently seeking applications from residents interested in serving on the Parks and Recreation Board. Appointees play a vital role in advising the City Council on the development, maintenance, and programming of our community parks and recreational facilities.

AVAILABLE TERMS

Multiple terms are available, with service beginning in **January 2026**. Terms will be appointed for the following lengths:

• **Two 3-Year Terms**

APPLICATION DEADLINE

All completed applications must be received by: Monday, December 15, 2025, at 12:00 PM (Noon)

HOW TO APPLY

Interested individuals must submit a completed application for consideration. Applications are available at City Hall during regular business hours or can be found on the official City website.

Completed applications should be returned to the City Clerk's office using one of the following methods:

1. In Person: Drop off at the Administration Office in City Hall.

2. By Mail: Send directly to City Clerk Jaden Strand.

3. By Email: Send the completed application to Jaden Strand at jstrand@cityofisanti.us.

For questions regarding the application process or the Parks and Recreation Board's work, please contact the City Clerk's Office.

Jaden Strand

City Clerk

763-762-5759

Posted: 10-15-2025

Publication: 11-13-2025, 11-20-2025, 12-4-2025, 12-11-2025

Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on November 13, 20; December 4, 11, 2025

ISANTI COUNTY COURT REPORT

The following felony charges were filed in Isanti County Court on Nov. 16 - 29. All individuals are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

Jacob Taylor Lopez (DOB 04/27/1996) of Stanchfield, was charged Nov. 17 with one count of Criminal Sexual Cond-1st Degree-Penetration or Contact with Person Under 13-Actor >36m older; one count of Criminal Sex Conduct-1st Degree-Penetration-Victim 13-15 - Position of Authority; one count of Solicit Child to Engage in Sexual Conduct-Prohibited Act; one count of Possess Pornographic Work-Computer Disk/Electronic/Magnetic/Optical Image

w/Porn; and one count of Threats of Violence -Reckless Disregard Risk.

Christopher Michael Chustz (DOB 03/14/1992) of Coon Rapids, was charged Nov. 21 with one count of Fleeing a Peace Officer in a Motor Vehicle; and one count of Drugs - 5th Degree - Possess Schedule 1,2,3,4 or paraphernalia residual - Not cannabis/hemp.

Joshua Emil Rishavy (DOB 03/15/1981) of Cambridge, was charged Nov. 21 with one count of Assault-3rd Degree-Substantial Bodily Harm; one count of Domestic Assault - By Strangulation; one count of Domestic Assault; and one count of Threats of Violence -Reckless Disregard Risk.

CHISAGO COUNTY COURT REPORT

The following felony charges were filed in Chisago County Court on Nov. 16 - 29. All individuals are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

Devin Jay Dugger (DOB 12/31/1973) of Saint Paul, was charged Nov. 17 with Fleeing a Peace Officer in a Motor Vehicle.

Mason Allen Morgan (DOB 04/08/1996) of North Branch, was charged Nov. 18 with Drugs - 5th Degree - Possess Schedule 1,2,3,4 or paraphernalia residual - Not cannabis/hemp.

Jacob Daniel Moore



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Inside Sales Representative



Northstar Media is looking for a motivated person who likes to work with customers over the phone as an Inside Sales Rep. Mon, Tue, Wed, 20-25 hours per week in the Cambridge office. Responsibilities include classified ad sales, service and church directory ad sales, and special page/section ad sales in the Isanti-Chisago County Star, Pine City Pioneer, North Pine County News, Kanabec County Times and Advertiser as well as being able to sell into other newspapers, shoppers and online. Must have strong phone skills, be able to multitask, be good with computers and have strong organizational skills. Wage is \$16-18/hour.

If interested, please submit resume to Jeff Andres, Publisher
jeff@northstarmedia.net.



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Santa Claus is Coming to Town!

**Thursday,
December 18
5-6:30pm**

Santa will be here
along with pres-
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goodies to eat and
lots of fun!!!
Kids take a photo
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