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THURSDAY, JUNE 26, 2025
VOL. 119 NO. 26 COUNTYSTAR.COM

HOT! HOT! HOT!: North Branch Midsummer Days weather lives up to event's name. **PAGE 7**

Local author's mystery novel sheds light on trauma recovery through equine therapy

BY STACY VERDICK CASE
NEW@COUNTYSTAR.COM

For Isanti author Pat Arneson, writing a mystery novel wasn't just a creative pursuit, it became a vessel for delivering healing and hope.

A licensed clinical therapist, Arneson spent much of her career working in high trauma settings. After sustaining a traumatic brain injury, she was forced into early retirement and an unfamiliar stage of life. That journey eventually led her to horses, and to writing her debut novel, "Simply Dead," a traditional mystery infused with deeper therapeutic purpose.

FROM BARN STALLS TO PLOT TWISTS

Arneson didn't grow up around horses and had never ridden one before her injury. But in search of something to lift her spirits during recovery, she told her husband she wanted to try horseback riding. That led her to a ranch near Wild River State Park, where she saw a sign advertising equine therapy, something she'd never heard of, even after decades in the mental health field.

"I was terrified," Arneson said of her first encounter with horses. "I thought they were going to trample me to death."

Instead Arneson met BG Sky the horse that helped her learn about equine therapy and eventually became the inspiration for Rosie the horse in "Simply Dead." What started as merely a curiosity evolved into a calling.

Arneson became certified in equine therapy. She now serves as both board president and lead clinical therapist at the ranch near Brook Park, where she helps clients navigate trauma with the help of horses.

Unlike traditional therapies like talk or group therapy, equine-assisted therapy relies on the horse's acute sensitivity to



CONTRIBUTED

Pat Arneson spends some quality time with therapy horse BG Sky.

human emotion. Horses, as prey animals, are attuned to subtle changes in energy, heartbeat and body language, often alerting therapists to a client's inner turmoil before the person is even aware of it.

"Horses respond to people in real time," Arneson said. "If someone is emotionally shut down, the horse might resist, withdraw or act unusually. That opens the door to conversations you might never have in an office."

Sessions can be as simple as brushing a horse while talking or as structured as navigating obstacles that symbolize personal challenges. "People reenact their lives in the arena," Arneson said. "You

SEE ARNESON, PAGE 2



BILL STICKELS III | COUNTY STAR

Tie me kangaroo down, sport

As part of East Central Regional Library's Summer Discovery Program kickoff, kids were able to get up close and personal with several animals from Sustainable Safari's zoo. Besides this baby kangaroo (named Bob), attendees got to touch a baby alligator, porcupine, and red fox; along with observe a pair of baby opossum. To see photos of the other animals, go to www.isanti-chisago-countystar.com.

County's first marijuana store set to open in Isanti

BY BILL STICKELS III
EDITOR@COUNTYSTAR.COM

Isanti County's first legalized marijuana dispensary will open in downtown Isanti.

Matthew VanHeel of Zimmerman, doing business as Northern Crown, LLC, is looking at opening a store at 108 Main Street, Suite 400. According to VanHeel, the store will be selling prepackaged products purchased from

licensed growers.

"The store isn't big enough to be growing," he said. "It's just a small dispensary."

He said the store itself will include a waiting area where customers must supply an ID to a security guard before being able to enter the main showroom area.

The council, on a 4-0 vote with interim Mayor Luke Merrill abstaining, begrudgingly approved the cannabis sales

registration, although it wasn't due to any grievances with the owner. Specifically, Merrill and Council member George Hemen objected to the state's handling of legalizing marijuana sales.

Merrill in particular was upset over the state legislature recently not only increasing the amount of sales tax collected but at the same time taking away the small percentage of that sales tax that was supposed to go to cities.

"The city will not receive a cent of tax

money," Merrill said. "From the very beginning, I think they've botched this. It was bad legislation from the start."

"Part of the decision in the initial discussion about this, that (the city receiving some tax money) played a factor," Hemen said. "And for that (taking away the tax money) to happen in the middle of all this, that's disappointing. The state has just been horrible at rolling

SEE DISPENSARY, PAGE 2

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ARNESON: Main character’s journey draws heavily from author’s own experiences

FROM PAGE 1

can’t make this stuff up. The horses show you what’s going on.”

A NOVEL APPROACH TO HEALING

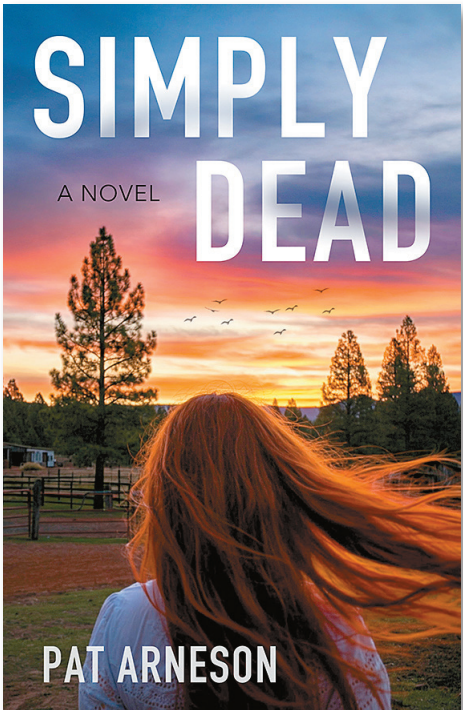
That transformative experience formed the foundation of “Simply Dead.” A mystery novel with a twist, it’s also a meditation on trauma, grief and the quiet strength of recovery. Arneson decided to set “Simply Dead” in a fictional small town in Minnesota. “I didn’t want to have to get every single detail right in a way that would distract me from what I was trying to do.” “Simply Dead” follows Abby McGuire, a therapist and reluctant sleuth who finds herself at a horse ranch, afraid of horses and emotionally raw from years working in trauma care. Though fictional, Abby’s journey draws heavily from Arneson’s own but when asked if the character is based on herself, Arneson gives an emphatic no. “In terms that she’s a therapist and she knows nothing about horses and her experience on the ranch is autobiographical, but she herself is not.”

Arneson describes “Simply Dead” as a fun summer read with a little something more. “I wanted to write a mystery with depth, where the therapy isn’t front and center but becomes a powerful undercurrent,” Arneson said. “The subplot of PTSD and anxiety is embedded, not talked about directly, but it’s there, showing readers what healing can look like.” Described as a “light traditional” mystery, “Simply Dead” steers clear of graphic violence and leans on character development and emotional nuance. Readers can enjoy the story on multiple levels, as a page-turner, a character-driven drama, or an unexpected exploration of mental health through fiction. “People will talk about books when they won’t talk about therapy,” Arneson said. “So the mystery becomes a carrier, of hope, of healing, of things people might not otherwise be ready to say out loud.”

WHAT’S NEXT

Arneson independently published “Simply Dead” after a yearlong dive

into publishing options. She wanted to retain control over tone and content, specifically avoiding the trend toward darker, more graphic fiction that dominates bestseller lists. “I’m about the opposite of that,” she said. “I’m about walking out of darkness.” A second book in the series is slated for release this October, with a launch planned at Dana’s Bookstore in Isanti. In it, Abby returns to unravel a new mystery. And while Arneson isn’t sure how long the series will run, she sees potential for more stories that shine a light on different types of emotional healing. Arneson’s work has already drawn attention from readers and book clubs across the region, including in the Twin Cities. She welcomes invitations to speak and would love to connect with local groups, especially if they’re curious about horses, mysteries, or the path to recovery. “This is not a book about mental health,” she said. “It’s a story. A fun one. If someone finds meaning in it. Even better.”



DISPENSARY: New legislation means cities won’t receive portion of increased sales tax

FROM PAGE 1

this whole thing out.” City Administrator Josi Wood informed the council that no matter what their objections were towards the state, this specific business followed all the rules so the council has no grounds to reject the registration application. “Our hands are tied,” Hemen said as he seconded the motion to approve the application. Initially, Merrill voted against approving the application as a statement against the state’s handling of the entire process. However, after Wood reminded him the only reason the city could deny the application was due to it not meeting one of the city’s ordinances, he changed his nay vote to abstaining. “It’s not fair to the taxpayers, to bear the brunt of police work and staff time,” Merrill said. “That was a flop by the state and not by you (VanHeel) by any means.”

ECRL offers ‘Saint Paul Ganster Tour’, summer programs

STAFF REPORT
NEWS@COUNTYSTAR.COM

Join East Central Regional Library for one of four full-day bus tours visiting the Wabasha Street Caves and enjoy a Saint Paul Gangster Tour. Due to anticipated high-demand, registration for these events enters your name into a random lottery drawing (for up to four spots) to attend. Registration will close on July 25 and randomly selected attendees will be drawn early August. Tour dates and the ECRL branches where pickup will occur are as follows:

- Saturday, Sept. 20: Sandstone, Hinckley and Pine City.
- Wednesday, Sept. 24: Milaca, Princeton and Cambridge.
- Thursday, Oct. 2: McGregor, Aitkin, Mille Lacs Lake (Isle) and Mora.
- Saturday, Oct. 4: Rush City, North Branch, Wyoming and Chisago Lakes.

The bus tour is for ages 12 and up. Minors under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. This event is funded with money from Minnesota’s Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund. Learn more about the full-day event, and register for the lottery, on ECRL’s Events Calendar at eclib.org or by calling the library.

JOIN SUMMER DISCOVERY PROGRAM

Help ECRL “Color Our World” this summer by participating in its annual Summer Discovery Program. Over the summer, the program includes reading challenges, activities and events for kids, teens and adults. Registration is through the free Beanstack Tracker app, visiting ECRL’s Beanstack website at eclib.beanstack.org, or by visiting any of the ECRL branches. Readers are able to sign up, track their reading, complete activities, and earn entries for awesome local and regional prize drawings through the Beanstack Tracker app.

CAMBRIDGE LIBRARY COLOR CONTEST

Artists ages 5 to 12 are invited to enter Cambridge Library’s coloring contest, which is being held in conjunction with East Central Regional Library’s Summer Discovery Program. This year’s theme is “Color our World!” Coloring pages are available at the Cambridge Library from July 1 through July 31. Finished pages are due by July 31 to be considered for the contest. Winners will be selected by artists from Play Inc. Arts. For more information, call the Cambridge Library at 763-689-7390 or go to www.ecrlib.org, or Facebook or Instagram @ecrlmn.

Area
Fireworks
DISPLAYS

Starting at Dusk (approx. 9:45 pm)

July 3rd

• Rush Lake – Flickabirds Resort, 10:00 p.m.

July 4th

• Cambridge – Isanti County fairgrounds - 9:45 p.m. (at dusk)

• Braham – West of Braham Area High School - 9:45 p.m. (at dusk)

Here's a
HOT TIP

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

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MON & WED
500 Cards

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

MON & THUR
Alcoholics Anonymous

7p.m. Main Street Church 6500 Main Street, North Branch, MN. Enter east door. Informational Hotline is 763-312-1088

MON - FRI
Senior Dining

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

MONDAYS
Bridge

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

Scrabble (2nd Monday)

10 a.m. to Noon at the Cambridge SAC, 140 Buchanan St, Cambridge

Women's only Adult Children of Alcoholics and Dysfunctional Families

7 p.m. at Cambridge Lutheran Church, 621 Old Main St N, Cambridge Mn 55008 For more information contact Rebecca at 612-702-2844 or CoraJayne 612-210-1605

Mahjong

Noon to 3 p.m. at Cambridge



TAYLORSVERSION.BANDZOOGL.COM

Taylor's Version performs June 27 in 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

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
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 a.m.

Dominoes

10 a.m. to Noon at the Cambridge SAC

WEDNESDAYS
Cribbage

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

Wizard

11 a.m. to noon at the Cam-

bridge 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 Adultmental-health.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 eclib.org for info.

FRIDAYS
Cribbage

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

JUNE 27

Taylor's Version

A tribute to Taylor Swift from 5 - 7 p.m. at Cambridge City Park, 810 2nd Ave SW. Bad weather backup location: City Center Mall, 140 Buchanan St. N. Limited benches and picnic tables consider bringing a blanket or camping chair. Food trucks on site.

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Message received

I think someone is trying to tell me I shouldn't leave away track meets early. Due to the heavy, persistent rain, I decided to depart the recent Class AAA State Meet even though there were still a couple of Cambridge-Isanti athletes yet to compete. Normally, I am a staunch "100% coverage" of things like state. However, the two remaining events consisted of Jackson Ziebarth in the 200 finals and Jay Ziebarth in the discus. I already had quality shots of Jackson from his 100 preliminary race two days earlier. So I figured that would suffice.

With Jay, discus is a very tough event to get quality photos, even under ideal weather conditions. For safety reasons, photographers are positioned a considerable distance away. And with the dark, rainy conditions at this year's state meet, I wasn't able to use my largest zoom lens. In my old age, I just couldn't face getting soaking wet for very substandard photos.

So, with that rationale, I pulled out of the St. Michael-Albertville parking lot to make my way home. As I crossed the county line back into Isanti County, I came across a stretch that was being patched up using a loose gravel/tar mixture. Sure enough, the car in front of me kicked up a larger piece of gravel (I assume), which smacked my windshield leaving a circular crack.

Upon arriving home, I immediately made a claim with my insurance and scheduled to get it fixed. Of course, since the crack is too big for a fix, the whole windshield needs to be replaced.

Now, one incident might not appear to be a "sign," however, this isn't the first cause-and-effect incident involving me leaving a track meet early. The previous time was several years ago at the Section 7AAA Meet at Forest Lake. Even though there was still one last relay left to be held, I left that meet because it was getting "too dark" to get quality photos.

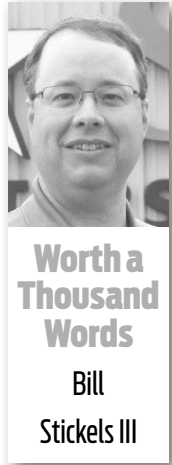
On my way home from that meet, I wound up experiencing my first deer collision. Truth be told, that did wind up being favorable for me. Even though it took an agonizingly long time for my insurance company to declare my car a total loss, once they did, the car's value was actually several hundred dollars over what I still owed.

So, I'm guessing that first incident wasn't enough of a sign. This time, though, the fact the crack can't be fixed means my deductible comes into play.

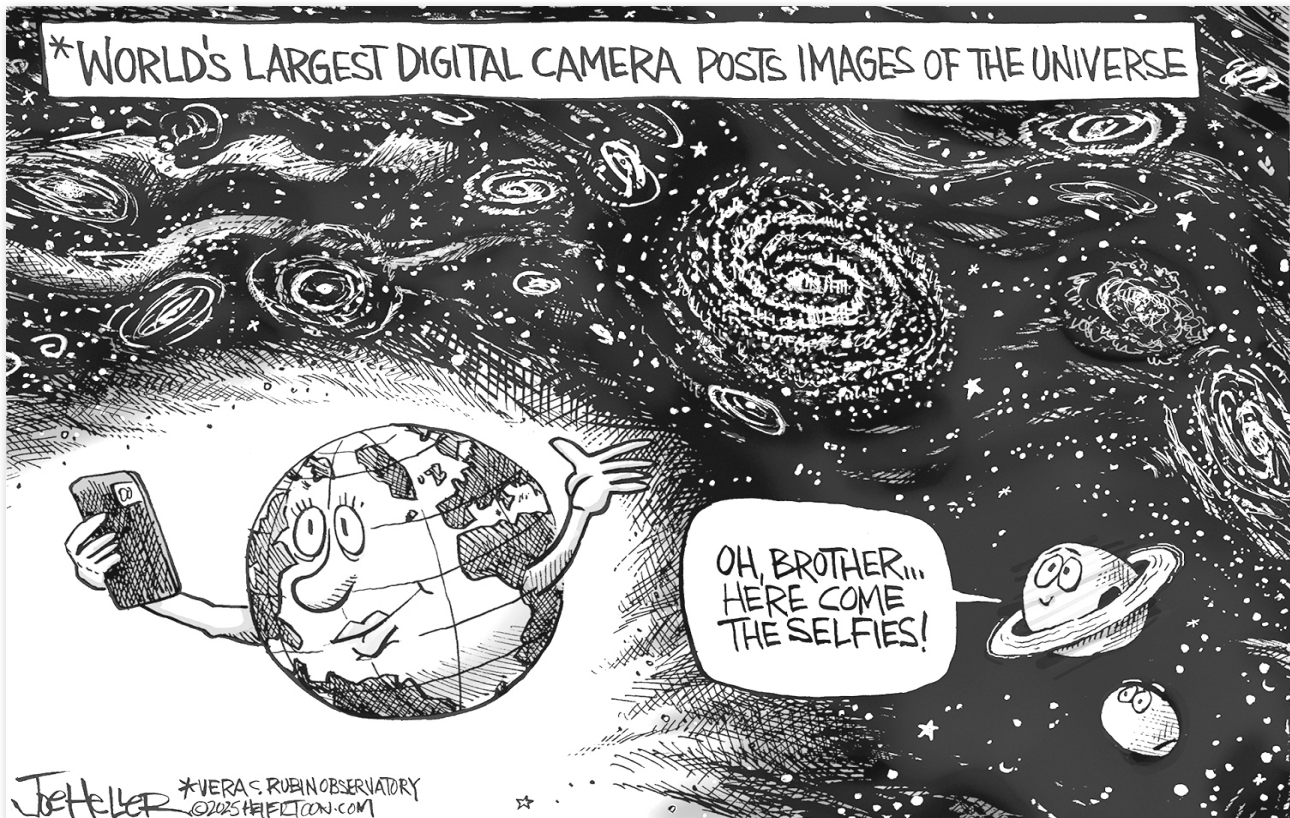
Will this latest incident actually change my future actions? For home track meets, definitely not. No offense intended, but track meets go on forever and typically end well after optimal lighting disappears. But what about away meets, which typically would mean either sections or state? In those cases, while I might pause for a moment, I most likely would still leave early if the weather conditions were similar to Thursday's.

In the future, I will just hope for photo-friendly weather for those meets so I don't have to make that decision.

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

Column much appreciated

To the editor,

Your article "The Hate Will Stop Here" is much appreciated. I have been sickened by some of the dehumanizing opinion pieces that have been published. Enough is enough of the childish name calling, lack of respect and hatred shown by some writers.

Great decision by you and your staff. I support you 100% on this decision.

Dan Antilla
Isanti

Hate comes from the top

To the editor,

I applaud Editor Stickels' editorial statement: "Beginning immediately, there will be no more of these overgeneralized, mean-spirited comments directed at either of the parties. No more name-calling of any group of people or even any individuals. I no longer care if more leeway is supposed to be given to comments about "public figures." That kind of rhetoric simply won't appear in our pages anymore."

In response to his editorial, I wrote a letter that quoted several of the recent verified comments by our President Trump. My question to Editor Stickels was, "Can these statements be permitted?" I quoted verified comments our President made about our Governor Walz and about former President Biden. I was told, "This stricter enforcement of our policy is only for letters to the editor. And no, your letter will not be published as it is currently written. We will no longer publish name-calling or overgeneralized, hateful comments whether they originate from the letter writer or if they are second-hand comments."

I know Editor Stickels is caught between a rock and hard place. Obviously, it can be said that the comments by our President Trump are, and I quote Editor Stickels, "overgeneralized, mean-spirited... name calling comments". I agree with Editor Stickels. Proud, smart, and patriotic American voters should understand where the current hate in our public forum comes from. It comes from the top.

Howard Lewis
Cambridge

LETTER GUIDELINES

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

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

GUIDELINES FOR ALL SUBMISSIONS

- Letters must be submitted by noon on Tuesdays to editor@countystar.com or via mail to 930 S. Cleveland St., Cambridge MN 55008. The *Star* reserves the right to extend its deadline in the interest of timeliness of letters and/or space availability.
- Letters to the editor must be 400 words or less.
- Each letter writer may have one letter published every 30 days, or four print cycles.
- Anonymous letters will not be published. Letter signatures must include the writer's first and last name, community of residence and phone number.

Phone numbers will not be published.

- Only letters originating from writers who live, work or have some other relevance to the *Star* circulation area will be published.
 - An identification line may be added to the writer's letter identifying his or her occupation or title as it applies to the topic of the letter.
 - Special rules apply during election season.
- For questions about the *Star's* policies on letters contact the editor at 763-689-1181 ext. 107 or editor@countystar.com.

Your Best Source for Community Information

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Noon Tuesday

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Noon Monday



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Summer fun for all ages with North Branch Community Education

As the summer sun settles in, North Branch Community Education is ready to turn long days into lasting memories. From battling dragons to building robots, and from tiny dancers to pickleball beginners, there's something enriching for everyone this season.



NB School
News

Sara
Paul

Adventures for Youth
This summer, kids have more reasons than ever to step away from screens and step into adventure. Middle school science teacher Mr. Reistad leads a Dungeons & Dragons quest, where imagination and teamwork reign supreme (June 24 through August 7, grades 6 through

12, \$45).
For hands-on tech fun, Extreme Ro-bo-Games: Battlebot Olympics brings students together to build and compete with LEGO-based robots in Olympic-style challenges (July 11, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., grades 3 through 7, \$97).
Kidcreate Studio brings a burst of creativity with art and slime projects that kids love. From Fidget Toys and Slime on June 26 to How to Draw and Paint a Pony on August 13, there are colorful options for every interest. Don't miss the End of Summer Bash and Pet Shop on August 6, or the Mario Mushroom class also on August 13.
In the performing arts, North Branch's first-ever elementary Theatre Day Camp will stage The Rainbow Fish, while middle schoolers take on Alice in Wonderland (July 7 to 11; \$80 for elementary, \$90 for middle school).

GAME ON WITH SPORTS CAMPS
Sports-minded kids can enjoy a variety of camps in July and August, including boys basketball, tennis, flag football, dance, and volleyball. There's also Youth Pickleball training for ages 8 to 14 (\$75), and Beginning Clogging for ages 3 to 8, running July 24 through August 7 (\$20).
ENRICHMENT FOR ADULTS
It's not just for kids; adults can boost their personal growth with Unlock the Secret to Long-Term Success, a low-cost class to help you stay motivated and reach your goals (offered in July, August, and September, \$13).
FREE FAMILY FUN
Concerts in the Park are back at North Branch Central Park most Tuesday evenings through August 19. Bring your lawn chair and enjoy story time

at 6:45 p.m., followed by live music at 7 p.m.; attendance is free.
Families with young children can drop in for free play in the Move & Learn Room, June 17 through August 5, from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Or join the Baby Cafe, a gathering for breastfeeding support and parent connection, meeting Wednesdays through August 27 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at the Education Center.
North Branch Community Education is proud to offer these engaging opportunities for learning, creativity, fitness and fun. Visit the website at www.isd138.org/nbace or call the office at 651-674-1025 for full details and registration. Let's make this summer one to remember!
SARA PAUL is superintendent of North Branch Area Public Schools. She can be reached at 651-674-1000 or spaul@isd138.org.

CLARIFICATION

In the article in last week's edition regarding Cambridge Farmer's Market moving, it is the new owners of the portion of the building City Center Market occupies that is forcing the Farmers Market to move.

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 sunrisebiblechurch.org or 651-674-4107.

Catholic

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

Evangelical Covenant

Karmel Covenant Church
5799 County Road 6, Princeton, MN 763-389-3169

Lead Pastor: Jason Hovis
Pastor of Youth: Kohl Hanson
Sunday School for all ages 9:00 am
Sunday Worship Service 10:00 am
Wednesday AWANA 6:30 pm
Wednesday Youth Group 6:30 pm
Karmelcov.org

Evangelical Free

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

Kost Evangelical Free Church
37405 Kost Trail, North Branch, MN – 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 6:30 to 8pm

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)
Central Drive W. & Cty Rd 4, Braham 320-396-2755
Sunday: 10 a.m. Worship Service - In-person & Live on Facebook
Office hours 9:00 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tues., Wed., Thurs.

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.
Contemporary service: 9:30 a.m.
www.cambridgelutheran.org - fb.com/CambridgeLutheran

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

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

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

Living Branch Lutheran Church (LCMS)
6486 Elm St (PO Box 335), North Branch 651-674-5576
Pastor Glen Kleppe
Sunday Worship 8am
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
All Are Welcome!
Sunday Schedule
Worship: 9:00 am
Communion the 1st & 3rd Sunday

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.slchurch.org
Email: slchurch@gmail.com
8:15am Worship with fellowship following

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

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

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

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

Methodist

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

Non-Denominational

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

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

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

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

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

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

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Post Offices of Isanti County

Historically, one of the earliest signs of a budding settlement in any area is a post office. The need for correspondence in even the wildest frontier was deemed a crucial service. In Isanti County, the earliest post office was founded in Spencer Brook on June 29, 1857. This doesn't come as much of a surprise, seeing as that area of the county witnessed settlement activities as early as 1854. Coming in at a close second was the post office at Cambridge on October 26, 1857. *That post office was located in the early platted village of Cambridge, just west of Florence (Paul's) Lake, where mail was circulated from a tiny

log cabin situated on the early Isanti County frontier. As the county increased in population, other post offices sprang up as towns began to establish themselves. Operated out of a private home or general store, the county's rural post offices became a vital connection to Isanti County's residents and beyond. Isanti opened its first office at the home of Peter Norelius in 1865 near the highly traveled intersection of the Princeton-Sunrise Road and the Manomin Trail. It was at that location that many travelers, early businessmen, and settlers traversed the county and beyond. Other early post offices were Oxford (1864), Springvale & Stanchfield (1870), and Athens (1883), to name a few. As the county's population continued to grow, the growing need for postal service witnessed a total of 37 post offices come into service. This closely reflected the number of crossroad communities that dotted Isanti County's 13 townships. Unlike neighboring communities of North Branch, Harris, Princeton, and Anoka, the mail in Isanti County didn't have the benefit of coming by way of rail. That's not to say the above-mentioned communities didn't have to transport mail by wagon, it just meant letters, packages, and supplies arrived much quicker with the added efficiency of the rail system. Early in Isanti County's history, bulk mail was brought up from Anoka by wagon once per week to be dispatched by local offices. As the 19th Century drew to a close, a Nationwide effort was implemented, and a new concept called Rural Free Delivery (RFD) quickly became the preferred method of how mail was picked up and delivered. Rural Free Delivery was to include Isanti County's 12,000 mostly rural residents. With the help of the railroad in 1899, the time had come for a more efficient method of mail handling and delivery six days a week. The RFD was equipped with stamps, money orders, and shipping supplies. In short, they were traveling post offices with just about everything a person would need to successfully send and receive mail. As the RFD evolved, so did delivery zones or rural routes. Each carrier was assigned certain zones in Isanti County. For example, residents living in Spencer Brook Township were broken up into four zones: Princeton, Cambridge, Isanti, and St. Francis. For the most part, rural delivery zones have remained unchanged since the inception of the RFD. Early methods of delivery consisted of a single horse-drawn wagon. As the RFD evolved, a fully en-

closed cab complete with carrier name and route number pulled by a two-horse team was a common configuration. Not unlike today, the routes witnessed deliveries in all types of weather. In the early days of horse-drawn deliveries, a special cutter-type sleigh would've been used to navigate snow and ice-covered roads. By the early 1900s, just a fraction of the 37 offices continued to operate after the implementation of the RFD program. In fact, only seven remained open after 1908 and all but one do so to this day: Braham, Cambridge, Dalbo, Grandy, Isanti, and Stanchfield. Springvale held on until its closure in 1937. Gone were the small post offices, also known as star routes. As the horse and buggy gave way to the automobile in the early teens, mail delivery became that much faster as multiple carriers, stacked high with packages, rumbled down dusty county and township roads. Standardized weatherproof mailboxes quickly replaced crude boxes, milk pails, and other less dignified receptacles. As the RFD continued to evolve, an interesting development resulted in its service to rural areas of the county. A benefit not often considered was the "improvement" of the road systems. The network of roads had to be a step above passable to ensure timely and dependable service. Along with the road improvements, better signage delineating the county's road system was an additional benefit. With the continued aid of the railroad's prompt delivery, rural residents received a dependable service without having to travel to town. Since its introduction, rural mail service has remained essentially the same in concept. One change, however, marked an end to an era in 1968 when the final delivery by rail was dropped off in Cambridge on October 10. Advancements in bulk delivery centered on large trucks being dispatched from metro offices as they brought heaping loads of important packages, letters, and other correspondence. In recent times, technology like email, online banking, and certain cost-saving consolidation measures have forced a handful of the smaller offices in Isanti County to fight off the notion of closure due to the overall Nationwide decline in physical mail. Regardless of the looming threat of changes in the postal service, one can't argue with the feeling of entering through the doors of a post office. The idea that a simple letter or gift can be delivered anywhere in the world with a stamp is undeniably nostalgic. Generations of people, for hundreds of years, have reached out to families, soldiers, elected officials, and even Santa Claus through the post office. Weathering the storm and proposed changes, postmasters and carriers remain in steadfast service to their communities in Isanti County and across America. For now, residents can continue to count on the postal service's early promise: "Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds." **SAM KLOCKSIE**n is Executive Director of the Isanti County Historical Society, which is located at 33525 Flanders St. NE, Cambridge. He can be reached at 763-689-4229 or director@isanticountyhistory.org. * Director Klocksien's 4th great uncle, Allen Griswold, was appointed Cambridge Postmaster on June 22, 1858.



CONTRIBUTED
Mailmen loaded up and ready to hit their routes in front of the Cambridge Post Office in 1912. For current perspective, the large building in the background is where the current post office sits.



CONTRIBUTED
The Union Mercantile Company at Oxlip around 1902. Note the post office sign above the entrance. .



CONTRIBUTED
An end of an era. Peter Noren stands next to newly erected mailboxes outside of his Springvale store and post office, signaling the end of his service on June 15, 1937.

DID YOU KNOW?

- The Cambridge Post Office is the longest-operating business in Isanti County. October 2025 will mark its 168th year.
- Athens was the shortest operating post office, lasting only four months in 1883 before mail was sent to Bethel.
- Grandy is the smallest post office in the county, measuring roughly 24x18 feet.
- The longest service held by a postmaster was Stanchfield's Claire Peterson, 1915-1963. Both his father and grandfather had been postmasters at Stanchfield starting in 1870. Claire's niece Jeanette (Peterson) Lindeman was the postmaster from 1963 to 1975.
- The Cambridge post office is home to a unique mural commissioned during the New Deal and Works Progress Administration. Seymour Fogel's People of the Soil was completed in 1940.

Place an ad with us and start seeing results!

ISANTI-CHISAGO

COUNTY STAR

North Branch Midsummer Days sizzles with entertainment



A young girl fires off a “Bunch O Bubbles” while riding in the parade.



Lalyla Boatman served as the Kiddie Parade Queen.



This young guy knows the importance of keeping both your inside and outside hydrated during hot weather as he grabs a drink while playing in the water sprinkler created by North Branch Fire Department's ladder truck.



The North Branch Lions offered up a free hot dog lunch.



John Dolin was this year's parade Grand Marshall.



The Forest Lake Marching Band joined in for the Midsummer Days Parade held on Sunday. For more photos from Midsummer Days, go to www.isanti-chisagocountystar.com.



A young girl makes her way through the climbing attraction at the carnival in Central Park.



The Scrambler carnival ride not only provided thrills for riders, but a refreshing breeze.

EMPLOYMENT

**Part-Time Receptionist**

The City of Cambridge is seeking applicants for a part-time receptionist for the Finance Department. Hours are generally 12:00 pm-5:00 pm during the months of June-August and 12:00 pm-4:30 pm during the months of September-May. May occasionally be requested to work additional hours to assist with back-up for staff or special projects.

Key responsibilities are greeting-assisting customers, answering a multi-line phone system, responding to inquiries, entering cash receipts into computer system, backing up utility billing clerk, filing, and electronic records management. Key competencies are excellent customer service, attention to detail, solid verbal and written communication skills, confidentiality, and the ability to organize priorities. Minimum qualifications are a high school diploma (or GED equivalent) and one year of clerical support work experience. Starting salary range is \$20.36 per hour.

Applications are available on-line at www.ci.cambridge.mn.us or by calling 763-689-3211. Applications should be submitted by email to cmoe@ci.cambridge.mn.us, or mailed to the City of Cambridge, 300 3rd Avenue NE, MN 55008 by 12:00 Noon on Friday July 25, 2025.

**Building Maintenance & Grounds Seasonal**

Responsible for the maintenance of the grounds such as mowing, trimming, and beautification of the grounds for Chisago County facilities. Must be self-motivated and able to work independently. Must have a valid driver's license. Must be available to work up to 40 hours per week, weather permitting. Must be able to work outdoors in varying weather conditions. Must have a good driving record and must be able to pass a criminal history check. Must be 18+ years of age.

8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
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OBITUARIES

Dixon Skjod

Dixon Skjod of St. Francis passed away Tuesday, June 10, 2025, at VA Health Care in St. Cloud at the age of 94.

Dixon Darrell Skjod was born November 5, 1930, to Christ and Nancy (Nyman) Skjod in Braham, MN. Dixon had two brothers, Dean and Layne, which have preceded him in death. Dixon attended a one-room school, District 29, for eight years then transferred to Braham High School. After schooling he did custom wood/log sawing and farmed the family farm. In 1952 he was drafted into the United States Army to serve his country during the Korean War.

He was released after the war was over in 1954. On his first trip back to MN after being released from the Army he met his wife-to-be Betty Peterson. They were married February 12, 1955 in Harris, MN. They have three children: Dennis, Gary and Sharon. Their first house was in Medicine Lake, MN then to Crystal, MN and in 1976 they bought a small hobby farm in Corcoran, MN. Here Dixon could get back to doing the things he loved-farming. He raised beef cattle, pigs, chickens, ducks and geese. He also planted corn and made hay for his animals. He loved to garden so planted apple trees, strawberries, raspberries and grapes. They joined St. Paul’s Lutheran Church in Hanover, MN. He loved to fish and hunt. You knew if you agreed to go fishing with him that would be an all-day affair or until you caught your limit. As a family you knew not to plan anything like a wedding or funeral at the opening of fishing, archery or rifle deer season. Those were “sacred” holidays and not to be messed with. He still brags about the over 100 deer he has shot with the bow during his many hunting trips in MN, WI and SD. He also made an elk hunting trip to Colorado (but got no elk).

After several years of working for other contractors he started his own business, Dick’s Water and Sewer, which he operated until his retirement in 1995.

Dixon’s first trip after retiring was a “drive to Alaska” pulling a pop-up camper with a boat on top of it. Therefore, every night when we stopped first you unloaded the boat then set up the camper. Not exactly the best way to start your retirement we found out. We spent 3-4 weeks traveling the state of Alaska. We took a great trip to Sweden, Norway and Denmark (remember Dixon is Danish and proud of it). Shortly thereafter, we started spending our winters in Apache Junction, AZ and continued to for the next 22 years. When it took us three nights in motels to drive from AZ back to MN in the spring, we decided it was time to stay in MN. We sold the farm and moved to East Bethel, MN where we joined Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church. It did not take Dixon long before he started tilling a plot for a garden and planting apple trees. We also joined the East Bethel Senior Center.

In 2020-21 Dixon started slowing down and in a couple of years we knew we had to move to a one-level house with no steps or stairs so we ended up at our present house in St. Francis, MN. Dixon was transferred to the VA facilities in St. Cloud in January 2024 where he resided until his passing June 10, 2025.

Dixon is survived by his wife Betty of 70 years; son Dennis (Cynthia) and their two daughters Stephanie and Dana (Chad); son Gary (Julie) and their three children Joey (Michelle) with their three children Jack, Scarlett and Lucas, Andy, and Chelsea (Tommy) with their two children Hannah and Addie; daughter Sharon (Paul) and their three children Amy (Craig), Jeremy and Zachary; other relatives and friends.

He is preceded in death by his parents Christ and Nancy Skjod; and two brothers Dean and Layne. Funeral services for Dixon: 11 a.m.; Monday, July 7, 2025 with a time of visitation one hour prior to the service all at Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church of East Bethel. Interment will take place at the Dane-wood Cemetery in Nessel Township.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in memory of Dixon Darrell Skjod to: Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church, 19001 Jackson St NE, East Bethel, MN 55011 or any VA organization of your choice. Funeral arrangements are entrusted to the: Funeral and Cremation Service of Rush City, Olson Chapel. www.FuneralAndCremationService.com

James “Jim” A. Carlson

James “Jim” A. Carlson, of Braham, Minnesota, passed away unexpectedly on Friday, June 20, 2025, at Abbott Northwestern Hospital, Minneapolis, MN. He was 86 years old.

Born on February 13, 1939, at the Braham Hospital, Jim was the son of Ray G. W. and Edythe (Anderson) Carlson. He grew up on the family farm with his sister Rita.

Jim attended school at Rice Lake Primary School and graduated from Braham High in 1956. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in Industrial Education from the University of Wisconsin-Stout and taught for a few years in New Richmond, Wisconsin.

Jim married the love of his life, Beverly Hallin, in 1960, and they were blessed with three children, Brian, Julie, and Joni.

Jim had a passion for farming. He enjoyed raising crops, cattle, and many pets. He always had a project and a to-do list. If something were broken, he would fix it! He enjoyed operating anything with an engine. He continued farming with his son Brian until his passing.

Jim had a great sense of commitment to his faith, family, and friends. His proudest accomplishment was his family. He was a lifetime member of Braham Evangelical Lutheran Church, where he was baptized, confirmed in faith, and married. He was active on the church council and the Rice Lake Cemetery Board.

His dedication to the Braham community was evident through his service on the Braham School Board for many years. Being an avid supporter of the Braham Bombers, Jim and Bev attended many sporting and performing arts events. Jim and Bev volunteered at Braham Pie Day, the Braham Event Center, and various other events.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Ray and Edythe Carlson; father and mother-in-law, Harry and Lillie Hallin; brother-in-law, Gary Linders; and great-grandson, Logan James Bartes.

He is survived by his loving wife Beverly; children: Brian (Theresa), Julie (Wayne) Brown, and Joni (Jay) Mankie; grandchildren: Danae (Jacob) Bartes, Kristin (Marc) Leonard, Emily (Kevin) Deck, Daniel (Katlynn Bunes) Brown, Jorgen (Meagan Ketterlin) Mankie, Joshua Mankie, Jenna Mankie, and John Mankie; 11 grandchildren; sister Rita Linders; nephew Jeffrey (Elizabeth) Linders; brother-in-law Ron (Maxine) Hallin; niece Robin (Steve) Blouin and many other extended family and friends.

Memorials will be given to Braham Evangelical Lutheran Church, Rice Lake Lutheran Cemetery, and Braham Education Foundation.

A Funeral Service will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, June 27, 2025, at the Braham Ev. Lutheran Church with Pastor Jacob Burkman officiating. The service will be livestreamed to the Braham Lutheran Church Facebook page.

A Visitation will be held from 4 - 6 p.m. on Thursday, June 26, 2025, at the Hamilton Funeral Homes - Rock Chapel in Braham and again one hour prior to the service at the church on Friday.

Inurnment will be in the Rice Lake Cemetery in Braham.

A Luncheon will follow the service. Arrangements are entrusted to the Hamilton Funeral Homes – Rock Chapel in Braham. Condolences may be posted at www.hamiltonfhs.com

Frank Joseph DeZurik

Frank Joseph DeZurik, 79, was taken to glory while surrounded by family on April 22, 2025 in North Branch, Minnesota.

Born on July 25, 1945 in St. Cloud, Minnesota, he was the first-born son to Jerry and Mary DeZurik

(Gallus) (both deceased). He had two younger sisters Annette (deceased) and Carol who survives and lives in Zimmerman, Minnesota. He grew up in Royalton, Minnesota. He married Judy Rose Ginter on October 19, 1968, in North Prarie, Minnesota. They had two children together, Jason (Jaya Greenberg) born on May 18, 1970 and Rebecca (Gary Rakow) born on November 4, 1972.

Frank is survived by his wife, children, and six grandchildren, Ezra Frank, Elijah Paul, Anika Jewel, Katerina Rose, Eva Marie, and Theresa Grace.

He started working for the Northern Pacific Railroad in 1964 and retired from The Burlington Northern Santa-Fe Railroad in 1999 . . . 35 years later. While working on the railroad in Steele, North Dakota, in 1972, he was nearly electrocuted when 7,200 volts of electricity ran through his body. The Lord was watching over him that day. In 1976, while driving home from the bar, Frank fell asleep, hitting a culvert head on. The engine of the car was found 25 feet away from the car and the jaws of life were needed to cut him out of the car. The only injuries he received in this accident were a broken collar bone, a concussion, and a gash in his head. It was at this time, in the hospital, Frank surrendered his life to Jesus Christ. He never took another drink of alcohol again.

After this time, he started to not only become outspoken about his faith in Jesus Christ but strived to live his life for the Lord in everything he did. In 1978 he was promoted to management on the Burlington Northern Railroad and worked out of the shop in St. Paul, Minnesota. During this time he also was a part of the music group “The Potter’s Clay” with his friend, Lowell Olson.

In 1988 the traveling began for Frank and Judy: They began a new adventure together moving to Snohomish, Washington for his new position in Seattle, Washington. In 1992, they were transferred to Springfield, Missouri, where Frank could be found at Bass Pro Shop quite often. As he put it, “I thought it was great, as Bass Pro Shop was just starting out.” In 1997 they moved just east of Kansas City to Blue Springs, Missouri, and in 1999 Frank retired from the railroad.

He will be remembered as a man who loved his wife with his actions as protector and provider. He loved his children and grandchildren greatly and will be remembered as a man that showed them and everyone the example of always striving to follow the one true King, Jesus Christ.

A Celebration of Life will be held from 1– 4 p.m. on Saturday, June 28, at Maranatha Church, 24799 Forest Lake Boulevard North, Forest Lake, Minnesota 55025. An informal service will be held at 2 p.m. A light lunch will be served.

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

NAMES IN THE NEWS

Student Achievement Lists

Cody Louis Spicer of Cambridge (President’s) from North Dakota State College of Science

Alexandra Lindman of Isanti (Dean’s) from University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh

Sophie Anderson of Stanchfield (Dean’s) from Nebraska University

ty of Nebraska-Lincoln

Emily Rhine of Isanti; **Amelia Bjerketvedt**, and **Andrew Thauwald** of North Branch; **Kayden Keeney**, and **Joelle Leigland** of Rush City (Dean’s) from The University of Wisconsin-Madison

Kathryn Boster of Braham; **Stephanie Gagne**, **Gunnar Nelson**, **Austin**

Peterson, Lindsie Sullivan, and **Sophia Yaggy** of Cambridge; **Kaylie Prenovost** of Isanti; **Luke Badger**, **Lawton Garin**, **Leah Kent**, **Tiegan Koepen**, **Roselinne Pachuca**, **Samantha Schmitt**, **Emma Scholes**, and **Karly Wiese**, of North Branch; **Lillian Arneson**, **Clint Chambers**, **Alexander Dahl**, **Meghan May**, and **Robert Novick** of Rush City, (Dean’s) from the University of

Minnesota Duluth

Degrees

Luke Olson (Associate of Applied Science, Conservation Officer Preparation/Certificate, MN Peace Officer Skills) of Cambridge; and **Nathan Fiedler** (Diploma of Occupational Proficiency, Heavy Equipment Operation & Maintenance) of Rush City from Central Lakes College

OBITUARIES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

Jessica Jo (Reichel) Vorel

Jessica Jo (Reichel) Vorel passed away unexpectedly on Thursday, March 20, 2025, at her home in Park Rapids. She was 36 years old.

Jessica was born on March 11, 1989, to Duane Reichel and Shareen Biggins in Cambridge. After graduating from Cambridge High School in 2007, she embarked on a journey to pursue a degree, but unforeseen health challenges led her to rethink her aspirations.

In March 2010, Jessica was blessed with the birth of her daughter, Riley, who brought immense joy and love into her life. The bond they shared was incredibly special, filling their days with laughter and adventure. Although Riley was

the center of Jessica’s world, she also found love with Ryan Vorel, whom she married on June 12, 2021, in a heartfelt and intimate ceremony at her father’s home in Park Rapids. The couple chose to build their lives together in this community. Despite her chronic health challenges, which made life more difficult at times, Jessica’s home radiated warmth and laughter. Her husband, Ryan, became her personal care assistant, and a special blanket was purchased for Jessica to keep her comfortable.

Birthdays meant a great deal to Jessica, particularly because she shared hers with her cousins, Chris and Austin. This unique connection made for celebrations to be more meaningful.

As a devoted mother to her beloved daughter, whom she affectionately called RiRi, Jessica poured her heart into nurturing and supporting Riley. She cherished moments spent with family and friends, finding joy in walks, fishing, and creating lasting memories. Her warm smile and passion for the outdoors reflected her spirit, especially during cozy evenings by the bonfire.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents, Lloyd (Lorraine) Reichel and Edsel (Deloris) Biggins; stepmother, Kim Reichel; uncles, Loren Reichel and Steve Biggins; and aunt, Beth Reichel.

Jess is survived by her beloved husband, Ryan; her cherished daughter, Riley Kram; parents: Duane Reichel and Shareen (Tom Erickson) Biggins; mother-in-law Cindy (Guy) Senley; Father-in-law Jeff (Margaret) Vorel; brothers, Brandon (Cindy) Reichel and Joshua Reichel; brother-in-law Matthew (Allison Smith) Vorel; sister-in-law Rhonda (Kyle) Lewis; aunts & uncles: Linda (Shannon) Stepp, Lois (Herman) Oestreich, Danny Reichel, Sheila (Dale Forslin) Biggins, Stoney Biggins, and Debby Biggins, along with many other relatives and friends.

Jessica’s resilience reminds us to cherish the moments that fill our hearts with love, helping us to find joy even in challenging times.

A Gathering of family and friends will be held on Sunday, July 20, 2025, at the Grandy Community Center and Pavilion from noon – 3 p.m. This event will also honor Jessica’s Stepmother, Kimberly Reichel, who passed away in April 2025.

Allen G. Bellin

Allen G. Bellin, 86-year-old resident of Isanti, MN passed away June 22, 2025 at his residence. A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. on Monday, June 30, 2025 at St. John’s Lutheran Church in Weber/ North Branch. Visitation will be one hour prior to the service at the church. Burial will be at the church cemetery.

Allen was born on November 2, 1938 in Oxford Township, Isanti County to Harold and Rubie Bellin. He was baptized on November 27, 1938 at St. John’s Lutheran Church. Allen worked as a mechanic and heavy equipment operator at Buck’s Blacktopping, retiring in 2011. He spent time tinkering and fixing things, collecting Cadillacs, fishing on Lake Mille Lacs, playing cards and dice. Allen enjoyed trips to Las Vegas and to local casinos. He will be remembered for his sense of humor and his fondness of fine dining.

Allen is survived by his brothers, Loran Bellin, Harlan (Michelle) Bellin; four nephews; and two nieces.

He is preceded in death by his parents; siblings, Lloyd (Annette) Bellin, Annabelle (Glenn) Johnson; and sister-in-law, Joyce Bellin.

Online condolences can be made at Strike-LifeTributes.com.

Connie Eileen Stamm (Bates)

Connie Eileen Stamm (Bates) 64, of Cambridge, MN passed away on Wednesday, June 18, 2025 at GracePointe Crossing.

She was born November 1, 1960 in Cambridge, MN to Gordon and Lucille (Nylander) Stamm. Connie



grew up in Isanti where she attended grade school and graduated from Cambridge High School in 1979. She went through basic training in the U.S Army and later attended Hennepin Technical College, earning a degree in printing. Over the years Connie worked various factory jobs and also the Cambridge State Hospital. After her technical schooling, she worked in the printing department at the United Way in down-

town Minneapolis.

Her daughter Rosalie was born in 2000 and later adopted son Jaden. They made their home in Princeton. She was very involved at her local church and in the nursery. She also volunteered at her children’s elementary schools often.

She also worked for “B Our Guest” Stables in Princeton for many years and became very close to the owners there. She is the only person that could muck stalls with a smile. While growing up, Connie spent time caring for and riding her horse and pony along with sister Cheryn. In later years she loved spending time with her horse, Savannah, going on rides, grooming her, and just being at the barn. She also had a great sense of humor and loved making others laugh. She enjoyed flower gardening, watching home improvement shows and loved her snacks, as she was a real “snacker”.

She was preceded in death by her father Gordon in May 2014, mother Lucille in September 2016, and nephew Eric Wiebler.

She is survived by her daughter Rosalie (Noah) Swanson of Zimmerman, son Jaden Bates of Little Falls, sisters Laura (Dave) Wiebler, of Overbrook, Kansas, Cheryn Stamm of Florida, Julie (Jay) Quarnstrom of Cambridge, brother David (Carol) Stamm of North Branch, step-children Kelsey (Andrew) Legatt of Rice, MN, David (Whitney) Bates of Princeton, special lifetime friend Kathleen Mattson of Roanoke, VA, and several nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Connie lived a good life and is now free of pain and at home with the loved ones that have gone before her. Please honor her by wearing purple at her Memorial Service.

Memorial Service 2 p.m., Friday July 11, 2025 at Carlson-Lillemoen Funeral Home in Cambridge. Visitation one hour prior to the service. Interment 1 p.m., Friday, July 18, 2025 in Oak Knoll Cemetery, Princeton. Condolences at www.carlsonlillemoen.com.

Kateri Mary Elliott



Kateri Mary Elliott of Isanti died unexpectedly at the Cambridge Hospital Monday June 23, 2025 of a heart condition. She was born April 18, 1947 in Onamia Minnesota. Daughter of Christ and Dorathy Leeb of Onamia Minnesota. Graduate of Anoka High School 1965. Hobbies: Puzzles, games and readings.

Survived by husband, Leonard Elliot of Isanti. Married 53 years.

Victor “Vic” Joseph Simon

Victor “Vic” Joseph Simon, age 90, of Cambridge passed away Saturday, June 21, 2025. Mass of Christian Burial will be held 11 a.m. on Saturday June 28, 2025, at Christ the King Catholic Church, 305 Fern St. N., Cambridge, MN with a gathering of



family and friends starting at 10 a.m., at the church. Interment will be at Christ the King Church Cemetery with Military Honors provided by the Cambridge American Legion.

Vic was born on December 28, 1934 to Edward and Josephine Simon on their farm in New Market, MN. He graduated from Lakeville High School with the class of 1951. Vic served in the United States Army during the Korean War

from 1951-1952. He was united in marriage to Virginia Oster on June 25, 1960.

Vic was employed by Murphy Motor Freight Local 120, Cenex, and District 911 School as a bus driver. He served in many different capacities at Christ the King Catholic Church, volunteered at Cambridge Medical Center, and was an active in the Knights of Columbus and the American Legion. Vic loved to fish, and was a devoted husband and father of 5 children.

Vic was preceded in death by his sister-in-law, Winnie Simon; daughter, Robyn; nephew, Dan Simon; daughter-in-law, JoAnn Simon; brother, Charlie; parents; Edward and Josephine Simon.

He is survived by his wife, Virginia Simon; brother, Dennis Simon; sisters, Joyce Simon, Janice Simon; children Jeff Simon, Phillip (Linda) Simon, Dwight Simon, Kelly Simon; son-in-law; Drew Pittman; nine grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; many nephews and nieces.

Thank you to Allina Health Hospice, Cambridge Medical Center, GracePointe Crossing and their entire staff in the Memory Care Unit.

Online condolences can be made at Strike-LifeTributes.com

How long should kids ride in the backseat?

Question: I heard something about kids needing to ride in the back seat if possible. What is the age on that?

Answer: Back on August 1, 2024 there were new car seat guidelines put in place along with



this. The back seat is the safest place in most vehicles. Children under 13 must ride in the back if it is available.

- Children under 2 years of age must ride in a rear-facing car seat until they reach the weight or height limit of the car seat. If they are too heavy or too tall for the car seat, they must switch to a front-facing car seat. Once they turn 2 years old, if they are under both the height and weight limits, they must stay in the rear-facing car seat until they are too tall or heavy for the

seat.

- Children older than 2 who exceed the rear-facing height or weight limit of the car seat must sit in a forward-facing car seat until they reach the height or weight limit (typically 40-60 pounds, depending on the manufacturer).

- A child from 4 to 9 years old must use a booster seat and be secured with a safety belt if they are too tall or too heavy for the car seat.

- When a child is 9 years old, or they exceed the weight or height limit of the booster seat, they must sit without the booster and be secured with a seat belt.

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 @MSPP10_NW or reach him at, jesse.grabow@state.mn.us).



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Motorcyclist, passenger injured after hitting road buckle

STAFF REPORT
NEWS@COUNTYSTAR.COM

A driver of a 2006 Harley Davidson Cruiser and his passenger were injured Saturday afternoon, June 21 after they unexpectedly came across a large buckle in the road that was caused by the heat. According to the State Patrol's incident report, at approximately 5:35 p.m., 65-year-

old James Patrick Marron of St. Francis was traveling south-bound on Highway 65 near the Highway 95 bridge when he hit the large road buckle that extended across both lanes.

The collision with the buckle caused him and his passenger, 66-year-old Rene Lynn Marron, also of St. Francis, to be ejected from the motorcycle. James was

taken to Cambridge Medical Center with non-life-threatening injuries. Rene was airlifted to Hennepin County Medical Center with life-threatening injuries. Neither of them was wearing a helmet at the time of the crash.

Highway 65 south-bound was closed while the scene was cleared and the highway was repaired.

Minnesota starwatch for July 2025

BY DEANE MORRISON
NEW@COUNTYSTAR.COM

During July the morning sky hosts three bright planets, each following its own path.

As the month begins, Venus is a beacon low in the southeast. Our sister planet stays low, but moves steadily northward as the winter stars stream past it. Try looking just before dawn on the 10th, when bright Aldebaran, the eye of Taurus, the bull, will be below Venus. The Pleiades star cluster will be above Venus, and no moon will interfere.

Also at dawn, Saturn stays fairly high as it drifts from southeast to south. In mid-month, Jupiter climbs over the northeastern horizon; on the 23rd, an old moon sits to the left of the giant planet as dawn starts to break. Watch Jupiter and Venus approach each other in the last week of the month. The pair will make a close pass in August.

In the southwest, the Summer Triangle of bright stars also graces the

morning sky. Two of those stars—Vega and Altair—line up with the moon between the 12th and 13th.

At nightfall, the Teapot of Sagittarius almost scrapes the horizon as it glides from southeast to south during July. Just west of the Teapot, bright Antares marks the heart of Scorpius. The moon visits Antares on the 6th and 7th and rises in the Teapot on the 9th. The next night, July's full moon rises in evening twilight and follows the Teapot across the night sky.

Also at nightfall, brilliant Arcturus, in kite-shaped Bootes, the herdsman, shines high in the southwest, while the Summer Triangle ornaments the eastern sky. Between the Triangle and Bootes are upside-down Hercules and Ophiuchus, the snake handler. If you have a star chart, these two lesser-known constellations can be fun to find.

Earth reaches aphelion, its farthest point from the sun, at 2:54 p.m. on July 3. At that moment we'll be 94.5 million miles from our parent star.

Talking primary care with U of M

Primary care doctors often serve as the front line of medicine. These physicians are familiar with their patients' history, guiding their overall health and often catching issues before they become serious.

Maria Loerzel, MD, with the University of Minnesota Medical School discusses primary care, the different types of primary care physicians and why it's important to have a go-to doctor.

Q: What is primary care?

Dr. Loerzel: Primary care is comprehensive, patient-centered healthcare delivered by physicians and care teams that manage most health needs. It includes treatment for new and rapidly developing symptoms, chronic illness management, disease prevention and promoting healthy lifestyles through education and counseling.

Primary care is ideally positioned in healthcare delivery to coordinate complex medical care and to be the "health-care home" for an individual and their family.

Q: What are the different types of primary care physicians?

Dr. Loerzel: Primary care physicians include OB-GYNs, internists, pediatricians, family medicine doctors, geriatricians and Med-Peds specialists. OB-GYNs focus on women's healthcare, encompassing reproductive health, prenatal care, operative and non-operative delivery and gynecological care. Internists treat adults, often managing chronic and complex conditions. Pediatricians care for infants, children and teens. Family medicine physicians treat all ages and may offer obstetric care. There are also primary care geriatricians who focus on the care of older individuals and addressing conditions related to aging. Med-Peds doctors are trained in both internal medicine and pediatrics, caring for patients of all ages. Unlike family physicians, they do not provide obstetric care.

Q: Why is it important to have a primary care doctor?

Dr. Loerzel: Having a primary care doctor ensures you have a dedicated physician and healthcare team to contact when needs arise. They know your medical, family and social history — allowing for personalized, comprehensive

care and better management of chronic conditions. Primary care doctors also guide preventive health screenings, follow up on care from other providers and coordinate referrals to specialists with the necessary background and testing. Primary care doctors help you navigate a complex healthcare system effectively. Everyone deserves a trusted primary care team to support their health across all stages of life.

Q: How often should I see my primary care doctor?

Dr. Loerzel: It depends on your age and health needs. Infants are seen frequently in the first year, then annually through early adolescence, and every two years through age 18. Adults are generally seen annually for wellness visits. If you have stable chronic conditions, visits every 3–6 months may be recommended. For acute issues or when working toward a specific goal, visits may be more frequent. It's important to establish care with a primary doctor to determine the best schedule for your specific health needs. If you're experiencing non-life-threatening changes in your health or a concerning symptom, you should reach out to your primary care physician. Seek emergency care for life-threatening issues.

Q: How does your work at the University of Minnesota advance health in Minnesota?

Dr. Loerzel: My work with the University of Minnesota helps advance health in Minnesota by training future physicians, especially through the new rural family medicine residency program in Willmar. I've taught medical, nursing and allied health students in my rural community for over a decade. Training physicians in rural settings is vital in growing the future workforce that will care for patients in our rural communities. The University of Minnesota's partnership with CentraCare will provide new opportunities and resources to strengthen the healthcare system statewide.

Dr. Maria Loerzel is an adjunct assistant professor at the University of Minnesota Medical School and a family medicine physician with CentraCare. She provides full-spectrum family medicine with a special interest in obstetrics, women's health and pediatrics.

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Auctions

Saturday, July 5, 9 a.m. Janzen Auction Building, 942 2nd St. NW, Aitkin, MN 56431. Online bidding for larger items at www.proxiid.com/janzen. Collector Truck, 1955 Chevy First Series, Vehicles, Camping Packages, Boating & Related, Trailers, ATV's & Snowmobiles Related, Lawn & Garden, Garden Related, Furniture & Household Related. Janzen Auctioneers, Lic. no. 01-14 & 01-10, www.janzenauctions.com, www.midwestauctions.com/janzen, 218-927-4488.

Thursday, July 3, 5 p.m. Janzen Auction Building, 942 2nd St. NW, Aitkin, MN 56431. Huge Firearms & Sporting Goods Auction. Online bidding at www.proxiid.com/janzen. Janzen Auctioneers, Lic. no. 01-14 & 01-10, www.janzenauctions.com, www.midwestauctions.com/janzen, 218-927-4488.

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The Mora HRA Maintenance Department is accepting applications for a part-time technician.

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For more information and required application packet contact Mora HRA, PO Box 209, 160 Valhalla Circle, Mora, MN 55051. 320-679-4789. Email: anthonyk@morahra.org.

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NOTICES

SUMMARY PUBLICATION OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING – JUNE 16, 2025

The complete minutes are available for public inspection at the office of the City Administrator, 300 3rd Ave. NE, Cambridge, Minnesota.

Members Present: Mayor James Godfrey; Councilmembers Aaron Berg, Bob Shogren, Molly Christian, and Mark Ziebarth.

- Called meeting to order at 6:00 pm
- Approved the amended consent agenda items A – M
- Trained on Zoning and Land Use: Variances
- Approved Ordinance 806, allowing the designation of statutory clerk duties
- Approved Resolution R25-037 Accepting bids and awarding contract for 2025 street improvements
- Approved Construction Engineering Services Proposal from S.E.H. for 2025 street improvements
- Approved Resolution R25-040 Sale of 2025A Bonds for 2025 Street Project
- Approved Farmers Market request for parking lot space use
- Approved Resolution supporting conduit bond financing for Reuter Walton
- Approved Downtown Grant for 115 Adams St. S.
- Approved Ordinance No. 805 approving a PUD rezoning, a CUP for a PUD in Shoreland, and a CUP for a Park use for Cambridge Shores
- Approved Resolution R25-033 Preliminary Plat for Millside at Cambridge Shores
- Approved Resolution R25-034 Final Plat for Cambridge Shores City Park
- Approved replacement of City Hall carpet
- Approved off-site liquor consumption during the June 3rd Thursday Event
- Approved agreement with Lights On! Program
- Approved requests for City Council to consider related to Sister City activity
- Held two closed sessions for union discussions and subsequent votes on MOU, and to review a PA with New Pathways

Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on June 26, 2025

SUMMARY PUBLICATION

Ordinance 805 approved a rezoning, allows a Planned Unit Development, and a Park Use on PIN's 15.003.0300, 15.003.0200, 15.003.0100. The R-1 One and Two Family zoning district is rezoned to a Planned Unit Development (PUD) district, a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for a PUD in the SR Shoreland district is allowed, and a CUP for Park use in the SR Shoreland district is allowed. A complete copy of the ordinance is available at City Hall, 300 3rd Avenue NE, Cambridge for inspection.

ATTEST:
Evan C. Vogel
City Administrator
Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on June 26, 2025

SUMMARY PUBLICATION

The City Council of the City of Cambridge adopted Ordinance 806 to abolish the combined Clerk-Treasurer position and establish the separate position of City Clerk. The complete ordinance is available for

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

ATTEST:
Evan C. Vogel
City Administrator
Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on June 26, 2025

ISANTI COUNTY SUMMARY PUBLICATION OF THE JUNE 3, 2025, REGULAR MEETING OF THE ISANTI COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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

Members Present: Chairman Alan Duff; Commissioners: Steve Westenberg, Bill Berg, Todd Christensen, Kristi LaRowe.

Members Absent: None.

Meeting called to order by Chairman Alan Duff.

- Approved the following County Business Items: May 20, 2025, County Board Meeting Minutes and Minutes Summary, Community Health Board Actions, Personnel Action Items, Sons of American Legion Post 290, Inc., Application to Conduct Excluded Bingo, Resolution 2025-018: Joint Powers Agreement for Internet Crime Against Children Investigations (ICACI), Donations to Isanti County, Utility Permits, and Claims and Warrants.
- Approved a Special Meeting of the Drainage Authority immediately after the County Board meeting on June 17, 2025.
- Approved Wyanett Township Cleanup Day and Athens Township Cleanup Day.
- Approved the Final Plats for Hosch Bauer Hills 2nd Addition and LaRowe's Rendova Woodlands.
- Approved the 2025-2026 Portable Restroom Contract.
- Approved the Revised Purchase Price for the 2026 Freightliner MS 106 Chassis due to Tariff Surcharge.
- Approved the Contract Amendment between Isanti County Health and Human Services, Acting as the Fiscal Host for the Adult Mental Health Initiative and RADIAS Health, and the Contract with WIC Farmers Market Nutritional Program Coupons for 2025.
- Approved the Request to Send a Letter Asking to Legislators to Carry Forward a Bill Regarding the Addition of DMV Services at the Government Center.
- Approved Annual Liquor License Renewals.

Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on June 26, 2025

PUBLIC NOTICE ADDITIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING SCHEDULED FOR JULY 8, 2025

Public Notice is hereby given that the Isanti County Board of Commissioners has scheduled an additional Committee of the Whole meeting for 1:00 p.m., Tuesday, July 8, 2025. This meeting will be held in the County Board Room of the Isanti County Government Center, 555 18th Ave SW, Cambridge, Minnesota, 55008.

By order of the Isanti County Board of Commissioners, this 17th day of June 2025.

Amanda Usher
County Administrator
Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on June 26, 2025

NOTICE FANNIE LAKE

IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
Fannie Lake Improvement District / Aquatic Conservation Services will be treating Fannie Lake for Eurasian Watermilfoil sometime after July 14th 2025. Some areas of the lake may be treated within 150 feet of the shoreline. If you do not want this treatment within 150 feet of your shoreline, contact one of the Fannie Lake Improvement District board members prior to July 12, 2025

Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on June 26; July 3, 2025

PROBATE

STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF CHISAGO TENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT DISTRICT COURT PROBATE DIVISION
Court File No. 13-PR-25-63
Estate of Brad Alan Sackman, Decedent

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

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on July 17, 2025, at 1:30pm, a hearing will be held in this Court at 2100 3rd Ave., Anoka, Minnesota 55303-2489, for the adjudication of intestacy and determination of heirship of the Decedent, and for the appointment of Ridge Allen Sackman, whose address is 2543 Sunny Meadow Lane, Red Wing, MN, 55066 as Personal Representative of the Estate of the Decedent in an UNSUPERVISEDa SUPERVISED 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.

Dated: _____
BY THE COURT
Judge of District Court: Catherine Trevino
Dated: _____
Court Administrator: Kris Cunningham
Attorney for Petitioner
Alec Osland
Yanowitz Law Firm
18 Third Street SW,
Suite 20
Rochester, MN 55902
Attorney License No: 0401039
Telephone: (507) 252-8997
Email: alec@yanowitzlaw.com
Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on June 26; July 3, 2025

STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF ISANTI DISTRICT COURT TENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT PROBATE DIVISION
Court File No. 30-PR-25-51
In Re: Estate of Jill Renee Baldwin, a/k/a Jill R. Baldwin, a/k/a Jill Baldwin, Decedent.
NOTICE OF AND ORDER FOR HEARING ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION OF INTESTACY, DETERMINATION

OF HEIRSHIP, AND FORMAL APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE IN AN UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on the 19 day of August, 2025, at 3:20 o'clock p.m., a hearing using remote technology will be held by this Court on the petition of **Sharon L. Baldwin** for the adjudication of intestacy and determination of heirship of the above named decedent, and for the appointment of **Sharon L. Baldwin**, whose address is 37141 Xenon St. NW, Princeton, MN 55371, as personal representative of the Estate of the Decedent, in an unsupervised administration. Information on how to participate in the remote hearing can be obtained by calling the Court at 763-290-7020.

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. If objections are filed, another hearing may be scheduled. Any charitable beneficiary may request notice of the probate proceeding be given to the Attorney General Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 501B.41, Subdivision 5.

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 months after the date of this Notice or the claims will be barred.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that notice shall be given by publishing this Notice and Order as provided by law, and by mailing a copy of this Notice and Order at least 14 days prior to the hearing date to all interested persons and persons who have filed a demand for notice.

BY THE COURT
Judge of District Court: Brosnahan, Amy (Judge)
Date: 2025.06.16
Court Administrator: Erin Boettcher
Attorney for Petitioner:
Gary C. Dahle, #218947
2704 Mounds View Blvd.
Mounds View, MN 55112
Phone: 763-780-8390
Fax: 763-780-1735

Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on June 26; July 3, 2025

PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
June 19, 2025

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

1. The request of Robert & Janet Orrick, 2750 Dahlia Court NW, Isanti, MN 55040 to construct a single family dwelling with less than the required setback from the ordinary high watermark of a Natural Environmental Lake. Legal description is Lot 8 Block 2 Dahlia Shores of Section 4, Township 34, Range 24, Stanford Township.
2. The request of Robert & Mary

Fredell, 9360 281st Avenue NW, Zimmerman, MN 55398 and Michael & Sarah Fredell, 1205 Wendover Street NW, Isanti, MN 55040 to construct an addition to the existing dwelling with less than the required setback from the road right of way of a Private Road Easement. Legal description is Pt. Govt. Lot 5 (150' wide) of Section 31, Township 35, Range 25, Spencer Brook Township. Trina Bergloff
Isanti County Zoning Administrator This further serves as notice that if the legal criteria are met for members to participate in the meeting by telephone or interactive technology, some members may do so.

If you would like to attend this meeting via Tele – Conference, please go to the Isanti County webpage at www.co.isanti.mn.us for instructions.

Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on June 26, 2025

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
June 17, 2025

Notice is hereby given the Isanti County Planning Commission public hearing that was to be held on **Thursday, June 26, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.** in the County Board Room at the Isanti County Government Center, 555 18th Avenue SW, Cambridge, MN 55008 has been cancelled and the agenda item has been rescheduled for the Isanti County Planning Commission public hearing **Thursday July 24, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.** to consider the following request:

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

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

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

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

Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on June 26, 2025

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
June 19, 2025

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

1. The request of Kay Dennis, 40203 Vickers Street NE, Stanchfield, MN 55080 to present a preliminary plat of Maple Crest. Legal description is Pt NW ¼ of the

NE ¼ of Section 14, Township 37, Range 23, Stanchfield Township.

2. The request of Word of Life Ministries & Of Louisville, Inc. & Vern Peltz, 3640 County Road 6 NW, Stanchfield, MN 55080 to present a preliminary plat of Peaceful Acres. Legal description is the SE ¼ of the NE ¼ fct. of Section 12, Township 36, Range 25, Wyanett Township.

3. The request of One Love Property Management LLC, Todd Belmore / Manager, 1475 301st Street NE, Isanti, MN 55040 & John Buzick, Branson LLC, 1460 211th Avenue NW, Oak Grove, MN 55011 to rezone two parcels from the Agriculture/Residential District to the Business District. Legal description is Pt S ½ of the SE ¼ & Pt SW ¼ of the SE ¼ of Section 17, Township 35, Range 23, Isanti Township.

4. The request of Steven Cartwright, 8154 335th Avenue NW, Princeton, MN 55371 & Isanti Soil & Water Conservation District, 110 Buchanan Street N, Cambridge, MN 55008 for an Interim Use Permit for the mining of sand, gravel, peat and black dirt (soil) for a wetland restoration project adjacent to County Ditch 20. Legal description is Pt of the SE ¼ of the SW ¼ of Section 29, Township 36, Range 25, Wyanett Township.

5. The request of Gerald Schmieg Trustee, 31300 Jackson Road NE, Cambridge, MN 55008 for an Interim Use Permit for the mining of sand, gravel, peat and black dirt (soil) for a pond. Legal description is Pt NW ¼ of the SW ¼ of Section 7, Township 35, Range 23, Isanti Township.

6. To amend the Isanti County Zoning Ordinance, Section 6, Agriculture/Residential District, Subdivision 2, Permitted Uses, #30: Mining projects that are designed to improve or protect water quality - including any stockpiling of spoils, grading, or excavation that is directly related to such projects - shall not require an Interim Use Permit, provided the plan for the project is (1) approved and supervised by the Isanti County Soil and Water Conservation District or the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources or the United States Fish and Wildlife Service or the United States Army Corps of Engineers, and (2) the plan must be provided to the Isanti County Zoning Department. To qualify for this exemption, any spoils from the project must remain on the project site. This exemption does not apply to the creation or maintenance of gravel pits.

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

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

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

Published in the Isanti-Chisago County STAR on June 26, 2025

ISANTI AND CHISAGO COUNTY COURT REPORTS

The following felony charges were filed in Isanti County Court on June 8 - 21. All individuals are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

Zachary Michael Jackson (DOB 05/09/1990) of East Bethel, was charged June 10 with Violate No Contact Order - Within 10 years of the first of two or more convictions.
Jacob Robert Mundt (DOB 11/11/1990) of Cambridge, was charged June 11 with domestic assault.
Travis David Ostlund (DOB 06/17/1965) of Cambridge, was charged June 12 with one count

of Theft-Take/Use/Transfer Movable Prop-No Consent; and one count of Receiving Stolen Property.
Matthew Robert Sween (DOB 11/28/1977) of Isanti, was charged June 16 with Assault-3rd Degree-Substantial Bodily Harm.
Brady Michael Mullins (DOB 01/02/1981) of Princeton, was charged June 16 with Theft-Take/Use/Transfer Movable Prop-No Consent.
Christopher Jerome Bonnell (DOB 10/27/1969) of Cambridge, was charged June 16 with Assault-2nd Degree-Dangerous Weapon.
Shaun Michael Lindus (DOB 03/17/1981) of Grantsberg, WI, was charged June 16 with

Fugitive from Justice from Other State.
Weston Donald Knapp (DOB 01/10/1991) of Saint Paul, was charged June 20 with one count of Burglary-2nd Degree-Dwelling; and one count of Damage to Property - 1st Degree - Value Reduced Over \$1000.

The following felony charges were filed in Chisago County Court on June 8 - 21. All individuals are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

Amy Kae Francen (DOB 02/25/1974) of Harris, was charged June 9 with Assault-3rd Degree-Substantial Bodily Harm.

Nathan Neal Myers (DOB 12/12/1998) of Forest Lake, was charged June 9 with Fugitive from Justice from Other State.
Regina K Kramer (DOB 09/18/1983) of Blaine, was charged June 9 with Fleeing a Peace Officer in a Motor Vehicle.
Dion James Gresham (DOB 11/09/1982) of North Branch, was charged June 16 with Violate No Contact Order - Within 10 years of the first of two or more convictions.
Blake Andrew Rindahl (DOB 07/02/1989) of North Branch, was charged June 18 with Domestic Assault - By Strangulation.



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*“May we think of freedom
not as the right to do
as we please, but as
the opportunity to do
what is right.”*

– PETER MARSHALL

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
AMERICA!

