Miscellaneous

We pay top dollar for junk cars, trucks and late model repairables!
Call 320-236-7477

Help Wanted

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY
Backes Wood Products is looking for someone to fill a full-time woodworking position. Some experience required. Good pay, paid insurance, paid vacation and holidays. Monday through Friday, 40 hours per week with no overtime. If interested please call 320-597-9663.

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Richmond News

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Farming - Meets at 8:00 p.m. on the first Tuesday of the month at Farming Community Center, 23801 Co. Rd. 42, Richmond, MN 56368. For information, please contact the Township Clerk at 320-249-3710 or email: farmingtownship@gmail.com.

It's Game On! Sunday Afternoon Fun with Farming Lions Bingo!

Every Sunday, enjoy playing BINGO at 1:30 p.m. at MD's Bar and Grill in downtown Roscoe! Jackpots up to $1000.00! Come and enjoy an afternoon playing Bingo with the Farming Lions!

Youth Bowling!

Youth Bowling will be held at 9 a.m. every Saturday for K - 8th Grade.

Cost:

• One time League/Trophy Fee-$10.00

Instruction available!

Each session:

• $7.00 for 2 games includes equipment

• $9.00 for 3 games includes equipment

For more information, please call Jim at 597-2295 or 420-3625.

All Aboard the Canadian Pacific Holiday Train!

The Canadian Pacific Holiday Train will stop in more than 20 Minnesota towns on its annual ride through the northern U.S., bringing live entertainment and Christmas cheer in exchange for donations to local food banks. The train will be in Minnesota from December 12-17, 2025!

The stops closest to our communities as follows:

December 15, 2025:

• Buffalo - Stops at 5th Street NE railway crossing at 6 p.m.

• Annandale - Stops at west side of downtown park, over the Oak Ave. crossing at 7:30 p.m.

• Eden Valley - Stops at State Street railroad crossing at 9:00 p.m.

December 16, 2025:

• Glenwood - Stops at CPKC station at 10:15 a.m.

• Alexandria - Stops by 8th Avenue E. railway at 11:45 a.m.

Singer-songwriters Lanco & Tiera Kennedy will give free performances at each stop, and any food or cash donations will benefit the local community.

Again this year, the Holiday Train program is encouraging people attending events to bring non-perishable food items which will be donated to local charities and food banks!

For additional information, photos, a route map, and downloadable pictures of the two trains, visit http://www.cpr.ca/holiday-train.

Labels for Schools!

With all of the cooking and baking that goes with the holiday season, please remember to Save Labels and Receipts for Area schools! They benefit greatly from these donations, so please, clip, save and pass along to the group/groups of your choosing!

Richmond Elementary collects the following throughout the entire year:

• Plantenberg's/Richmond Market and Teals Market Receipts

• Campbell's UPC Labels through December 31, 2025 or later

• Land O' Lake Milk Caps

• "Box tops for Education"

• Laser and Ink Jet Ink Cartridges

• Cashwise and Coborn's-Labels for Learning, from register receipts

• Our Family UPC Barcode Labels

Sts. Peter & Paul School collect the following and only accept from November to the end of the school year in spring:

• Plantenbergs/Richmond Market Receipts only dated from November through end of school year

• Our Family UPC Barcode Labels

• "Box tops for Education"

• Aluminum cans – these can be placed in the grey bin outside of the kitchen door

• Country Hearth Bread UPC codes

Simply save in an envelope and drop off to:

Office at Sts. Peter & Paul Elementary or box at the back of the church

Office at Richmond Elementary

Remember, Pennies Make Dollars!

Be Cautious on the Ice!

With the continued surge in the number of people recreating outdoors this year, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources reminds everyone that lakes and ponds across the state have started to freeze, and where there isn't ice, the water is dangerously cold.

Ice thickness is highly variable at this time of year and subject to Mother Nature's whims. Even where there isn't ice, the water is so cold that an unexpected fall in can be deadly. It is vital to talk with children, who are naturally curious about the water, about staying safe.

Anglers and others who recreate on the ice should stay on shore until there's at least 4 inches of new, clear ice. Anytime people are on the ice, they should check its thickness every 150 feet. Smith urges people to check ice thickness for themselves rather than deciding to walk on the ice based on what they've heard or read.

Each year, unexpected falls into cold water lead to serious injury and death. Wearing a life jacket is the best way to avert tragedy, since the initial shock of falling into cold water can incapacitate even strong swimmers. Carrying a good set of ice picks can help a person get out if they fall through the ice, and a cell phone, whistle or other communications device makes it more likely they will be able to call for help.

General ice safety guidelines

No ice can ever be considered "safe ice," but following these guidelines can help minimize the risk:

• Always wear a life jacket or float coat on the ice (except when in a vehicle).

• Carry ice picks, rope, an ice chisel and tape measure.

• Check ice thickness at regular intervals; conditions can change quickly.

• Bring a cell phone or personal locator beacon.

• Don't go out alone; let someone know about trip plans and expected return time.

• Before heading out, inquire about conditions and known hazards with local experts.

The minimum ice thickness guidelines for new, clear ice are:

• 4 inches for ice fishing or other activities on foot.

• 5-7 inches for a snowmobile or all-terrain vehicle.

• 8-12 inches for a car or small pickup.

• 12-15 inches for a medium truck.

• Double these minimums for white or snow-covered ice.

For more information, visit the ice safety page and the cold water danger page on the DNR website!

Please Keep our Furry Friends Safe and Healthy!

December abounds with holiday celebrations and the American Veterinary Medical Association is reminding pet owners that nothing can spoil good cheer like an emergency visit to a veterinary clinic to save a pet from a not-so-happy holiday disaster.

"Veterinarians often see an increase in the number of emergency calls during the holiday season. Whether it's exposure to chocolate or fatty foods, or pets injured through exposure to festive decorations such as electric cords, ornaments, tinsel, etc., the holidays can present hazards for pets," states Dr. Clark K. Fobian, the president of the American Veterinary Medical Association. "The most important way you can enjoy your pet through the holiday is by providing oversight and supervision so that they are not exposed to foods, decorations, strange people, or other things that can cause a disruption or an upsetting trip to an emergency clinic. For example, children often want to give pets extra treats during the holidays, but these treats should never include candy or table scraps. A little extra diligence is required to ensure that pets get proper foods and healthy pet treats."

Holiday Safety Tips for Pets:

• Don't feed dogs and cats table scraps and don't allow a family dog to sit under the table during meals where children may slip them food. Gravy, meat fat and poultry skin can cause life-threatening conditions like pancreatitis and gastrointestinal problems. Bones can splinter and create bowel obstructions.

• Be wary of holiday decorations; pets often consume them. For example, cats sometimes consume tinsel, which can cause an intestinal blockage serious enough to require surgery.

• Don't let your pets climb the Christmas tree. If the tree falls over, your pet could be injured. Consider tying the tree to the ceiling or a doorframe using fishing line to secure it.

• Chocolate is an essential part of the holidays for many people, but it is important that it be kept away from pets. Chocolate contains theobromine, which is toxic to dogs and cats. The darker the chocolate (baking chocolate being the darkest) the more dangerous it is to pets.

• Be wary of baked goods and sweets around pets. Not only are they often too rich for pets, but an artificial sweetener often found in baked goods, candy and chewing gum, xylitol, has been linked to liver failure and death in dogs.

• Flowers, table centerpieces, fireplace adornments and other festive plants are another common holiday feature that can result in an emergency veterinary visit. Amaryllis, mistletoe, balsam, pine, cedar, and holly are on the list of common holiday plants that can be dangerous and even poisonous to pets who decide to eat them, and poinsettias can be troublesome as well.

Unplug decorations while you're not around. Cats and dogs are often tempted to chew electrical cords.

Out and About!

Christmas at Whitby Gallery!

Visit a gallery filled with "artistic treasures" handmade by the Sisters at Saint Benedict's Monastery, including quilting, tatting, hardanger, pottery, handwoven silk scarves, photography, holiday ornaments and cards. The Shop and Gallery are open for Christmas Shopping Tuesdays-Fridays: Noon-4 p.m, Saturday 10:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m. If you are looking for personalized, unique "treasures" this holiday season, stop by the Whitby Gift

Christmas in the Logging Camp at the Forest History Center!

Step back into the winter of 1900 and experience life as it might have been for northwood lumberjacks. The popular wintertime event, "Christmas in the Logging Camp," is being held on Saturday, December 13, 2025 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Forest History Center. Cost is $15 for adults, $12 for seniors and college students, $8 for children ages 8 to 17 and free for children age 4 and under and MHS members.

Visitors can see draft horses pulling sleighs and lumberjacks working throughout the day. They can also stop in at the cook shack where Christmas preparations will be underway. Santa Claus will be present for the kids and visitors can enjoy music and storytelling while snacking on hot apple cider and cookies. The museum gift shop will be open for holiday shopping. Warm clothes and winter boots are advised. It is necessary to walk to the camp, so participants should be prepared for inclement weather.

The Minnesota Historical Society site is at 2609 County Road 76, near Hwys. 169 and 2 in Grand Rapids. It is filled with living-history characters who acquaint visitors with life in a recreated 1900 logging camp and a log-drive floating cook shack moored on the Mississippi river. A 1930s forest ranger's cabin, fire tower and self-guided trails are part of the site, along with exhibits and a renovated visitor center which opened in 2004. For more information, call 218-327-4482.

Gunflint Mail Run Sled Dog Race is On! February 7, 2026!

It's back on! The Gunflint Mail Run Sled Dog Race is a continuous race of approximately 100 miles. The race is composed of two runs approximately 50 miles. The start, layover and finish are all located at Trail Center, along the Gunflint Trail. For general information, please call Sarah Hamilton at 218-388-2214 or email trailctr-@boreal.org.

The Gunflint Mail Run Sled Dog Race is a continuous race consisting of two legs of equal distance, separated by a mandatory layover. There are two classes in the race: a 12-dog, 110-mile race and an 8-dog, 70-mile race. Keep up with all of the preparations for the 2026 race via www.gunflintmail.com, Twitter@-GunflintMailRun or Facebook.

The Gunflint Mail Run is in cooperation with and under a Special Use Permit from the U.S. Forest Service.

Please Continue to Support Our Businesses! It is Greatly Appreciated!

Have a Great Week! If You Drink, Don't Drive! Til' Next Time~

HONOR OUR HEROES THIS CHRISTMAS

We are inviting you to help decorate the Christmas tree at the Veteran's Monument in Rockville. If you would like to place an ornament with a name on it in honor of someone, please attach an unbreakable ornament after December 12th. The tree will be taken down after the first week of the new year, so please pick up your ornament prior to that.

Are you still searching for that Perfect Christmas Gift?

Have you thought of submitting a name to be etched on the Monument in honor of a veteran? It will be a gift that will be etched in stone and last forever! The monument is a great way to honor and say "Thank You" to those who have and are currently serving our community or our country. The monument is for all current, past, and future members of the Military, Fire fighters and Law Enforcement.

Please consider adding your parents, grandparents, relatives, friends, or your own name. Cost is $150 per name. Applicants can be from anywhere. A beautiful certificate will be sent to the donor upon request and can be given as a gift to the veteran.

The names will need to be submitted by July 1st and will be engraved before 9/11/2026. Questions call 320-252-6473.

Fill out and return this form to Rockville Veterans Monument Committee.

Name of Donor _____
Donor phone number _____
Name of Veteran/Individual _____
Circle branch of service:
Army/Marine Corps/Navy/Air Force/Coast Guard/Merchant Marine
Law Enforcement/Fire Fighter/First Responder
City of Service
_____

Make checks payable to :
Rockville Veterans Monument Fund
Return application and check to:
Rockville Veterans Monument Committee
P.O. Box 185
Rockville, MN 56369

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Horoscopes

ARIES - Mar 21/Apr 20
Aries, this week is all about momentum. Your boldness helps you break through obstacles like a professional. A surprise opportunity might crop up. Embrace this chance.

TAURUS - Apr 21/May 21
The week starts off slow and steady, but then a sprinkle of excitement is added to your routine. A sweet surprise from a loved one could make your week even better.

GEMINI - May 22/Jun 21
Your social butterfly wings are flapping, Gemini. Engage in fun conversations with all of the people who come your way. Who knows, even a spontaneous adventure might present itself.

CANCER - Jun 22/Jul 22
Cancer, your nurturing side shines through this week. You might find yourself acting as the go-to person for support or advice. Just be sure to tend to your own needs as well.

LEO - Jul 23/Aug 23
Leo, you are ready for action even if everyone else isn't. They will look to you as a leader, but you probably won't mind having a few chances to lead over the next several days.

VIRGO - Aug 24/Sept 22
Clarity and calm are the words of the week for you, Virgo. Those little details that you've been puzzling over for a bit finally click into place, leaving you feeling amazing.

LIBRA - Sept 23/Oct 23
Libra, this week is all about harmony and how you can organize things to achieve it. You may be in the mood to connect and collaborate, helping to bring people together.

SCORPIO - Oct 24/Nov 22
People may be drawn to your playful and magnetic side this week, Scorpio. Make time for socialization, but don't hesitate to book some alone time if you think you need it.

SAGITTARIUS - Nov 23/Dec 21
Sagittarius, your adventurous side is unstoppable right now. You are still being fueled by discovery and others want to join in the fun. Remember to slow down and recharge.

CAPRICORN - Dec 22/Jan 20
Hard work pays off in little victories this week, Capricorn. While you love being productive, remember to celebrate every success, even if it is a small one.

AQUARIUS - Jan 21/Feb 18
A change of scenery could be good for you, Aquarius. If work had you feeling tired and worn out, book a short trip somewhere to enjoy some much-needed rest and relaxation.

PISCES - Feb 19/Mar 20
Don't brush aside the creative sparks that seem to be popping into your brain one after another, Pisces. Trust your intuition, as it's guiding you toward fun things ahead.