Classifieds

For Rent

Now accepting applications for Pine West 2 Bedroom Apartment, 2 & 3 Bedroom Townhomes also available. Located in Cold Spring.

For more information call Cindy at 320-685-9803 or SMR at 800-450-7723. www.smrrental.com · Equal Housing Opportunity

APARTMENT FOR RENT

ALBANY

- 2 Bedroom \$800/month
- \$100 Deposit
- Cat ok (\$20/month Pet Rent) • NO DOGS!

Call for Availability Loreen 763-238-0616

Miscellaneous

Stein Tree Contracting. 30 years experience. Cell: 320-492-3502 or 1-800-632-2827.

repairables!

Call 320-236-7477

Willenbring, Dahl, Wocken

& Zimmermann, PLLC

318 Main Street - Box 417

Telephone: (320) 685-3678

(Publish Dec. 2 & 9, 2025)

Cold Spring, MN 56320

Kelly A. Springer

(0387850)

_dec2pd

Public Notices We pay top dollar continued from page 12 for junk cars, trucks and late model Jenna Kollar, Kayla Nieren-

hausen, Lynn Schurman, Jennifer Bohnsack, Matt Thompson. Robin Vettleson Board Members absent:

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Lynn Schurman, seconded by Robin Vettleson. Motion carries

unanimously. The School Board met to go over the Strategic Planning Process Review, Goal Alignment (School Board Self-Evaluation) and Wrap-Up (Board Accountability, Roles, and Responsibilities with the new Strategic Plan)

The work session meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted: Jenna Kollar, Clerk

(Publish December 2, 2025)

STATE OF MINNESOTA **COUNTY OF STEARNS**

DISTRICT COURT 7TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT **Probate Court Division**

Court File No.:

73-PR-25-9758 ORDER AND NOTICE OF **HEARING ON PETITION** FOR FORMAL ADJUDICA-TION OF INTESTACY, **DETERMINATION OF** HEIRSHIP AND APPOINT-

RESENTATIVE IN UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TO ALL INTERESTED

MENT OF PERSONAL REP-

In Re: Estate of

LaVonne A. Ratcliff Decedent

PERSONS AND CREDITORS: It is Ordered and Notice is hereby given that on the 9th day of January, 2026, at 8:45 A.M., a hearing will be held in the above named Court at St. Cloud, Minnesota, on petition of Solid Oak Financial Services, LLC, for the adjudication of intestacy and determination of heirship of the above named decedent, and for the appointment of Solid Oak Financial Services, LLC whose address is P.O. Box 187, Avon, MN 56310, as personal representative of the estate of the above named decedent in unsupervised administration, and that any objections thereto must be filed with the Court. That, if proper, and no objections are filed, a personal representative will be appointed to administer the estate, to collect all assets, pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, and sell real and personal property, and do all

necessary acts for the estate. This hearing will be held administratively and no appearances are required unless objections are filed. If objections are filed a new hearing date will be set.

Notice is further given that ALL CREDITORS having claims against said estate are required to present the same to said personal representative or to the Court Administrator within four months after the date of this notice or said claims will be barred.

(COURT SEAL)

Dated: November 20, 2025 Heidi E. Schultz Judge

Filed in District Court State of Minnesota Dated November 20, 2025

Help Wanted

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Backes Wood Products is looking for someone to fill a fulltime 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-





Highly Organized Self-Starter Needed! The Spicer Commercial Club (SCC) seeks a part-time Administrator to manage daily operations and communications.

Must have experience with: Administration, bookkeeping, and basic website management.

Learn more about this exciting opportunity by scanning on the QR code or going to explorespicer.com

Apply by December 15, 2025!



Got a Great **Local News Story?**

Tell us about it today!

CenterPoint Energy Shares Safety and Energy Saving Tips to Keep Customers Safe and Warm

quire customers to use more energy to maintain a comfortable temperature inside their homes, so CenterPoint Energy is highlighting energy-saving and safety resources to help manage energy usage, while keeping customers safe and warm.

"Our employees work year-round to provide safe, reliable and resilient natural gas service to our Minnesota customers when they need it most and are positioned throughout our service area to respond to customer needs. While our workers remain focused on delivering energy, we know that customers want to keep their bills manageable. We encourage them to take easy steps to help reduce their energy use and save money even as the temperatures drop, while keeping their loved ones safe and warm," said Brad Steber, CenterPoint's Vice President of Minnesota

CenterPoint's preparedness actions in Minnesota

CenterPoint prepares year-round for cold weather in Minnesota through proactive efforts that aim to provide safe, reliable and resilient energy service, such as:

- Monitoring the natural gas system 24/7 and implementing cold weather action plans.
- Conducting infrastructure projects to modernize our natural gas distribution system.
- · Leveraging natural gas, propane and/or liquefied natural gas stored ahead of the winter heating
 - Staging crews across

Colder weather may re- the company's service area to respond to potential service issues safely and as quickly as possible.

> Quick and easy tips to save energy and money

CenterPoint encourages customers to follow these easy tips that can make a difference on monthly heat-

- Turn down the thermostat. Lowering the thermostat by 7-10 degrees at night, or when away for at least eight hours, can potentially save 10% on heating costs. Customers can use a programmable thermostat to have the heating system work around their schedule.
- Check the furnace filter. Change or clean the filter to maximize the efficiency of the furnace.
- Use window coverings and blinds effectively. If it's sunny outside, open window coverings during the day, and close coverings at night to keep warmth inside. If the sun's not shining, keep window coverings closed to hold warmth in-
- Keep warm air in and cold air out of the home. Use caulk or weather-stripping to seal leaks around doors, windows and other openings such as pipes or ducts. Close fireplace dampers when not in use to prevent heat loss.
- Visit the online CenterPoint Energy Efficiency Store for products that bring savings. Order free window insulation kits, showerheads and weatherization products.

Smart actions to stay

• Use space heaters safely. Make sure a space heater has an automatic shut-off, and keep children,

pets and all items at least assistance options. Among three feet away from it. A space heater that uses natural gas, propane or wood should be vented to the outside. Stoves and ovens should never be used for space heating.

• Test carbon monoxide (CO) and smoke alarms to make sure they work properly. Change batteries regularly. Alarms don't last forever, so replace them according to the manufacturer's instructions.

• Know the signs of CO poisoning. Early symptoms such as headache and fatigue are similar to the flu. but without a fever. Continued CO exposure can lead to more severe headaches, dizziness, nausea, difficulty thinking clearly and fainting. If everyone in a household is experiencing these symptoms, it could be CO poisoning. If someone suspects they could have CO poisoning, leave the area immediately, get fresh air

and call 911. • Smell gas? Act fast! Natural gas has a distinctive rotten egg smell. If anyone detects this odor, they should leave their location immediately without using electrical switches or phones. Once in a safe location, call 911 and Center-Point Energy.

Winter financial assistance resources and support available for customers

CenterPoint is dedicated to supporting customers who may have difficulty paying their energy bill. Throughout the year, but especially in the winter months when global energy prices and home heating costs are historically higher, please contact Center-Point for bill payment and

the many key programs and resources include:

• Cold Weather Rule payment plans. The Cold Weather Rule protects Minnesotan residential customers who are experiencing financial hardship from having their utility service disconnected between Oct. 1 and April 30 if they set up and maintain a payment plan. The payment agreement considers a customer's financial situation and any extenuating household circumstances. CenterPoint customers should call 800-245-2377 between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m., Monday - Friday to set up a payment agreement.

 Energy assistance. CenterPoint representatives can refer customers to resources such as Minnesota's Energy Assistance Program which provides financial assistance for heating costs and furnace repairs for income-eligible house-

• Flexible payment arrangements. CenterPoint customers can enroll in an Average Monthly Billing Plan, which spreads costs throughout the year to help manage periods of peak usage such as the winter heating season

 Energy efficiency resources. Rebates and programs are available to help customers improve home energy efficiency and lower their bills. For qualifying customers, programs may be available at no cost or a reduced rate.

To learn more about these programs and resources, visit Center-PointEnergy.com/PaymentAssistance.

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Horoscopes

ARIES - Mar 21/Apr 20

Your energy is contagious this week, Aries. Expect bursts of creativity and spontaneous fun to ensue. Perhaps an unexpected adventure will pop up? Take the lead in social situations. TAURUS - Apr 21/May 21 It might be a week for indulgence in the best ways possible, Taurus. Treat yourself to something delicious or cozy, and don't feel guilty about it. Patience will pay off in work projects.

GEMINI - May 22/Jun 21 Curiosity is your superpow-

er this week, Gemini. Choose a new hobby or explore a class at the community college. You might discover hidden talents or interests.

CANCER - Jun 22/Jul 22 Cancer, this is your week to shine emotionally. Reach out to friends or family who you haven't spoken with in a while. Small acts of kindness can come back to you in surprising ways.

LEO - Jul 23/Aug 23

It's time to hear that roar, Leo. Your charisma is unstoppable right now and you're ready to step into the spotlight. Share your ideas and achievements with anyone who will listen.

VIRGO - Aug 24/Sept 22 Your knack for organization is a ticket to smooth sailing this week, Virgo. A little planning goes a long way right now. However, don't forget to add some fun, too.

LIBRA - Sept 23/Oct 23 This week you may find yourself effortlessly charming all of those people around you, Libra. Social events or collaborations may

be particularly festive. SCORPIO - Oct 24/Nov 22 Scorpio, this week brings opportunities to dive in deep with something you are passionate about. Your intensity attracts attention, so embrace your magnetic personality.

SAGITTARIUS - Nov 23/Dec 21 Adventure is calling, Sagit-

tarius. Whether it's a small trip over the weekend or a new hobby, your week is packed with excitement and energy. Your optimism is contagious.

CAPRICORN - Dec 22/Jan 20

Determination and hard work this week will have personal or work projects moving along faster than expected. Remember to reward yourself along the

AQUARIUS - Jan 21/Feb

Aquarius, innovation is on your mind right now. Ideas and originality shine through in all you do. Expect some playful debates or spontaneous collaborations.

PISCES - Feb 19/Mar 20 It is alright to let your imagination run wild this week, Pisces. Creativity flows easily, and your intuition can guide you to some unexpected things along the way.

Did You Know That?

common sight in many households each December, and some historians believe this unique tradition can be traced to a creative nineteenth century German housewife. Though Britannica notes the precise origins of Advent calendars are still debated, one theory behind the popular tradition suggests a woman in

Advent calendars are a Munich created the Advent calendar as a way for her young and impatient yet excited son to count down the days to December 25th. Though details are fuzzy and difficult if not impossible to confirm, this legends suggests the crafty German mother filled 24 different small boxes with a baked treat, allowing her son to open one each day during

Advent, the nearly monthlong period of preparation for Christmas that begins on the fourth Sunday before the holiday and ends by Christmas Eve. While this origin story connects Advent calendars with Christianity, and many Christians still make it part of their Christmas celebrations, many modern people with no such affiliation also incorporate the calendars into their holiday season routines.

