Concert review: Ella Langley plays 'Choosin' Texas' and other hits for a sold-out Grand Casino Arena audience. **A2**



Gophers basketball: Men start their season with North Dakota at home tonight. **B1**

WNBA: Valkyries earn title in second season. **B4**

NHL: Kaprizov scores goal for his 500th career point as Wild beat Capitals 5-1. **B5**

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ST. PAUL PORT AUTHORITY

TIF districts back on tax rolls

The earlier-than-scheduled move brings $63M in additional value to city's tax base

By Frederick Melo
FMELO@PIONEERPRESS.COM

To spur investment in blighted, underutilized land, the St. Paul Port Authority acquires acres of industrial property throughout the city and resells it to private developers, with the goal of creating new office and light manufacturing centers.

The catch for taxpayers? Despite their increased value, the building improvements stay off property tax rolls for up to 26 years, a controversial incentive that draws private investment, new structures, new jobs and plenty of scorn from fiscal watchdogs.

Critics with the fiscal watchdog group Insight St. Paul have noted that more than 6% of the city's tax base is locked up in roughly 58 tax increment financing districts and urged the city to use tax increment financing more sparingly.

However, some officials say the silver lining — jobs and investment — just got even brighter.

The Port Authority announced on Friday that it plans to decertify three TIF districts by the end of 2026, each of them years ahead of schedule. Officials with the city's economic development authority hailed the pending de-certifications as a win for taxpayers, workers and the city as a whole.

See **TIF** on Page A8

Lions 19, Vikings 15

Loss in the Lions' den



Vikings quarterback Kyler Murray leaves the field after Detroit defeated Minnesota Sunday afternoon in Detroit. Murray's incomplete pass and the Vikings' subsequent punt allowed the Lions to run out the clock and send Minnesota to its first loss of the season. More in **Sports, Section B**. PAUL SANCYA — ASSOCIATED PRESS

MIDEAST

Iran hopes the U.S. shows 'rationality'

Israeli strikes on Gaza kill eight, including child

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Iran's top diplomat says he hopes there is "rationality" on the U.S. side as diplomatic efforts seek to avert a return to all-out war.

Meanwhile, Israeli strikes on Gaza killed eight people, including a young boy. And Qatar's national gas company said one of its vessels was struck in the Persian Gulf.

DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS ON STRAIT CONTINUE

The United Arab Emirates' presidential adviser said Sunday that his country hopes a diplomatic breakthrough in Qatar-led mediations is possible to avert a new round of confrontation between the U.S. and Iran.

The Iran war, which began on Feb. 28 with joint strikes by the U.S. and Israel followed by attacks by Iran on the Gulf nations, has made it "a watershed year" for the region and the world, UAE presidential adviser Anwar Gargash said at a security forum in Bahrain.

"We don't really want to see another round of confrontation in the region," Gargash told the audience at the Manama Dialogue, an annual security summit in Bahrain organized by the International Institute for Strategic Studies, or IISS, that brings together regional and international state,

See **MIDEAST** on Page A8

ISRAEL

Election officials: Last week's vote will stand

By Melanie Lidman
ASSOCIATED PRESS

TEL AVIV, Israel — Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's efforts to question last week's elections weakened Sunday as officials said the vote would not be undermined by the allegations and a court ordered suspects in one case released.

In an image that indicated officials were on the same page, the head of Israel's elections committee was shown sitting between Israel's attorney general and the head of the Shin Bet intelligence service for a statement making clear that even if claims of foreign interference raised last week are substantiated, the vote would stand.

Netanyahu's Likud party has said, without giving evidence, that Arab-led parties "stole" the elections in which Netanyahu's bloc lost its majority of seats in parliament. By casting doubt on the vote, Netanyahu appears to be trying to block any potential alliance in the opposition with the Arab parties that could force him from office.

See **ISRAEL** on Page A10



Police separate supporters of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, rear, from protesters calling for the formation of a Jewish-Arab coalition following Israel's general election in Tel Aviv, Israel, on Saturday. DAVID GOLDMAN — ASSOCIATED PRESS

AGRICULTURE

Trump makes $15B promise

Farm bailout offered ahead of midterms, as wars spike fuel costs

By Sarah Raza
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. — President Donald Trump's administration has made $15 billion worth of promises to agriculture producers in the last few weeks before the midterm elections, initiatives intended to help offset higher costs for diesel and fertilizer that farmers have endured largely due to his tariffs and the war in Iran.

Whether that will motivate more voters to turn out in agricultural states where traditionally Republican seats are now seen as competitive is unclear. It may explain his increased attention on rural areas, including visits Sunday to Iowa and Kansas, two days before the election.

WHOM THESE EFFORTS WILL HELP

Besides the more than $15 billion worth of payments and initiatives announced by Trump's Department of Agriculture, the agency plans $13.8 billion in safety net program payments for eligible producers for the 2025 crop year, offsetting shortfalls for farmers who grow key crops such as corn, soybeans, wheat and rice.

See **PAYMENT** on Page A8

BUSINESS

Carney reports U.S. trade talks

Canadian P.M., Trump work toward deal amid 50% tariffs from U.S.

By Rob Gillies
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney said Sunday he had a constructive conversation with U.S. President Donald Trump about a potential trade deal. Negotiators will work toward an agreement in the coming weeks as the countries seek to resolve their bitter trade dispute.

Trump subsequently said both sides had "the concept" of a mutually beneficial deal.

Carney said the conversation built on recent discussions about the outlines of a deal that would create jobs, lower costs for families and protect Canada's languages, culture and sovereignty.

"Our teams will now be working in the coming weeks to deliver that outcome," Carney wrote on social media.

See **CANADA** on Page A8

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SECTION B Sports, Weather

WEATHER FORECAST

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Full weather report on B6

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