



Compostings

by Al Batt

Counting all of the Mississippis

ECHOES FROM THE LOAFERS' CLUB MEETING

You can learn a lot about someone by what they complain about.

Yeah? What do you know about me?

Everything.

DRIVING BY BRUCE'S DRIVE

I have a wonderful neighbor named Bruce. Deep thoughts occur as I drive past his drive. It's that time of the year when I can't get there from here because of roadwork and floods, but I enjoyed visiting with Lester Perschbacher of Albert Lea. He is a Minnesota Dairy Herd Improvement Association milk tester and has been Lester the Tester for 68 years. When I asked him if he'd ever retire, Lester had a one-word answer, "Why?"

A friend told me he doesn't enjoy watching baseball because the games last too long. I enjoy the leisurely pace of a game and the lack of the constant irritating noise and flash that accompanies NBA and NFL games. I didn't ask him how he felt about the length of presidential elections. It's Excedrin headache 2024. It'd help if all candidates were required to be hooked up to a polygraph before speaking to the public or debating. Why does the election have to last over four years (or is it 40)? Couldn't it be shorter? Of course, it could, but it's a cash cow for many. Money spent on advertising alone would keep us all in mashed potatoes and gravy. There is no place with more fake news than election ads. "Liar Liar" is a 1997 comedy film starring Jim Carrey as a lawyer who built a career on lying but is cursed to speak only the truth for one day. That made him unfit for the political arena for a single day. Don't bother to argue politics with anyone. The person you're arguing with will always be wrong. Enough about politics. All we need now is more pitchers tossing complete games.

I WAS WRONG

I heard distant thunder. I'd been told to count the seconds between lightning and thunder to determine a storm's distance from my location. "One Mississippi, two Mississippi, three Mississippi." The storm is three miles away. I was wrong. There was a time when a man could be anything he wanted to be except admitting to being wrong. It's probably still that way. It takes roughly five seconds for the sound of thunder to travel one mile. If you see a flash of lightning and count 10 seconds until you hear the thunder, you need to divide by five to determine that this storm is roughly two miles away. Typically, thunder can be heard up to 10 miles away. Since light travels at 186,000 miles per second, we see lightning the instant it flashes.

I'VE LEARNED

Never spend more than one dollar for a bookmark. You could use

a dollar bill as a bookmark instead. The old you is younger than the new you.

It's time to turn down the air conditioning when it begins to snow in the living room.

Butt-dialing was more difficult with rotary phones.

BAD JOKES DEPARTMENT

The state trooper pulled over a pickup filled with three older fellows. The truck had been moving at the glacial pace of 13 mph. When asked why he was driving so slowly, the driver said he was going the speed limit as posted on a sign. The officer told him the sign showed they were on Highway 13. The trooper said, "What's wrong with your passengers? They look unwell."

"Oh, we just got off 136."

In local news

I hope to see you at the Friends of the New Richland Public Library Book Sale at the Library on the morning of July 6.

It's not true that it was a mere piggy bank when she began working for Farmers State Bank (now Arcadian) in Hartland. What is true is that she was always welcoming, helpful and caring. Cindy Recknor has retired. Happy trails.

Farewell to my friend Dale Berg, a graduate of the local school. Information about Dale can be found on the Facebook page of the Arlington Heights American Legion Post 208.

NATURE NOTES

The melancholy "hula, hoop, hoop, hoop" is the wistful song that gave the mourning dove its name. Pigeons and doves suck water through their beaks like a straw, instead of tilting their heads back to let gravity work. Both parents feed chicks pigeon milk—a nutrient-rich substance secreted by the crop and regurgitated as a meal.

There were flying TVs—turkey vultures overhead as I walked in woods where ticks, mosquitoes and deer flies were my grizzly bears. I strolled around a lake. A fellow told me that 95% of mosquitoes come from 5% of the water. Temporary water and changing water levels make for prime breeding habitats for many mosquitoes. Dragonflies, as larvae and adults, feed on mosquitoes. Go dragonflies!

Tiny white, frothy blobs were on various plants. They were produced by the nymphs of spittlebugs, and the "spit" keeps the nymph from drying out and discourages predators. Adult spittlebugs, sometimes called froghoppers, resemble leafhoppers. They're called froghoppers because their heads are elevated when at rest. Spittlebugs provide food for meadowlarks and other birds.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There are angels on earth. They are the ones who listen attentively to another. Be kind.

Hoping my loon imitation was helpful

My mother-in-law has been a resident of a local "skilled care nursing facility" since February. A few days ago, I got a text inviting me to a picnic in the park. The members of the activity committee had put plans together months ago to have a few off-site summer events for those residents who wished to take part. Somehow, they had managed to select one of the most pleasant days we have had in weeks. It was warm but not hot, partly cloudy but not raining and the light breeze was just right for keeping bugs away, but not so strong it would launch people's plates into the air.

Twelve residents had joined the party—most were in wheelchairs, so the SMART bus line had been used for transportation: that lift at the back was very helpful. So was the driver, who helped get everyone on and off.

We enjoyed a pleasant lunch that included pistachio salad, fried chicken, potato chips and—the proverbial icing on the cake—ice cream sundaes. I was deeply impressed with the planning and preparation work which was done for the sake of bringing some extra variety and enjoyment to the residents' schedules.

After everyone had eaten, there was a bit of extra time before the



In My Humble Opinion

by Deb Bently

SMART bus was scheduled to return. We found some jokes to share. Hoping to be helpful, I performed my loon imitation. One of my nephews showed me how to do it a long time ago. You interlock your hands in a way that leaves your thumbs toward your face, sitting in close alignment side by side. Maybe once, long ago, you learned how to make a whistle by squeezing a blade of grass between your thumbs and blowing across it. Well, that's the position you need, but no blade of grass.

Depending on how good a seal you get when your hands are interlocked, you get a fairly decent imitation of the loon's gentle wail when you blow into the high end of the space between your thumbs. Once you get that deep whistle going, you change the pitch of the sound by moving the middle finger, ring finger and pinky at the back of your clasped

hands. You "open" the back side of the closed hands and then rapidly close it again; that gives the lilting effect which can make a loon call seem so mournful.

If you don't get any sort of whistling sound when you interlock your hands, try again after getting your hands wet. I have much better luck accomplishing the effect when I've dipped my hands in water. If you still can't get a sound, ask a child. For some reason, potentially irritating sounds come much more easily to children.

I know of two other "loon calls." One is a nearly-flat disk about 8 inches in diameter suspended between some ropes. You twist the ropes and then pull on some handles mounted on the ends; as the disk spins and changes directions, it emits a whistle very similar to a loon's call. I have seen these at various stores,

especially up north. Speaking of children and irritating noises, children seem to continue to appreciate the physical activity and the sounds of these novelty items much longer than adults do. Share with care!

There are also some fancy whistle-like devices which emit a loon-like sound. Like the one you make using your hands, these require a bit of practice to be somewhat convincing. The ones I have seen also tend to be handcrafted and a bit more expensive than the toy described in the previous paragraph. Let me put it this way, cheapskates like myself are only likely to buy them at garage sales.

Finally, while it's fun and challenging to try imitating the sound of a loon, the best way to experience it is to hear the real thing. Here's hoping you get a chance to sometime soon!

Back at the picnic, some people figured out right away that I was imitating a loon. Some guessed mourning dove—not such a bad guess, really. I have had lengthy exchanges with mourning doves by making slight changes to the way I use that mournful whistle. I was just glad I had a "stupid human trick" that could provide a few moments of entertainment.

Will July offer more rain? Or higher temps?

Finally, July. While June was an incredibly wet month, I learned this week that it wasn't necessarily anything out of the ordinary, and not even near the amount of rain that was considered the most rainy a June could be. There are records going back a very long time showing that 1910 is one of the driest years on record, while 1911 is one of the wettest years. Weather is so unpredictable.

The reason I learned this was because one of the Minnesota Daily reporters did a podcast about how unusual the weather seems this year and talked to some experts from the DNR. It was interesting to learn about it, but the reporter talked about how the farmers were getting a relief this year from last year's drought; I was thinking of how everything is so flooded now, it probably harmed the farmers more than helped them. But then again, I haven't been home to



To Be Determined

by Amelia Roessler

Waseca in a while, and when I am home, it usually is just for the day or the night and I don't have the chance to look around and really see how things are.

But I bring this up because I wonder what the weather of July is going to be. More rain? Is the real heat of the summer going to roll in and slowly make us pant and sweat? Hopefully it will be nice, I still have to work on my summer tan.

One very nice part about working only in the evening is that I get the whole day to decide whether I want

to venture out into the sun or not. Sometimes, obviously, it isn't worth it because it is rainy or cloudy and the weather is not favorable. It's wonderful, though, knowing I have so many options. I might just go outside and relax in the hammock...or read...or go for a nice stroll in the sun. It feels to be so unencumbered.

The past few summers, most of my workday was spent inside and while I did not mind that, it meant I was unable to get a nice summer tan going. My sister, on the other hand, spends her summers nannying and

had been able to get plenty of sun to outshine my pale skin. I used to joke that we didn't look like sisters anymore. But not this summer.

I originally planned to get some quality sun time during this Fourth of July, but after checking the weather, that doesn't seem like much of an option anymore. Seems these past couple of years it has not been great weather for the summer holiday, but no fear, the fun will not disappear with the sun. People will still be able to spend quality boat time on the lake, just probably for not as long is my guess. We will see if I predicted correctly or if the weather will once again pull a fast one on all of us. God bless the weather.

My Determination: "A woman, especially if she should have the misfortune of knowing anything, should conceal it as well as she can." — Jane Austen, Northanger Abbey

A look at the future of journalism

The following topic of conversation was talked about at length last week during the Page One Awards in St. Paul.

As a young journalist, I have many thoughts on the future of this industry. I think local journalism will continue to be trusted in small communities. The question of readership and advertising income is generally the largest concern. I expect to have the answer to the readership question in about 10 years. Right now our readership has stayed the same or grown since I purchased the Star Eagle and started the Waseca County Pioneer two years ago. When this generation which reads the newspaper, the Boomer generation, starts to pass away, will the following generations pick up their subscriptions?

When businesses are passed from one generation to the next, will those new business owners continue to support their local press?

Will businesses even find someone to take over their business?

The Illinois state government recently passed a law which will subsidize the pay for reporters writing for local publications, up to \$25,000. In addition, if the owner of a small-town paper wants to sell it, they must first offer the business for sale locally, or



STAR GAZING

by Eli Lutgens

to anyone in the state for up to a year before selling out to a large conglomerate.

I think this is a great step.

I sometimes say I think newspapers may end up similar to a library. It will not surprise me if the state starts supplementing newsrooms similar to farming or other fields. Simply, there is no one else recording the history of these various small towns the way we do. Facebook is great for posting pictures and sharing events, but it does not serve the purpose a newspaper does. It does not employ writers who have lifetimes of experience writing and recording people's stories.

I do have confidence that the small towns in our community will continue to support my local publications. If readers in the next generation don't find value in subscribing to the paper, then publications will have to find another way to continue operating.

On to this week

On Saturday I attended the wedding of my cousin Morgan Besser to Devin Stankiewicz. The day went swimmingly and I'm grateful I was able to attend. I had three other obligations that day which I was fortunate enough to find other writers/reporters to cover in my absence.

The wedding itself was held at Faith United Church positioned along Waseca's Clear Lake. It was not my first time in the building, but my first time attending in the main hall. As numerous attendees noted, it was a brisk 25 minute wedding. My favorite part were the vows. Devin and Morgan did a fantastic job of expressing their feelings for one another.

The reception was held at the Mill and featured very good company. Congratulations to the happy couple.

In between the wedding and the reception, I found myself with about an

hour and a half of free time. I visited my mother and grandfather. For those who don't know, my grandpa Ray Rosacker is in hospice care and my mother has been staying with him. Caring for the members of the previous generation as they age has been a task many people have been willing to take on; I'm grateful my mother is there for him.

Thank you to folks for the many kind words shared with me over the past weeks.

I was also able to surprise my sister, her fiancé and my niece Aria with a visit. That was lovely.

Here at the newspaper, we had an early deadline for our publications this week: The midweek holiday threw a wrench in our schedules. I can happily report, as of 12:10 a.m. Tuesday, everything is moving as (re)scheduled.

I, as I hope many readers are, am looking forward to a busy two weeks of fair season. I hope to see many familiar, smiling faces in the coming weeks.

"You will enrich your life immeasurably if you approach it with a sense of wonder and discovery, and always challenge yourself to try new things."

from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

There will be a car roll-in, live music, vendors, and food trucks. The event will take place in the lot downtown behind Refinery 507.

CredibleMind offers free mental health resources

All area residents are eligible to use free online access to mental health resources available at MNPrairie's "CredibleMind" website. The site offers interactive, evidence-based ways to explore local and national mental well-being resources. Free and anonymous at www.mnprairie-crediblemind.com

Briefs

from Page 1

and-greet. Learn More Sessions start at 10 AM, 1 PM, and 4 PM

Tickets: \$30 (General Admission) | \$25 (Passholders)

August 8: Taste of Time

Experience Taste of Time: A progressive Farm to Fork experience. Sit back and unwind as you ride a tram around our Time Lane trail. Enjoy food and drinks at each unique historic site. Learn More.

Check-in at 6 PM or 6:45 PM
Tickets: \$100 (Advance) | \$125 (Door) | \$75 (Passholders)

Fellowship of Christian Athletes Junior Sports Camp July 30 - August 1

Young athletes in grades 3 to 8 can take part in a Christian-centered camp which has them concentrate on one sport each of the three days of the camp, Tuesday through Thursday, July 30 to August 1. Registration is \$60 per camper, with scholarships and generous family discounts available. More information and registration are

at minnesotafca.org/waseca-jsc.

Waseca Farmers Market Saturdays from 8 a.m. until noon

Every Saturday until the fall season the Waseca County Fair Grounds will be hosting a farmers market from 8 a.m. until noon.

Happy Days in Waseca 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. August 10

Happy Days in Waseca, an event aiming to bring more community to Waseca is taking place August 10



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ELI LUTGENS Publisher

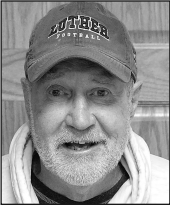
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SUBSCRIPTION RATES

\$59 Per Year, Waseca County Residents

\$69 State of Minnesota • \$79 Outside Minnesota

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Bits and Pieces

by Dave Zika



Waseca’s Northeast Park has something for everyone

June 20 was the first official day of summer. Under the rules of the season, one thing every resident—young or old—must do is spend quality time in a city park. Waseca is truly blessed; we have several beautiful, well maintained parks located all throughout our town.

My definition of a city park goes something like this: “An open space set apart for recreation in the outdoors; a safe place for every user and the general public.”

If the space is something special to the eye, it will attract families, encourage home buyers and appeal to those seeking a congenial lifestyle in their retirement. Me, I’m fortunate enough to have just such a space right across from my home. Northeast Park is world class.

I consistently see people enjoying the opportunities to go for a stroll or simply appreciating nature. The park has three different ponds which are home to cattails, ornamental grasses, flowers, birds, frogs, turtles, rabbits, insects and many more pleasant features of a natural setting.

There is a variety of well-groomed trees and gardens with native prairie plants. A huge wooden sign reads “A cooperative project between the City of Waseca and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.” Several young trees have been dedicated by families in memory of loved ones who have passed away.

There are interconnected paved trails leading to different areas in the park. Every day, I enjoy watching people walking the trails for exercise, usually early in the morning to beat the heat. Many times, people are walking in pairs, apparently enjoying some friendly conversation. The park has a station where bags for pet waste are available; people are really good at picking up after their dogs—whether grabbing one of the offered bags or having brought one of their own.

As each day heats up, I can observe families walking with towels heading for the cooling waters of the city waterpark. Small groups and pairs of young people on bikes also zip down the paved pathways headed for fun and camaraderie at the pool.

The park features a great soccer field with benches and bleachers for parents. The field gets a great deal of use from both young and older, more experienced players.

A fantastic baseball complex sits in the northeast corner; I’ve seen it used by players of all ages. There have been a number of summer softball tournaments there.

Also available is an area with sand and official volleyball nets. There are two paved basketball courts; both have a basket at each end with great, fiberglass backboards. I believe everyone in Waseca is familiar with the waterpark—a great place to hang out on those hot, humid, 90-degree days of summer.

If you haven’t visited Waseca’s Northeast park, you must see what this wonderful space offers; one way to find it is to come down the street behind Suburban Furniture. The parking lot is huge and offers convenient handicapped-accessible parking.

There is a really nice pavilion that can accommodate large numbers of people. There are tables, charcoal grills, trash cans and convenient restrooms. The playground is updated for today’s young people: The number of slides, climbing walls, ropes, and et cetera is absolutely amazing. The entire area is groomed with chips and walkways—it’s possible to have fun there even in the rain. No mud.

The park does have rules. I took a moment to read the list of prohibited activities, which included bringing beverages in glass containers, firing fireworks, driving golf balls, or using bows and arrows. A very considerate sign even warns those using the parking lot that the area is “subject to foul balls.” The park is groomed and mowed by our city. From what I’ve seen, the workers make sure everything is in top shape every morning.

The park is a wonderful place to host a birthday party for anyone from 9 months to 90 years old. It would be an ideal venue for a family reunion, also a great place for an impromptu afternoon with the grandchildren. You could maybe fly a kite with your 10-year-old or find a shady spot to sit on a bench and enjoy reading a book while also appreciating the summer breeze.

Our city does a wonderful job maintaining the park, and has worked hard to offer a great outdoor facility which has attractions for anyone and everyone. I encourage you to check it out, use it, and enjoy it.

I know you won’t be disappointed.

Kiesler’s escapes damage during recent flooding

By BEN REVERMANN
Contributing writer

At the southeast edge of Clear Lake off Old Highway 14 in Waseca is Kiesler’s Campground and RV Resort. First started by Kal and Barb Kiesler in 1972, it was passed on to their children, Steve and Belinda Kiesler, and has since been handed down to Kristi Corchran, with a lifetime of training in the camping industry and proud to say she’s the third generation of her family to be leading the campground.

With record rainfall this year it’s easy to imagine Kiesler’s Campground has had damage to the park. “But” said owner Kristi, “We’ve been very fortunate to not have been affected more. We’ve invested time and effort into our drainage throughout our campground so there’s been no standing water. There have been a few campsites that have been soggy or spongy but that’s a quick fix.”

With the storms and rising waters, some people in the Waseca area have lost their docks or boats. But Kiesler’s has been ahead of the weather. Not a single dock or boat has been taken out of place. Said Kristi proudly of their success, “We’re in the weather business.” They know what they’re doing. Despite her good fortune and luck with the weather, Kristi said, “Our hearts go out to anyone in the Waseca area still repairing or still affected by the weather.”

But if the rain ruins a day of outdoor adven-



Kiesler’s Campground in Waseca offers many forms of recreation. The business was mostly unharmed by recent flooding. Pioneer photo by Ben Revermann

ture, there are still many options for campers. Kristi explains Kiesler’s has a system of moving activities into their large recreation hall where a new activity is announced every thirty minutes all day. There’s also an arcade, scheduled live bands, things like bingo, crafts for kids, a game called “musical beach towels” and a coloring contest. The heated pool is also kept open in the rain

because it has a constant temperature of 82 degrees. Kristi mentions the pool must close if there is lightning, “But the kids do like swimming in the rain.” There is also a kiddie pool for smaller children.

For days of sunshine there’s a basketball court, a volleyball court, two separate playgrounds and an RC track for remote controlled cars. Horseshoes and shuffleboard are also enduring standards. KC, the Kiesler’s mascot, is a smiling pine tree. He has an ice cream store called KC’s Treat House.

There is also KC’s Camp Store with everything from last-minute grocery items, candy,

or the campground’s own clothing line, hoodies, t-shirts and long-sleeved shirts all decorated with the Kiesler’s logo.

Kristi mentions that the location in between a lake and marsh can bring the little biting pests who just love to pay the campers a visit. To help with that, the business brings a profession company in to spray once a week when the bugs are bad, and every other week when they’re not.

Looking at the Kiesler docks there are 30 boats for campers all located on private docks. On site, there are 350 campsites, 260 of which are seasonal—meaning owners leave their campers there all through the warmer weather, removing them only in winter. That leaves 90 campsites available for overnight or weekend camping.

Kiesler’s opens the last week in April and closes the first weekend in October. The majority of the facilities are open to Kiesler’s campground campers only; Mini-Golf is open to the public at \$5.00 per person.

■ Wright from Page 1

While all of that is easy to summarize, she observes, it entails many, many phone calls, and the collection of many, many numbers. It can take months or even more than a year for post-emergency reconstruction to be completed and reimbursement to take place.

When she is not dealing with emergencies, Wright explains her job is to help assure steps are taken to be prepared in case an emergency arises.

The description of her job, she says, is to be informed about and prepared for “natural and man-made

disasters” of all types.

“I spend the majority of my time behind the scenes planning and preparing,” she says. This includes attending informational sessions and keeping abreast of the newest information. It also means planning events which help people within Waseca County be informed and prepared.

Over time, a hundred or more people have taken the course to become members of the county’s community emergency response team (CERT): About 30 people remain active members who regularly attend on-going training. An example of these is coming up on July 9, when there will be a practice search and rescue event.

Also helping with community safety is a team of more than 20

“Skywarn” trained spotters. These individuals have attended courses to help them predict whether approaching clouds and cloud formations constitute dangerous severe weather such as hail, straight line winds and tornados. They stand prepared to position themselves throughout the county whenever a severe weather “watch” is issued. Classes to become a trained spotter, Wright mentions, are offered for free to the public every March.

Wright herself is something of a walking encyclopedia when it comes to disaster preparedness. “I want everyone to be as prepared and as safe as they can be,” she states.

Another part of her job is to review and update the “all hazard mitigation plan” for Waseca County. Because the plan is expected to provide infor-

mation about any type of large-scale threat the region might experience, and because if the large-scale threat is not listed, it won’t be eligible for reimbursement in the case of an occurrence, the list is rather thorough. Among the natural events on Waseca County’s list are wildfire, drought, flooding, severe winter and severe summer weather, and earthquakes.

“That last one sounds odd, I know,” Wright admits. “But there are parts of Minnesota which have been affected by earthquakes.

“Disasters don’t have a specific time frame; there’s nothing a typical individual can do to stop or prevent one.

“But we can look for ways to be prepared.”

■ F&C Days from Page 1

Broadway
9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friends of the library book sale at the library from 9 a.m. to noon.
9 a.m. 3 person golf tournament at Riverview Golf Course
9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Cow pie bingo at Neighbor’s Meats
10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Paint a rock on S. Broadway
10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Plant a seed on S. Broadway
10 a.m. to 4 p.m. NR Area Historical society display

10:30 a.m. Kiddie Parade at Care Center, free pizza on stage in city park
10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. KID ZONE at city park including bounce houses, concessions, petting zoo and mini golf.
11 a.m. Speaker Sherly Baker at NR Area Food Shelf building
11 a.m. Caricatures by Casey on S. Broadway
Noon to 3 p.m. Dunk tank on S. Broadway
1 p.m. St. Olaf Brewing company tasting
2 p.m. Adult blow up races at city park
2:30 p.m. Kid power pedal tractor pull ages 4-11
8 p.m. until midnight Street dance

featuring Top Shelf Band

On Sunday winning button numbers are drawn following a community worship at the park at 10 a.m. Water wars is set for noon. Bingo is the final event at 1 p.m.

Farm and City Days buttons are \$5 and are available at many New Richland businesses. Buttons give you discounted breakfast on Saturday, free admission to the Saturday night

street dance and a chance to win prizes up to \$200.

“We appreciate all the sponsors for the events,” said Farm & City Days committee member SaraJo Vulcan, “We appreciate the effort everyone puts into Farm & City Days, and we look forward to a great weekend.”

See Page 8 for a full schedule for Farm & City Days events.

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OBITUARIES

Eugene Knutson

Eugene Raymond Knutson of Owatonna, Minnesota, died of Alzheimer's Disease on Tuesday, June 25, at Owatonna's Birchwood Cottages. He was 80 years, 11 months, and 14 days old.

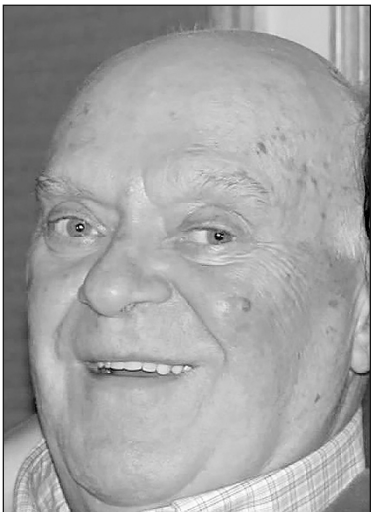
Gene was preceded in death by his parents, Virgie (Sandeen) and Raymond Knutson, brother Roland Knutson, Sisters Corrine Clarkin, Margaret Lucht and Carole Knutson.

Eugene was born on July 11, 1943, to Virgie and Raymond Knutson. He lived in rural Nicollet County and graduated from Gaylord High School in 1961. He moved to St. Peter after his father's death in 1961. He is well known for his decades-long employment with St. Clair's Mens Clothing Stores in both Waseca and Owatonna; he retired in 2015 when the Owatonna store closed.

Gene was a kind and gentle soul. He loved flowers, listening to music, and watching HGTV.

Gene had a gift of calming every baby he ever held. He enjoyed visiting his family and his adopted family: at the Dick and Julie Battig home, he was lovingly called "Uncle Gene."

Among those blessed by his memory are the Battig and Ka-



Eugene Knutson

luza families, Ruth Clarkin, other nieces, nephews, and friends.

Condolences can be sent to: Dick and Julie Battig, 29705 Island Lake Rd, St. Joseph, MN 56374.

Memorials can be sent to: Alzheimer's Association, 12701 Whitewater Drive, Minnetonka, MN 55343.

All are welcome to a gathering of family and friends which will take place at 11:30 a.m. at Norseland Lutheran Church, west of St. Peter at 3777 Minnesota Hwy 22, St. Peter. Interment will be afterward in the church cemetery.

Joan Evenson

JOAN KAREE (McCARTHY) EVENSON, age 84 of Waseca, died on Sunday, June 30, 2024 at Foxdale Memory Care in Waseca.

Joan was born in Waseca on December 27, 1939 to parents Robert Manly and Signa Marie (Johnson) McCarthy. She attended school in Waseca and graduated from Waseca High School with the class of 1957. On a very cold December 29th, 1962, she was married to Charles Arthur Evenson at the "Little Brown Church" in Nashua, IA. She worked at the E.F. Johnson company in Waseca for a time, then in 1981 Joan earned her broker's license to work

in real estate. In 1996, Joan and Charlie moved to their home of 21 more years between Hackensack and Longville in north-central Minnesota where they both continued working. After a very successful 30 years in the real estate business both she and Charlie retired, and in 2017 they returned to Waseca together. Joan enjoyed reading, was a former member at St. John Lutheran in Waseca, and was a current member of Grace Lutheran Church in Waseca.

Joan is survived by her husband, Charles of Waseca; three children, Stacey Evenson of Waseca, Sheila Eberline of Brainerd, and Todd Evenson of Hackensack; one grand-

daughter, Camryn Eberline of Maryland; and one sister, Kathleen Porter of Luther, OK. She was preceded in death by both of her parents.

Funeral services will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, July 5, 2024 at the State Street Chapel of Dennis-Steffel-Omtvedt Funeral and Cremation Service in Waseca, with Rev. Jillene Gallatin officiating. Visitation will be held for one hour before the service at the funeral home. Interment will follow at Woodville Cemetery in Waseca. dsfuneral.com
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Joan Evenson

TNT Fireworks opens, closes across 19 days

By BEN REVERMANN
Contributing writer

Sandwiched between O'Reilly's Auto Parts and Burger King along Highway 13 near the north end of Waseca, a brightly decorated tent offered TNT fireworks for the 16 days between June 19 and July 4.

Although she chooses not to name any numbers, manager Ruby Lunar says her stand does brisk business, rivaling sales at similar stands located in Faribault, Owatonna, Faribault and Mankato.

Lunar explains the state of Minnesota imposes numerous standards regarding the sales of fireworks. For one thing, items that make a whistling or exploding noise cannot legally be sold here. For another, stands like hers can operate only if someone who has completed lengthy required training in safe procedures is present; In the case of Waseca's stand, this meant she had to be personally present during all hours of operation, which were from 10:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Lunar, a Wasecan, has been managing the stand for the past seven years. Helping her for the relatively brief span of operation each year are her husband Frank and her adult daughters and grandchildren.

Clearly, things move rather fast: TNT, located in Alabama, makes many of the initial preparations including the required permits, acquiring and setting up the tent, and arranging for delivery of product as the stand opens in June and pickup of any product remaining in inventory as the stand closes.



According to manager Ruby Lunar, the Waseca TNT fireworks tent "holds its own" compared to similar businesses in nearby towns. Pioneer photo by Ben Revermann

Local operations are Ruby's responsibility, including safe handling of all fireworks, merchandising, sales, and both unpacking the product when it's delivered and repacking it when it must be picked up.

Security is essential. Every night, Ruby and Frank must lock everything up and tie everything down.

Ruby observed that the storms and flooding this year interfered somewhat with smooth operations, but mentioned that if her stand runs out of merchandise, TNT Fireworks can place emergency orders that can either be delivered or picked up from the company's warehouse in Plymouth, Minn.--often within a single day.

Said Ruby, "We don't usually run out of the little sparkly novelty items; it's the big stuff people like to buy. Those go fast and that's what we have to reorder."

TNT Fireworks was begun in Florence, Alabama in 1920 by a man named Clyde W.

Anderson, who sold fireworks at his newspaper stand. TNT is actually an abbreviation of the lengthy chemical name "Trinitrotoluene." An online source explains TNT is a pale yellow,

solid organic nitrogen compound used chiefly as an explosive.

The TNT company offers a discount to veterans. It happens that Frank Lunar is retired Navy, having served from 1995 to 2018; Frank reportedly has a history of putting himself in the line of fire.

He served long term on three Navy submarines, the USS Nebraska, USS Kentucky and USS Ohio. "Once," both husband and wife recalled, "my husband called to tell me to buy a ticket

to Hawaii because his submarine had pulled in there." But by the time Ruby found an airline ticket, Frank's sub had already left. Ruby shrugged and said, "That's just how it is sometimes."

In memory



The Waseca County Highway department recently erected a memorial to Brian Sommers, a local dairy farmer who worked for the department prior to his death this spring. Pioneer photo by Deb Bently

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The Friendship Wagon Train completed its 2024 journey in Good Thunder on June 29. The celebration there included a final ceremony, auction, live music and a beer tent.

Friendship Wagon Train makes stop in Waldorf

More than \$25,000 raised for Special Olympics

JANESVILLE JOURNAL - The town of Waldorf, Minnesota made the most of the Friendship Wagon Train's arrival on Wednesday, June 26. The Friendship Wagon Train is a brigade of horse-drawn carriages, some in an appreciable classic style and others custom made with modern accoutrement, that has traveled across Minnesota for thirty-six years. Their journey began in Rochester, and, despite the tempest that had surprisingly submerged Minnesota the week

prior, had made the, roughly, seventy-mile trek to Waldorf safely under the leadership of John and Monica Davis. The Friendship Wagon Train isn't only an opportunity for volunteers to experience a way of travel that hasn't been common in America for nearly 100 years, but also an opportunity to raise money for a cause that helps everyone compete to be the best they can be; the Special Olympics.

Davis and the Train had traveled 28 miles to Waldorf from

Hope when they set up camp outside the grain elevator. The people of Waldorf, and anyone interested in seeing the Friendship Wagon Train, were invited to visit the camp to learn about the wagons, buy a souvenir, and maybe pet the horses. They would even accept donations from anyone who would like to support the cause. In support and welcome, the Waldorf fire department organized a dinner for the wagoners. It was a wonderful evening for an outdoor dinner,



The Friendship Wagon Train made an overnight stay in Waldorf on June 26 during its annual fundraising trip which took place from June 22 to 29. Here, one of its units is shown with the Waldorf water tower in the background.

and the Friendship Wagon Train's night may have been made better by the \$19,500 they had raised for the Special Olympic at that point. John Davis says they are well on track to reach \$25,000, a past record, but \$30,000 may be a reachable goal. The Friendship Wagon Train rested in Waldorf for the night and planned to travel 15 miles to Mapleton the next day. They concluded their journey in Good Thunder on June, 29 with a final ceremony featuring an auction, music, and a beer tent.

Community members and the town of Waldorf banded together to bring music to the arrival of the Friendship Wagon Train. Papa Olie's hosted Los Tequileros, a band based in Waseca who have a great playlist of music to spend a summer evening to, outside the front door. There wasn't much seating available, but the motley audience on lawn chairs had plenty of room to grow; the people watching the performance numbered well over forty. Well in range of the music, and in view of

the grain elevator, Papa Olie's volleyball courts were in competitive use. Three volleyball games were being played and had some impressive serves darting through the air. Los Tequileros began their performance at six and played until nine o'clock in the evening, and the people in attendance surely enjoyed every minute. Waldorf's efforts to make the most of a Wednesday yielded wonderful results.



The Pastor's Column

He has a plan and purpose

By PASTOR KEN ANDRS

Welp, it stopped raining, it is time to mow the lawn again. I think I say this every week. Unfortunately, my lawn needs to be mowed more than once a week. We went through two gallons of gas mowing the lawn in June, I will get more gas and mow again on the 4th or 5th, whenever the rain stops.

I noticed something this year though, I am more out of shape than I thought. I purposed this spring to lose some weight and get back into shape when I coached track, but the only shape in my life right now is rounder than it needs to be. I went to football camp this year with a knee that didn't bend and used more ice than any of the kids. Now I am home, and the lawn doesn't mow itself, no matter the temperature I sweat through a t-shirt and need to stop for more breaks than in years past. Some would say I am getting old, but the beard betrays me and tells me I am old.

In my heart, I still consider myself a youth. God still has a purpose for this body. Moses didn't start having kids until he was 40 and led the people of Israel out of Egypt after he turned 80. God isn't down with us at a certain age, rather He is just getting started with us today. He has a plan and purpose to teach, guide, grow us into people that will do His will. God is not done with us yet!

Mowing my lawn reminds

me that even when I tire, God is still at work and He has a purpose for me. I recall the promise that God has for those called according to His purpose in Isaiah 40. Perhaps it is a favorite verse of yours.

29 He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might He increases strength. 30 Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; 31 but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

God was speaking to the young people of Israel who had been called back to Jerusalem by Ezra from exile in Babylon to rebuild the temple and strengthen the town. Many people did not head the call of God, but He gave them this promise for their obedience. He called for them to wait upon the Lord in their struggle, let's clarify that a bit, God told them to put their hope in Him.

God did not change how difficult the task would be, rather He promised that He would renew their strength. We put our hope and faith in a God that gives us the strength for the task He has called us to do. He becomes the one that sustains our life and allows us to soar, do you have faith to trust His plan to lift you up? Are you lacking stamina to continue the race? Put your faith in God's plan and walk in His path, even if you can no longer run.

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‘Bringing it back’

New exhibit on display at WCHS

From June 18 through August 30 the Waseca County Historical Society will be featuring a new exhibit on Teen culture in the 1950s and ‘60s, titled “Bringing it Back.”

The exhibit will be open Tuesdays through Fridays from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. at 315 Second Ave. NE in Waseca.

“Discover the vibrant world of poodle skirts, jukeboxes, Carl’s Hamburger Shop, and rock ‘n’ roll!” A news release from the WCHS stated. “From the birth of teenage culture to the rise of

iconic fashion and music, this exhibit is a nostalgic journey through two of the most transformative decades in American history.”

On display will be authentic 1950s and ‘60s memorabilia from Waseca County, a prom photo booth, a map of the local “lovers’ lanes” during that time period, vintage fashion and music, 4H and Girl and Boy Scout memories, and sports memorabilia and a whole table FULL of Waseca County Yearbooks for you to peruse!

Waseca Honor Roll

Seventh-graders named to Waseca schools A honor roll

Last	First	Gr
Beltran	Hector	7
Berge	Abigayle	7
Butler	Brayden	7
Clark	Makayla	7
Driessen	Shylo	7
Dufault	Nolan	7
Durisen	Jack	7
Farley	Gavin	7
Hagen	Chloe	7
Haley	David	7
Harguth	Nicholas	7
Harwood	Ethan	7
Howe	Dalisaya	7
Jansen	Kennedi	7
Jarrett	Abbigail	7
Linnes	Ella	7
Maas	Ahvah	7
Mansfield	Dominik	7
Miller	Ava	7
Miller	Kenna	7
Neidecker	Jordan	7
Nelson	Braxton	7
Partain	Wyatt	7
Peterson	Macy	7
Staloch	Camilla	7
Stenzel	Cadence	7
Sutton	Samantha	7
Tovar	Enrique	7
TRUE	Carson	7
Trumbull	Ava	7
Vosejpka	Connor	7
Walker	Aiden	7
Worke	Evan	7
Yoder	Jenna	7
Yoder	Quinn	7
Young	Ava	7

Waseca

100 years ago

-Making his last run after working for the Northwestern Railroad Company for almost fifty years, R. J. (Bob) Johnson greeted some of his friends who were down at the Northwestern depot Isat Saturday noon. Harry Read, who made his last run nearly seven years ago, was among those at the depot to greet him. “Well, Bob,” said the railroad veteran, “you are going to find it’s a hard thing to quit. I found it hard going the first year I retired. Keep working all the time. That’s the secret of it.”

-Crazed with moonshine which he had obtained at Waterville, Ben Hellum returned to his home in Blooming Grove about four miles north of Waseca last Saturday evening and started to quarrel with his brother Henry. He stated that he had heard that his brother was saying things about him to the neighbors and he would not stand for it. Before Henry could understand what his brother was talking about, Ben was on him kicking and scratching furiously.

-Dr. Giltner’s Colts journeyed over to Madison Lake last Sunday, only to be defeated by the team by the lake by a score of 7 to 3. J. Conley held the Madison Lake team within his control until the fatal seventh inning when four scores were put over on him. Durigan then went into the box and held the opposing team scoreless. Conley got six strikeouts and Durigan got two. Madison Lake was a little stronger on the hitting than the local team, getting eleven hits to six for the local team.

75 years ago

-A verbal round of what looms as the hottest state political race since 1937 will be fought at the Waseca County Fair Friday and Saturday, August 6 and 7. Hubert Humphrey, popular Minneapolis Mayor and right wing leader of the DFL Party, will take over the speaker’s rostrum at 8 p.m. Friday. Humphrey is given a 50-50 chance of unseating Republican incumbent Joe Ball for the U.S. Senate in the November elections. Senator Ball, now battling for his political life, will grab the spotlight in an address, also at the fairgrounds, the following evening, Saturday, August 7.

-Can you top this? Corn hitting the 88 inch mark was brought to the Waseca Journal office yesterday morning from the John Sutter farm in Blooming Grove township. Also arriving was a bunch of Bonda oats from the Walter Buker farm, three miles southeast of Waseca. The oat stems measured 71 inches. Buker stated, and a fellow farmer agreed, that his oats would go 100 bushels to the acre. At any rate Buker will have a big straw pile. Sutter isn’t making and predictions on how many bushels his corn will go to the acre. It came from a small field that was hog pasture last year.

-Clifton L. Gill, for 14 years owner-operator of the Daisy Shop, sold his business to Mrs. Doris Haag of Mankato. Gill has been in business for 45 years and will take what he terms “a much needed rest.” He came to Waseca in 1933 after business experience in Pennsylvania as a buyer for three departments in a large store. Gill will spend part of his time at the store in an advisory capacity. Lorraine Roe, Mrs. Fred Miller and Joseph gill will remain at the store. Mrs. Haag worked in the advertising department of the Mankato Free Press for the past four years.

50 years ago

-The Blackwood Singers will be featured again this year at the 9th Annual Waseca County Free Fair. The Singers are returning to the Waseca County Fair for a repeat performance. The fail will run Wednesday, July 18 through Sunday, July 22. Saturday, July 21 the Blackwood Singers will be performing in front of the grandstand at 8 p.m.

-Some called it America at its best, others called it homecoming week and some declared that America could use more North Morristown. It was like a big family reunion at North Morristown the 4th of July as folks from far and near gathered to celebrate Independence Day in the best way possible. The celebration was as old fashioned as homemade apple pie and the American flag. There were family picnics, fire crackers, squirt gun fights among the youngsters and folks visiting in every corner of the grounds.

-The gas shortage, a recent topic of national interest and concern, apparently hasn’t affected too many gas companies in Waseca, at least not yet. Most stations in town are being allotted gas from their regular suppliers. The allotment is determined monthly on the basis of last year’s sakes, For some, this is working out alright, but for others it is causing problems. In order to satisfy more customers Neidt Standard Service has been forced to limit gas sales in July to \$5 except in case of an emergency.

25 years ago

-Fifteen Waseca High School students and their adult chaperones have just returned form a month-long educational experience in Germany. The Waseca contingent left for Germany on June 1 and returned June 25. They participated in the first year of Waseca High School’s German American Partnership Program (GAPP). Through the experience they discovered that Germany is more than mountains, castles, villages and cathedrals. “The students had the opportunity to get immersed in the German culture,” said chaperone Don Zwach. “I think the trip took all of us out of our comfort zones a little bit, and as a result, we gained a greater appreciation of the German culture.” Waseca’s partner school is in Neuhaus, Germany.”

-When Fred Salsbury was a youngster growing up in Cheyenne, Wyo., he would often spend time on his grandfather’s cattle ranch. Under a bright blue sky stretched across the wide open landscape, the young boy would bounce in his saddle while riding a galloping horse across the ranch. Salsbury became so attached to the country life that he hoped to return to it someday. With his recent hiring as Waseca’s new city engineer, now he can.

-Up one game, down the next. The rollercoaster season of the Waseca Americana Legion baseball team continued this week. Post 228 split a pair of 10-run contests, leaving Waseca with a 5-8 overall record for the summer. Waseca is currently 1-3 in First District League action. Waseca banged out 14 hits in a 12-0 five-inning triumph on the road against Pine Island Monday. The Rochester A’s shrugged off a 3-0, first inning deficit against the Waseca Tuesday, and hammered the locals 17-3 in five innings at Tink Larson Field. Waseca, which has dropped seven of its last 11 games, is 2-2 at home and 3-6 on the road.

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New Richland

25 Years Ago



- **Winners in the Region 10 Dairy Princess Contest include: Kelly Sheehan, runner-up, Amy Demmer, Region 10 Dairy Princess and Carla McNallan, runner-up.] Amy Demmer, Steele County Dairy Princess, was crowned the 1999 Region 10 Dairy Princess Saturday night in ceremonies held at Lincoln High School, Lake City. Demmer competed with 15 other girls, including Heidi and Holly Wencl, who also represented Steele County. The other counties comprising Region 10 are Dodge, Freeborn, Olmsted, Wabasha, and Waseca. Demmer will now compete for the Princess Kay of the Milky Way title, which will be announced August 25, 1999 at the Bandshell on the Minnesota State Fairgrounds, kicking off the 1999 State Fair that officially begins Thursday, August 26.**



- **The 1999 Junior Miss Candidates include from the left: (back) Allison Groth, Mariah South, Missie Wayne, (front) Amy Kubista and Jenni Werth.] The Junior Miss Scholarship program is to be held on Friday, July 9, 1999 beginning at 7 p.m. in the NRHEG High School Auditorium. The theme for this year’s Junior Miss program will be “Give My Regards to Broadway.” The 1998-99 Junior Miss was Nicole Werth of New Richland.**

- As most probably know by now, the year 2000 will be the Centennial anniversary of the city of Ellendale. The city and local organizations have been discussing and planning events that will help to celebrate this milestone in the history of Ellendale. As you read this article, the mural is being painted. The completed work will be in place for Ellendale Days, 1999. On Friday, July 9, 1999 from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. the Lions Club will have a summer picnic to celebrate and dedicate the new mural.

37 Years Ago

- Fire departments from Ellendale, Clarks Grove, Hollandale, Albert Lea Township and Blooming Prairie helped put out fire. Approximate time of fire is 1:15 p.m., Saturday, June 27. Standard Station is confirmed a total loss.] Disaster hit Geneva Saturday afternoon when the Geneva Standard station and a nearby office housing the post office and Bell Law office caught fire and burned to the ground. The Standard Station burned to rubble, the office received extensive smoke and water damage, but no serious injuries were reported. The fire reportedly was started in the work area of the station when a weed-eater caught fire. The fire soon spread to the garage work area and engulfed the entire building in flames in a matter of seconds.

Janesville

1924

- Sunday afternoon about three-thirty the writer in company with J. W. Clark motored over to the summer home of Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Ayars to join others in a turtle soup dinner. Others in the party there were the Editor and Mrs. W. K. Wilcox, of Elysian, Mr. and Mrs. Carpenter, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Sage and Mr. and Mrs. Walter Nyquist. The children of the several families were there also to enjoy the dinner and the outing. We do not exaggerate nor overstate the fact when we say that all who were present not only enjoyed the dinner, but realized their fondest expectations and dreams as to the superiority of turtle soup over all other dishes that may appeal to the fancy and the appetite. Thanks to Mr. and Mrs Ayars who have in season and out of season extolled the sweet smelling flavors of this delicious soup.

1949

Sunday afternoon, July 3, “Big Time” will hold forth in Janesville and the dedication of Janesville’s lakeside park will provide an afternoon and evening of entertainment and pleasure for all who partake of an in this delightful occasion. Starting at 120, noon, at the C. N. W. Depot the parade will proceed north along Main Street to the end of the street. Then the marching participants will enter their cars and continue on to the park where the parade lines will again form and continue around and through the Lake Elysian park. Large and beautiful floats will take part in the parade, and there will be riding horses, nicely decorated bicycles, fancy doll buggies, bands, etc.

1974

- Mother Nature wasn’t fooling around with the Janesville area last week. Two times in the same week she unleashed her fury on the town and surrounding countryside, leaving crippled crops, damaged buildings, and broken trees in her wake. The first storm struck from the northwest shortly before 7 p.m. Tuesday evening. While hailstones the size of golf balls were hammering corn and beans in the country, the winds were taking the toll in town. Residents on the west edge of town thought a “tiny tornado” hit their area. When the hail quit and the winds died, they ventured outside to find windows broken, shingles gone and branches everywhere.

- Father Paul Hodapp said his last official Mass at Immaculate Conception Church Sunday, but it won’t be his last one at the St. Clair parish, nor will he be a stranger to Catholic Churches around the diocese of Winona. Father Hodapp, 71, just moved out of the St. Clair parish house to his retirement apartment in Mankato. Already he’s booked for the next five weeks. “I’ve agreed to take care of the parish here for the next two weeks and I’ve got three other weeks booked up,” he said with a smile.



Farm & City Days

July 5th, 6th & 7th

Farm & City Days Buttons are \$5. Available for Purchase at Many NR Businesses.
Get your Button Early. A Chance to Win Cash Prizes.

FRIDAY

- 4:30pm - Gone: Potato Bake & Root Beer Floats @ City Hall.**
-Sponsored by Lions Club
- 6:30pm: Commercial Club BINGO @ Broadway St, Dance Area. \$10 for 10 Games.**
- 6:00pm: Teen Bean Bag Tournament @ Broadway Street. Registration at 5:30pm. \$20 per Team**
-Sponsored by Prom Committee
- 7:00pm: Bean Bag Tournament @ NR Liquor Co.**
-Sponsored by NRLC



SATURDAY

- 7:00am - 10:00am: NR Fire Department Pancake Breakfast @ NR Fire Hall. \$8 or \$5 with Button.**
-Sponsored by NR Fire Department
- 7:00am - 10:00am: Live Music-Jim Kozan @ NR Fire Hall.**
-Sponsored by State Bank of NR
- 7:00am - 10:00am: St. Peter Luthern Church Bake Sale @ NR Fire Hall.**
-Sponsored by St. Peter Luthern Church
- 8:00am: NR Ambulance Cow Fun Run @ NRHEG High School Main Parking Lot. \$25 Registration.**
-Sponsored by NR Ambulance
- 9:00am: Grand Marshall Announcement @ NR Fire Hall at Pancake Breakfast.**
- 9:00am - 1:00pm: Classic Car Show @ N Broadway Street. Register Day of at 8:00am.**
-Sponsored by NR Community
- 9:00am - 2:00pm: Top 25 Antique Tractor Show @ S Broadway Street. Register Same Day.**
- 9:00am - 2:00pm: Friends of the Library Book Sale @ Library.**
-Sponsored by Friends of the NR Library
- 9:00am - 2:00pm: Craft Mall Open @ S Broadway Street.**
- 9:00am - 2:00pm: Vendor Fair @ S Broadway Street in Front of Craft Mall.**
- 9:00am: 3 Person Golf Tournament @ Riverview Golf Course. Must Register by Tuesday July 2nd.**
-Sponsored by Riverview Golf Course
- 9:00am - 11:00am: Cow Pie Bingo @ Neighbor's Meats. Place Bids Starting June 17th until July 6th.**
-Sponsored by Neighbor's Meats
- 10:00am - 2:00pm: Paint a Rock @ S Broadway Street.**
-Sponsored by Waseca County Public Health
- 10:00am - 2:00pm: Plant a Seed @ S Broadway Street.**
-Sponsored by Power of Produce
- 10:00am - 4:00pm: NR Area Historical Society Display @ Washburn Hotel(NR Area Food Shelf).**
-Sponsored by NR Area Food Shelf
- 10:30am: Kiddie Parade on Wheels @ Care Center. Kids of All Ages. Free Pizza on Stage in City Park.**
-Sponsored by Casey's
- 10:30am - 2:00pm: KID ZONE @ City Park.**
 - Bounce Houses - \$5 Per Kid
 - Concessions and More
 - Free Hasse Family Petting Zoo
 - Free 3-Hole Mini Golf-Sponsored by State Bank of NR
- 11:00am - 12:00pm: Speaker - Sherly Baker: Your Garden to a Bouquet @ Washburn Hotel(NR Area Food Shelf).**
-Sponsored by NR Garden Club
- 11:00am - 2:00pm: Free Caricatures by Casey @ S Broadway Street.**
- 12:00pm - 3:00pm: Dunk Tank @ S Broadway Street.**
-Sponsored by NR Ambulance
- 1:00pm: St. Olaf Brewing Company Tasting @ S Broadway Street.**
-Sponsored by St. Olaf Brewing Company
- 2:00pm: Adult Blow-Up Races @ City Park. \$20 Registration Fee - Winner gets \$100. Fundraiser for Farm & City Days.**
-Sponsored by Panther Power House
- 2:30pm: Kid Power Pedal Tractor Pull @ N Broadway Street. Ages 4-11. Register the day of. Parents Must Accompany.**
-Sponsored by Thompson Auto Body, Midwest Repairables
- * * * 5:00 pm: FARM & CITY DAYS PARADE * * ***
- 8:00pm - 12:00pm: Street Dance: Top Shelf Band @ N Broadway Street. 21 & OLDER ONLY. \$10 Admission, Free with Button.**
-Sponsored by NR Fire Department

SUNDAY

- 10:00am: Community Worship Service @ City Park. Bring Your Own Lawn Chairs.**
-Sponsored by NR Area Ministerial
 - 11:00am: Drawing for Winning Button & Coloring Contest @ City Park.**
 - 11:00am: Red Leaf Cafe Lunch @ City Park. Shredded Beef Sandwich, Calico Beans, Coleslaw, Chips & Cookie.**
-Sponsored by Red Leaf Cafe
 - 11:00am - 2:00pm: NR Area Historical Society Display @ Washburn Hotel(NR Area Food Shelf).**
-Sponsored by NR Area Historical Society
 - 12:00pm: NR Fire Dept Water Wars @ 7th Street NW.**
-Sponsored by NR Fire Department
 - 1:00pm: Ambulance BINGO @ N Broadway Street, Dance Area. \$10 for 10 Games.**
-Sponsored by NR Ambulance
- All Events Subject to Change.

Inconsistent play plagues Braves in three-game skid

The Waseca Braves amateur baseball team ran its season record to 5-8 with recent games.

Last Sunday, the Braves fell 10-4 at Eagle Lake in a game that was, according to Braves coach Tink Larson, closer than the score indicates. It was close until the home team plated four runs in the seventh inning.

“It was our best played game in a long time,” said Larson.

Sebastian Teague pitched six good innings for the Braves, who had nine hits in the first six innings.

“We made some plays in the field,” said Larson.

Tyson Reger, Ryan Hanson and Alex Feeney had two hits apiece for Waseca. One hit each went to Kelvin Nelson, Jimmy Loonan, Payton Garza and Teague. Nelson drove in two runs.

“I like that Eagle Lake team,” said Larson. “They are young and play fast and they play well.”

The Braves lost 15-8 to Waterville at Waseca’s Tink Larson Field last week.

It was a rough start for the Braves, who gave up five runs — two earned — in the first inning. The Indians outlit the Braves 13-5.

Nelson led the offense, going 3-for-4 with a home run, two RBIs and two runs scored. Garza was 2-for-4

with two runs, Loonan 2-for-4 with an RBI. Reger and Hanson had one hit apiece.

Hanson took the pitching loss.

“Waterville has a nice club,” said Larson. “We came back a couple times to get within three or four runs, but just couldn’t overcome the early deficit.”

The Braves hit the ball well, according to Larson, but didn’t help themselves with five fielding errors.

The Braves were defeated 15-5 at Wells on June 25.

The first eight runs scored by Wells were unearned as the Braves were a little shorthanded for players.

Nelson took the pitching loss.

Garza was 4-for-4 with two doubles. Hanson and Griffin Krautkremer were 2-for-3 and Teague went 2-for-4.

“We can be pretty good if we have all our players here,” said Larson. “But when they are not here, it also gives other players a chance to play and that is good, too.”

After playing Wednesday night at Owatonna, the Braves travel to Morristown for a 2 p.m. Saturday game. They’re back at Larson Field Sunday at 2 p.m. against Wells. They host St. Clair Wednesday, July 10 at 7:30.

Post 228 tops Wanamingo

The Waseca American Legion baseball team won big at Wanamingo last week, cruising to a 13-1 victory.

“This was an easy game,” said Waseca coach Tink Larson. “It was nice to get back playing again after not having a game in two weeks.”

Post 228 totaled 15 hits and took advantage of seven Wanamingo errors.

Nate Engel-Mueller was 3-for-5 with three RBIs. His brother, Shane Engel-Mueller, was 2-for-4 and scored two runs. Payton Garza, Keato Roeker, Sebastian Teague and Colton Ruedy had two hits apiece.

Ruedy pitched five innings for the win.

“Wanamingo had a lot of errors and we hit the ball very well ,with 15 hits in the last four innings of the game,” said Larson. “Colton Ruedy threw well in first mound appearance of the summer.”

An interesting statistic, according to Larson, is that Waseca pitchers have given up only one walk in three games, which he called fabulous.

The top three



Keenan Collins, center, finished first in the Waseca Tennis Association 18U tournament that concluded Saturday. Vivian Mader, right, took second place while Maddy Benson, left, took third. Other participants were Paige Dufault, Pearl Moore, Aiden Groskruetz and Korbin Collins. Submitted photo

Get your sports in the Pioneer
e-mail sportswriter79@yahoo.com

Meet the champs



Hometown heroes Malik Willingham and his brother Kyreese Willingham greeted fans Saturday at the place it all began, the basketball court at Waseca’s Clear Lake Park, a stone’s throw from their childhood home. The Willinghams led Minnesota State-Mankato to the Division II men’s basketball championship this past season. Pioneer photo by Jim Lutgens



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Matthew Petsinger, Agent

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Worship



The congregations of St. John's of Danville Township, Immanuel Lutheran of Freedom Township, Trinity Lutheran of Wilton and First Lutheran of Waldorf held a joint service on Sunday, June 30 at First Lutheran. The four churches now share a single minister, Rev. Larry Sipe, and have decided to have joint services each time there are five Sundays in a month.

The next joint service will be August 3: The outdoor "Mission Festival" sponsored by Immanuel, Freedom Church since the 1800s, is scheduled for that day.

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NOTICE OF FILING DATES FOR 2024 CITY ELECTION

NOTICE is hereby given by the City of Waseca, Minnesota that the first day of filing of candidates for the November 5, 2024 City General Election is **Tuesday, July 30, 2024**, and the last day for filing is **Tuesday, August 13, 2024**.

The offices to be filled at said election are as follows:

Mayor – two year term
Council member Ward 1 – four year term
Council member Ward 2 – four year term
Council member Ward 3 – four year term

Candidates may file in the office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 508 South State Street, Waseca, Minnesota, during regular business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., from July 30, 2024, to August 13, 2024. The City Clerk's office will be open until 5:00 p.m. on August 13th. Candidates must be over 21 years of age and have maintained residence in the Ward from which the candidate seeks election for 30 days before the election. Filing fee is \$2.00.

Julia Hall
City Clerk

Published in the Waseca County Pioneer on July 5, 12, 19, 26, and August 2 and 9, 2024.

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or come in person at: 1372 South State Street, Waseca
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LEGAL NOTICES

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF WASECA
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT
DISTRICT COURT
PROBATE DIVISION
Court File No.: 81-PR-24-461
In Re: Estate of
IVY M. JOHNSON,
Decedent
NOTICE AND ORDER FOR HEARING ON PETITION FOR DESCENT OF PROPERTY

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

A Petition for Determination of Descent has been filed with this Court. The Petition represents that the Decedent died more than three years ago, leaving property in Minnesota and the descent of such property be determined and assigned by this Court to the persons entitled to the property. Any objections to the Petition must be filed with the Court prior to or raised at the hearing. If proper, and no objections are filed or raised, the Petition may be granted. It is ordered and Notice is further given that the Petition will be heard on the 11th day of September, 2024, at 10:00 am, by this Court via Zoom technology.

1. Notice shall be given to all interested persons (Minn. Stat. 524.1-401) and persons who have filed a demand for notice pursuant to Minn. Stat. 524.3-204.

2. 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.

BY THE COURT
Dated: July 1, 2024
/s/ Carol M. Hanks
Judge of District Court
/s/ Shannon M. Asselin
Deputy Court Administrator

PATTON HOVERSTEN & BERG PA
Perry A. Berg, #135999
215 E. Elm Avenue
Waseca, MN 56093
Phn: 507-835-5240

Published in the Waseca County Pioneer on July 5 and 12, 2024

Waseca County

Waseca County Courthouse
307 N. State Street
Waseca, MN 56093-2953
Phone: 507-835-0630
Fax: 507-835-0633

07/05/2024

In accordance with Minnesota Statutes section 373.01, subdivision 1(b), the purpose of this letter is to inform the public of the sale of real property owned by Waseca County in Waseca County. The property available for sale is identified below. The full legal description for this Property is included at the end of this notice.

Property No. 1: PID No. 01.003.1050. Approximately 10.41 Acres.

SUMMARY OF BID PROCESS

The County will pay all assessments (current or delinquent), taxes, and deferred installments of assessments, if any, currently levied against said real estate. The cost of recording the deed will be paid by the purchaser. The purchaser shall be required to pay all state deed tax/recording fees required for the conveyance. Upon acceptance of any bid, in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, Section 373.01, the County shall reserve to itself all iron ore and other valuable minerals in and upon the land, with right to explore for, mine and remove the iron ore and other valuable minerals. The minimum bid amount for this property is identified in the full bid documents.

The full bid documents and information can be accessed on the Waseca County Website, <https://www.wasecacounty.gov/>, to be printed off, or you can stop in at 900 3rd Street NE, Waseca, MN 56093 for a copy.

Bids will need to be received in the Public and Elections office located at the Courthouse (307 N State Street, Waseca, MN 56093) no later than 1 pm on Friday, July 26, 2024. Bid opening will be held at the East Annex Conference Room on July 26, 2024, at 1:10pm. All bids shall be considered and the one most favorable to the County accepted, but the County Board may, in the interest of the County, reject any or all bids. The County Board will make a final determination at the County Board meeting on 08-06-2024, in the county meeting room located at 300 State Street N Waseca, MN 56093.

Questions regarding the properties can be submitted to the contact below.

Sincerely,

Brian Tomford, Facilities Director
900 3rd Street NE (507-835-0629)
brian.tomford@wasecacounty.gov

Legal Description for the Property

Exhibit "A"

Tract A. That part of the North Half of the Northwest Quarter of Section 3, Township 107 North, Range 24 West, shown as Parcels 17 and 18 on Minnesota Department of Transportation Right of Way Plat Numbered 81-27 as the same is on file and of record in the office of the County Recorder in and for Waseca County, B1 as shown on said Plat No. 81-27; thence southerly on an azimuth of 181 degrees 16 minutes 15 seconds along the boundary of said plat for 23.06 feet to Right of Way Boundary Corner B2; thence continue on an azimuth of 181 degrees 16 minutes 15 seconds for 294.03 feet to the point of beginning of Tract A to be described; thence continue on an azimuth of 181 degrees 16 minutes 15 seconds for 30.31 feet; thence southwesterly for 567.94 feet on a non-tangential curve, concave to the southeast, having a radius of 1121.35 feet, a delta angle of 29 degrees 01 minutes 09 seconds and a chord azimuth of 251 degrees 50 minutes 25 seconds; thence on an azimuth of 237 degrees 19 minutes 50 seconds for 925.37 feet; thence deflect to the right on a tangential curve, having a radius of 624.81 feet and a delta angle of 08 degrees 58 minutes 42 seconds for 97.91 feet; thence continue on the last described curve for 172.25 feet; thence on an azimuth of 00 degrees 53 minutes 32 seconds for 491.43 feet; thence on an azimuth of 70 degrees 53 minutes 32 seconds for 696.79 feet; thence deflect to the right on a tangential curve, having a radius of 1357.39 feet and a delta angle of 12 degrees 35 minutes 12 seconds for 298.19 feet; thence on an azimuth of 83 degrees 41 minutes 39 seconds for 143.93 feet; thence on an azimuth of 90 degrees 25 minutes 16 seconds for 465.70 feet to the point of beginning;

containing 10.41 acres, more or less;

Subject to the following restrictions and reservations:

No access shall be permitted to Trunk Highway No. 14 from the lands herein conveyed, except that access shall be permitted along the following described line: Commencing at Right of Way Boundary Corner B1 as shown on said Plat No. 81-27; thence southerly on an azimuth of 181 degrees 16 minutes 15 seconds along the boundary of said plat for 23.06 feet to Right of Way Boundary Corner B2; thence continue on an azimuth of 181 degrees 16 minutes 15 seconds for 324.34 feet to the point of beginning of the line to be described; thence southwesterly for 567.94 feet on a non-tangential curve, concave to the southeast, having a radius of 1121.35 feet, a delta angle of 29 degrees 01 minutes 09 seconds and a chord azimuth of 251 degrees 50 minutes 25 seconds; thence on an azimuth of 237 degrees 19 minutes 50 seconds for 925.37 feet; thence deflect to the right on a tangential curve, having a radius of 624.81 feet and a delta angle of 08 degrees 58 minutes 42 seconds for 97.91 feet and there terminating.

THE ABOVE DESCRIBED REAL PROPERTY IS SUBJECT TO THE RIGHTS OF EXISTING UTILITIES, IF ANY, AS PROVIDED IN MINNESOTA STATUTES §161.45 SUBDIVISION 3.

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July 2024

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7	8 7 pm Post & AUX. Meeting	9	10 6pm BAR Bingo	11 7pm HALL BINGO	12 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm	13
14	15	16	17 6pm BAR Bingo	18 7pm HALL BINGO	19 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm	20
21	22	23	24 6pm BAR Bingo	25 7pm HALL BINGO	26 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm	27
28	29	30	31 6pm BAR Bingo			

HOURS OF OPERATION
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THUR.-1pm to 11pm
FRI.- SAT.-11am to 1 am
POST & AUX MEETING 7pm club open 6pm MEMBERS only. Mn. Gambling license number 00385

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
Electronic bids will be received by the County of Waseca via QuestCDN.com through their VirtuBid online bid service until 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday July 9th, 2024. Preliminary results will be posted on QuestCDN by 3:00 p.m. on July 9th. Bids are for the furnishing of all labor and materials for the following project:
Waseca County Highway Cold Storage Bldg
This is a single lump sum bid contract for a cold storage building with minor site improvements. Bid includes alternates for the building structural system of Pre-Engineered Metal Building or Post Frame construction. Site work, landscape, electrical, door/hardware, and overhead doors to be included in the base bid.

Owner	Architect
County of Waseca 307 North State Street Waseca, MN 56093 Phone: (507) 835-0661	Oertel Architects, Ltd. 1795 St. Clair Avenue St. Paul, MN 55105 Phone: (651) 696-5186

A complete digital copy of the specifications and drawings are available at www.questcdn.com. Documents may be downloaded for a non-refundable fee of \$22.00 by inputting QuestCDN project #9174943 on the web site's Project Search page. Prime bidders will also incur a \$42.00 online bid fee. Please contact QuestCDN at (952) 233-1632 or info@questcdn.com for assistance in registration and downloading the digital project information. Ensure your company is registered with Quest.CDN online bidding prior to bid day to ensure timely submittal of bid.
Sets of documents are available for review at:
1. The office of the Architect
2. Minnesota Builders Exchange (MBEX)
3. Dodge Data Analytics
4. CMD Construction Market Data
5. St. Cloud Builders Exchange
6. LaCrosse, WI Builders Exchange
7. The Blue Book
Bids shall be submitted via QuestCDN.com only. The bid shall be accompanied by a certified check, cashier's check or bid bond in the amount of five percent of the total bid price, made payable to the County of Waseca, as a guarantee that the bidder will enter into the proposed contract within the time specified and at the price bid.
The Waseca County Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any irregularities and informalities therein and to determine whether a bid is responsive or non-responsive. The County further reserves the right to select alternates and award the contract in the best long-term interests of the County.
Jim Kollar, Public Works Director / County Engineer
Published in the Waseca County Pioneer on, June 14, June 21, June 28 and July 5, 2024

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New shareholder

Hayden Roslansky joins Patton, Hoversten and Berg

By DEB BENTLY
News Editor

“You hear it all the time,” says Hayden Roslansky with a smile. “You’re good at arguing. You should be a lawyer.”

“But as far as I’m concerned, practicing law is about being analytical; you have to love rules, be ready to follow a clear order of operations. And you have to approach the rules with a certain level of creativity.”

After first joining the well-known local firm Patton, Hoversten and Berg (PHB) in 2021, Roslansky, 29, has recently become a shareholder with the professional association. He works full time in the Janesville office, a place where he feels he fits right in.

Roslansky grew up in Lake Park, Iowa. Given the town’s population of about 1,200, Roslansky mentions graduating with a class of 18 students in which, whether they lived in town or the country, “everyone was family.”

As the only member of PHB working full-time in the Janesville office, Roslansky says he likes the idea of becoming “the town lawyer.”

“Bill [Hoversten] told me when he asked whether I would like to work out of this office,” Roslansky recalled. “He said Janesville is the kind of town where people walk on in with their questions; they don’t really see a need to make an appointment. “That works fine for me. Whenever possible, I set other things aside and we take some time to find out what we can do for them.”

Roslansky’s path to becoming a lawyer began with undergraduate work at Hamline University in St. Paul. He went on to attend Mitchell Hamline Law School. He then served an internship with the Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities, an organization which lobbies at the state legislature on behalf of smaller communities.

After spending the years of his education and his internship in the Twin Cities, Roslansky says he came to realize he missed his roots. “I wanted to get closer to home without going all the way home,” he explains. “So I began looking for a po-

sition in southern Minnesota.”

In November of 2021, he came on board with PHB. Already early in 2022, he began his position in the Janesville office. At the start of this year, he took the step of becoming a shareholder, a word with many of the same implications as being a “partner,” with the law firm.

“It’s a commitment to the firm,” Roslansky says of his decision. “For me, it’s also a commitment to the community of Janesville.

“I plan to stay here.”

While some lawyers find themselves traveling to numerous different courtrooms to attend hearings and trials, Roslansky says his days are a bit more predictable.

“About 90 percent of my work has to do with estates and estate planning,” he explains. “When I take a matter to court, it’s often for a very short probate matter. These days, those are mostly done online.” He mentions being grateful not having to spend a lot of time on the road for the sake of appearances which often last only minutes, since they do not typically entail much controversy.

The Janesville office of PHB has documents and records going back about 75 years, since the firm had merged in 2004 with the office of Cliff Gardner, who had been a lawyer and community leader since the 1960s, and whose father had begun the firm decades before that.

In keeping with the idea of being “the town lawyer,” Roslansky describes that longevity as an important benefit to the community.

“People come in and need to know something about an action their parents may have taken long ago,” he says. “We’re able to go into the files, find that information, and work forward from there.”

Roslansky mentions it feels good to provide this stability. He said that, as someone who specializes in estate planning, he finds it gratifying to provide assistance to people who have spent decades building their lives and their finances.

“At its simplest,” he summarizes, “I’m glad I can help keep the family farm in the family.”

Roslansky explains there are a number of legal tools families can put in place to allow a comfortable retirement for the older generation while ensuring the assets they have acquired are protected and can be passed along to the next generation.

In addition to conferring individually with clients, Roslansky sometimes offers planning seminars. In mid-May, he presented a number of them at facilities owned by Dennis Steffel Omtvedt Funeral and Cremation Services.

Based on his experience so far, and asked what he wishes everyone knew about estate planning, Roslansky was quick to respond.

“There’s an old saying, ‘You’re never too young to die,’” he says. “I would want every adult to know a lot of time, money and frustration could be saved if they had three documents in place: a power of attorney, a transfer on death deed, and a health care directive.

“By spending an hour or so with an attorney now and getting those papers in place, they would be protecting their family in the future.

“If there is a sudden death and those documents do not exist, it could take weeks of extra time to get matters settled and cost thousands of dollars that could have been saved.”

Roslansky also offers a bit of advice to folks considering a career as a lawyer. “You want to be sure and use your undergraduate degree to truly explore your interests,” he suggests. “The profession of being a lawyer has a certain reputation that doesn’t always line up with how things will go.

“You have to work hard as a lawyer. You have to find a balance between what you can do as an everyday human being and the expectations people impose on you.”

Remembering one case where he was able to find a positive resolution for a client who had come to feel her cause was hopeless, Roslansky advises, “For me, it feels genuinely good to help and serve others.

“It makes the effort, the hours and the stress worthwhile.”



Hayden Roslansky, newest shareholder with the legal firm of Patton, Hoversten and Berg, enjoys the small-town atmosphere he has found in the firm's Janesville office. Pioneer photo by Deb Bently

WASECA BRAVES SCHEDULE – 2024				
Saturday	July 6	Morristown	Away	2:00
Sunday	July 7	Wells	Home	2:00
Wednesday	July 10	St. Clair	Home	7:30
Saturday	July 13	Stewartville	Home	7:00
Sunday	July 14	Blue Earth	Home	2:00
Wednesday	July 17	League Play-in Game TBD		7:30

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Patton, Hoversten & Berg welcomes our new shareholders!

We are proud to welcome two new shareholders to Patton, Hoversten & Berg, PA. We commend these lawyers for their accomplishments and have full confidence in their ability to represent our clients with excellence and a comprehensive range of legal services to the southern Minnesota area.

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