



Compostings

by Al Batt

I figured he sent his condiments to the chef

ECHOES FROM THE LOAFERS' CLUB MEETING

There's something wrong with this oatmeal.

It's not oatmeal. It's chicken noodle soup.

Oh, then it's pretty good.

DRIVING BY BRUCE'S DRIVE

I have a wonderful neighbor named Bruce. Everything was nearly copacetic. Whenever I pass his drive, thoughts occur to me. I visited a friend in Harmony. I'd planned on bringing him some multicolored Asian lady beetles, but I forgot. Luckily, he already had some.

A stranger waved me to his table and asked me to sit down. He'd been in the audience the night before when I'd told some stories from the stage. He was celebrating because his doctor had told him everything was in the correct place. He'd been eating his dinner by cell-phone light: a hamburger with nothing on it—no mustard or ketchup. I suspected it was because he'd sent his condiments to the chef. He had no fries or salad. Maybe he wasn't one to take sides. He'd been a triangle player in the high school band. He'd been responsible for every little ting. Now he played a guitar. I was in Gulf Shores, Alabama. Apparently, a lot of Minnesota snowbirds winter there because the man, a lifelong Alabamian, told me that when he retired, he was going to move to Minnesota and drive slowly.

I don't know what street I was driving on, but I could see Wrigley Field from my borrowed Prius. In Chicago, I did a river tour and loved the history presented. The SS Eastland was a passenger ship that rolled over onto its side while tied to a dock in the Chicago River in 1915. A total of 844 passengers and crew were killed. I looked at The Bean, a sculpture with a reflective surface that encapsulates the Millennium Park experience. It wasn't as beautiful as a nearby tree, which was a stunner. I watched a 16-inch softball game played without gloves and ate a deep-dish pizza at Lou Malnati's. The pizza was different (not a hotdish, but with hot-dish tendencies) and delicious.

I'VE LEARNED

The inventor of the time machine died next week.

Most people go their entire life. "Happy birthday" is best sung in the key of off.

Everything costs too much until you become accustomed to it.

Halloween originated with Samhain, an ancient Celtic festival. Participants wore disguises and offered food to ward off ghosts. This practice evolved into dressing

in costumes and performing a trick to receive a treat. The Wunderlee Candy Company created candy corn in the 1880s, and it proved popular among farmers who loved the corn kernel-shaped candy. Candy corn is divisive—folks love it or despise it.

Anybody who enjoys a delicious leg of salmon appreciates genetically modified foods.

I'M LUCKY BECAUSE

My mother never called me by our dog's name.

A cow has never bitten me.

I have walked tall and have never tripped over a woolly bear caterpillar.

Bad jokes department

A visitor was arrested at a national park after running from a grizzly. He faces charges for running with a bear behind.

I went to a telekinetic ice cream shop. They can make a root beer float there.

I wonder if the guy who coined the phrase "one-hit wonder" ever came up with anything else?

The man had the Midas touch. Everything he touched turned to mufflers.

NATURE NOTES

There was a lot of scurrying going on. It must have been the squirrel series. Chickadees were busy in an endless pursuit of food. Birds make my life a little tweeter.

The Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study's research found that part of the hippocampus increases in male squirrels during the caching season in the fall. This doesn't happen in the brains of females. Females can already remember where they put that acorn or where their husband's dress shirt can be found. This seasonal plasticity is necessary for males to think like females in the fall when they're hiding all these nuts. It's possible that the hippocampus, the memory and spatial organization area of the brain, increases 15% in size in the fall.

Texas has an estimated white-tailed deer population exceeding 3 million wild deer. If captive deer are included, Texas has more than 5 million deer. Other states with droves of deer are Michigan (1.7 million), Alabama (1.7 million), Mississippi (1.7 million), Missouri (1.4 million), Wisconsin (1.3 million), Pennsylvania (1.3 million), North Carolina (1.3 million) and four states with 1 million: Minnesota, Arkansas, Georgia and Kentucky. Deer are crepuscular, so be watchful for them at the shoulders of the day.

MEETING ADJOURNED

Heed the angel on one shoulder and not the devil on the other, and be kind.

I'd love to plan another murder...

Some of my time, lately, has been spent planning a murder.

Well, a murder mystery, anyway.

As a member of the Waseca Exchange Club, I volunteered to be part of a committee which is putting together a murder mystery fundraiser. There will be four sessions, each with room for about 20 guests. They will take place at 6:30 and 8 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 15, and Saturday, Nov. 16, at Alexander House—Mikhail Rostislavovich's home along the east side of North State Street—the one with the flags.

Pioneer readers have heard a bit about the house before. It was built in 1916 and restored to its original style in the past few years.

Tickets will be \$35 a person. People are encouraged to come dressed as an elaborate Victorian character, but clothing from the modern era will also be fine. Guests will tour the house and speak with actors who each have their own, possibly useful, information to share, gathering the clues necessary to determine who killed poor Mr. Boddy—though, frankly, he does seem to have made himself quite a



In My Humble Opinion

by Deb Bently

list of enemies: Maybe he should have been nicer to everyone.

People can work on gathering clues as individuals, pairs, or small groups.

Mikhail will be mingling and will make himself available to answer questions about the house, its original inhabitants, and some of the interesting customs followed in Victorian times.

After doing their best to solve the mystery, guests will enjoy some light refreshments.

Probably early next week, tickets will be for sale at both the Waseca Chamber of Commerce office and the Waseca Art Center.

In the meantime, we members of the planning committee have had a fair amount of fun coming up with

elements of the game. The live murder mystery will share many aspects of the board game Clue. Guests will have a sheet which provides the names of eight suspects—none of them are named "Colonel Mustard" or "Professor Plum," however. No, our possible murderers are suited to Victorian times and ways of doing things. There are nine possible ways the murder might have been committed.

Then there are the 17 spaces across four floors where the crime may have occurred. These are referred to by the terms used in Victorian times—did you know what we think of as a "living room" is often referred to as the "withdrawing room" in manor houses? I'm told the rationale is that people can "withdraw" there for

companionship and conversation, often after having finished a meal. Also, interestingly, the room full of books in Alexander House is not large enough to have been called a "library," thus it is only the "reading room." In true Clue fashion, though, there is a music "conservatory." The current plan is to have live—and perhaps eerie—music played there.

Money brought in by the fundraiser will be used toward the Exchange Club's philanthropic projects: Some examples are scholarships, donations to support local charities, and acknowledging the accomplishments and contributions of public servants.

Anyway, if you and a few friends are looking for a pleasant, unusual way to spend some time, or if you've been curious about the restorations done at the elegant brick home along North State Street, the Murder Mystery at Alexander House might be a good choice for you.

All I can say is, I certainly hope it's a success: I would love to be able to plan another murder (mystery) sometime in the future!

My first ever 'work' conference



To Be Determined

by Amelia Roessler

I'm going as Kim Possible for Halloween in New Orleans and then Princess Belle for the party my roommates and I are holding on Saturday. The theme, you may have guessed, is "Disney princesses." We are going to have a lot of fun. My sister is experiencing her first college Halloween and I'm excited for her. Her friends are going as Kiss, Marry, Kill where each person is dressed up as one. She's "Marry" and bought a fake wedding ring and everything. Too adorable.

Last year for Halloween I was a "girl boss." I admit it was a last-minute, last ditch-effort of a costume, so I'm glad this year to actually have things genuinely planned in advance. I think next year I might go as Claire from Outlander, though, because I have yet to make it through that book series and with all the time I've dedicated to it, why not. I could practically be the actress at this point.

Anyway, this is my first ever "work" conference and I'm kind of excited. We had to pay for our flights

down, but The Daily is paying for the conference and the hotel. I'm excited to learn a lot and go to convention seminars about college reporting and college journalism. One I am especially interested in covers legally reporting on protests, which if anyone keeps track with University of Minnesota, is incredibly relevant to us. So that will be nice. We at least finally got press passes for the Daily so we don't have to wear press vests everywhere we go to identify ourselves as press. Not like that did anything anyway (oop, did I really just say that?). Anyway, time to go to be a studious student journalist for the week and definitely not skimp on any of my homework or be stressed because I'm falling behind on my thesis work.

My Determination: "No. I can survive well enough on my own— if given the proper reading material." — Sarah J. Maas, Throne of Glass

■ Johnson

from Page 1

offered a raise.

She has pictures of the one-room schoolhouse she and Milton purchased in the 1950s and remodeled; it was located along County Road 9 just a few miles outside Waseca. When Milton's business was at its most active, she said, the yard would be full of tractors and other equipment in need of repair.

In the meantime, Viola acquired a job at the E.F. Johnson Company. She remembers her starting wage was \$1.50 an hour. She worked her way up to being a "lead lady" with as many as 50 "girls" under her. Their job was to assemble circuit boards. The task entailed arranging the small pieces on the boards, then using a device with a foot pedal to fasten them

in place.

Viola remembers working at E.F. Johnsons for 30 years. She recalls times when she would be called in to work with company engineers—"the big guys"—to assist with practical aspects of assembling products.

"And me with only an eighth-grade education," she marvels.

Not long after Milton's death, Viola moved into town. Quilting has returned as a consistent element of her life at the request of the quilting groups at her home church, St. Peter of Otisco, and St. John's Lutheran Church in Waseca.

"They cut the ten-inch squares," says Johnson matter-of-factly, "and I sew them together." Each full-sized quilt requires 48 squares. Typically, she says she sews one quilt a day, which requires about five hours of her time.

Johnson is a member of St. Peter Lutheran Church in Otisco, which is a sister congregation to St. Peter in New Richland, sharing the time of

Pastor Scott Williams. According to group organizer Denise Joecks, St. Peter has seven volunteer quilters who meet Monday afternoons September through May. Group members also perform many tasks independently at home so their time together can be used for the more labor-intensive work of framing, pinning and quilting.

"Viola helps us out tremendously," observes Joecks. "And she takes such joy in doing something that helps people. I'm happy she's being recognized."

Joecks mentions that once quilts are assembled, the St. Peter group looks first for local organizations, including shelters for those who have experienced domestic abuse, or for the homeless. Quilts are also donated to Lutheran World Relief and sometimes other missions or charities.

Especially in the summer when the St. Peter group is less active, Johnson also sews for the quilters of Waseca's St. John Lutheran. Organizer Ann

Reudy mentions her group has 27 members. Roughly 20 gather every Monday all year long to work on quilting projects. Reudy relates the group donates about 230 quilts a year to Lutheran World Relief, about 100 to Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, and about 100 to the local Santa Anonymous program.

"The community is really generous about donating supplies," she observes. The St. John Quilters make quilts and blankets in a variety of sizes, including for infants. The group has other service projects as well, including making dresses out of pillowcases and wrapping fabric into bandages for missions in Haiti and making "care bags" to be sent to reservations.

"We really appreciate Viola's help with our quilts," comments Reudy. "She loves doing it, and it helps us keep all these projects moving forward."

Briefs

Waseca-Le Sueur Library system will host author Javier Zamora Thursday, November 14

The Waseca-Le Sueur Library system will host author Javier Zamora online at 3 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 14. Zamora will also host a Spanish event at 1 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 9.

Harvest Mission Brunch, Waseca Bake Sale at Grace Lutheran 10 a.m. November 15

Grace Lutheran Church at 300 E. Elm Avenue in Waseca is having a brunch and bake sale to benefit its mission projects on Friday, Nov. 15 beginning about 10 a.m. Baked goods will include a variety of tasty treats including Lefse. The \$9 brunch will be served from 10 a.m. until about noon.

Legion Burger and Fish

Fry to benefit WANSC 5:30 p.m. Nov. 15

A burger and fish fry meal at Waseca American Legion, 700 S. State Street, beginning at 5:30 Nov. 15 will benefit the Waseca Area Neighborhood Service Center (WANSC). Tickets are \$10, available in advance at WANSC, or at the door.

VFW Breakfast to benefit WANSC 8 a.m. to noon Nov. 17

An all-you-care-to-eat breakfast from 8 a.m. to noon at the Waseca VFW Post, 113 W. Elm Ave., will benefit the Waseca Area Neighborhood Service Center. Cost is \$12 for adults, \$7 for ages 6 to 13, and free for ages 5 and under. Food or cash donations for the Waseca Area Food Shelf will be appreciated.

North Waseca Lutheran Scandinavian Dinner Sunday, Nov. 17

North Waseca Lutheran Church,

located at 40430 120th Street in Waseca, is having its 36th annual Scandinavian Dinner the evening of Sunday, Nov. 17. Adults are \$20; children 10 and under \$10. Carryout is available or eat by reservation. To make a reservation call Roy Srp 507-521-1185 or Greg Thomson 612-619-3868. The menu will include Swedish meatballs with mashed potatoes, coleslaw, jellied cranberries or Lutefisk w/white sauce and lefse.

State of Waseca County address 7 p.m. Nov. 19

The Waseca "State of the County" address will begin at 7 p.m. on Nov. 19 in the high school performing arts center. Speakers will be county board of commissioners chair Brian Harguth and county administrator Michael Johnson.

Farmamerica Presidential Turkey Trot Friday, Nov. 29 at 10 a.m. till noon

Run off those Thanksgiving calories

with the pardoned presidential turkeys 5k. Join Farmamerica for a Turkey Trot around our historic grounds starting at 10 AM and meet the newest members of our farm family straight off the truck from Washington D.C. Cost is \$20 per walker or runner, under 4 is free. A t-shirt.

"State of Education" address 7 p.m. Dec. 10

The Waseca "State of Education" address will begin 7 p.m. on Dec. 10 at the high school performing arts center. The introduction will be by board president Dave Dunn with superintendent Eric Hudspith doing the address.

Farmamerica will host a Santa Experience on Saturday, December 14

There will be a Santa Experience from 4-7 p.m. at Farmamerica on Saturday, Dec. 14. Meet Santa and his farm animals, decorate cookies and much much more.



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Waseca Public Library
Lego building group
Saturday, Nov. 2

The Waseca Public Library will hold a Lego Story Time at 10 a.m. Saturday, November 2. This is for children 4-6 and they must be accompanied by an adult. There will be a story to inspire the Lego building.

Waseca Public Library
will host a Magic
Treehouse Party
Monday, Nov. 4

The Waseca Public Library will host a Magic Treehouse Party at 10 a.m. Monday, November 4. Join Master Librarians as they travel through time for adventures with dinosaurs, knights, mummies, pirates and ninja's. This event is for ages 7-12 and is free.

Janesville Public
Library will host Hot
Glue Art Mon., Nov. 4

The Janesville Public Library will host Hot Glue Art at 3:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 4. Use hot glue guns to create outlines, then paint over that to create 3-D art. This event is for ages 7-12 and is free.

Waseca-Le Sueur
library's will host live
author Thurs., Nov. 7

The Waseca-Le Sueur Library system will host author Navajo Ranger, Stanley Milford, Jr, at 6 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 7. This will be an online event and will be recorded. To attend or to watch the recording go to wasecale-sueurlibraries.com/getregistered. Milford has investigated the paranormal, ufos and hauntings.

Indian Island Winery
will host the band
High Strung Nov. 8

The Indian Island Winery will host the band High Strung from 6-8:30 p.m. on Friday, November 8. They are described online as an acoustic trio performing classic pop.

Starfire Event Center
will host Pub & Grub
Comedy Saturday,
Nov. 9

The Starfire Event Center will host a Pub & Grub Comedy Special at 8 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 9.

Waseca Floral open
house Saturday, Nov. 9

Waseca Floral, at 810 North State Street will have an open house, Saturday, Nov. 9. There will be porch pots, wreaths, arrangements, roping, hot cider and treats.

Waseca State of the
City address 7 p.m.
Nov. 12

The Waseca "State of the City" address will be 7 p.m. on Nov. 12 at the high school performing arts center. Those present will hear from Mayor Randy Zimmerman and city manager Carl Sonneberg.

New Richland
Library adult bingo
Wednesday, Nov. 13

The New Richland Public Library will sponsor a Friends of the Library FOL adult bingo event at 10:15 a.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 13. Winners will be allowed to select one book from the FOL book shelf. Blackout winner gets \$15 NR Bucks. To anyone interested please bring at least one food item for the NR Food Shelf day of event.

'50s style dining available year-round

Barney's Drive-In to stay open through winter months

By BEN REVERMANN
Staff writer

The south side of Clear Lake in Waseca has a statue of a giant chicken by the side of the road, this is next to Barney's. There's also the giant chair to pose in, or the giant wooden cheeseburger. Usually, Barney's Drive-In 1950s style dining is closed for the winter months, well that's recently been changed.

Owner Joe Veroeven said, "We made the decision to stay open year-round on September 26. We're one of the few owners of this place that live in the area; up until now it's never been done." Veroeven has owned Barney's since May of 2023. Before that Joe worked as a manager at a graphic arts shop in Mankato. His wife, Audra, runs Palmer Bus Service in Waseca. Together Joe and Audra have six children, two of whom currently work at Barney's. The couple have been Waseca residents "going on 29 years now; even our 28-year-old graduated from Waseca High School." Since Barney's Drive-In has been geared for summer use, the transition may take some time and some trial and error. "We're going to try a drive-through of sorts, try to modify this place to accommodate people coming just to get their takeout," explains Joe. He also said he would love to offer indoor dining as soon as he can figure out how to do it.

To encourage people to try this new arrangement, Barney's persistently posts new menu items and deals on the company Facebook page. Two examples are new Italian



Barney's Drive-In on Clear Lake will be open year-round. Pictured is Joe Veroeven and his wife Audra on Sunday, Oct. 27, 2024. Pioneer photo by Ben Revermann

roast beef and pulled chicken sandwiches. Joe said he's also been working on soups for the cold winter months, specifically a hearty chicken with wild rice soup and a chili. But Joe said his soups aren't ready yet, "Sometimes the recipe isn't quite right, I want everything to be perfect."

Joe reveals that he is adamant about supporting area businesses. "It's a big deal for me to shop local: The beef for my burgers is bought from a local farm. Our hot dogs are

bought from Morgan's Meat Market, so is our bacon. Even our buns are bought local." The company website specifies "local" as within a 150-mile radius.

Audra makes six different ice creams using facilities at Barney's. They come in a wide variety of flavors with a mix of creamy and crunchy ingredients: Honey Vanilla, Vanilla, Cherry Chocolate Marshmallow, Chocolate Cookie Crunch, Apple Pie, Frankenstein and Bride of Frankenstein.

Waseca Votes

Legislative committee sponsors final debate

City Council candidates square off in two rounds of questioning

By ELI LUTGENS
Publisher/Editor

The final of three debates hosted by "Waseca Votes," sponsored by the Waseca Chamber of Commerce Legislative Committee, was a two-part debate between Waseca city council candidates for Wards I and II, followed by a second debate between candidates running in Ward III on Tuesday night, October 22, 2024.

Mikhail Rostislavovich, chair of the Waseca Legislative committee and vice president of the area Chamber of Commerce, welcomed a large audience of about 100 people prior to introducing Ann Fitch as the night's moderator.

Each candidate delivered an opening and closing statement and answered about a dozen questions. The first half of the questions were selected by the legislative committee, the second half, from among suggestions given by audience members.

Readers are encouraged to view the debate online on Youtube or through the Waseca Public Access channel. The debates spanned more than two hours and not all questions, answers or statements are included in this article.

Ward I

Candidates for Waseca's Ward I council seat include incumbent Stacey Schroeder and challenger Adam Jensen.

Jensen did not attend the debate.

Schroeder describes herself as a "dedicated mother, wife and seasoned cosmetologist with 30 years of experience."

"I'm driven by a genuine desire to build bridges within the community," Schroeder stated.

Jensen's introduction, printed in the



Participants and organizers of the Waseca Votes City Council Debates, from left: Dwight Thostenson, Jay Bulfer, Larry Johnson, Brayden Hoof, Mark Christiansen, Kody Wright, Theresa Riecke, Chad Schluter, Mikhail Rostislavovich, Ann Fitch, Nathanael Andrs and Brian Harguth. Pioneer photo by Eli Lutgens

evening's program, states he has four children. His career spans 16 years and includes 'countless multi-year' bids contracted with the city and local vendors.

Schroeder was asked numerous questions, including the role of the city council, whether she believes the city should consider phasing out street assessments, and about her top priorities if elected.

"I think it always sounds good on paper," Schroeder answered regarding the possibility of phasing out special street assessments. "[If we] remove the street assessments and move it across the

board for everyone, that's kind of like toll roads. To change that would be a huge fundamental change. How do we make sure everyone has a chance to save for that in our levy? I just really think that the street assessment we have now is fair and beneficial to everyone."

Schroeder stated her top priorities were addressing aging infrastructure, and helping make Waseca a desirable place for businesses and residents.

Debate continued on 5

JANESVILLE CITY COUNCIL

Council hosts township fire board meeting to discuss budgets

Janesville Journal - The Janesville City Council hosted township fire board members for their bi-annual meeting on Monday, Oct. 15.

The meeting took up nearly half of the city council's time. Not present for the meeting was Mayor Arnoldt, making Andy Ahlman acting mayor.

Fire board members discussed their budgets. Fire Chief Mike Santo said that outside of loan payments for the Janesville Fire Department's new truck, there's not much of an increase in the budget. He did warn members that the department was going to be buying more turnout gear since they had more members join than expected; the department budgeted for three sets of gear but has five new members.

Santo claimed that a few grants will be available to help cover the costs of turnout gear once members take the classes necessary to qualify for them. "We have to complete a rookie class and then have all the stuff purchased first," he explained. "Then, we can turn it in for reimbursement. We'll try for all five, and hopefully things will go our way. But I don't think we're that lucky."

Kurt Anderson of Le Ray Township was slightly disgruntled that there were no audited year-to-date numbers, only a number showing the budget status as of July 1. Rogers informed him that audit reports were sent after the city printed off the fire budget and that he could send Anderson the updated version of where the budget was as of September 1.

"Some of last year's discussion was on proposed budgets for the upcoming year versus the actual expenses for the previous year," Anderson said. "We further discussed leftover funds that are budgeted, collected, and not spent, and where they go."

City council member Jim Mulcahey agreed with Anderson's concerns about not having more recent, audited budget numbers to look at. "We've had a few items that were off from what was budgeted but not significantly," he said. "Still, I agree with you. It'd be nice to have closer numbers at our December meeting."

Santo shared the department's "run" report, that is the number of times fire crews were sent out. He pointed out calls are down compared to this time last year, and also that the proportion of responses in the city and in rural locations is remaining consistent. With the upcoming negotiations over the next three-year contract, Santo figured the agreement would be "close to what it was last time."

As of September 1, the fire department has just over \$67,000 in its capital reserves and about \$18,600 available in its checking account. City administrator Clinton Rogers added that those

Council continued on 5



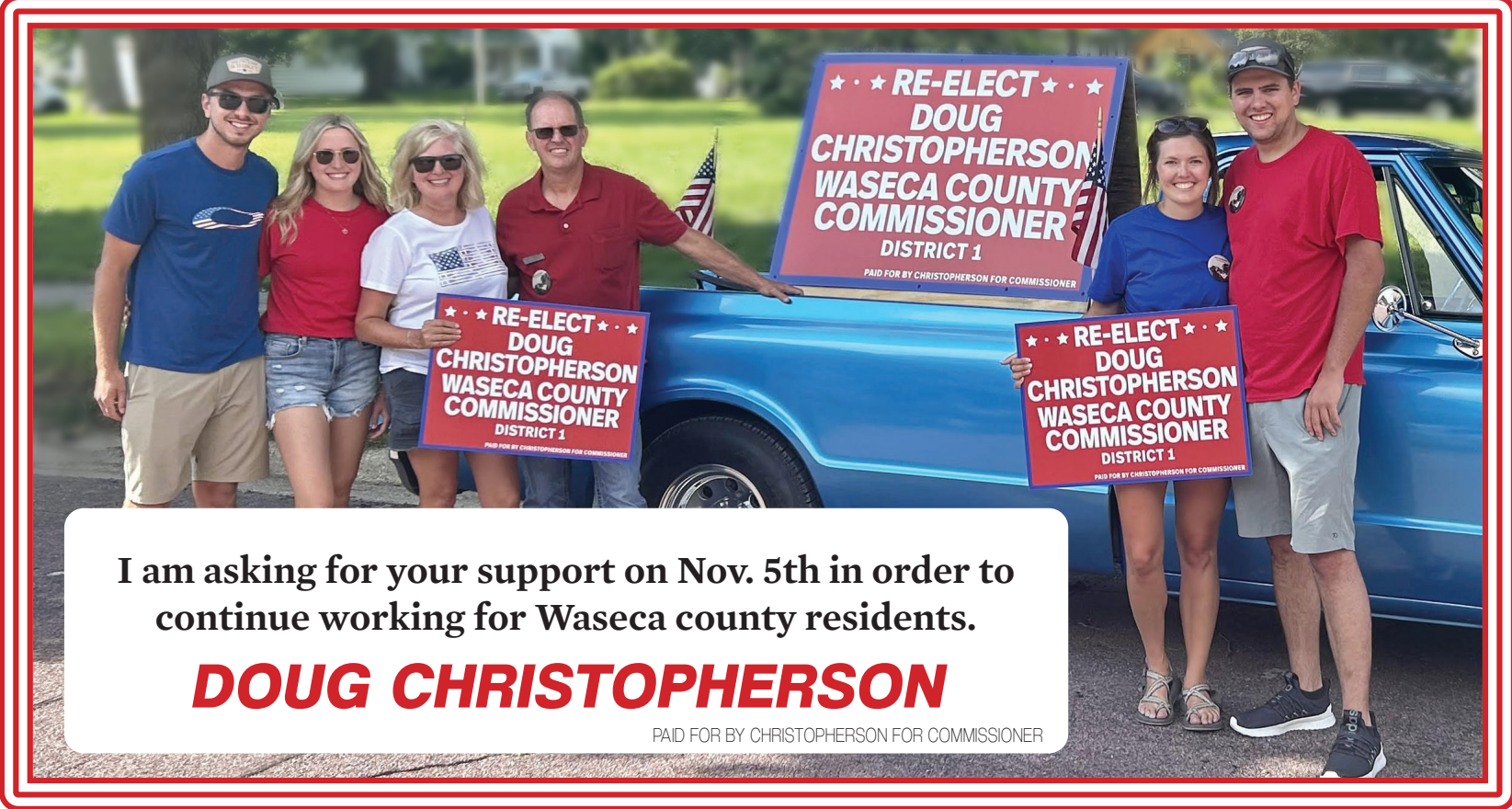
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RE-ELECT
DOUG
CHRISTOPHERSON
WASECA COUNTY
COMMISSIONER
DISTRICT 1

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I am asking for your support on Nov. 5th in order to
continue working for Waseca county residents.

DOUG CHRISTOPHERSON

PAID FOR BY CHRISTOPHERSON FOR COMMISSIONER

OBITUARIES

Joshua Petersen

JOSHUA "PONYTAIL" PETERSEN, a loyal father, son, brother, and friend, passed away peacefully on the morning of Thursday, October 24, 2024 after a very brief stint with cancer at the age of 44. Josh was a well-loved local figure, known for his vibrant personality and adventurous spirit. He leaves a legacy of warmth and laughter throughout Waseca, MN and St. Petersburg, Florida, where he spent many years of his life.

Those who knew Josh will remember him for his colorful sense of humor, his gusto for life, and his unwavering commitment to being a loving father to his son, Devon, the most cherished part of his life. Josh took immense pride in being a father and dedicated each day to creating special memories with Devon. Some of their most special time together was spent watching wrestling matches at home, having "Daddy/Devon Dinner Dates" at El Molino, and going on fun adventures to theme parks and fairs.

Josh is survived by his son Devon, as well as his loving mother, Caren Campbell (Jimmy Peterson), two sisters, Kimberly Dunn and Monica (Robert) Phelps,



Joshua Petersen

and his two beloved nieces, Zoey and Riley Dunn. His death is preceded by his father, Wayne "Petey" Petersen, as well as his maternal and paternal grandparents.

In honor of Josh's spirit, we invite all who knew him to celebrate his life by sharing stories, photos, laughter, and love on his birthday, November 10th, 2024 from 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM at the American Legion Post 228, (700 S State St, Waseca, MN 56093). Dennis-Steffel-Omtvedt Funeral and Cremation Service is handling the arrangements. dsoufuneral.com

Judith Szyszka

Judith Fern Szyszka of Eagan, MN passed away September 23, 2024 at the age of 82 after suffering from Lewy body dementia and Alzheimer's disease. Judi was born and raised in Waseca, MN graduating Waseca High School exceling in many things, but especially proud of lettering in cheerleading three of those years. She went on to earn a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from St. Cloud State University. She used that degree to become a social worker in various parts of the state of Minnesota helping many people as she could. She retired from the State of Minnesota Human Services Dept as a State Program Administrator Principal where she continued her fight for fairness through policy creation.

She had a tremendous love for travel and all the experiences that one has seeing other parts of the United States along with overseas travel to England and Scotland. Judi was a worldly person in her own right sharing wisdom she had gleaned through her life experiences. She was a courageous, intelligent, beautiful person often ahead of her time in personal independence. Her guidance, dry humor, artistic talent in many mediums, and her ability to know how to correctly spell all the words in the dictionary are just a few of the



Judith Szyszka

things that will be missing from this world. She is now reunited with two of her most cherished family being her son, Johnathon Dale Szyszka and her mother, Fern Marie Papke. Her light will be carried on by her daughter, Brandi Jo Szyszka Brooks, her sisters Linda Hood and Kim Matz who brought their own light to help her see through the darkness while battling the disease. She will be missed by her brothers Jimmy Larsen, Rick Papke, Mike Simmons, and reunited with her brother Bobby Larsen. Family has had multiple celebrations of life and will continue to tell stories of her life and how she helped influence those around her.

Get your news in the Pioneer

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Robert Roemhildt

ROBERT "BOB" LOUIS ROEMHILDT, age 81, of Waseca, died on October 27, 2024 in Mankato.

Born on October 28, 1942, in Waseca, he was the son of Alvin and Blanche (Clarke) Roemhildt. He attended Waseca Public Schools and graduated with the class of 1960. Following his education, Bob enlisted into the Minnesota National Guard. He was united in marriage on August 29, 1964, to Janelle Marie Lau at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Waseca. Together they made their home on the farm where they shared 53 years of marriage before Janelle passed away on August 31, 2017.

Bob's passion in life was faith and farming. He began farming alongside his dad and brother, and later with his sons. His grandchildren brought him much joy and laughter, especially at family gatherings. He loved reading and studying history books. Bob was

always telling stories of his travels with his wife on farm tours and their many trips to Branson during the holiday season. They also traveled to California and Washington State to see his sisters. He loved bumming around the countryside with his sons looking at other fields to see what that status was. Most mornings, Bob could be found at the Pheasant Cafe enjoying a cup of coffee and visiting with the neighbors about life and farming. Bob was very active with his church, serving on the board of elders for many years, ushering at funerals, and helping wherever he was needed.

Bob is survived by his children: Carol (LaVern) Sletten, Tom (Teresa) Roemhildt, Jodi (Robert) Kubat, Becky Roemhildt, and Tim Roemhildt; grandchildren: Amanda (Gerard) Duval, Hannah Sletten (fiancé, Carlos Frias), Nancy Morales, Oswaldo (Veronica) Morales, Jennifer

(Jerry) Romo, Marco (Anna) Morales, Kailea Kubat, and Kristin Kubat; and 18 great grandchildren. He is also survived by his siblings: Bettie Reising, Bonnie Savage, and Ronald (Linda) Roemhildt; many nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Preceded in death by his parents; wife; mother-in-law and father-in-law, Irving and Ida Mae Lau; grandson, Uriel Morales; sister, Janice (Bob) Abbe; and many aunts and uncles.

Visitation will be from 3:00-7:00 PM on Friday, November 1, 2024, at the Third Street Chapel of Dennis-Steffel-Omtvedt Funeral and Cremation Services in Waseca. Visitation will continue for one hour prior to the service at the church on Saturday.

Funeral Service will be 10:30 AM on Saturday, November 2, 2024, at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Waseca with Rev. Michael Grannis officiating. Interment will follow at St. John - Trinity Lutheran Cemetery in Iosco Township, Waseca County. DSOFuneral.com



Robert Roemhildt

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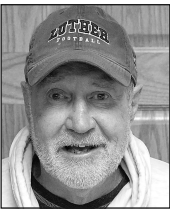
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Bits and Pieces

by Dave Zika



Good old-fashioned Halloween movies

October is in full swing and what a picturesque time of year for everyone. The fall leaf colors are beautiful, the fall harvest is at its peak and Friday night lights, along with the full moon are lighting up the crisp, cool night sky. It's time to think Halloween and trick or treat.

I just walked in the door with my three bags of candy for this year's expected trick or treaters. We have a huge number, maybe 80: Besides that, I always make sure I have a few candy bars left over. Reese's peanut butter cups are reportedly the number one selling Halloween treat in America. Snickers bars are number two and Kit Kat are my choices for this Halloween. WalMart always has a half-price sale on Halloween bars the day after. If you are interested, get there early: Last year I got there at 10 a.m. and had to fight a shopping cart traffic jam in the aisles. Many of my favorite bars were already gone by then.

If you take a drive around Waseca it's fun to look at the houses decorated for the fall and Halloween. On many steps and front sidewalks, you'll observe beautiful pots of colored mums and arrangements of fall foliage. Pumpkins are displayed everywhere, there must be thousands of them in Waseca alone. Fright nights and Halloween characters highlight many front yards. Witches and ghosts hang from trees and fly in the wind. Skeletons, witches and goblins lurk on yards and porches and make for "spooktacular" viewing. This appears to be a banner year for front yard inflatables. I haven't figured out how people keep them inflated and displayed in our active fall winds.

The Pioneer newspaper has done a wonderful job posting everything happening in the area during the month of October, activities for the old and young. The Waseca Historical Society Snake Oil Show, Oktoberfest happenings, the Halloween bash at The Mill and fall event at Farmamerica are just a few. For all of the young, excited trick or treaters, Waseca businesses offer treats on the streets or trunk or treat at the parking lot of the Methodist Church.

All of the T.V. channels carry creepy creature features and fear fests the entire month of October. The all-time Halloween movie, in my opinion, is "Friday the Thirteenth." There have been twelve different versions put out over the years. Jason is the household name, he's the terrible, evil, violent man in the hockey mask. Every time he is finally laid to rest at the end of one of the movies, he resurrects and returns to terrorize a new group of characters. Zombie, Freddie, Chuckie, ghost hauntings and witch clas-

sics are also run daily.

If you still enjoy good, old-fashioned, non-violent humorous watching: "Casper the Friendly Ghost," "Beetlejuice" and "Hocus Pocus" (the original and the sequel) are entertaining and delightful.

Moms and some dads are now busy buying costumes for their young trick or treaters. Back in childhood days growing up in Austin your Halloween outfit was pretty simple—a scary mask. We all carried old pillow cases to present at doors to carry our treats. Candy bars were gold, not the tiny snack bars of today. I remember Baby Ruths, Butterfingers and chocolate Hershey bars; they were all of the large size. Half of your haul would consist of homemade popcorn balls and homemade cookies. Parents never chaperoned their kids; there were no safety issues back in the day. The day after Halloween, streets or sidewalks were littered with smashed pumpkins, an Austin teen tradition.

Some of my great Halloween memories from across time. When we lived on Sixteenth Street Northeast, Cap Petersen would appear at his door with his lab dog heeled at his side and a Halloween scarf around its neck. Once, my son Marc jumped off the couch in his Superman outfit and crashed to the floor. I really think he believed he could fly. Another year, my youngest grandson Nathan wore a Batman costume as his daily outfit for weeks after Halloween.

Ninety snack candy bars are now ready for Oct. 31 sitting on our kitchen counter. Parents are busy watching the weather and hoping for a beautiful evening on Oct. 31. When the day arrives and the sun goes down, I'll turn on the light and they will come. There will be a parade of headlights along my street, and adults will get out with anxious trick or treaters. It reminds me of the conclusion of a favorite movie, "Field of Dreams."

The doorbell will ring and a group of young trick or treaters will be standing at the door with happy smiling parents as chaperones in the background. Spiderman, Batman, witches, little Barbies and princesses will all say trick or treat in unison holding out their bags and pails. After I deliver their treats, I'm rewarded with a favorite phrase: "Thank you."

Closing note: No matter how tired you may become of answering the door, never ever set your candy bowl on the front steps with a sign that says "Only take one candy bar." I am sorry to report that, when it comes to unguarded candy, trick or treaters sometimes can't be trusted.

Kusudama Origami at Waseca Library

By DEB BENTLY
Staff writer

Waseca Public Library librarian Afton Finley, 34, is the one who proposed that Kusudama flowers might be a project people would enjoy because it's "simple, colorful, and can be used in many different ways."

A complete Kusudama flower ball is actually made up of 12 paper flowers, each of which is made of 5 petals. Folded from a single square of paper, the petals require only a couple of minutes each to make.

"They take a little practice," admits Finley. "But once you've done a few of them, you barely have to think about what you're doing."

While most public classes are offered at a scheduled time—Finley says lunchtime and around 6 p.m. tend to be when most people are able to come—the Kusudama class has simply been publicized as being during "open hours."

By around 10 a.m. the morning of Tuesday, Oct. 22, a steady flow of learners has begun arriving. Some stay longer, others come to understand the process, then take the supplies away with them to complete a 12-flower ball at a later time.

Finley continues to fold while she talks with people, offers explanations, and answers questions.

Mary Wyffels says she saw the craft project on a Facebook post and decided it might be a good one for when her grandchildren visit.

"I'm always looking for ways to keep them off their electronics," she explains.

Kathy Lindner, a retired technical writer, says she loves to dabble in crafts. On her list to date are quilting, cross stitch, watercolor painting, and pottery—which she says she works on at the Waseca Art Center.

As she begins to fold flower petals, she remarks some of her folds



Librarian Afton Finley (left) and class participant Kathy Lindner fold the petals which will become the flowers that comprise a kusudama flower ball, an origami art form which originated in Japan. The Waseca Library offered the craft as one of its many public outreach events.

Pioneer photo by Deb Bently

are not square. Finley comments the art form is forgiving—a few uneven lines won't spoil the final product.

"It all depends on your sense of perfection," jokes Lindner, saying the Art Center staff has taught her the definition of a successful project is simply whether she likes it when it's finished.

Council

from Page 3

numbers rose during the month of October after receiving some interest payments. Anderson suggested using some of the capital reserve funds for the pumper. When he further questioned why there weren't enough funds to begin with when the city purchased the pumper truck for the Janesville fire department, council members explained that inflation played a factor. "This new truck cost nowhere near what we put into the reserve a few years ago," city council member Ivan Maas said.

Gary Meyer of St. Mary's Township agreed that inflation was an issue. "We looked into getting a truck," he said. "In early March, it was about \$800,000. By the end of the month, it was \$900,000."

Anderson understood. "We had to get a new plow truck at the township, and it hurt."

The fire board meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Paul Voges, who helped run the

city's first "Songs in the Park" music series, gave the council presented the numbers of people who attended and the amount of money the city received from events throughout the summer and into September. He claimed the whole series went "incredibly smoothly" and that everyone he worked with was easygoing. He thanked the city employees for doing a "phenomenal job keeping the parks cleaned and maintained throughout the summer." "We did have to postpone two events, but we easily moved them up a week," he said.

"We had one band that couldn't make it due to sickness and found a replacement within minutes. By all accounts, it was a success."

Voges had already started making budget estimates for next year's series. He is considering two shows a month outside of June to avoid interfering with Hay Daze, which means lining up more food trucks. Mulcahey requested the council make a motion to approve Voges to put together another music series next summer instead of waiting until January to vote; the council unanimously approved. Mulcahey also hand-delivered a thank you from the

park board to Voges.

Nursing home Administrator Pete Madel visited with the council and informed them that Whispering Creek was rated a five-star nursing home by the state of Minnesota; he stated the facility usually receives that designation. The health inspector also visited the nursing home and found only one deficiency, which Madel claimed was an error. However, he let that slide.

"If we had zero deficiencies from the state, then they send the feds in," he joked. "I thought that we'd take this one."

Regarding quality measures, the nursing home is well in the top ten percent of the state, which Madel credits to the great staff and long-time employees. He did acknowledge the struggles of inflation: Compared to 2014, Whispering Creek has had to double the daily charge to live there. "What most don't realize is that we don't set our own rates; the state does," he elaborated. "It's pretty much all inflation driven."

This has also affected pay rates for employees. Nursing assistants who made \$10 to \$11 per hour ten years ago now make about \$20, while

nurses' pay has gone from about \$30 per hour to \$50. Madel said if the rate were any lower, he wouldn't be competitive. Though he said he wishes it weren't true, he expects costs to continue their fairly sharp rise.

Madel claimed any means of measurement will show Janesville has "an incredible nursing home."

Police Chief Steve Johnson briefed the council on his department's third-quarter report. Although reports and arrests are down from the previous quarter, they are still up from last year. "Things are cooling off," he added. "We've had a few accidents, but no DWIs or calls handled from the county as of Sunday. It's all par for the course."

The only other items the council covered were approving to remove city clerk Sara Jo Vulcan from her training period, and to accept nearly \$3,200 from the Janesville Area Golf Association to Prairie Ridge Golf Course for the costs of topdressing the sand around the course.

Council members closed the meeting at 8:06 p.m. for Clinton Rogers' yearly performance review. After reopening the meeting, they adjourned.

Debate

from Page 3

Ward II

Candidates for Waseca's Ward II council seat include Nicholas Meister and Gary Conrath.

Meister, 45, was born and raised in Waseca, is active in the construction business and has owned his own business for 12 years. He said his top priority is to grow the community.

Conrath, a lifelong resident of Waseca, has been married for 49 years this December and has four children. He listed a long resume which includes 42 years with the Waseca Fire Department, 25 years as a member of the Fire Chiefs Association, a decade on the Waseca school board, being a member of the county fair board and at St. John's Lutheran Church.

Conrath said his top priorities were to reduce property taxes, attract busi-

nesses, build new homes, including addressing the need for senior housing.

Regarding removal of special street assessments, both Meister and Conrath were against doing so.

"I think we have to have them to a certain point to continue with progress in the city," Meister answered. "That's a tough question," Conrath answered. "It certainly needs some thought. The possibility is there. It would be neat if we didn't have street assessments. But we certainly can't refund people [who have already been assessed]."

Asked about how to ensure clean lakes in Waseca, Meister implied a partnership with county leadership that includes continued use of the weed harvester would be "fantastic." Conrath agreed and said the city should also consider bringing back a purification system used 10 to 15 years ago.

Regarding the Gaiter Lake project, Conrath declined to say whether he would support the plan. "I'd listen to my constituents," he stated more than once.

"[The city is] at a point where either we grow or we die," Meister said. "Personally I think it's a good idea."

Ward III

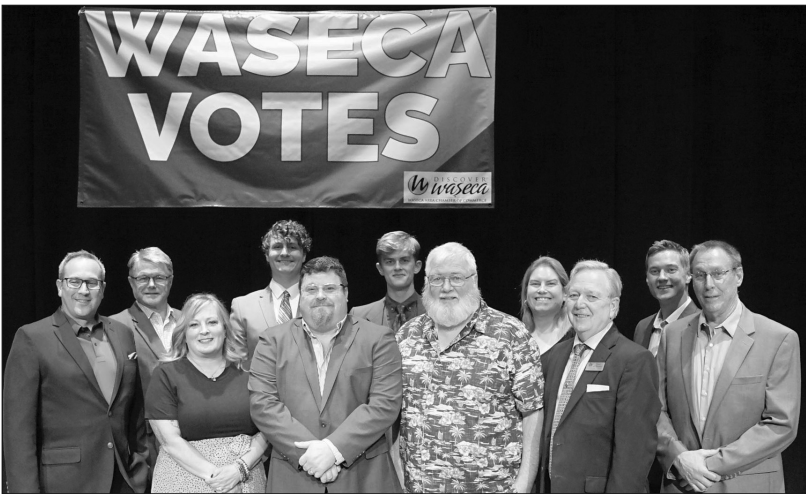
Candidates for Waseca's Ward III council seat include incumbent Mark Christiansen and challengers Theresa Riecke, Chad Schlueter and Koby Wright.

Schlueter, a 10-year resident of Waseca, is an Army veteran who also has 11 years experience in law enforcement.

Riecke, a longtime resident of Waseca and 1990 graduate of Waseca High School, has a degree in Veterinary Technology, a bachelor's degree in elementary education, and a master's degree in special education.

Christiansen, a long term resident and council member in Waseca, has a wife, three children and a degree in finance and accounting. He works as a supply chain specialist in Mankato, is the treasurer for both the Waseca Art Council and local boy scouts, is a member of the band boosters, and his local church.

Wright, 30, moved to Waseca when he was 15 and graduated from Waseca High School in 2012.



Participants and organizers of the Waseca Votes City Council Debates, from left: Larry Johnson, Dwight Thostenson, Stacey Schroeder, Brayden Hoof, Nic Meister, Nathanael Andrs, Gary Conrath, Ann Fitch, Mikhail Rostislovovich, Jay Bulfer, and Brian Harguth.

Pioneer photo by Eli Lutgens

Nearly every candidate agreed, during the question phase, on the growth of Waseca, additional green space, city annexation of land and also, the introduction of a future city sales tax.

In response to a question regarding what services they would be willing to cut in order to balance the budget, candidates gave varying responses.

Wright listed no specific cuts, citing detriments to residents.

Christiansen stated city leaf and brush pickup could be eliminated. He said numerous other practices could also be reviewed, including charging the Waseca Marching Classic for services provided for free during their annual event. Snow plowing, lawn mowing and parks were other areas Christiansen said could be looked at.

Riecke agreed about leaf pickup and said less lawn mowing at parks could help trim the budget.

"I want to say no to cuts right off the bat," Schlueter answered. He later said leaf and brush pickup could be reduced.

Every candidate said making cuts to the budget is difficult.

Candidates were asked where additional housing development could go. Candidates gave inconclusive responses until Christiansen provided his analysis of strengths and weaknesses for each part of town.

Christiansen summarized that the northwest part of town is expensive

to expand to because of sewer and water costs. In the northeast, the city doesn't own the land. In the southwest part of town are the prison and additional farmland.

"The Southeast is most logical and is city owned," Christiansen stated.

He also stated an apartment building next to Walmart is a great idea. "We haven't had a new apartment building since 1995," he claimed.

His overall summary regarding new housing was, "Gaiter lake one-hundred percent, and apartments next to Walmart."

Riecke was in support of apartments and single family homes on the north side of town and mentioned land to the south of the community.

Schlueter said the northwest side of town is a safe place to expand to and agreed apartments and senior housing are needed in the community.

Wright said the northeast quadrant is easiest topographically.

The final question regarded whether the city should look into a historic district in downtown Waseca.

Candidates agreed it's worthy of discussion.

Following closing statements, candidates stayed and visited with those in attendance. Video of the debate can be found on the Waseca Chamber's website and also the city's public access channel.



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Cornhole for a Cause Nov. 2

By DEB BENTLY
News Editor

“It’s a whole day of fun, all in one place,” observes “Cornhole for a Cause” tournament planner Michael Priebe. Priebe is speaking of the Nov. 2 event at The Mill in Waseca. Doors will open at 10 a.m. with the tournament beginning at 11.

The “cause” is the Waseca Area Food Shelf which, according to director Cindy Kolander, has been assisting more than 500 households—about 1,250 people—each month. “This is our second year for a ComHole for a Cause fundraising event hosted by The Mill, which was one of our bigger fundraisers last year,” notes Kolander—(updated spelling) “We’re grateful to everyone who helped make it a success and hope this year is even better.”

Priebe, a 2015 Waseca High School graduate, is a fairly avid cornhole player who oversaw last year’s tournament, which drew about 30 two-person teams from all across southern Minnesota. A \$50 donation to the food shelf allows teams to to face off for cash prizes awarded to those who place first, second or third. Priebe hopes word of mouth and some of the information he’s shared on various sources will draw in even more teams this year, with registration possible prior to the start of competition on Nov. 2.

Those who come to compete, those who come to watch, and those who come to support their favorite team will not only have the excitement of the tournament, they will also be able to choose from the award-winning “Team Top Chelf” offering of pulled pork sandwiches with chips and “loaded” nachos at \$8 apiece, with other a la carte items available.

Getting into the spirit of support will be easy, Kolander suggests, with an array of 20 or more silent auction items offered, meat raffles, and opportunities to donate. Among the items visitors can bid on will be a high-quality set of cornhole boards and bags, as well as a basket filled with fun items from a local specialty shop (Homestead).

“We are so thankful to The Mill for hosting this event,” she says. “Their facility is just the right place for this event.”

Priebe agrees. The uninterrupted open layout at The Mill is ideal for a cornhole tournament, he says. The facility is even able to supply cornhole boards and bags because it houses a wintertime cornhole league with about 60 teams.

The quality of the facility is a draw for the tournament, he comments. “Everyone knows The Mill. It’s getting to be more and more widely known all through southern Minnesota.” He also suggests that, as the weather turns colder and the summertime tournaments offered at campgrounds, fairs, and parks are coming to an end, an indoor event will be inviting. The \$50 per team donation, he says, is right in line with entry fees teams are accustomed to paying.

As the tournament and other elements finish, Priebe’s “whole day of fun” continues with the Blue Ringers, a popular regional band that plays a combination of country, rock, and current hits. A \$10 cover charge is also a donation to the food shelf, since sponsorship by James Brothers Construction, HKS Construction, and anonymous donors have covered the cost of the band.

The Discover Waseca tourism program is also helping with some of the costs for publicizing the event, says Kolander, since it will be drawing participants in from farther distances, and acquainting more travelers with the shops, restaurants and accommodations available in town.

Priebe says he is glad to be assisting with Cornhole for a Cause. “It’s a way to give back to a community which gives so much to its young people,” he comments.

Kolander credits the Waseca Area Neighborhood Service Center board members and many volunteers that help put this event together and will be present to make sure it runs smoothly.

“The Waseca area community consists of many big-hearted, generous people,” she comments. “They want to do something for those whose lives have been made complicated by inflation and other hardships.

“At the food shelf, we hear from folks who have to make a choice between buying groceries and paying their electric bill or getting the medicine their family member needs. We want to be able to help them, and events like this make it possible for us to do so.

“Every little bit helps.”



The Pastor’s Column

No matter what ook for God in the details

By PASTOR KEN ANDRS

I have been wondering lately, who is in the details? Is God in the details or the devil? Both phrases are fairly popular, but what does it mean? Where did these phrases come from?

Looking at the etymology of both phrases we can see that God is in the details originated before the devil. Most people think the phrase comes from a German-American architect named Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, who wrote on how the details of architecture make the building beautiful. His writing of the phrase was the first time in history it is seen, most likely written in the late 1940s to 1950s. Mies van der Rohe desired to allow the spaces he created to touch the heart and be more than a utilitarian space, he wanted his spaces to be art.

Now the phrase that he wrote “God is in the details,” may have been from the oral tradition and a popular phrase that people would say throughout their lives, but the first time it was recorded was by Mies van der Rohe. On the other hand the Devil gets into the details in the 1960s, in fact the devil over takes the details in popularity as a phrase at that time. Etymologists speculate that the shift occurred because of the rise of drugs, the Viet Nam war, and development of computer technology.

I don’t know exactly why I was thinking about this phrase this morning, but as I contemplated both phrases and started to do some research it became clear to me that whatever your perspective is that is who is in the details. Are you focusing on what God can do? Then you will see God’s hand and miraculous work. If you are looking at the negative then you will see the barriers, the failures and the brokenness of the situations.

Ecclesiastes 7 challenges me to change my perspective in every circumstance:

13 Consider the work of God, for who can straighten out what He has made crooked?

14 In the day of prosperity be joyful, but in the day of adversity, consider: God has made the one as well as the other, so that no one can discover anything that will come after him.

If God created things crooked, He has a plan to straighten it out. Don’t consider one day worse than the other, just look for God’s work in the details. He is at work, be joyful in what God will and can do. Discover how He works in the days of joy and adversity, look for Him to continue to work.

No matter your circumstances, look for God in the details.

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‘Be careful when you pray’

Bae visits Waseca; shares story of North Korean imprisonment

Waseca’s Kelly Sadler contributes to impactful writing campaign

By JESSICA LUTGENS
Staff Writer

Nearly ten years after being released from a North Korean prison camp, Evangelical Christian missionary Kenneth Bae traveled to Waseca, home of Kelly Sadler, who was among those who helped encourage him during his imprisonment by being part of a letter writing campaign. A good-sized crowd was in attendance at Christ Community Church in Waseca on Sunday, Oct. 13, to hear Bae tell about his experiences.

Born in South Korea in 1968, Bae moved to the United States with his family in 1985 at the age of 16. Following high school, he studied for two years at the University of Oregon, majoring in psychology and minoring in Chinese. He went on to graduate from San Francisco Bible College in 1996 before receiving a Master’s Degree of Divinity from Covenant Theological Seminary in 2002.

In 2005, Bae first visited the North Korean border as part of an outreach team through China. During a visit, he met two North Korean citizens who had become Christian. Knowing faith could make such a difference, Bae says, “changed his life forever.”

During a boat ride on a river between North and South Korea, Bae found himself praying for the Lord to use him as a bridge between North Korea and the rest of the world.

“I have no idea why I said that,” he said with a slight chuckle. “You have to be careful when you pray - the Lord listens.”

It wasn’t until 2010 that Bae first crossed the North Korean border, which was also when the country first opened the border to western tourists. Through a tour company that carried out Christian missionary work, Bae and others brought in about 300 people from 17 different nations.

“While we’re doing that, we’re praying for people,” he said.

North Korea, officially, is an atheist state.

“If you’re not North Korean citizens, it’s okay for you to worship and pray, as long as you keep it within your group,” Bae explained. “They didn’t like it, but they thought it was a fair trade... [people were] coming in and bringing money to [their country].”

However, on Nov. 3, 2012, Bae was first detained by North Korean authorities for “crimes against the nation.” He explained that some of the evidence against him was a computer hard drive that contained a Western media film about, in part, starving North Korean children.

“[It had] stuff they didn’t want the rest of the



Kenneth Bae speaks about his time spent in a North Korean prison camp during a talk at Waseca’s Christ Community Church on Oct. 13, 2024. Photo by Jessica Lutgens

world to see,” Bae said. “They didn’t like that at all.”

According to Bae, he was taken to a remote place and questioned day and night, being allowed very little sleep and food.

“It was very intense,” he said.

Eventually, Bae was sentenced to 15 years of hard labor in a North Korean prison camp. While there, he was required to work eight hours a day, six days a week, doing things such as field work, farming, digging, and carrying rocks.

After a few months, due to losing about 50 pounds and battling numerous health issues, Bae was sent to a hospital where his mother was allowed to visit him. This visit from his family member, where she was able to bring Bae some of his favorite snacks from the United States, along with his faith and continued daily prayer, allowed Bae to keep his spirits up despite the circumstances he found himself in.

Efforts to have Bae released were ongoing throughout much of his time in the prison camp, with an agreement almost being reached in August 2013. It wasn’t until November of 2014 following a visit from the U.S. Director of National Intelligence, James Clapper, that Bae was able to go home to the United States.

About six months after Bae was returned to Se-

“Write that letter. The impact you can make is greater than you will ever know.” — Kelly Sadler

attle, he and Waseca resident Kelly Sadler were finally able to meet. Sadler is now an ambassador for Bae’s non-profit organization, New Korea Foundation International, which is “dedicated to rebuilding the lives of North Korean refugees through holistic education.”

Sadler first became involved with the effort to get Bae released in 2012 when she joined a letter writing campaign. Not all of the letters written to Bae actually reached him, but Sadler’s did, and ended up changing her life direction from then on out.

Her advice to others is, “Write that letter. The impact you can make is greater than you will ever know.”

For more information on Bae’s organization, which will be moving its headquarters from Seattle, Washington, to Minneapolis, visit newkoreafi.org.

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CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH 2200 4th St NE, Waseca 507-835-2235 Service times 9:30 a.m. * * *	CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST LATTER-DAY SAINTS 1001 9th Ave SE, Waseca 507-835-4640 Sacrament meeting 10:00 a.m. * * *	VISTA EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH New Richland, Minnesota Brian Schanil Pastor Sunday - 10 a.m. Worship; 9 a.m. Sunday School Tuesdays: The Shepherd’s Robe Ministry, 1-3 p.m., 6-8 p.m.; Bonfires and Yard Games, 6 p.m. until dark * * *	TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH 412 N. Main Street, Janesville Interhim Pastor Wednesday, Saturday - 6:30 p.m. Worship Sunday - 8 a.m. Worship, 9 Bible Class, 10:15 a.m. Worship * * *
4TH STREET EVANGELICAL CHURCH 605 4th St NE, Waseca 507-201-7293 (Pastor Andrew Isker) Worship Sundays 10 a.m. * * *	GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH 1221 8th St SE, Waseca 507-835-2213 Sunday worship 10:45 a.m., 6:00 p.m. * * *	ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC CHURCH New Richland, Minnesota Father Glenn Ferichs Friday - 10 a.m. on 1st, 3rd and 4th Fridays p.m. Mass Sunday - Mass at 8 a.m. * * *	JANESVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 401 N. West St., Janesville Pastor Kathy King Sunday - 8:15 a.m. Worship * * *
FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 801 4th Ave NE, Waseca 507-835-3167 Worship Sundays 9:30 a.m. * * *	CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY 900 14th Ave SE, Waseca 507-833-1082 Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m., Sun Evening 6:00 p.m., Wed. evening 6:30 p.m. * * *	FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH Missouri Synod Waldorf, Minnesota Vacancy Pastor: Rev. Larry Sipe Sundays: Worship 8 a.m.; 9:10 a.m. Sunday School and adult bible class * * *	BLOOMING GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 43089 180th St., Morristown Pastor Kathy King Sunday - 8:15 a.m. Summer worship hours, (10:45 a.m. Worship, winter) * * *
CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH 309 6th St NE, Waseca 507-835-9176 Worship Sundays traditional 8:30 a.m., 9:45 a.m. Sunday School/Fellowship; 10:45 a.m. contemporary service * * *	ST. PETER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH New Richland, Minnesota Rev. Scott Williams, Pastor Sunday - 9 a.m. Sunday School, Choir and Choir; 10:30 a.m. Worship Monday - 1 p.m. Quilters Wednesday - 7 p.m. Worship * * *	IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH Freedom Township Sunday - 9:15 a.m. Worship * * *	ST. ANN CATHOLIC CHURCH 307 W. 2nd St, Janesville 10 a.m. - Mass * * *
ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH 401 3rd Ave NE, Waseca 507-833-1703 Sundays 9:00 a.m. * * *	ST. PETER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH Otisco, Minnesota Rev. Scott Williams, Pastor Thursday - 6:30 p.m. Soup & Study Sunday - 8:45 a.m. Worship * * *	ZOAR UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST Pastor Ava Adams-Morris Waldorf, Minnesota Sunday — 9 a.m. Worship * * *	FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH 300 Owen St., Janesville Pastor Sarah Krolak * * *
ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH 314 4th Ave NE, Waseca 507-835-2647 Worship Sunday 9:00 a.m. * * *	TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH New Richland, Minnesota Pastor Mary Iverson Sunday - 9 a.m. Sunday Worship, Sunday School; 10 a.m. Coffee Monday - 9 a.m. Quilting Wednesday - 6:15 p.m. Confirmation; 7 p.m. Council meeting * * *	ST. JOSEPH’S CATHOLIC Waldorf, Minnesota Father Brian Mulligan Sunday - 8 a.m. Worship * * *	ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL CHURCH Alma City, Minnesota Pastor Robert Harting Sunday - 10 a.m. Worship * * *
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH 503 2nd Ave NE, Waseca 507-835-4548 (office email: 1cwaseca@hickorytech.net) Worship Sunday 10 a.m. * * *	LESUEUR RIVER LUTHERAN CHURCH New Richland, Minnesota Pastor Dan Kordahl Sunday - 9 a.m. Worship; 9:30 a.m. Sunday School Tuesday - 8:30 a.m. Quilting * * *	TRINITY LUTHERAN Wilton Township Rev. Larry Sipe, Pastor Sunday - 8 a.m. summer worship; 10:45 a.m. Worship starting Sept. 1 * * *	NORTH WASECA LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA 404 30 120th St. Waseca Pastor Sarah Krolak 507-234-6463 Sunday - 8:45 a.m. Worship; Second Sunday “Young at heart” Wednesday - 6:30 p.m. confirmation * * *
GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH 300 E Elm Ave, Waseca 507-835-1709 Worship Sunday 9 a.m. * * *	VISTA LUTHERAN CHURCH New Richland, Minnesota Pastor Dan Kordahl Sunday - 10:30 a.m. Worship * * *	THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS Brad Donner, Branch President Waseca, Minnesota www.lds.org Sunday — 10 a.m. Sacrament Mtg.; 11:20 a.m. Sunday School Wednesday — 7 p.m. Youth Activities, ages 12-18 * * *	NOTE: CHANGES IN CHURCH CALENDARS MUST BE MADE BY NOTIFICATION FROM A MEMBER OF THE CONGREGATION TO THE WASECA COUNTY PIONEER. * * *
SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH 111 4th St NW, Waseca Father Glenn Ferichs 507-835-1222 Worship Sundays 10:00 a.m., Tues. and Wed. at 8:30 a.m. and Thurs. at 7 a.m.; Saturdays at 5 p.m. * * *			
REAL LIFE CHURCH 620 W Elm Ave, Waseca 507-607-8245 Sunday worship 10 a.m. * * *			



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Janesville

1924

- Mr. Smith Hodgkins who came from Dubuque, Canada, to attend the funeral of his father, was a caller at this office Saturday morning. He stated that this season was one that witnessed an unusual combination in that country, fine crops and high prices. This has resulted in a very general advance in land values and in commercial activity. There is a boom on everywhere even in places that were not affected on account of dry conditions, in very few spots, for some reason or other, escaped the downpour which came st in time for the crops. Wheat averaged no less than twenty bushels to the acre, and up to thirty and thirty-five in places. Just before he left he disposed of his crop at \$1.24 per bushel.

- Waseca has played three scoreless ties this year with such strong teams as Owatonna, St. Peter and Pillsbury. Last Friday they won from New Richland 50 to 0. The Janesville team has won all its high school games this year. It was a treat to see the local boys last Saturday batter their way to victory against the heavy Madelia team. They are out to upset the "dope" next Friday and ask your support. "Beat Waseca" is the slogan.

- Mr. Waller, proprietor of the Janesville Oil Co., has installed filling tanks on railroad land just beyond the stockyards. There are two immense tanks, each holding fifteen thousand gallons. They are place some rods from the tank and are fill-through piping laid underground and operated by a gasoline motor.

1949

- While snoopin' around the Old g, it has come to the knowledge of the Argus Pencil Pusher: That a couple in England recently celebrated their 74th wedding anniversary. On being asked how she got along so well during those many years, she answered: "I st let him be the boss and mind everything he says." What yuh got to say to that, some of you married guys?

- The Janesville Golden ars made their Homecoming a very successful affair by upsetting a startled ooming Prairie eleven in a 6-0 thriller at Northside Park yesterday afternoon. It was a make-or-break battle for the ars who would have been eliminated from the Gopher Conference title race of they had been defeated. The "Blossoms" suffered their first loss in the history of the Conference, which dates back to 1946. The Golden ars, who played their best all-around game of the year, scored their lone marker on a march down the field after they received the opening kickoff. The ball was centered back to Pete Wolff who started through the line. Instead, he tossed a lateral to Strauss coming around the left side and the latter raced 24 yards for the game deciding touchdown.

-An unusual production will be staged by the American Legion on October 27-28 at the school auditorium for the Heart Benefit. All arrangements have been completed and rehearsals will start approximately two weeks prior to the production. A professional director will arrive to take charge of all arrangements and hold rehearsals of this outstanding show. Costumers, brilliant lighting effects, clever lines and dialogue feature this headling production of "Laff It Off." The American Legion hopes to make this one of the most outstanding productions to be staged in Janesville.

- While most Janesville area women were making beds and doing breakfast dishes last Thursday morning, Geraldine Schweim was greasing a Gleaner combine. The day before she had combined beans from nine in the morning until eleven at night. "That's the only way we can get done," she said. "If we don't stay right at it, the weather gets too cold." ou might say Geraldine isn't a typical American housewife. The truth is she hates housework. Geraldine Schweim is a farmer. She has been for 28 years. "I finished eighth grade at Trinity Lutheran School in 1946 and have been working out here ever since," she said. "My dad had arthritis and heart trouble, so he needed me."

- Voters in Independent School District 8 will make the decision on a ,000 educational and recreational addition to Janesville High School when they cast their votes Monday, October 24. Voting will take place in the new gymnasium at Janesville High School from 1 p.m. until 9 p.m. Monday. The proposed school addition includes a new band room, choral room, wrestling room, swimming pool, locker rooms and storage space for the stop area.

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Wilton Township

Notice of
General Election

Tuesday, November 5, 2024

Polls Open:

7 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Voting Location:

Wilton Town Hall

31353 W. Wilton River Road

Derrick Sommers, Township Clerk

Waseca

25 Years Ago: October 26



-Russell Johnson, Harriet Johnson and Lowell Wadd, long time members of North Waseca Lutheran, in front of their church which has been there for a long time. The congregation is celebrating their 140 Anniversary all year long.



-Waseca Mayor John Clemons signed the official proclamation which made October 25-29 Manufacturers Week in Waseca.

-ONE BY AIR – Tim Beckmann gets behind a St. James defender to haul in a 50-yard touchdown pass from sophomore quarterback Jeff Roemhildt during Wednesday's 34-6 victory over St. James. It was the first Bluejay touchdown pass of the year. Waseca, which won its final two regular-season games, opens Section 2AAA action at second-seeded Mankato West tonight.

50 Years Ago: October 24

-Harold and Ann Worke, 204 8TH Ave. S.E., Waseca are the owners and operators of the Montgomery Ward Catalog store on North State Street. The Workes took over ownership of the store Oct. 10 and are planning ribbon cutting and grand opening Friday and Saturday of this week.



-Fire prevention prizes – THIRD GRADE STUDENTS at Hartley Elementary walked off with all five prizes in the annual fire prevention poster contest this year. Duane Brase, member of the Waseca Fire Department and Dave Keller, right, Waseca Insurance Agency, presented the prize money and first prize fire truck to the students. Students pictured: Connie Hanks, \$4; Sarah Nelson, fire truck; Dee Wagner, \$5 and Suzanne McDaniel \$3. The Waseca Insurance Agency provided all the materials to students for Fire Prevention Week.

-Controlled blaze – FLAMES DEVoured what was left of the old Priebe home at the Southern Experiment Station southwest of Waseca this morning in a controlled bur. A fire believed to have caused by lightning gutted the landmark structure Oct. 11.

75 Years Ago

-CLAIR KORMAN escaped with minor cuts and bruises from this badly wrecked 1938 Plymouth convertible coupe, when it rolled over into the ditch on Highway 13 last Wednesday morning. The accident occurred at the Emil Bartlett driveway in Otisco township about 1:15 a.m. Korman was alone in the car. Note the roadside grass lodged between the tire and rim.

-Walter H. Priem, ship's serviceman, third class, USN of North State Street, Waseca, recently visited Bristol, England, as a crew member aboard the destroyer USS Waldron. The Waldron is attached to the Northern European Task Force of Admiral Richard L. Conolly, Commander-in-Chief of Naval Forces, Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean.

-Under the new motor vehicle license law trucks registered in the T class (farmers only), the unloaded weight of the truck determines the tax. Trucks must be weighted and the weight slip attached to the application blank for 1950 licenses.

100 Years Ago

-Farmers who do not have corn that will make seed this year should look over the old corn in the crib. Examine one or two kernels on each side of the ear. If the skin or covering over the germ area is smooth save these ears, they will grow. If the skin over the germ area is wrinkled by water and frost they will not grow or show weak germination.

-The Waseca high school football eleven defeated the Janesville high school team at Janesville last Friday afternoon with a 13 to 6 score. The game was marked by many brilliant plays on both sides, as well as misplays which at times threatened to be costly.

New Richland

25 Years Back

- The Geneva City Council gathered on Tuesday, October 12th at 7 for their monthly meeting. Mayor, Ron Christensen, called the meeting to order. Council members, Jannell Tufte, Steve Bailey, Doug Smith and De WayneJensen were all in attendance, along with City Clerk, Nancey Cornelius; City Maintenance, Steve Neilson; Fire Chief, Greg Bartsch; Daryl and Kathy Paulsen; Jenny Wallerich and Lonnie and Jon Bartsch from the Bath-Geneva 4-H Club; Frank Thompson from Thompson Sanitation; and Marty Tufte, Waste System District Manager.



- One of the worlds greatest trumpet players will be coming to NRHEG High School to work with, and perform with the Concert and Jazz bands. On Tuesday, October 26, Vizzutti, who currently resides outside of Seattle, Washington will be arriving in New Richland to spend the day with high school band members. The days events include a master class, rehearsal time with both bands, and will conclude with a 7:30 concert, where Mr. Vizzutti will solo with each group. Dave Haugh, band director at NRHEG, commented, "It's always been a goal of mine to meet him." Daev e-mailed the agent about coming to NRHEG to perform. It took a while to get dates together, but they were finally able to come up with one. Mr. Haugh has been playing Mr. Vizzutti's recordings for the students to hear. They are excited to meet and have a chance to accompany him.

- Ron and Theresa Langlie of Ellendale, announce their engagement to their daughter, Nicole Langlie of Eden Prairie, son of Barbara and Clancey Pieper of Mankato. Nicole is a 1992 graduate of New Richland Hartland Ellendale Geneva High School, and a 1996 graduate of Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter, with a degree in Business Management. Matt is a 1991 graduate of St. Peter High School, and a 1995 graduate from Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter, with a degree in Financial Economics. A November 6 wedding is planned at First Lutheran Church in Ellendale.

- The Panther Volleyball team claimed the second place spot in the Cannon Falls Tourney on October 16, 1999. "NRHEG had a really good showing at the Cannon Falls Tourney. It was good to see them playing so well together as we near postseason play," said Schultz. "As a team we hit 82% with 67 kills-add to that is 15 tip kills. We had many "heads up" plays at the net, not only blocking, but just following the ball and being aware of overpasses. We served 92% on the day. More importantly, we dug at 71% which showed me a lot of "will" to go after some big hitters. We serve received at 72%," commented Schultz.

50 Years Back

- Mr. and Mrs. Steve Kasper are proud new parents of a girl born to them on Tuesda, January 27, at St. John East Side Hospital in St. Paul. She has been named Ashley Marie. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Mark Kasper of Ellendale and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Porter of Iowa.

- Mankato State University recently announced that Peter G. Dammel, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gary Dammel of Ellendale, had been placed on their honor roll for a grade point average of 3.5-3.99.



- Drew Vangen, one of the Raider boys basketball standouts, was recognized by KAAL Television as the Prep of the Week last week for his performance against New Richland. Vangen, son of Kenneth and Sandra Vangen, scored 22 points and pulled down 18 rebounds in the New Richland game, then put in another strong 20-point performance against Faribault, B.A.

- The E-G B squad girls basketball team had a sensational game Thursday night against BA. They were ahead at all quarters, 7-2, 9-5, 21-10 and 27-17. Angie Worrell was top scorer with 8 points followed by Gail Kaplan with 7, Tara Stollard 5, Teresa Knudson 3 and Shannon Peterson 2. The Raidersettes are now 7 and 6 for the season.

_ A Honor Roll. GRADE 12: Sharon Deml, Gary Hanson, Roseann Kasper: GRADE 11: Kim Anderson, Mayro Leak, Jodie Lee, Deb Mucha, Julie Stieglbauer, Chris Thompson: GRADE 10: Sarah Deml: GRADE 9: Melanie Goslee, LaNell Leak, Peter Spande. GRADE 8: Brian Brekke. GRADE 7: Krista Lee. _ B Honor Roll. GRADE 12: Sarah Cerney, Dawn David, Chris Davidson, Lisa Holmes, MelodyKrenke, Stephanie Peterson, Tammy Reese, Fie Svenningsen, Lee Waage, Kim Weckwarth. GRADE 11: Sue Enzenauer, Deb Harding, Vonda Humburg, David Killian, Matt Kubiatowicz, Wendy Lerberg, Stacey Thompson, Tina Wangness, Keith Wayne. GRADE 10: Angie Brekke, Dana Simonson, Tammy Stanton, Jennifer Zimprich. GRADE 9: Chris Deml, Sara Holmes, Scott Holmes, Gail Kaplan, Eric Lee, Troy Sommers, Pattie Stadheim. GRADE 8: Stephen Granowski, Vicki Humburg, Brett Richards. GRADE 7: Michelle Granowski, Tracey Haddy, Vicki Hill, Nicole Langlie, Billy Nechanicky, Heather Peterson, Carolee Strand and Stacey Thostenson.

- The National Catholic Education Association has set the first week of February as Catholic Schools Week. St. Isidore's School, Litomysl, is taking part with a full week of activities. Activities throughout the week are a star search for talent, a staff-student appreciation day and an open house for parents and friends which will be held on Thursday. Mass will be at 11 a.m. followed by lunch for parents, grandparents, and friends and a talent show at 2 p.m. At 10 a.m., Mrs. Max Fleming will be speaking on her wagon train experience in Texas.

OCTOBER IS NATIONAL BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

Wasecan's face-off with cancer began at age 18

By DEB BENTLY
Staff Writer

Krista Fogal, 38, has been cancer free for 14 years. Despite the time lapse, though, she relives the powerful moments that were part of her journey as she tells her story.

"When you hear the word 'cancer,'" she remembers, "the next word you think of is 'death.'"

She also remembers the day her doctor told her there was no need for her to continue her schedule of follow-up exams. "After five years, he told me I didn't need to come back, because he needed to spend his time seeing people who were sick, not healthy people like me.

"I spent the whole drive home thanking God."

Fogal's encounter with cancer began so early it was "unbelievable." She was only 18 when she discovered a lump in her right breast. Though she visited a doctor promptly, professionals in the medical field consistently dismissed the lump as a "fibroadenoma," a rubbery mass the size of a pea or larger which sometimes forms spontaneously in a woman's breast. They are known for moving around, while cancerous tissue usually does not. According to the Mayo Clinic website, they most commonly appear in women between the ages of 15 and 35.

Fogal's lump was much larger than a pea—at least a full inch across. And yes, she says, it did move around when pressed. But it also caused her pain when she was having her period.

She has strong memories of a moment during this time when she was on a surgical table about to have doctors take a sample, a biopsy, of the tissue: the radiologist in charge entered the room and told everyone the procedure was over. There was no need for a biopsy, he claimed, because the tissue was obviously fibroadenoma.

"They kept telling me I was too young to have cancer," Fogal remembers. "But it turns out, you're never too young."

At age 24, she says, the lump had grown larger and made itself known when she was dressing and undressing. "I told my doctor I want this biopsy done," she remembers. "I wasn't going to take no for an answer."

Despite her determination, it was a shock to her system when she got the call informing her that, yes, the lump was malignant. She describes the moment she heard the word "cancer" as if the speaker had begun talking to her from a long distance. "I heard those words and suddenly I couldn't process. I couldn't think clearly. It was like my brain just shut down."

The next step was additional testing, including a positron emission tomography (PET) scan, magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), and other procedures. Fogal's doctors assessed her cancer at stage 2B and discovered it had spread to numerous lymph nodes in both of her arms.

In January of 2011, she elected to have a double mastectomy—it was during that procedure that additional malignant lumps were discovered in her left breast, though they had not shown up in previous testing. Prior to the surgery, Fogal says she wore a DD bra.

"After that procedure, I felt like an elephant was sitting on my chest," she recalls. Along with her breasts, the malignant lymph nodes in her arms were removed.

She took the first of four chemotherapy treatments in March. When it became evident she would lose her long, blond hair, she had her head shaved.

Woven in among the treatments to destroy cancer were procedures to protect her ovaries, since it was a priority that she be able to have children someday. An online source explains that chemotherapy targets cells which divide quickly;



Dustyn and Krista Fogal with their sons Maddyx, 7, and Bryson, 4. With them is family pet Cocoa.



Krista Fogal receiving chemotherapy during her bout with cancer at age 24.

since both the ovaries and the uterus produce hormones, they are more susceptible to damage from the cancer-fighting chemicals.

"They put my ovaries into a short-term menopause," Fogal describes. Doing so required injections into her abdomen.

"I felt like my womanhood was being ripped away from me," she recalls from that time. "My breasts were gone, my hair was gone, my period was stopped."

"On top of that, I was having these cancer-fighting poisons injected into me every three weeks."

She says each round of chemotherapy left her sick, nauseous and throwing up for about seven days.

"My family asks me how I was so strong during that time," she mentions. "I don't feel as if I was strong. I had all these emotions, all these worries."

"But that's how it is when you have cancer. You have to just keep moving forward, and promise yourself you'll get through it."

Also a giant help during those months, Fogal recalls, was when her oncologist introduced her to Emily, another woman of about the same age who had also been diagnosed with breast cancer. "I had someone to talk to who went through the same things," she says. "We could support each other, help each other. It made a big difference."

Since 2011, Fogal and Emily have remained in touch, and have taken part together in a number of events meant to increase awareness and raise funds for breast cancer research.

Going through cancer, Fogal recalls, is both a physical and emotional nightmare. It has left her with some lifelong aftereffects, including that, although she has breast implants, she no longer has breasts. She also has no feeling in her upper right arm, where the lymph nodes were removed.

There are ways she is stronger now, too.



Fogal found it heartbreaking to lose her hair to chemotherapy, but made the best of it.

For one thing, the experience gives her rich appreciation for all the "afters" that might not have happened.

Krista and her high school sweetheart Dustyn married on October 11, 2014. Today they have two sons, Maddyx, 7, and Bryson, 4.

"I feel so fortunate," she says. "I'm alive. I have all these things in my life that I worried I would never have."

"I can be here for other women," she says. "I can help with their questions. I can help them see they can get through all of it and come out okay on the other side."

Advancements in breast cancer screenings

MANKATO, Minn. — Since the 1970s, mammograms have been shown to reduce the risk of dying of breast cancer and have saved countless lives.

"In the decades since early mammography was established, the emergence of new screening options go well beyond traditional mammography and have made great advancements in early detection," says Tara Krosch, M.D., regional vice chair of clinical practice for surgical specialties, Mayo Clinic Health System in Southwest Minnesota. "As we all know, early detection is key to the best patient outcomes, so it's vital that patients get their annual screenings."

In recognition of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Mayo Clinic Health System is encouraging people to talk to their healthcare team about the right screening options for them and to get those screenings scheduled. Here's what you need to know about the most common options and which might be best for you.

Mammogram

A mammogram is an X-ray image of your breasts used for diagnostic purposes, as well as to investigate symptoms or unusual findings on another type of imaging test.

During a mammogram, your breasts are compressed between two firm surfaces to spread the breast tissue. Then an X-ray captures black-and-white images that are displayed on a computer screen and examined by a radiologist for signs of cancer. A traditional mammogram creates two-dimensional images of the breast.

At Mayo Clinic Health System, healthcare teams offer screening mammography, beginning at 40, for women at average risk of breast cancer. Average risk of breast cancer means women with no family history of breast cancer and no other risk factors.

Digital breast tomosynthesis

This screening exam, also known as 3D mammography, has become a best practice in women's health for breast cancer-detecting technology. Breast tomosynthesis differs from traditional mammograms in how the image of the breast is obtained and, more importantly, viewed.

"Much like a traditional mammogram, a woman's breasts are compressed between two firm surfaces to spread the tissue, and a digital tomographic image is created, which a radiologist can view and closely examine," says Dr. Krosch. "The 3D mammograms help detect small calcifications, masses and other changes that may be signs of early cancer."

Molecular breast imaging

This procedure uses a radioactive tracer and a special camera

to take pictures of the breast tissue.

During the molecular breast imaging (MBI) exam, a small amount of radioactive tracer is injected into a vein in your arm. The tracer travels through your blood to your breast tissue. Cells growing quickly take up more of the tracer than slowly growing cells. Cancer cells often grow quickly and can be identified if they are taking up more of the tracer.

A special camera, called a gamma camera, detects the radiation released by the tracer. In the pictures made by the gamma camera, the cells that take up more of the tracer look brighter than the surrounding cells.

MBI provides the greatest benefit for women with dense breasts or intermediate breast cancer risk. As the density of breast tissue increases, the ability to detect breast cancer with screening mammography becomes more challenging. It's important to know that MBI does not replace, but is used in addition to, screening mammography for early breast cancer detection.

Breast MRI

Magnetic resonance imaging of the breast, also called a breast MRI, is used to evaluate breast cancer or to help healthcare teams determine the causes of other problems in the breast. A breast MRI also is recommended as a screening exam for women with an elevated lifetime risk of breast cancer, such as a strong family history of breast cancer, genetic risk or other factors.

A breast MRI uses powerful magnets, radiofrequency detectors and a computer to create high-detail images of the breasts. A breast MRI may be done after a biopsy shows cancer, as a screening exam or possibly to further investigate a breast finding. A breast MRI also can evaluate the extent of any cancer, as well as evaluate the other breast.

A breast MRI may be used with mammography as a screening tool for detecting breast cancer in some people. This includes people with a high risk of breast cancer. It also includes people with a strong family history of breast cancer or who have breast cancer gene changes passed down through the family, called an inherited gene.

"We encourage all women to talk with their healthcare teams about their personal risks for breast cancer, as well as the benefits and risks of each screening option," says Dr. Krosch. "We have a high-risk clinic right here in our Mankato Breast Clinic to help. For some, this helps to determine your best next steps in surveillance and ongoing options. Lastly, always be sure to bring the breast concerns you pick up on to your healthcare team."

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‘Appreciate the little things’

Waldorf breast cancer survivor Carrie Ferch shares her story

By BEN REVERMANN
Staff writer

Carrie Ferch, a council member in Waldorf for the past 12 years, is a breast cancer survivor. After finding a lump in her right breast in January of 2012, she was diagnosed at stage 3c, which means the cancer was attacking her lymph nodes and would soon have begun metastasizing to other places in her body. This led to a double mastectomy followed by 8 rounds of chemotherapy.

Sometimes the aftereffects were overwhelming. After a change in chemicals in round five, Ferch remembers, "I hurt all over. I couldn't stand; I couldn't sit down; I couldn't lay down. The pain was intense." Once the chemotherapy was completed, Ferch says, she took a month off to let her body recover, then began five weeks of radiation, receiving treatments Monday through Friday. "In some ways, it was worse than the chemotherapy," she recalls. "With the chemicals, you could predict the highs and lows. With radiation, I was always tired."

She says there were two elements of her life which helped her keep going. "My sense of humor has al-

ways helped me," she comments. "It's possible to find something to laugh at no matter how tough your situation is."

Also, "I did not want my nieces and nephews to believe I was going to give up."

Ferch admits she was impatient with her illness. She always felt she was going to beat it, but she was attending classes to become a nurse. The time needed for the treatments and recovery were an interruption and a distraction from her training. She was delighted when they were over and she could continue her life. The last vestige of the 2012 encounter were the checkups, spaced every three months apart at the beginning and spread to six months later on.

Thinking the matter was over and done with, Ferch moved on with her life—until November of 2020 during the Covid shutdown, when cancer was discovered in her bones and liver.

Ferch, 53, has lived in Waldorf since 1998, when she found a house there "That I absolutely fell in love with," and was able to buy it with her family's help. Ferch was originally a

resident of Kilkenny, and still attends church there: She has been playing the organ at St. John's Lutheran Church there for 34 years.

Ultrasounds and biopsies led to the 2020 diagnosis: “I cried,” she remembers. “I was taking all the preventive steps I could, and here it is, back again.”

As she researched her diagnosis and symptoms online, Ferch determined others in a similar circumstance had an expected lifespan of three to five years. November of 2025 will be year five for her. Said Ferch, "There were a couple of pills they gave me in the beginning that didn't do anything, but the Kisqali, that helped." Kisqali, according to an online source, is a therapy medication which specifically targets proteins in cancer cells. Along with that, Ferch began receiving medication intravenously about a year ago.

She says the routine is "physically taxing." During the treatments, medical technicians "Hook me up to a bunch of bags. Saline to flush, anti-nausea meds, then more saline, then another cancer med."

So why would a woman who has health complications want to serve

on a city council? Said Ferch, "I want to represent the people here, make sure people are being truthful and that city work is done properly." She does like the honesty of the Waldorf residents; she hasn't taken apart any conspiracies or busted any gigantic scandals or anything. "People are pretty honest around here, sometimes the kids can be little twerps, but that's expected. I also like how approachable the sheriff is."

Ferch not only gives her time as a Waldorf city council member, she is an EMT with the city fire department. She serves as a gambling manager and game auditor for pull tabs. She has the story of a short-lived "scandal" she helped resolve when \$1,450 went "missing" from the Papa Olie's pull tab box. Someone had deposited the money but forgotten to write down where it went. Ferch tracked down the problem quickly by calling the accountants.

Besides city council meetings and fire departments, Ferch likes spending time with her family. She hopes to leave impressions on her three grand-nieces and turn them into productive members of society, Kayleigh, 5, Everlee, 3, and Olivia, 8



Breast Cancer survivor Carrie Ferch

months. In her spare time, she likes doing diamond beading—a craft which creates lines of diamonds on paper using special tools—and counting cross stitch. As a musician, she sometimes sits down at the baby grand piano in her home to play and be soothed by the harmony. Those who know her often see her wearing Minnesota Wild fan gear. She says she loves anything to do with hockey, Gophers, The Wild. The way she puts it, whoever is playing, she's watching. She also likes to watch True Crime stories on TV. Chicago

For those who have a family member or close friend experiencing cancer, Ferch suggests, "Don't sugarcoat it, but encourage them. Let them talk; if they need to vent, just listen. Until you've been through it, you can't understand what its physical and emotional toll is on the body and mind."

“Find things you can enjoy together. Appreciate the simple things.”

Publication Ballot	State General Election Ballot Waseca County, Minnesota November 5, 2024		Page 2 of 2
Judge _____ Judge _____			
Instructions to Voters: To vote, completely fill in the oval(s) next to your choice(s) like this: ●			
School District Offices United South Central	School District Offices Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton	Judicial Offices Court of Appeals	
School Board Member At Large Vote for Up to Three	School Board Member At Large Vote for Up to Three	Judge 4- Court of Appeals Vote for One	
☐ Christopher Lutteke	☐ Monica Erickson	☐ Tracy Smith Incumbent	
☐ Brad Heggen	☐ Dave Olson	☐ _____ write-in, if any	
☐ Michael Schrader	☐ Laura Seys	Judge 6- Court of Appeals Vote for One	
☐ _____ write-in, if any	☐ _____ write-in, if any	☐ Renee L. Worke Incumbent	
☐ _____ write-in, if any	☐ _____ write-in, if any	☐ _____ write-in, if any	
School District Offices Maple River	Judicial Offices Supreme Court	Judge 8- Court of Appeals Vote for One	
School Board Member At Large Vote for Up to Three	Chief Justice-Supreme Court Vote for One	☐ Keala Christian Ede Incumbent	
☐ Karson Duncanson	☐ Stephen A Emery	☐ _____ write-in, if any	
☐ Julie Lux	☐ Natalie E. Hudson Incumbent	Judge 14- Court of Appeals Vote for One	
☐ Joe Sohre	☐ _____ write-in, if any	☐ Elise Larson Incumbent	
☐ _____ write-in, if any	Associate Justice 6- Supreme Court Vote for One	☐ _____ write-in, if any	
☐ _____ write-in, if any	☐ Matthew R. Hanson	3rd District Court	
☐ _____ write-in, if any	☐ Karl Proccacini Incumbent	Judge 1- District Court Vote for One	
School District Offices Waterville-Elysian-Morristown	☐ _____ write-in, if any	☐ Christina K. Stevens Incumbent	
School Board Member At Large Vote for Up to Three	Associate Justice 5- Supreme Court Vote for One	☐ _____ write-in, if any	
☐ David Schuster	☐ Anne McKeig Incumbent	Judge 3- District Court Vote for One	
☐ June A. Rezac	☐ _____ write-in, if any	☐ Christy M. Hormann Incumbent	
☐ Jay Schneider	Court of Appeals	☐ _____ write-in, if any	
☐ Jeffrey M. Stangler	Judge 12- Court of Appeals Vote for One	Judge 5- District Court Vote for One	
☐ _____ write-in, if any	☐ Diane B. Bratvold Incumbent	☐ Ross Leuning Incumbent	
☐ _____ write-in, if any	☐ Jonathan R. Woolsey	☐ _____ write-in, if any	
School District Offices N.R.H.E.G	☐ _____ write-in, if any	Judge 8- District Court Vote for One	
School Board Member At Large Vote for Up to Three	Judge 2- Court of Appeals Vote for One	☐ Carol M. Hanks Incumbent	
☐ Kelly Delacruz	☐ Jon Schmidt Incumbent	☐ _____ write-in, if any	
☐ Terri Engel	☐ _____ write-in, if any	Judge 10- District Court Vote for One	
☐ Loren Schoenrock	Judge 3- Court of Appeals Vote for One	☐ Lisa R. Hayne Incumbent	
☐ _____ write-in, if any	☐ Sarah Wheelock Incumbent	☐ _____ write-in, if any	
☐ _____ write-in, if any	☐ _____ write-in, if any	Judge 12- District Court Vote for One	
☐ _____ write-in, if any		☐ Christine A. Long Incumbent	
	Vote front and back of ballot	☐ _____ write-in, if any	
Publication Ballot			

State General Election Ballot Waseca County, Minnesota November 5, 2024		
Instructions to Voters: To vote, completely fill in the oval(s) next to your choice(s) like this: ●		
Judicial Offices 3rd District Court Judge 14- District Court Vote for One Natalie S. Martinez Incumbent write-in, if any Judge 19- District Court Vote for One Jeremy L. Clinefelter Incumbent write-in, if any Judge 20- District Court Vote for One Debra A. Groehler Incumbent write-in, if any Judge 24- District Court Vote for One Christa M. Daily Incumbent write-in, if any		

Vote front and back of ballot

Publication Ballot



ANOTHER SECTION TITLE GAME — At left, Micah Allen-Haas (45) bulls his way for a touchdown in Saturday's 28-0 Section 3AAA semifinal game against Jordan. At right, Carson Ohnstad (18) battles a Jordan defender for a pass.



Bluejays blank Jordan, reaching section finals

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

It was a beautiful day for a football game, and the Waseca Bluejays responded appropriately. The top-seeded Bluejays advanced to yet another Section 3AA championship game, surging in the second half against Jordan to win 28-0 Saturday on the WHS field.

"It was a tremendous day for our seniors in their last game at home," said Waseca head coach Brad Wendland. "They were the best players on the field and led us to victory."

After a scoreless first period, the Jays scored in the second on a 1-yard run by Kellen Klinger. Owen Rupe added the PAT and it was 7-0 at halftime.

The Waseca 11 played an outstanding second half, holding the Hubmen scoreless while tallying a third-period touchdown on a 72-yard pass from Klinger to Damaris Russell. They tacked on two fourth-quarter touchdowns on runs of 3 and 1 yard by Micah Allen-Haas. Rupe kicked both PATs.

"It was our best defensive perfor-

mance of the year," said Coach Wendland. "We shut out a very good offense. We are excited to begin preparation for a game with the opportunity to make it to the state tournament."

The Bluejays face No. 2 seed Fairmont at 7 p.m. Friday at New Ulm High School, with the winner advancing to state.

Waseca has won eight games in a row after dropping the season opener to undefeated and top-ranked Stewartville.

Waseca seniors include Bennett Ludwig, Damaris Russell, Solomon Wilson, Koltyn Quillen, Carson Ohnstad, Maxwell Wirtz, Tauston Rupe, Allen-Haas, Benjamin Hager, Kyle McGuire, Cody Weber, Brandyn Jascha, David Hodgins, Andy Baldaras, Pablo Alvarez, Max Howard and Joe Mixteco-Perez.

Waseca 28, Jordan 0					
JOR	0	0	0	0	0 — 0
WAS	0	7	7	14	— 28
First Quarter					
No scoring					
Second Quarter					
WAS — Kellen Klinger 1 run (Owen Rupe kick)					

Third Quarter		
WAS — Damaris Russell 72 pass from Klinger (Rupe kick)		
Fourth Quarter		
WAS — Micah Allen-Haas 3 run (Rupe kick)		
WAS — Allen-Haas 1 run (Rupe kick)		

	JOR	WAS
First downs	10	15
Rushing	33-81	29-83
Passing	8-22-1	16-30-2
Passing Yds.	44	203
Total Yds.	125	286
Turnovers	3	2
Penalties	5-45	8-75

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS	
Rushing — WAS: Kellen Klinger 13-39; Bennett Ludwig 9-18; Deven Parpart 4-17; Micah Allen-Haas 3-9; JOR: Adamek 21-59; Graham Helgersen 9-16; Lane Schmitt 2-5	
Passing — WAS: Klinger 16-30-2, 203; JOR: Long 5-10-0, 32	
Receiving — WAS: Deron Russell 6-118; Damaris Russell 5-42; Carson Ohnstad 4-36; JOR: Seth Noyes 1-14; Noah Salzwedel 1-14; Schmidt 1-5; Adamek 3-4; Schmitt 1-4; Mitchell Schmitt 1-5	
Defense: WAS: Damaris Russell 3T, 1A, 1 int.; Ethan Hiller 1T, 1A; Kolyrn Wuillm 3T, 2A; Deron Russell 1T; Caden Danner 1A; Carson Ohnstad 3T; Maxwell Wirtz 1T, 1A; William Mansfield 5T, 2A; Micah Allen-Haas 3T, 4A, 1 sack; Kyle McGuire 1T, 1A; Ben Hagen 1T; Tauston Rupe 5T, 4A, 1 int.; Brady McKenna 1T, 1A; Lucas Selthun 2T, 3A; Kaden Garza 2T, 2A; David Hodgins 1A; Max Howard 2T, 1A; Julius Oveido 1 int.	



TAKEAWAY — Waseca's Tauston Rupe (33) comes up with an interception against Jordan on Saturday.



ON TO STATE — Waseca senior Isaac Feldkamp placed eighth in last week's Section 1AA cross country meet, advancing to state. The WHS girls' team also qualified, placing second.

WHS girls, Feldkamp reach state

The girls' tennis team is not the only Waseca High School squad advancing to state in 2024.

The Bluejay girls' cross country team qualified Thursday, placing second in the Section 1AA meet at Faribault's North Alexander Park.

It was a big upset, as Faribault easily won the Waseca Invitational at Lakeside Golf Course earlier this month.

The final section standings: Northfield 53, Waseca 77, Faribault 90. Ten teams scored.

The Bluejays were paced by senior Callie Dufault, who clocked 19:35.7 on the 5,000-meter course, good for fifth place.

Following for Waseca were Ellie Kopischke sixth, 19:36.7; Stella Omtvedt, 11th, 19:51.01; Maren Schimming, 21st, 20:34.9; Jenna Yoder, 36th, 21:36.9; Quinn Yoder, 37th, 21:39.2; and Taylor Markeson, 44th, 22:05.6.

"The girls had a great day," said Bluejays coach Grant Popp. "It was

"The girls had a great day. It was our first time beating Faribault all season, and it took a total team race to make it happen."

— Coach Grant Popp

our first time beating Faribault all season, and it took a total team race to make it happen. All seven of the varsity girls ran where they needed to. Our top three runners ran right with their top three, and for the first time this season, Callie and Ellie beat all three of them. Stella has been battling injuries, but was able to stay with them for the whole race. Maren picked up a few points on their fourth runner, and Jenna and Quinn had a great day and beat their fifth by quite a bit. Taylor ran strong and stuck with their fifth runner the whole race as well."

On the junior varsity side of

things, the girls had a great race as well and were second place to a very strong Northfield team."

Joining the girls at state will be Waseca senior Isaac Feldkamp, who placed eighth with a time of 16:47.0.

Tristan Godwin was 28th in 18:10.0; Tyler Jellum 43rd, 18:50.5; Wyatt Hager, 45th, 18:54.8; Tanner Hanson, 62nd, 19:39; and Luke Feldkamp 76th, 20:04.4.

The boys finished in sixth place, two better than last year. Advancing to state were first-place Winona with 40 points and second-place Northfield, 71; Twelve teams scored.

"We have been dealing with some injuries, but still managed to move up two places from last year's finish," said Popp. "It was nice to see Isaac have another strong race and extend his senior season. It was also fun to watch the JV boys who had a team score for the first time this year."

The Bluejays run in the state meet Saturday, Nov. 2 at the University of Minnesota's Les Bolstad Golf Course. Here's the schedule:

- Class AA Girls: 10:00 a.m.
- Class AA Boys: 10:45 a.m.
- Class AAA Girls: 12:15 p.m.
- Class AAA Boys: 1:00 p.m.
- Class A Girls: 2:30 p.m.
- Class A Boys: 3:15 p.m.



Dufault

Bulldogs throttle NRHEG, fall in section semifinals

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

Twice, the Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton High School football had its back to the ball.

Both times, the Bulldogs answered the call.

JWP scored in the final minute of the second quarter and in the waning moments of the game, lifting them past NRHEG 25-22 in a section quarterfinal game last Wednesday in Janesville.

“I’m just excited and proud of the guys for how they stuck with it all year, and how they stuck with it last night,” said JWP head coach Ryan Luedtke. “Those games at the start of the year made us better at the end of the year! All the players supported one another, regardless of the score or the previous play. Obviously, Caleb (Quast) and Daulton (Bauer) made some huge plays at the end of both halves. It’s been fun to see how their connection has grown on the football field this year!”

Quast hauled in a 47-yard pass from Bauer late in the first half, cutting NRHEG’s lead to 14-12.

They scored the final points late in the fourth period on a two-yard run by Lucas Morsching, who ran 16 times for a team-high 55 yards. Bauer completed 15 of 22 passes for 201 yards, with no interceptions.

For the day Quast caught nine passes for an impressive 136 yards.

“It was an exciting back-and-forth game, with many lead changes,” said NRHEG coach Marc Kruger. “JWP was able to come out on top thanks to some huge plays in the passing games. We ran the ball well, and were effective most of the game.”

Saturday was another story as the Bulldogs lost to top seed Triton 66-7 at Dodge Center.

The Bulldogs finished 3-6.

	JWP 25, NRHEG 22			
NRHEG	0	14	2	6—22
JWP	6	6	6	7—25

	First Quarter	
JWP	— Daulton Bauer 5 run (kick failed)	
NRHEG	— Ryan Schlaak 3 run (Carter Martens kick)	
	Second Quarter	
NRHEG	— Alden Dobberstein 69 run (Martens kick)	
JWP	— Caleb Quast 47 pass from Bauer (pass failed)	
	Third Quarter	
JWP	— Bauer 6 run (pass failed)	
NRHEG	— Safety (punt blocked in end zone)	
JWP	— Johnson 65 pass from Bauer (Born kick)	
	Fourth Quarter	
NRHEG	— Cromwell 3 run (run failed)	
JWP	— Morsching 2 run (Born kick)	
	NRHEG	JWP
Total plays	55	55
First downs	13	16
Rushing	195	125
Passing	15-23-2	15-23-0
Passing Yds.	54	201
Total Yds.	249	326
Third Down	4-12	3-8
Fourth Down	3-4	1-4
Fumbles lost	0-0	2-1
Turnovers	2	2
Penalties	2-20	5-39
Punts-Avg.	4-37.5	4-29.25
Time of Poss.	21:06	26:54

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing — JWP: Lucas Morsching 16-55; Bauer 8-43; Gerdts 6-33; **NRHEG:** Dobberstein 15-122; Ryan Schlaak 9-41; Harbor Cromwell 13-33; Owen Bartlett 1-2

Passing — JWP: Bauer 15-22-0, 201; Ethan Born 0-0-1, 0; Dahlberg 0-0, 0; **NRHEG:** Dobberstein 5-15-0, 54

Receiving — JWP: Caleb Quast 9-136; Landon Johnson 1-34; Isaiah Berndt 2-21; Morsching 3-10; **NRHEG:** Jase Knudson 3-26; Ryan Schlaak 1-18; Owen Bartlett 1-10

JWP Defense — Quast 1 tackle, 3 assists; Rocco Scholl 1A; Davien Weis 4A; Michael Walker 1T, 4A; Parker Geariety 1A; Isaac Gahlon 1A; Isaiah Berndt 2T, 1A; Carson Schultz 1A; Ethan Born 4T, 6A; Chase Gerdts 3T, 2A; Morsching 3T, 8A; Peyton O’Brien 4T, 5A; Jaxon Miller 1T, 2A; Aiden Cummins 1A; Luke Cahill 4A; Aidan Rider 1A; Max Davis 1A; **NRHEG —** Aiden Schlaak 2T; Ryan Schlaak 2T, 1A; Aaden Hanna 2T, 1A; Owen Bartlett 3T, 1A; Harbor Cromwell 9T, 2A; Seth Staloch 1A; Carter Martens 5T; Jordan Brouwers 1A; Jace Iheke 3T, 2A; Jayden Fleming 1T; Cole Hutchens 1T, 1A; Jase Knudson 1T

	First Quarter	
Triton	— Pierce Petersohn 4 run (kick good)	
Triton	— Garett Jensen 24 pass from Peterson (Miguel Martinez PAT good)	
Triton	— Munnikhausen 5 run (kick failed)	
	Second Quarter	
Triton	— Garett Jensen 76 run (Martinez kick)	
Triton	— Graden Thomas 27 rumble return (Martinez kick)	
Triton	— Garness fumble recovery in end (kick blocked)	
	Third Quarter	
Triton	— Selthun 1 run (Martinez kick)	
JWP	— Caleb Quast 80 pass from Daulton Bauer (Ethan Born kick)	
Triton	— Munnikhausen 5 run (kick blocked)	
Triton	— Valdez-Miranda Jr. 5 run (Martinez kick)	
	Fourth Quarter	
Triton	— Knutson 1 run (PAT failed)	
	JWP	Triton
Total plays	46	55
First downs	6	28
Rushing	35	337
Passing	7-22	8-12
Passing Yds.	93	201
Total Yds.	128	508
Third Down	3-10	2-6
Fourth Down	0-2	1-1
Fumbles lost	2-2	1-0
Turnovers	3	0
Penalties	5-45	10-90
Punts-Avg.	4-38	1-43
Time of Poss.	21:06	26:54

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Rushing — JWP: Lucas Morsching 15-42; Daulton Bauer 3-4; Chase Gerdts 2 — 5; **Triton:** Munnikhuysen 20-179; Christian Valdez Miranda 8-62; Hunter Garness 3-45; Pierce Peterson 3-23; Angel Felis 6-25; Aaron Knutson 2-5; Isahah Selthun 1-1

Passing — JWP: Bauer 7-28, 98; Seth Dahlbert 1-2, 0; Ethan Born 0-0-1, 0; Dahlberg 0-0, 0; **Triton:** Petersohn 8-12-0, 171

Receiving — JWP: Caleb Quast 3-87; Lucas Morsching 2-8; Landon Johnson 1-1; **Triton:** Garett Jensen 4-131; Valdez Miranda Jr. 2-22; Graden Thomas 2-18

JWP Defense — Quast 3 tackles; Weis 1 assist; Gavin Marinoko 2T; Walker 2T, 2A; Gahlon 2T, 2A; Berndt 1T, 2A; Schultz 1A; Ethan Born 2T, 4A; Chase Gerdts 3T, 2A; Lucas Morsching 5T, 3A; Peyton O’Brien 5T, 5A; Jaxon Miller 2T; Aiden Cummins 2T; Luke Cahill 1T, 1A; Aidan Rider 1A; Preston Meihak 1A; Max Davis 1A



PLENTY OF BIG PLAYS — JWP’S Caleb Quast (3) walks the tightrope on the sideline in Saturday’s section semifinal loss at Triton.
Photo by Johnnie Phillips, Steele County Times



GETTING READY — Members of the Waseca girls’ tennis team prepare for a match in last week’s state tournament at Reed-Sweatt Tennis Center in Minneapolis last week. The Jays had a tough draw, facing The Blake School, seeded No. 1, in the opening round. Blake went on to win the state title, dropping only one match along the way.

Stellar season concludes for WHS tennis

The Waseca High School girls’ tennis team had a tough draw in last week’s state tournament at Reed-Sweatt Tennis Center in Minneapolis.

The Bluejays faced the No. 1 seed, Blake Academy, in the opening round. They lost 7-0. Blake went on to win the state championship, dropping only one match along the way.

“We certainly had a tough draw playing the No. 1 seed in the first round,” said Bluejays coach Kyle Collins. “They are a pretty solid team from top to bottom.”

The Bluejays fared better in the consolation bracket, falling 5-2 to St. James Area after losing 7-0 to the Saints in September.

The Bluejays’ Vivian Mader competed at state in singles but lost to the No. 4 seed in the opening round.

“The girls showed a lot of improvement over the course of the season and made it a very memorable one,” said Collins.

The Bluejays finished with a record of 15-6.

WHS spikers drop section opener

The Waseca High School volleyball team’s season ended last week with a tough 3-2 loss at Tri-City United.

Game scores were 23-25, 25-21, 16-25, 25-16 and 13-15.

Waseca leaders: Siri Kuhns: 37 assists; Aliyah Taylor: 15 kills w/16 digs; Ellie Hoehn: 10 Kills w/12 digs; and Kendal Bowers: 26 digs.

“We had a tough battle, it was back and forth at times, with leads from 2-5 points from both sides, but in the end, we just didn’t pull out the win,” said

Bluejays coach Krissy Plonske, who said momentum was the deciding factor in favor of TCU.

“We are losing eight amazing seniors, and this has been one memorable season,” said Plonske, whose team finished 14-10 overall in her first season.

Seniors include Bowers, Huhns, Taylor, Lily Owens, Kalea Sartori, Hoehn, MaLaine Engel-Mueller and Katie Eldeen.

With three freshman and one eighth-grader on the playoff roster, the Bluejays’ future appears bright under Coach Plonske.

Westphal makes it to state

The season is not quite finished for WEM/JWP cross country runner MaKenzie Westphal.

The freshman has reached the state meet after placing ninth in last Thursday’s Section 2A meet at Norwood-Young America’s Baylor Park.

Westphal finished with a time of 20:33.16 for 5,000 meters.

“We are beyond proud of MaKenzie for making it to state,” said WEM/JWP co-head coach Liz Kvebak. “She worked hard throughout the summer and the season to perform to the best of her abilities. We knew going into the race it was going to be difficult to make it, but we knew if she was confident she would get it. She is one of the hardest workers and most deserving athletes I have ever coached. I am amazed at her resilience and confidence to accomplish her goals and dreams.”

Grizzly runners missing state were Emma Huelsnitz 47th, 23:37.04; Madalyn Miller, 54th 24:04.16; Lydia Coulsen, 68th, 25:03.28; Ellie Schlie, 72nd, 25:14.23; Kwynn Krause, 78th, 25:57.59; and Jaelin Wilmes, 80th, 26:10.84.

The Grizzly girls were 10th with 236 points. Mankato Loyola-Cleveland-St. Clair won with 76. Mountain Lake-Comfrey was second with 102. Fifteen teams scored.

NRHEG’s Juliann Wobbrock, an 8th-grader, placed

12th in 20:53.78 and missed the state meet.

Also placing for the Panthers were Sierra Misgen, placing 79th, and Amelia Duryee 90th out of 103 runners.

Westphal, Karl and Wobbrock made the all-section team.

The WEM-JWP boys finished 11th with 290 point. Loyola-Cleveland-St. Clair was first with 48, followed by Mountain Lake Area-Comfrey with 83.

Places: Wyatt Jans, 29th, 18:23.46; Teagan Mulder, 38th, 18:29.46; Alexander Kleve, 43rd, 18:55.29; Wesley Heinz, 86th, 20:54.59; Jaxon Hilley, 101st, 22:23.58; and Maddox Moreno, 107th, 23:34.0

Westphal runs in the state meet Saturday, Nov. 2 at the University of Minnesota’s Les Bolstad Golf Course. Here’s the schedule:

- Class AA Girls: 10:00 a.m.
- Class AA Boys: 10:45 a.m.
- Class AAA Girls: 12:15 p.m.
- Class AAA Boys: 1:00 p.m.
- Class A Girls: 2:30 p.m.
- Class A Boys: 3:15 p.m.



BLUEJAY FOOTBALL



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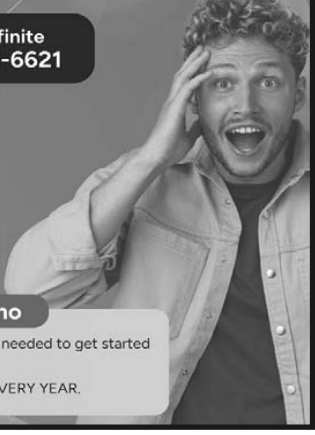
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Publication Ballot	State General Election Ballot Waseca County, Minnesota November 5, 2024	Page 1 of 2
Judge _____		
Judge _____		
Instructions to Voters: To vote, completely fill in the oval(s) next to your choice(s) like this: ●		
Federal Offices	State Offices	County Offices
President and Vice-President Vote for One Team	State Representative District 19B Vote for One	Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisor District 5 Vote for One
☐ Donald J. Trump and JD Vance Republican	☐ Edelgard Fernandez Mejia Democratic-Farmer-Labor	☐ Dan Roemhildt
☐ Kamala D. Harris and Tim Walz Democratic-Farmer-Labor	☐ Thomas J. Sexton Republican	☐ _____ write-in, if any
☐ Chase Oliver and Mike ter Maat Libertarian Party	☐ _____ write-in, if any	City Offices
☐ Robert F. Kennedy Jr. and Nicole Shanahan We The People	State Representative District 23A Vote for One	Mayor City of Elysian Vote for One
☐ Jill Stein and Samson Kpadenou Green Party	☐ Peggy Bennett Republican	☐ Tom McBroom Sr
☐ Claudia De la Cruz and Karina Garcia Socialism and Liberation	☐ Joe Staloch Democratic-Farmer-Labor	☐ Pat Nusbaum
☐ Rachele Fruit and Dennis Richter Socialist Workers Party	☐ _____ write-in, if any	☐ _____ write-in, if any
☐ Cornel West and Melina Abdullah Justice For All	Constitutional Amendments	Council Member City of Elysian Vote for Up to Two
☐ Shiva Ayyadurai and Crystal Ellis Independent	Failure to vote on a constitutional amendment will have the same effect as voting no on the amendment.	☐ Derek Westby
☐ _____ write-in, if any	To vote for a proposed constitutional amendment, fill in the oval next to the word "Yes" on that question. To vote against a proposed constitutional amendment, fill in the oval next to the word "No" on that question.	☐ Paul Hunter
U.S. Senator Vote for One	Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund Renewal	☐ _____ write-in, if any
☐ Rebecca Whiting Libertarian Party	Shall the Minnesota Constitution be amended to protect drinking water sources and the water quality of lakes, rivers, and streams; conserve wildlife habitat and natural areas; improve air quality; and expand access to parks and trails by extending the transfer of proceeds from the state-operated lottery to the environment and natural resources trust fund, and to dedicate the proceeds for these purposes?	Mayor City of Janesville Vote for One
☐ Amy Klobuchar Democratic-Farmer-Labor	☐ Yes	☐ Andrew Arnoldt
☐ Joyce Lynne Lacey Independence-Alliance	☐ No	☐ _____ write-in, if any
☐ Royce White Republican	County Offices	Council Member City of Janesville Vote for up to Two
☐ _____ write-in, if any	County Commissioner District 1 Vote for One	☐ Kyle Luitjens
U.S. Representative District 1 Vote for One	☐ Douglas Christopherson	☐ Sarah E. Johnson
☐ Brad Finstad Republican	☐ John Donahue	☐ _____ write-in, if any
☐ Rachel Bohman Democratic-Farmer-Labor	☐ _____ write-in, if any	Special Election for Council Member At Large City of Janesville To fill vacancy in term expiring January 4, 2027 Vote for One
☐ _____ write-in, if any	County Commissioner District 2 Vote for One	☐ Andy Ahlman
State Offices	☐ Brian W. Harguth	☐ _____ write-in, if any
State Representative District 19A Vote for One	☐ _____ write-in, if any	Mayor City of New Richland Vote for One
☐ Jessica Navarro Democratic-Farmer-Labor	Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisor District 1 Vote for One	☐ Janda Ferguson
☐ Keith Allen Republican	☐ Wayne Cords	☐ _____ write-in, if any
☐ _____ write-in, if any	☐ _____ write-in, if any	
	Vote front and back of ballot	
Publication Ballot		

State General Election Ballot Waseca County, Minnesota November 5, 2024		
Instructions to Voters: To vote, completely fill in the oval(s) next to your choice(s) like this: ●		
City Offices	City Offices	School District Offices Owatonna
Council Member City of New Richland Vote for up to Two	Council Member City of Waseca Ward 2 Vote for One	School Board Member At Large Vote for Up to Three
☐ Robert Swenson	☐ Marty Johnson	☐ Ron Kubicek
☐ Sam Genelin	☐ Gary M. Conrath	☐ Mike Herman
☐ Melissa Thompson	☐ Nicholas Allen Meister	☐ Eric Schuster
☐ Joshua Gene Warke	☐ _____ write-in, if any	☐ Christina Ingvaldson
☐ Matthew Economy	Council Member City of Waseca Ward 3 Vote for One	☐ April St. Martin
☐ Brandy Jacobson	☐ Theresa Riecke	☐ Nikki Gieseke
☐ Ryan Alan Gehrke	☐ Chad Schlueter	☐ Andrea Van Gelder
☐ _____ write-in, if any	☐ Mark A. Christiansen	☐ Timothy Jensen
☐ _____ write-in, if any	☐ Koby Wright	☐ _____ write-in, if any
Special Election for Council Member At Large City of New Richland To fill vacancy in term expiring January 4, 2027 Vote for One	☐ _____ write-in, if any	☐ _____ write-in, if any
☐ Christina Petsinger	Town Offices Woodville Township	School District Offices Medford
☐ Jacob Naser	Town Supervisor Seat 1 Vote for One	School Board Member At Large Vote for Up to Four
☐ Jody E. Wynnemer	☐ Bernard Frederick	☐ Jessica Grayson
☐ _____ write-in, if any	☐ _____ write-in, if any	☐ Jon Sutherland
Mayor City of Waldorf Vote for One	Town Treasurer Vote for One	☐ Aaron Harris
☐ Rob A. Wilkening	☐ Judy Hoffman	☐ Betsy Chambers
☐ _____ write-in, if any	☐ _____ write-in, if any	☐ John Anhorn
Council Member City of Waldorf Vote for up to Two	School District Offices St. Clair	☐ Corey Samora
☐ Kevin Lines	School Board Member At Large Vote for Up to Three	☐ _____ write-in, if any
☐ Jamie Beckstrand	☐ Sara Quast	☐ _____ write-in, if any
☐ Cody Schnepf	☐ Mick Rasmussen	☐ _____ write-in, if any
☐ _____ write-in, if any	☐ Caylin Cedergren	☐ _____ write-in, if any
☐ _____ write-in, if any	☐ Karen Hauser	School District Offices Waseca
Mayor City of Waseca Vote for One	☐ _____ write-in, if any	School Board Member At Large Vote for Up to Three
☐ Milton Madson	☐ _____ write-in, if any	☐ Anne Harguth
☐ Randy L. Zimmerman	☐ _____ write-in, if any	☐ Grant Scheffert
☐ _____ write-in, if any	☐ _____ write-in, if any	☐ Scott Deml
Council Member City of Waseca Ward 1 Vote for One		☐ _____ write-in, if any
☐ Stacey Schroeder		☐ _____ write-in, if any
☐ Adam C. Jensen		☐ _____ write-in, if any
☐ _____ write-in, if any		
	Vote front and back of ballot	
Publication Ballot		

LEGAL NOTICES

State of Minnesota
District Court Waseca County
Third District
Court File Number: 81-PR-24-663
Case Type: Informal Probate
Estate of Brenda Jean Atkisson,
Decedent
Notice of Informal Appointment of
Personal Representative and Notice
to Creditors (Without a Will)
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS
AND CREDITORS:
Notice is hereby given that an appli-
cation for informal appointment of
personal representative has been
filed with the Probate Registrar. No
will has been presented for probate.
The application has been granted.
Notice is also given that the Probate
Registrar has informally appointed
the following:
Self-Represented Litigant
Paul Richard Spangler, Jr.
Address
12691 430th Ave
Waseca, MN 56093
as Personal Representative of the
Estate of the Decedent. Any heir,
devisee or other interested person
may be entitled to appointment as
Personal Representative, or may ob-
ject to the appointment of the Per-

sonal Representative. Unless objec-
tions are filed pursuant to Minn.
Stat. § 524.3-607, and the court
otherwise orders, the Personal Rep-
resentative has full power to admin-
ister the Estate, including, after 30
days from the date of issuance of
letters, the power to sell, encumber,
lease or distribute real estate.
Notice is also given that, subject to
Minn. Stat. § 524.3-801, all cred-
itors having claims against the Es-
tate are required to present the
claims to the Personal Representa-
tive or to the Court
Administrator within four (4)
months after the date of this Notice,
or the claims will be barred.
Dated: October 15, 2024

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November 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm	2
3	4	5 Burger nite 5-7pm	6 6pm BAR Bin- go	77pm HALL BIN- GO	8 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm	9
10 <u>Marine corps Birthday</u>	11 7 pm Post & AUX Meeting VETERANS DAY Mash Burger night 5:00 to 7pm	12 Burger nite 5-7pm	13 6pm BAR Bin- go	14 7pm HALL BINGO	15 <u>WALLEYE or SHRIMP DINNER 5:30 to 7pm</u>	16
17 <u>ALL YOU can EAT Breakfast VFW 8:00am – Noon Your Host Neighborhood Ser- vice Center</u>	18	19 Burger nite 5-7pm	20 6pm BAR Bin- go	21 7pm HALL BINGO <u>Grena- da Campaign ended (1983)</u>	22 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm	23 <u>TURKEY BINGO 7 PM Hocky Burger Night</u>
24	25	26 Burger nite 5-7pm	27 6pm BAR Bin- go	28 7pm HALL BINGO	29 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm	30

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TUE.– WED.–3pm to 11pm Tue. Is Lady’s nite 2 for one-Men Busch light \$2.50 from 4 to 6pm.

THUR.–1pm to 11pm

FRI.– SAT.–11am to 1 am

POST & AUX MEETING 7pm club open 6pm MEMBERS only. Mn. Gambling license number 00385

NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that the Waseca City Council will hold a public hearing on
Wednesday, November 6, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers, 508 South
State Street, Waseca, MN 56093, to consider:

Approving Assessment Roll 24-99- Collection of unpaid services and fees

A complete copy of Assessment Roll 24-99 is available for public inspection in the office of the
Assistant to the City Manager, 508 South State Street, Waseca, MN 56093.

Published in the Waseca County Pioneer 10/24/2024 and 10/31/2024



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October 2, 2024

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Commissioners (the “Board”) of Waseca County
Economic Development Authority has issued a Request for Offers of Purchase and
Development of PID No. 01.003.1050. also identified as 3071 380th Avenue, Janesville,
Minnesota. The proposed sale of property from the Authority is authorized by Minnesota
Statutes, Section 469.105, as amended.

The full Request for Offers of Purchase and Development documents and information can be
accessed on the Waseca County Website Economic Development Authority page,
<https://www.wasecacounty.gov/173/Economic-Development> , where the information packet
may be viewed, or a copy may also be reviewed at Waseca County Planning and Zoning office,
300 N State Street, Waseca, MN 56093.

Offers for Purchase may be submitted in person or via email and will need to be received in the
Planning and Zoning office located in the East Annex, (300 N State Street, Waseca, MN 56093)
no later than 4:00p.m., Tuesday, November 12, 2024. Offers will be opened at the East Annex
Small Conference Room on November 13, 2024, at 8:30 a.m. All offers will be reviewed by the
EDA Board and evaluated based on several factors, including offer price and long-term
community benefit. The Board may, in the best interest of the Economic Development
Authority, reject any or all bids.

The Board of Commissioners (the “Board”) of Waseca County Economic Development Authority
will make a determination of acceptance at a public hearing scheduled for November 20, 2024,
in the county meeting room located at 300 State Street N Waseca, MN 56093.

Questions regarding the properties may be submitted to the Community Development
Coordinator, as noted below.

Sincerely,

Tina Wilson, Community Development Coordinator
300 South State Street, Waseca, MN 56093
Tina.wilson@wasecacounty.gov or (507) 835-0538
Published in the Waseca County Pioneer on Oct. 10, 17, 24, 31 and Nov. 7, 2024

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Pioneer photos by Deb Bently

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Aspyn Acres



Volunteers passed out candy at the Aspyn Acres Halloween Trail on Friday, Oct. 25. Pioneer photo by Ben Revermann

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■ Together

from Page 1

Waseca County Commissioner, even brought a doppelganger in the person of Mikhail Rostislavovich, vice president of the Waseca Art Center board. Melissa Donner, board president, could not attend on Saturday, but the affable Rostislavovich greeted everyone with an engaging smile, and was quick to give credit to all those individuals who made the Great Fall Get-Together a success. "We've got an incredible committee," said Rostislavovich.

One of those individuals was Liz O'Brien of the Waseca Art Center Fundraising Committee, who fashioned the bigger-than-life jazz musician silhouettes that bordered the stage on which the Waseca High School Jazz Band entertained until 8:00.

Throughout the evening O'Brien and Christy Easton helped guests win prizes from tissue-paper-covered "punch" cups, as well as a new feature this year: a wall of large, black envelopes printed with suggested donations. The stipulated donation would close the envelope with a gold star and likewise provide the donor with a gold star to wear. The specific purpose of the Giving Wall was to provide funds toward the Art Center's ceramics department where guests can sign up for classes. Although the Waseca Art Center has recently purchased a new kiln, other supplies are still needed.



A Mafia man and his girl: Tim and Stacey Schroeder.

cently purchased a new kiln, other supplies are still needed.

Milbrath and Rostislavovich weren't the only tuxedoed gentlemen in the room. Dwight Tostenson, CEO of the philanthropic Redemption Project in St. Paul, could easily have sidled into a Dickens novel without any of the characters being the wiser. Tostenson spends his days hunting for donors to aid his mission in helping newly released prisoners prepare for and adjust to life outside institutional walls in order to prevent recidivism. He stepped out in his top hat on Saturday evening in aid of another worthy cause: the Waseca Art Center's biggest fundraiser of the year.

And speaking of roaring successes, Sergeant Tim Schroeder of the Waseca police force ironically turned up as a 1920s style Mafia member, the perfect counterpart to flapper girl Stacey Schroeder.

The threat of the Mafia didn't stop

Cathie Glynn from winning the diamond and pink sapphire necklace worth \$1,300, donated by Williams Diamond Center for the Keys to my Art raffle. The collection of \$30 keys sold out as contestants hoped there's would open the treasure chest. Even those who didn't win had a good time; "It's for a good cause," said Grace Ouyang, who, along with husband Jared Wachter, was one of the evening's Incredibles.

It was a wizard and witch in the persons of Chester and Jessica Stuckmayer who won the bottle of Peerless Toasted Bourbon, the most expensive item on the Wine and



Mark & Skiann Christiansen help with the Wine & Spirits Wall.

find out which.

While they waited, guests could mingle, sample appetizers, and sip beverages from the Starfire Event Center, and bid on items in the silent auction. At 8 p.m. when the band broke up, Larry Born served as auctioneer until all the live auction items were sold.

The purpose of the Waseca Art Center's Great Fall Get-Together fundraiser is, according to the evening's program notes, "to expand quality of life in our community and beyond by offering accessible, educational, and diverse art experiences and resources." There were a lot of first-time guests at this year's Great Fall Get-Together, and each of them declared they would be back, which bodes well for the future of this Waseca county treasure: the Waseca County Art Center.



Jessica Stuckmayer shows off her win from the Wine & Spirits Wall.

Spirits Wall. Board members and other individuals throughout the community donated bottles of wine and spirits. Interested parties could buy a cork for \$20, which bought them one of the bottles, but they had to wait until the end of the soirée to



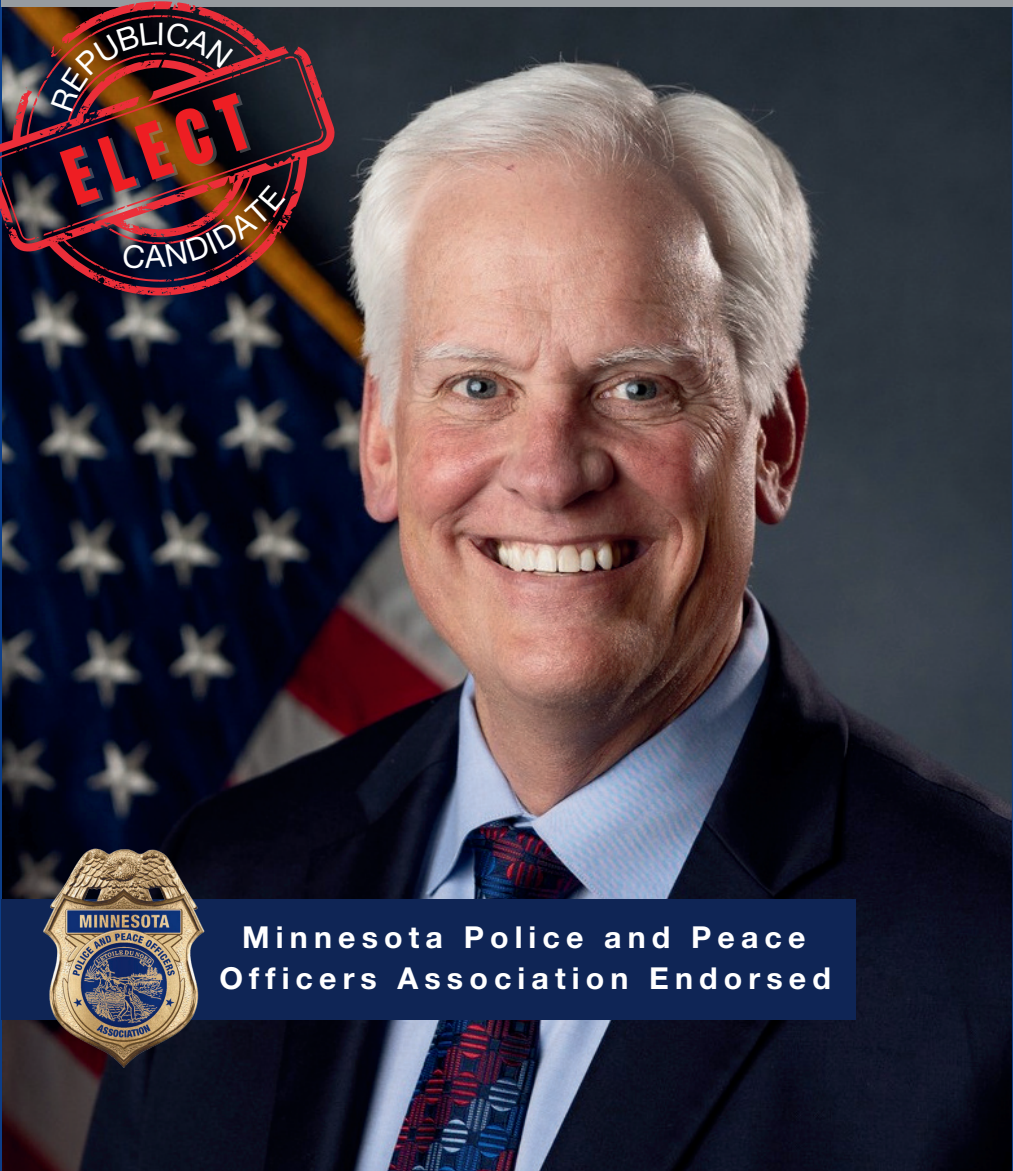
Christy Easton and Liz O'Brien show off the Giving Wall for the Waseca Art Center. Pioneer photos by Melanie Piltingsrud



Ann Freche with tarot card reader and St. Peter Art Center director Ann Fee.

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