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**WASECA
COUNTY
PIONEER**

LOCAL COMMUNITY-DRIVEN NEWSPAPER SERVING ALL OF WASECA COUNTY

No. 46 Vol. III \$2

Office at 111 Elm Avenue West, Waseca

Thursday, November 14, 2024



Inside



Veterans Day



The Waseca chapter of the Minnesota Honor Society now has 74 members: 38 were inducted last year. They were joined by five members of the senior class and 31 members of the junior class during a ceremony on Wednesday, Nov. 4, 2024.

Waseca Senior High inducts 36 into Honor Society

By DEB BENTLY
News Editor

“That you are on this stage tonight says a lot about who you are. It is no small thing to be invited into this organization,” Waseca Junior/Senior High School principal Dr. Jason Miller told the members of the Minnesota Honor Society (MHS) during their annual induction ceremony the evening of Nov 4. “You are not here by chance.”

The Waseca chapter of the MHS included 38 members, now seniors, who had previously been inducted as juniors. They were joined by five additional seniors and 31 juniors.

Early in the ceremony, the MHS “Spirit of the Torch”

was introduced and explained. The torch is the emblem of the MHS and is kept burning by four character traits expected of everyone who joins: scholarship, service, leadership and character.

Member Ashton Jenzen gave a brief original speech on the topic of leadership; Hazel More addressed the topic of service.

As the keynote speaker, teacher Larry Jacobson expressed gratitude to the group for selecting him saying, “I feel honored. I have great respect for all of you.” Jacobson included a fair number of jokes in his speech, but would occasionally stop mid-script and say something like, “Oh, that one didn’t make the cut,” claiming his wife

had “nixxed” much of his humor.

Of the four traits emphasized by MHS, Jacobson stated, “Character is the most important. It underlies and supports the other virtues.”

He told of having volunteered this past summer with the organization “Samaritan’s Purse,” which spent a number of weeks helping homeowners in Waterville after they experienced catastrophic flooding. “Let me tell you,” he commented, “it doesn’t take long working with those folks before you see the true meaning of service.”

Jacobson warned students against being “gossips.”

“I strongly dislike gossips,” he quipped. “They discuss me.”

In closing, he suggested, “The measure of life is character, not money, not power, not prestige, not fame.

“Character is based on what you believe yourself to be at the core. It determines who you believe in and what you believe in.”

Seniors inducted into the Waseca chapter of the MHS on Wednesday, Nov. 4, 2024 were Jennifer Hernandez-Verde, daughter of Mireya Verde and Pablo Hernandez; Mia A. Kanewischer, daughter of Aaron and Deanna Kanewischer; Addison M. Kelm, daughter of Kevin and

MHS continued on 2

JWP student, Waseca County dispatcher receive Lifesave awards

Eagle Lake, MN (November 8, 2024) – A student from Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton High School, along with a Waseca County Dispatcher, received a Lifesave Award on Saturday, November 9, 2024.

On the morning of October 4th, 2024, a school bus driver for Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton schools suffered a medical emergency while bringing children to school. One of the passengers, Kaylea Elliott, noticed the bus was slowing down unexpectedly, and quickly realized that the driver was in distress. Kaylea quickly called 911 and safely stopped the bus.

Waseca County Dispatcher Robert Kubat was the operator who answered Kaylea’s call, and quickly realized that he would have to achieve four things: keep Kaylea calm, find out the nature of the emergency, get appropriate emergency resources on their way, and ensure other 911 calls were handled as he was the only dispatcher on duty.

The decisive action taken by Kaylea, and the calming presence and professionalism of Dispatcher Kubat prevented this emergency from becoming a disaster, and laid the groundwork for quick access to definite medical care. This event also highlights the importance of lay response to emergencies, and the role that dispatcher can play in assisting them in achieving these outcomes.

The award was presented at 3:00 pm at Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton High School.

**A word from
The Word**



For we are the
aroma of Christ to
God among those
who are being saved
and among those
who are perishing.

**2 Corinthians
2:15**

Waseca Chorale concert Dec. 1 at Sacred Heart

By DEB BENTLY
News Editor

Even a brief chat with the members of the Waseca Chorale community choir provides ample proof music brings people together. The 45 or so area singers range in age from 21 to their mid 80s. They come from across the county and in some cases even further.

They look forward to blending their voices for the group’s holiday concert at 4:00 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 1 at Sacred Heart Church in Waseca. Tickets will be sold at the door on the day of the concert.

They began their schedule of weekly two-hour practices in September under the direction of Deb Wantoch Yess and John Hoehn.

Despite the length of their practice season, however, Chorale members say, rather than having grown “old,” the holiday music has become richer and deeper in meaning as the concert approaches.

“It’s been a way to ease into the Christmas season,” comments Al Judd. “This music is joyful. It’s fun to listen to—and it’s fun to sing.”

Toni Bauleke mentions a particular fondness for a “four-handed” version of “Ding Dong Merrily on High” the group will be singing. She explains



The members of the Waseca Chorale community choir have prepared a concert which combines traditional and newer Christmas music in a way which highlights the love and forgiveness the season represents. Their performance will be at 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 1, at Waseca's Sacred Heart Church.

two piano accompaniments play simultaneously, bringing the extra energy the song’s title implies.

Deb Vetter suggests the rich harmonies and creative touches the selection of numbers provides will create an opportunity to sort of “breathe in those beautiful things Christmas is really all about.” She says the December 1 performance date should let people “finish Thanksgiving weekend and enjoy a meaningful pause before the ‘Christmas craziness’ begins.”

Chorale directors Yess and Hoehn point out their connection to Christmas began even earlier than for the rest of the group, since they had the task of listening to and selecting the numbers to be performed.

“We chose them together,” said Yess. She said their criteria included finding pieces which reflect

variety in their length, tone, mood, and tempo while also being appealing.

“We wanted to get the feel of the songs,” says Hoehn. “They all work together to create an overall impression.”

Chorale members express gratitude to both Grace Lutheran Church in Waseca, where their Tuesday evening practices are held, and to Sacred Heart for providing the concert venue.

They say they are also grateful their group can continue to thrive. “The people of Waseca support the arts,” comments one member.

“A lot of community choirs have gone by the wayside,” observes Yess. “But thanks to the strong

Chorale continued on 4



Sue McIntosh, program director, outside Waseca's Bethlehem Inn, a homeless shelter for women and children.

Pioneer photo by Deb Bently

Bethlehem Inn helps combat homelessness

By DEB BENTLY
News Editor

Bethlehem Inn, a homelessness shelter for women and children located in Waseca, has been in operation since 2019, after Father Lief of Sacred Heart Church and two community members had a conversation about how the parish’s convent building could be repurposed. Located across the street from the church at 400 Second Avenue northwest, the structure had provided a home for nuns who had served the church in various ways for decades. By 2018, only one individual still lived there.

In its five years in operation, according to program director Sue McIntosh, the shelter has served 423 women and children; to apply for a stay, individuals must be at least 18. The oldest resident Bethlehem Inn has housed was 78 years old at the time.

“Our maximum capacity is 16 people,” observes McIntosh. “And we’re always at capacity.” She speculates if the shelter could house more people, it would still always be full. She is in persistent conversation with facilities similar to Bethlehem Inn—she names Ruth’s House in Fari-bault, Rachel’s Light in Meriden, and the Partnership for Affordable Housing with facilities in Mankato and St. Peter.

“When we get a referral, it’s very hard to find an opening,” she comments.

Since November is the “awareness” month for both hunger and homelessness, McIntosh says she has made it her goal to broaden people’s understanding of the issue. It’s a goal she works on regularly, however, since she is frequently a speaker at the meetings of public

Bethlehem continued on 4

Local election results

Election results are in for Waseca, Steele, and Freeborn County.

Here are the results for every major local election of relevancy to readers in the area. Vote totals appear after candidate name. Order of results listed in with Waseca County elects first, followed by Steele County, and lastly Freeborn County.

Waseca County Commissioners, etc.	
District 1	1. Douglas Christopherson 1,157 2. John Donahue 859
District 2	Brian W. Harguth
Water and Soil Supervisor 1	
Wayne Cords	
Water and Soil Supervisor 5	
Dan Roemhildt	
City of Waseca	
Mayor	
Randy L Zimmerman 2,335	
Milton Madson 1,578	
City Council Ward 1	
Stacey Schroeder 869	
Adam C. Jensen 384	
City Council Ward 2	
Gary M Conrath 781	
Nicholas Allen Meister 398	
Marty Johnson 376	
City Council Ward 3	
Mark A. Christiansen 392	
Chad Schlueter 268	
Theresa Riecke 207	
Koby Wright 82	
Janesville	
Mayor	
Andrew Arnoldt 1,166	
City Council (2)	
Sarah E Johnson 1,083	
Kyle Luitjens 863	

Results continued on 6

Santa Anonymous
Program receiving
applications

The Waseca Area Neighborhood Service Center (WANSC) is now taking applications for the Santa Anonymous Program. This annual event provides gifts, toys or clothes to Waseca families in need. Parents of newborn children through grade 12 who are income eligible, and who are residents of Waseca County may apply.

Additional details can be found on Facebook, or by stopping at the WANSC building at 203 Third Avenue Northwest in Waseca to make an appointment or inquire about eligibility requirements. Applications can also be picked up at the County Health building, 1000 West Elm, or at the Minnesota Valley Action Council (MVAC) office, 108 Tenth Avenue Southeast, in Waseca. Further information is also available by calling Cindy Kolander, WANSC Executive Director at 507-833-4119.

Cook the Book recipe
sampler at Waseca
Public Library,
Thursday, Nov. 14

Visit the Waseca Public Library to choose a recipe from the selected cookbook. Bring the finished dish to the library at 12 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 14 to sample others and share yours. Share cooking tips, and try delicious food. Open to all.

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.

Murder Mystery at
Alexander House
Nov. 15 and 16

The Waseca Exchange Club is sponsoring a "murder mystery" fundraiser at 610 North State Street in Waseca. Guests may select one of four time slots, 6:30 and 8 p.m. each evening, to tour the house, speak with witnesses, and solve the crime. Tickets are \$35 a person, available at Waseca Chamber of Commerce, Art Center, and iCan offices.

Mondrian-Inspired
Mason Jars at New
Richland Public
Library Thurs.,
November. 14

Create Mondrian-Inspired Mason Jars at 5:30 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 14. Teens will embrace their inner artist and create a mason jar inspired by Piet Mondrian, a twentieth century abstract artist. For ages 13-18.

Harvest Mission
Brunch, 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. The \$9 brunch will be served from 10 a.m. until about noon.

Briefs continued on 5

National Honor society
Eleven inducted during annual ceremony



NRHEG chapter of the National Honor Society members. New members inducted Wednesday afternoon in the high school gymnasium were: Senior Aidan Schlaak and juniors Jordan Brouwers, Meela Budach, Kaitlyn Dobberstein, Kyera Eustice, Jozie Klimmek, Molly Johnson, Wyatt Larson, Devon Nelton, Chloe Riewer, Adalyn Stadheim and Chloe Stork.

Pioneer photos by Eli Lutgens

NRHEG program held
Wednesday afternoon

By ELI LUTGENS
Publisher/Editor

The NRHEG chapter of the National Honor Society (NHS) inducted 11 new members during a ceremony held Wednesday, Nov. 6 in the high school gym. Senior Aidan Schlaak and juniors Jordan Brouwers, Meela Budach, Kaitlyn Dobberstein, Kyera Eustice, Jozie Klimmek, Molly Johnson, Wyatt Larson, Devon Nelton, Chloe Riewer, Adalyn Stadheim and Chloe Stork were among those inducted.

The NHS lists four cornerstone personality traits for potential members: scholarship, leadership, service and character. Current NHS members Alden Dobberstein, Sierra Misgen and Tayla Sandry read definitions of each of the traits and lit ceremonial candles representing them.

Following recognition of the new members, Mark Domeier, speaker for the event and a middle-school English teacher for the district, was introduced.

"Remember the Word of the

Day in middle school?" Domeier began. "Your word of the day today is haecceity."

Haecceity means "the quality that makes someone who they are."

"What is that quality in you?" Domeier asked. "Clearly, you all have scholarship, leadership, service, and character as qualities that have brought you to this stage. But what is it that makes you you?"

"It's very possible, at this point in your life, that you don't know your haecceity," Domeier continued. You're still trying to figure out who you are and where you're going in life. And that's okay."

Domeier told this new group of NHS members they're scholars, leaders and full of character.

"You are willing to serve others by giving of your time and talents to better the world around you," Domeier said. "You have good character. You're not a puffed-up toad or a bald-faced liar. You're not perfect, but you show your good qualities and make the right choices the vast majority of the



time.

"Through trial and error and things we've done that we'd rather not reminisce about, we find our way to a better future. Everyone here has engaged in some tomfoolery or skullduggery. Some of you may have even defenestrated someone, though hopefully the window was open at the time."

Domeier welcomed the group telling them it's their responsibility to "march forth and shine a light on the lives of those around you."

"And along the way, I'm confident you'll discover your haecceity," Domeier concluded. "You are now part of a group, the National Honor Society. Together, you can do great things. But never lose sight of who YOU are and why YOU were chosen to be in the NHS. Find your haecceity, be proud of it, and stride into the world, always using your uniqueness to do great things."

The NRHEG Concert Band played music and members posed for pictures before retreating to the cafeteria for a reception with members and guests.

‘Remonumenting’
Wilton Township

By DEB BENTLY
Staff Writer

"Surveys in Waseca County are more expensive than any other area we work in," observes Steve Thompson of Jones, Haugh and Smith Engineering out of Owatonna.

The problem, he explains, is "the uncertainty of the location of the corners that are needed."

Thompson, a surveyor with 37 years of experience, relates that, as

the territory that was to become Minnesota was working its way toward statehood in 1854, General Land Office (GLO) surveyors were sent out to measure and "monument" the



Thompson

Wilton continued on 9

WASECA COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS

County
busy with
election
season

By DEB BENTLY
News Editor

During the Nov. 5 meeting of the Waseca County Board of Commissioners, county administrator Michael Johnson mentioned the courthouse had been very busy for the past week or so because of the national, state, and local election. He commented the hallways had been surprisingly active, making the staff witnesses to "the marathon" of the election process. Tammy Spooner, head of the department of property and election services, had not only kept her office open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 2 and 3, but voters had been carrying out early voting there for much of the prior week.

County attorney Rachel Cornelius introduced Mariah Nichols, who recently joined the county attorney's office as an assistant county attorney. Originally from Nebraska, Nichols has five years' experience, much of it with the Nebraska attorney general's office.

At the request of Christopher Hinton, county veteran services officer, commissioners made "Operation Green Light" official within the county for Nov. 4 to 11. Hinton stated every county in the nation—a total of more than 3,000—had been invited to take part in the initiative, which encourages using green exterior lights to "make sure veterans know [his office is] here and ready to help."

Tina Wilson, community development coordinator, encouraged board members to pre-register for an upcoming event co-sponsored by the county and Greenseam, an organization which promotes southern Minnesota as a promising location where agriculturally based businesses can locate their projects. The "mixer" event will include a meal and an evening of networking at Waseca's Mill. She also mentioned having registered to attend an "indoor ag conference" next spring. She commented indoor ag production projects of the type to be covered at the event have land and electricity as their two largest requirements. "We have those," said Wilson light-heartedly.

Beyond the above-mentioned and a few other items of business, the unofficial focus of the Nov. 5 meeting seemed to be water and how to keep it draining efficiently.

Chris Howard, county director of land and water resources, mentioned an ongoing complication at the Waseca airport, where a runway expansion more than a year ago "did not recognize" an "all-tilt" public ditch and paved across it, vastly reducing its effectiveness.

"We're now in a circumstance where it will cost above and beyond \$100,000 to repair," said Howard, noting the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is "solely based" in the operation

County continued on 7

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OBITUARIES

Alice Motzko

Alice Motzko passed away peacefully in her sleep on November 7, 2024. She was 85 years old. A Mass of Christian Burial will take place on Thursday, November 14, 2024, at 11:00 AM at the Christ the King Catholic Church. A visitation will take place at the church on Wednesday, November 13, 2024, from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM, with the Rosary will be prayed at 3:45 PM. Visitation will continue the day of the service one hour prior to the service. Fellowship after the funeral mass will take place at the Browerville Community Center. Burial will take place at the church cemetery.

She was born in Browerville, MN to Irma (Dorosh) Biermaier and Joseph Biermaier. She was the second child of three children born into this family. She attended school in Browerville, MN and graduated with the class of 1957. It was during these years that she met the love of her life, James (Jim) Motzko.

They were married on April 13, 1959, at the St Joseph Church in Clarissa, MN. They resided on a farm in rural Long Prairie where they started to raise their family. In January 1969 the family moved to Waseca, MN where they continued to raise their five children. Mom was employed as a manager of a local motel during these years. In 1996 Mom and Dad returned home to Browerville, MN, where they resided in a house out in the country.

Mom had many interests during her life, one of which was watching or listening to the Twins baseball games. She was their number one fan. She loved to play cards, and she was tough to beat. She also enjoyed fishing and sewing. Mom would cook meals that we swore could feed a small army and



Alice Motzko

no one left the table hungry. She would often remark that it was “nothing fancy”, but it was good, nonetheless. Near the end of her life, when she had little strength, she always mustered up enough strength to say “popsicle” and that popsicle always brought a twinkle to her eye. Mom loved Dad and her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren with all her heart. She knew that the greatest gift in life was family, and she will be greatly missed.

She is survived by her loving husband James Motzko, their five children: Gary (Lynette) Motzko; Carmen (Dann) Weske; Dan (Candi) Motzko; Janet (Kurt) Kullball; and Becky (Jeff) Lothert, 9 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren, and one brother David Biermaier. She is preceded in death by her parents Irma and Joseph Biermaier, her sister Marie May, and daughter-in-law Kimberly Motzko. The family would like to thank the Long Prairie Care Center for their loving care and support for our wife/mother. Words cannot express our gratitude. Arrangements for Alice are with the Iten Funeral Home of Browerville, MN.

Katherine Flogstad

KATHERINE MARIE “KATHY” FLOGSTAD, age 71 of Waseca, died in the early morning hours of Monday, November 11, 2024 at Mayo Clinic Health System in Mankato.

Kathy was born in Alexandria, Virginia on February 27, 1953 to parents Clyde O. and Arlene M. (Miller) Alexander. She attended the Immanuel Lutheran School in Alexandria before later graduating from Jefferson High School with the class of 1971. In the years that followed, Kathy’s mother moved to Waseca to help care for her own mother, and Kathy and her father remained behind in Virginia. During that time, Kathy worked for an automotive dealership. Following her father’s passing in 1973, Kathy also moved to Waseca. On June 6, 1987, Kathy was married to Jerry Flogstad

at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Waseca. Over the years she was employed at Bird’s Eye Foods, the E.F. Johnson Company, and at the Waseca Post office where she was a fixture for nearly forty years before retiring. Recently she worked a few odd jobs cooking at the American Legion, at Dairy Queen, and at Yellow Mushroom Pizza, and she also worked with Lenz Bus Service and as Head of Housekeeping at Camp Omega. Kathy had a servant’s heart and was always quick to help anyone in need. She enjoyed softball and volleyball leagues when she was younger and was recently very involved with the Waseca American Legion Auxiliary and St. Paul Lutheran Church.

Kathy is survived by her husband, Jerry of Waseca; two sons, Michael (Ashley) Flogstad of Williston, ND,

and Steven Flogstad of Mankato; four grandchildren, Leena, Danica, Maverick, and Brooklynn Flogstad; and one sister, Karen “Bubbles” (Dennis) Thompson of Bemidji. She was preceded in death by her parents; one brother, Robert Alexander; and a very close uncle, Burnell “Firp” Miller and his wife Marilyn.

Visitation will be held from 4-6 p.m. on Wednesday, November 13, 2024 at the Third Street Chapel of Dennis-Steffel-Omtvedt Funeral and Cremation Service in Waseca, and will continue for one hour before the service at the church on Thursday.

Funeral services will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, November 14, 2024 at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Waseca, with Rev. Michael Granis officiating. Interment will follow at Woodville Cemetery in Waseca.



Katherine Flogstad

dsfuneral.com

Wasecan glad to have overcome homelessness

By BEN REVERMANN
Staff writer

November is Homelessness and Hunger Awareness Month. But for the Assistant Manager of the Waseca Dominos, it means a whole lot more.

Tad Merkley, 36, former addict, currently has his own apartment, his own car and some money saved. He’s been in his apartment for the past five years. Before that, however, he was well acquainted with what it means to be “homeless.” He live in an unheated basement for a time, and before that in a tent in someone’s backyard.

Originally born and raised in Florida, Merkley moved to Waseca in 2014. At the time he arrived, his plan was to live in a tent, even though it was the colder part of the year. He admits he had little understanding of what winters are like in Minnesota. And although he didn’t know much about local laws, he began learning some of them rather quickly after arriving.

“You’re not allowed in the winter to live in a tent. The ground sucks all the heat out of everything. There’s also a 30-day camping limit, so I had to move my tent around every now and then. I lived solely on EBT [electronic benefit transfer, SNAP foods] and food shelf.” He says he would go to the food shelf every week, and would receive one or two meals worth of food.

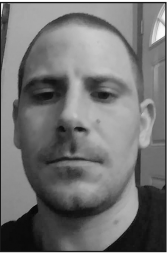
The people whose yard he was residing in were kind enough to let him move into their basement during a particularly cold winter; there was no heat, but he wasn’t outside anymore. It was while living in the tent Merkley said he hit rock bottom. “I did every drug I could get my hands on, everything, and I did anything to get it.”

An acquaintance named Julie convinced Merkley to start applying for jobs but in the beginning, he says, “I did not want to work in fast food.” He got close to getting a janitor’s job but when that didn’t pan out, he got

frustrated. Over and over for weeks Merkley kept hearing Domino’s was hiring so he went in and filled out an application.

Along with his decision to get a job came one to be done with drugs and alcohol. He says he eventually recognized chemicals gave him only a “false sense of happiness,” and only briefly. Regarding any pleasure he did get, he says, “I always had to pay for it in the end.”

He says when he worked his first day making pizza, he didn’t like it much. But when he punched out and walked home, he remembers, “I felt good.” It had been more than a year since his last job; he was in debt for thousands of dollars in child support. “That first check wasn’t much, [human service agencies] started taking it right away.”



Merkley

It took five years, but as of this fall, Merkley is now living debt free. “It feels good to get out from under that, it really does.” He stayed on at Domino’s and started to make friends. When he finally had enough money, he moved out of the basement and got his own apartment and a dog, which he named “Dawg.”

He was even able to fly one of his daughters up to Minnesota for a few weeks and got reacquainted with her, “I was so happy to see Kaitlen that first time when we left the airport.” Merkley also picked up a new hobby, Frisbee Golf. He now collects Frisbee discs and got a special Frisbee Golf backpack; he claims to know all the courses in the surrounding counties. “I played Frisbee Golf that first time and was hooked.” He plans to keep playing it as long as he lives, “It’s great exercise and I’ve met others who play too.”

Waseca Exchange club to host murder mystery

Mikhail Rostislavovich President of the Waseca Exchange Announced that there will be a Murder at Alexander House on Friday, November 15, 2024, at 6:30 PM and 8:00 PM and then again on Saturday, November 16, 2024, at 6:30 PM and 8:00 PM. With a cast of 26 characters playing the roles of notable Russian aristocrats and their associates. Tickets are available at the Waseca Chamber of Commerce and the Waseca Art Center. The cost is \$35.00 for a person with appetizers and drinks to follow the murder.

There is a dark cloud gathering over Alexander House. With the February Revolution which re-

moved Nicholas II from the Imperial Throne. Riots broke out on the Streets of St. Petersburg after last month’s October Revolution led by a small group of Bolsheviks, a sense of discontent and fear ran through the hearts of the family that had ruled for over 300 years.

Prince Mikhail Rostislavovich of the Noble House of Holstein-Gottorp hosted a formal dinner to help distract his family and friends from the gathering unrest.

The mansion has been sealed off and the Imperial Chief of Police is asking for your help in finding the murderer, the weapon, and the room in which Grand Duke Kirill was killed. Will you solve the crime of the century?

Chorale

from Page 1

local support, we’re able to keep going, and even growing.”

Vetter mentions a recent breakfast fundraiser at the Waseca V.F.W., at which Chorale members helped make the breakfast items, serve the food, bus tables and perform other tasks and, in exchange, received a donation.

Schultz expresses gratitude to the Waseca Area Foundation, The E.F. Johnson Foundation, and the Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council.

Among other embellishments, those funds helped cover the cost of acquiring a 35-minute cantata titled “Love Came Down at Christmas” which is universally liked among the members. The cantata includes a combination of narration

and song that Yess says she and Hoehn both immediately took a liking to. She calls the narration “very down to earth,” and says she looks forward to hearing the whole cantata after all the final touches are added.

Despite its half-hour length, she says, Chorale members have stated it’s “too short,” because of how much they enjoy performing it and how beautiful they find it to be.

“We’ve gotten a lot of pleasure out of putting this all together,” says Bauleke. “And we know people will enjoy hearing it performed, maybe even as much as we enjoy performing it for them.”

“I hope many people set the time aside to come,” reflects Vetter. “I know they’ll be glad they did.”

This activity is made possible in part by a grant from the Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council with funds appropriated by the Minnesota State Legislature from its general fund.

Bethlehem

from Page 1

service organizations and other groups.

The state of Minnesota issued a report in October of 2023 which concluded the state has 10,000 homeless inhabitants.

In the Waseca County area, “Homelessness is far more common than most people realize,” she states definitively. “We may not see people pushing shopping carts filled with their worldly possessions,” she observes, “but we have many, many people who are sleeping in their vehicles, staying overnight in parks, or sometimes sleeping in tents.” Other refugees taken by those with no permanent home are “couch hopping,” which is to spend nights at the homes of many different friends or family members in sequence, or “doubling up,” that is, moving in with someone who has some extra space.

McIntosh says some may assume it is carelessness or poor life choices which lead to a person becoming homeless, but the story is always greatly nuanced. Some have decided they have no choice but to leave a toxic relationship. There may be problems with addiction or mental health.

Mentioning how difficult it is to find affordable housing, she tells of individuals who became unable to pay their rent or their bills because of an emergency, for example having to choose between paying the bills or having their car repaired. Landlords are often unwilling to rent spaces to people who have a poor credit history or who have been evicted from a previous living situation.

“Every situation is different,” she says, mentioning one family left homeless after a house fire.

And once someone has reached the level of homelessness, McIntosh suggests, finding the way back out again becomes increasingly complicated.

She says she would like to see

people begin wondering not, “what’s wrong” with people who become homeless, but instead, “what happened to them.”

By giving applicants and their children a place to stay, McIntosh says, Bethlehem Inn helps them build a foundation for the return to a more stable lifestyle.

Once a placement becomes possible for a woman or family, McIntosh describes, a typical stay is 90 to 120 days. No rent is charged. Families move into a setting much like a dormitory: they have their own sleeping quarters. Restroom facilities, all with more than one stall and shower, are shared.

Residents are responsible for acquiring and cooking their own food. A large community kitchen on the lowest floor has refrigerators and dry storage space; there is also a community dining area. Among the rooms and facilities are some large, open rooms where children can play and adults can gather for conversation or to watch television or play games. A workroom provides two

computers for job searches, completing applications or other tasks.

Residents are given financial counseling, and offered support and assistance making other lifestyle changes which will help them acquire and keep their own housing. All members of the Bethlehem Inn staff help provide these supports. The facility has three family advocates who meet with them weekly to review their progress toward a set of goals which is established when people take up residency. They are also guided in seeking support services through government agencies.

Staff members at the facility are McIntosh, shelter manager Angie Alvarez, and family advocates Stacy Wasinger, Toni Larson and Marnee White.

Bethlehem Inn is funded through grants, donations and “community support, which is strong and gratifying.” It is led by a board of directors who McIntosh says are “active and involved” to a heartwarming degree.

“They say it takes a village,” says McIntosh. “We certainly have one.”



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to give me last years total then. He said he would get back to me, but never did. Assessment values and answers like this should be addressed by the County Administrator and commissioners, but unfortunately, the tax payers voice of Waseca County has been ignored. Lack of

accountability is one of the reasons I ran for commissioner.

I wanted to thank everyone who voted for me. I’m hoping your vote and support might send a message. Once again, thank you and it was great meeting all of you.

John Donahue

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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.

Mary Guentzel Quintet at Indian Island Winery Friday, Nov. 15

The Indian Island Winery near Janesville will host the Mary Guentzel Quintet from 6 to 8:30 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 15. The group plays Irish music and some all-time favorites.

Books and Brews at the Waseca Public Library Sat., Nov. 16

Babble and Beer at the Waseca Public Library 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 16. Stop by the library to pick up this month's book discussion selection, The House of Eve by Sadequa Johnson. Drinks and food can be purchased.

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.

Car/deer accidents peak this time of year

By DEB BENTLY
News Editor

"A large doe jumped out of the ditch and smashed into the side of my car," relates a local resident who said his experience "could have happened to anyone," and requested to have it recounted anonymously.

"It hit my car just in front of the passenger door. It left huge dents in my right front quarter panel and part of the door.

"When people ask whether I hit a deer, I say no, I didn't.

"The deer hit me."

The incident happened during broad daylight on Waseca's Snake Trail road. "The engine warning light

came on. The oil light came on."

The driver said he had no choice but to continue to his destination, but spent the remainder of the drive completely on edge, listening for noises that indicated he needed to stop. When the car was taken in for service, damages amounted into the thousands of dollars.

Waseca County Sheriff Jay Dulas agrees with the driver that his experience could "happen to anyone." Dulas would know.

So far in 2024, there have been 82 reported collisions with deer in Waseca County. The annual number has consistently been in the region of 100 since 2018: the lowest number

Dulas cites is 68, the highest is 103. He knows there are also a fair number which are not reported, especially if damage is minor or the car is an older one not covered by insurance.

"Fall is peak season for accidents with deer," Dulas points out. Peak times are between 6 and 9 p.m., he says, but just as with the anonymous driver, they can happen at any time.

They can also happen anywhere, but tend to be more common on stretches of road near terrain deer favor—trees, still-standing corn, or wetlands. The familiar "deer crossing" signs, he adds, are there for a reason.

Among the most important things drivers can do is to be sure and wear their seatbelts, Dulas advises; in the case of motorcycle drivers, who are at risk for grave bodily injury if they strike a deer, he suggests wearing helmets.

Along with that, of course, he recommends vigilance and driving at slower speeds. He suggests being very aware of the terrain and scanning consistently for signs of motion or of reflection from the deers' eyes. Based on his experience, he suggests drivers not rely on items like "deer

Accident continued on 8

Jamison Berg, 12-year-old deer hunter

By BEN REVERMANN
Staff writer

The Minnesota youth deer season was from Thursday, Oct. 17, through Sunday, Oct. 20, and gives children ages 10 to 17 a chance to go hunting before the adults; No one above age 18 is allowed to hunt during this time, but they must accompany the youths who do. Janesville resident Jamison Berg, 12, took part in the youth deer season this year, and was lucky and skilled enough to bag his own buck.

Nick Berg, Jamison's father, accompanied his son. According to the rules, only Jamison was allowed to carry a gun; only he was allowed to shoot and tag his buck. Jamison said the deer approached from the south while he was hunting from an enclosed stand on a piece of land near Freeborn which his dad owns and hunts with family. "Basically, I looked south and there it was. I thought it was a small deer but when my dad looked up, all he saw was antlers. It stopped and didn't get

any closer. I had to lean way out of the tree stand to shoot the thing. I got it right at the top of the neck, near the spine." Jamison hunted using a Remington 870 20-gauge.

The ten-pointer weighed about 200 pounds. It is currently in the Bergs' freezer, said Nick, "We took it to Neighbor's Meats in New Richland, we got steaks and chops. The trimmings we ground into hamburger and the roasts I sliced up myself for jerky. I just made a batch of it last night. I don't do the butchering myself, we just field dressed it when he shot it." Besides the meat in the freezer, the head is currently being mounted at a private taxidermist

Jamison says he has taken part in the youth hunt for the past three years and has harvested a deer every year. He attributes some of his skill as a marksman to being a member of the Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton trap shooting team. He mentions he also plays marksmanship related



Jamison Berg, 12, bagged this 10-pointer on Oct. 17, 2024 during this year's youth deer hunting season.

video games.

Jamison has gone pheasant hunting and has gotten one pheasant. He likes to fish with his Grandpa Bruce; their favorite

fishing venue is St. Olaf Lake, "Because it's a beautiful lake and there's not a lot of people on it and it's quiet."

Half-hour Hazel makes habit of early harvests

By BEN REVERMANN
Staff writer

Firearm deer hunting season in Minnesota began Friday, Nov. 9 through Nov. 24. People in orange coats and hats can be seen all over the state carrying their rifles to or from their trucks. After buying her deer hunting license for \$35 from the Waseca Walmart, Hazel Moore, 18, shot this year's deer within the first 20 minutes of the first day of the season, earning her the name "Half-

Hour Hazel."

"I got to my deer stand at like 6:25 a.m. and had the deer in my sights by 6:45 or 6:50 a.m., and that was on opening day. That seems to happen every year for me."

Whether luck or skill, Moore says she has harvested five deer over time, starting when she was a youth hunter at age 12. Her weapon of

Hazel continued on 8



Wasecan Hazel Moore, 18, harvested this 150-pound, 10-point buck near Northfield before 30 minutes of this year's deer opener had passed on Friday, Nov. 9, 2024.

NEW RICHLAND CITY COUNCIL

Flooding study results revealed

By ELI LUTGENS
Publisher/Editor

The Mankato office of Houston Engineering recently completed a comprehensive hydrology study regarding flooding problems in and around New Richland; the company's conclusions were presented during the New Richland City Council meeting on Oct. 28.

The city is planning a future public hearing to receive input from citizens regarding the best path forward.

Over the past 20 years, New Richland has experienced numerous high water flooding incidents.

"The purpose of our study is to quantify that flood risk—how high, how often," Houston Engineering's Joe Lewis said. "The study looks at different projects or alternatives to reduce that flood risk throughout the city."

"There isn't an expectation that [this problem] will go away on its own," Lewis added.

Lewis began his presentation discussing how water moves through the current system.

During a normal rain event, water moves through ditches at about 400 to 600 cubic feet per second (CFS). During a "100-year flooding event," that amount is tripled to as much as 1300 CFS, or about 10,000 gallons per minute.

"Once excess water comes out of the channel, you start having impacts," Lewis expanded. "Our purpose is to identify the next steps for the city to look at to create a permanent solution."

The current water drainage systems—channels, ditches, and their ability to deliver outflow into natural streams—have been in place a long time, and were installed with the intent to serve agricultural needs. Their purpose was for drainage, Lewis said, not for the sake of preventing flooding.

"The source of flooding is from runoff conveyed to the city by County Ditch 47 (CD 47) and Joint County Ditch 6 (JCD 6), public drainage systems from the upstream watershed," the hydrology study reports.

The criteria used for flood mitigation, by this study, sets the objective of eliminating or minimizing flood damages during rain events which drop up to 7.66 inches during a 24-hour period, the standard for a "100-year" flood.

Council members noted, during the presentation, that at least one rainfall event this summer delivered 11 inches during a 24-hour period.

Houston Engineering provided four techniques with alternatives to help address the flooding problem: increasing

Council continued on 9



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The Pastor's Column

The right backpack is key

By PASTOR KEN ANDRS

I made an impulse purchase. On Sunday night I was watching football, getting sleeper and sleeper. So, as I normally do when I get tired, I started searching for things that would be useful for me. First on Facebook marketplace, then on eBay I dove deeper and deeper into my own mind and imagination to discover that one thing I needed. All so I could stay awake and watch football.

My mind went down the usual tracks in trying to buy something. What can I resell that I know about? Are there trading card games that have popped up recently? Nope, nothing. What about video games? I just rebuilt a Nintendo 8 Bit system from the 80s, any games for sale? Nope. That reminds me I have an original Xbox that I need to rebuild, but that is next week's problem. What can I look at to buy?

I went back to my old faithful search, backpacks. A nice Frost River or Duluth Pack waxed canvas bag is always fun to look for. Why do I look for backpacks? Because having the right backpack for the right activity is key. I have a computer messenger back from Frost River, I have a small backpack for portable gaming devices from Duluth Pack, my overnight bag is surplus Swiss military backpack, my hunting back is a tactical sling bag with enough space for sandwiches, a knife and a few extra rounds. I like a good backpack that can be used for its intended purpose, and I hate having to repack my bag for the next activity.

I found a new backpack on Sunday night on eBay, I made a ridiculously low offer on the backpack, Monday afternoon I found out that I won it. This new to me Duluth Pack bag is for my everyday carry stuff, being ready for the day is important to me. My office keys, hawkbill knife and good pens will have a home. The books I am reading will go with me, my journal and calendar will tag along as well. There is a space for my coffee, which is very important. Needless to say, I am excited for this purchase.

Is this whole article going to be about a backpack? And how much I love purposeful backpacks? Backpacks with a purpose are important to me, I want to know what I am carrying with me and being prepared for the task at hand is important as well. I could have been a Boy Scout with how prepared I like to be. I guess I take Peter's advice to all believers in 1 Peter 3:13-17 seriously.

13 Who then will harm you if you are devoted to what is good? 14 But even if you should suffer for righteousness, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear or be intimidated, 15 but in your hearts regard Christ the Lord as holy, ready at any time to give a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you. 16 Yet do this with gentleness and respect, keeping a clear conscience, so that when you are accused, those who disparage your good conduct in Christ will be put to shame. 17 For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil. (CSB, emphasis mine)

In this world not everything will go according to our plans, we need to rely upon God. When life goes sideways will you hope in the Lord, or trust in your own ability? The tools we carry with us to combat suffering are those things that we have prepared ahead of time to use. Have you memorized key scriptures? Have you done your devotions, prayed, built fellowship into your life, worshipped? This is how we prepare for lives as Christians, knowing that this world is a difficult place to live. We prepare to give an answer for the hope that we have, with gentleness and respect.

Do you hope in Christ? What are you prepared for in this life? What do you carry with you as you go about your days? Are you spiritually prepared for an eternity with Christ and ready to answer those who wonder about your hope? Do the work to prepare your spiritual backpack with the hope of eternity and tools that rely upon God to face the struggles of today.

Soil and Water Supervisors (3)
David Melby
Daniel Hansen
Bradley Hagen

Ellendale

All candidates for Ellendale Mayor and City Council ran unopposed.

Mayor - Scott Groth
Council (2) - Scott Swanson, Joel Meyer

Freeborn County Commissioners, etc

District 1
Brad Edwin 1,813
Julie D. Ackland 1,055

District 3
Lukas Severson 1,959

District 5
Nicole Eckstrom 2,880

Soil and Water Supervisors
Districts 1, 2 and 3
Casey Madson
Scott Lightly
Vickie Heers

District 5
Brad Kramer 6,891
Bruce Ness 6,239

Hartland

Mayor
Kelly Routh 152

City Council (2)
Lori Routh 119
Jodie Reed 100
Jackie Schlaak 84

Geneva

Mayor
Steven Bailey 105
Christopher Bartsch 99
Jacob A. Jensen 95

City Council (2)
Garry R. Gordinier 154
Susan Phillips 118
Frederick Vokoun 116
Michelle Stollard 114
Siiri Larkin 23

Woodville Township

Supervisor 1
Bernard Frederick
Treasurer
Judy Hoffman

City Council (2)
Garry R. Gordinier 154
Susan Phillips 118
Frederick Vokoun 116
Michelle Stollard 114
Siiri Larkin 23

District 4
Jim Abbe 3,450

District 5
Greg Krueger 1,910
Scott Prestegard 1,744

Special election City Council
Andy Ahlman 1,193

City of New Richland
Mayor
Janda Ferguson, 549

Council Member (2)
Matthew Economy 221
Joshua Gene Warke 210
Brandy Jacobson 192
Melissa Thompson 180
Ryan Alan Gehrke 176
Robert Swenson 74
Sam Genelin 34

Special election for council
Jody E. Wynnemer 311
Jacob Naser 149
Christina Petsinger 121

City of Waldorf
Mayor
Rob Wilkening

City Council (2)
Jamie Beckstrand 75
Cody Schnepf 57
Kevin Lines 37

JWP School Board (3)
Laura Seys 2,098
Dave Olson 1,973
Monica Erickson 1,952

NRHEG School District (3)
Terri Engel 2,032
Loren Schoenrock 2,006
Kelly Delacruz 1,630

Steele County County Wide
Commissioner District 3
Josh Prokopec 1,858
Rick A. Gnemi 1,360

District 4
Jim Abbe 3,450

District 5
Greg Krueger 1,910
Scott Prestegard 1,744

Teacher of the year



During the Hartley Elementary Veterans Day Program Meghan Selvik was named Teacher of the Year for the Waseca Education Association. From left: Todd Selvik, Olivia Selvik, Sydney Selvik, Ethan Selvik, Meghan Selvik, and Mary Conway.

Council approves letter of support for rail initiative

By JESSICA LUTGENS
Staff Writer

The Waseca City Council approved a letter of support from the city for the southern Minnesota passenger rail initiative, a project that hopes to bring passenger rail back to existing rail lines, thereby connecting southern Minnesota to the Twin Cities, Rochester, and other areas in-state and out of state.

Present to address the council and provide information on the project, as well as history of Waseca's rail lines, were former mayor Roy Srp, and Suzie Nakasian, former Northfield city council member who helped champion a rail corridor from Minneapolis to Kansas City.

"Passenger rail is on the move in the US," Nakasian said, explaining that the letter of support from the city would help maximize the possibility of connecting the region which includes Waseca County to work that's already underway.

Also present was Alicia Fischer who updated council members regarding city staffing. Among the items discussed were the addition of six new paid on-call firefighters to the local department and recognition of Penny Vought's retirement after 40 years of service with the local police.

Following the approval of the consent agenda, which included minutes from the council meeting and work session on Oct. 15, payroll and expenditures, the airport farm ag lease and hay lease agreement, Resolution 24-07: Cooperative Agreement for Waseca Airport CD 39/45 Tile Replacement Project, and a Lifeguard Services Agreement, the council moved on to the action agenda.

WASECA CITY COUNCIL

First up was a liquor violation hearing for Oscar's in Waseca due to evidence of sale of alcohol to a minor by an employee of the establishment in July of 2023. No response was given from the establishment following notification of the violation from the city, and no representative of the establishment was present for the meeting. The council approved Resolution 24-68, implementing a \$250 fine and proof of implementation of a detailed Minnesota liquor law employee compliance program to be submitted before Dec. 31 of this year.

A public hearing was held on Resolution 24-52, adopting miscellaneous assessment roll #24-99 for city services and fees, and following no public comment the hearing was closed and the resolution approved.

Jon Froke, City Planner, was present to discuss extending the city's moratorium on THC products through next year. A public hearing was opened on the matter, and following no public comment, closed. The council approved Ordinance No. 1119 Extending the City's THC and Cannabis Products Moratorium.

Finally, the matter of leasing land at Gaiter Lake (a.k.a. "Lewer Farm") was discussed. Ultimately, a motion was made to not rent the land for 2025, which passed with three votes against.

Before adjournment, council members Mark Christiansen and Stacey Schroeder thanked community and ward members for their votes and support in the recent election. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Attend the Church of your Choice!

CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH 2200 4th St NE, Waseca 507-835-2235 Service times 9:30 a.m. * * * * *	Sunday worship 10 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 * * * * *	412 N. Main Street, Janesville Interim 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 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 * * * * *	ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC Waldorf, Minnesota Father Brian Mulligan Sunday - 8 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 Orisco, Minnesota Rev. Scott Williams, Pastor Thursday - 6:30 p.m. Soup & Study Sunday - 8:45 a.m. Worship * * * * *	IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH Freedom Township Sunday - 9:15 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 * * * * *	ZOAR UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST Pastor Ava Adams-Morris Waldorf, Minnesota Sunday - 9 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 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 * * * * *	TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH * * * * *	

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Janesville

1924

- Loren P. Hall, a soldier of the Civil War, passed away at his home in Smiths Mill on Wednesday morning. Death was due to ills incident to old age. He was about in the morning as usual. He called his daughter, Mrs. Cummins, stating that he was not feeling well. He then laid himself down and in a short time expired. His passing was peaceful and happy. The deceased was born in Ontario, Canada, on October 2, 1842. He died on October 23, 1924, being 82 years and 21 days of age.

- A head on collision between two cars occurred Monday morning a mile and a half east of Alma City resulting in the serious injury of Mr. Nicholas Smith who was driving one car. The other car was driven by David Hodgkins of Waldorf. Mr. Hodgkins is reported to have escaped without injury. Mr. Smith was reported to be on his way to Waldorf and Hodgkins to Waseca by the way of Alma City. We have been unave to secure particulars as to why or how the accident happened.

- The farmers' meeting at the Town Hall in Janesville on Thursday evening last under the auspices of the Co-operative Poultry Producers Association was a success from an educational standpoint. Two reels of moving pictures were shown, giving a realistic idea of the way in which the eggs and poultry are handled from the farm to the car in which they are shipped to the eastern markets. More films are being prepared, which will show the remainder of the process of placing the product of the hen on the table of the ultimate consumer, and will be shown to the people at some future time.

1949

- A three-month summary of game violation arrest for July, August and September by the Game and Fish division show 397 people were convicted and paid fines and costs amounting to about \$8,200. The total of 397 is less than 463 for the same period in 1948 and 488 in 1947. Violation of fishing and netting regulation led the list with 269. There were 14 big game, 49 small game and 17 miscellaneous arrests. Hunting and carrying guns in game refuges and having guns set up accounted for 48 arrests.

- The Golden Bears of 1974 - Ella Bartelmebs, longtime owner of Ella's Cafe, was honored as a retiring member by the Janesville Area Chamber of Commerce at its banquet. Chamber President Bob Pluym presented her a plaque. Janesville Archives Janesville high school lost possession of the coveted "Gold Brick" for the first time in four years last night by falling to their old "jinx" team, the New Richland Cardinals, at New Richland by a score of 13-7. The Card victory eliminated the Bears' high hopes of capturing a Gopher Conference co-championship. There is no doubt that the Bears would have pulled a victory had it not been for a badly officiated play in the third quarter. Just after the Bears had scored their touchdown, Elmer Dimmel kicked off into the end zone. A Cardinal player touched the ball and the ball was fallen on by a Janesville player. The referee ruled it a touchback and the whole Bear team argued with him on the decision, but play was later resumed.

- Waseca County women who want information on homemaking problems, from canning and freezing to upholstering furniture, can get it, henceforth from the county home agent. That's how Waseca County's home demonstration agent will be known from now on. Mrs. Doris Wyman will be as active as ever in giving help to homemakers. In fact, her job will still be the same.

1974

- Janesville residents will have the opportunity to choose the men who will be representing them on several levels of government when they go to the polls here Tuesday, November 5 for the General Election. The polls will be open from 7 a.m. until 8 p.m. Voters of the First Ward will vote in the Council Room located in the Municipal Building. Voters of the Second Ward will vote in the Public Library.

- "Emil Felske had a close call for his life. While out in the field loading corn stalks, a bolt of lightning struck the team of horses attached to the wagon to which he was loading and killed them instantly. Mr. Felske lost consciousness and fell to the ground, but later revived and considered himself as getting out of it all lucky enough." From the Janesville Argus, November, 1916. This small slice of Emil Felske's life comes from a battered black notebook the retired farmer started keeping in 1916 when he bought his farm from Franz and Augusta Pietsh for the sum of \$11,800. Even before that, Emil had kept a log when he lived with his parents, August and Augusta Felske on the home farm in Janesville Township. Emil was born March 9, 1889 on the home farm and has lived in Janesville area all his life. He's 85 now and recalls that he has always been interested in history.

- The Golden Bears played New Richland even-steven for three quarters here Friday night, but gave up two touchdowns in the final period to drop their sixth Gopher game 20-8. The loss gave the Bears a 1-6 conference record and 2-7 overall. New Richland placed second in the conference with a 5-2 record. Senior Rich Frank put the Bears on the scoreboard in the first period when he scored from eight yards out. Dan Joyce gave the locals two more points by running the conversion in.

1999

- Next Tuesday's school board election will see four candidates battling for three seats on the JWP board. All three incumbents have decided to seek another four-year term. They are Allan Lynch, Roxann Zimprich, and John Gardner. Also seeking a seat on the board is Pam Rosen.

- Larry Johnston, director of member support for the Southern Minnesota Municipal Power Agency (SMMPA) in Rochester, and Kris Busse, Waseca City Manager, appeared at the County Commissioner meeting on Tuesday. Johnson represented Waseca Utilities. He review how a utilities Energy Management Program may result in electricity cost reductions if a generator is purchased for the courthouse. Later Johnston explained that SMMPA is the wholesale supplier of electricity for Waseca County, which is the retailer.

- Despite being in the lower half of the Gopher Conference standings, JWP and NRHEG had been playing well as of late. Only the Panthers continued that by beating JWP three games to one in a Gopher Conference volleyball match at New Richland last Tuesday. JWP, the Gopher's fifth place team at 6-8, had won three of its last four coming into the match. The Bulldogs, who finished the regular season with a 10-12 mark, fell to 6-8 away from home. "After our big win against Alden-Conger, this match was a real disappointment for us," said JWP coach Michelle Johnson. "We had one of our worst outings of the season."

Waseca

25 Years Ago

-First Responder training at work – Brad Zinnel, far left and behind, of North Ambulance-Wase conducts First Responder/EMS training with members of the Waseca Fire Department and Johnson Component employees at the Waseca Fire Department last week. The initial course requires 40 hours of training and will help firefighters and company employees respond to medical and trauma situations. Zinnel said area company's can request the training through the North Ambulance.

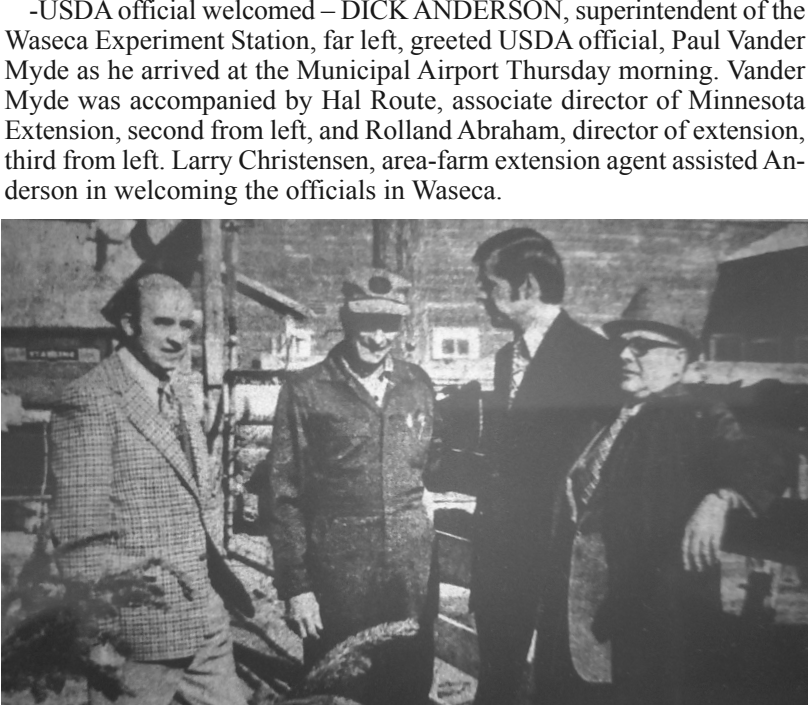
-Waseca High School Assistant Principal Jeanne Swanson has been named the 1999-2000 Minnesota Association of Secondary School Principals (MASSP) Assistant Principal of the Year. The announcement was made Oct. 19 after a state-wide committee of principals reviews the eight finalists in the state.

-Norm and Sallie Volkmann appeared at the County Commissioner meeting last Tuesday to request a conditional use permit. They wish to move a constructed home onto an existing building zone. The Planning and Zoning Commission had recommended denial of the Volkmann's request due to the non-farm status of the land on which they plan to situate the house.

-USDA official welcomed – DICK ANDERSON, superintendent of the Waseca Experiment Station, far left, greeted USDA official, Paul Vander Myde as he arrived at the Municipal Airport Thursday morning. Vander Myde was accompanied by Hal Route, associate director of Minnesota Extension, second from left, and Rolland Abraham, director of extension, third from left. Larry Christensen, area-farm extension agent assisted Anderson in welcoming the officials in Waseca.



50 Years Ago



-Visits Zimmerman farm – IT WAS A TASTE of rural America for Paul Vander Myde, deputy assistant secretary from the United States Department of Agriculture Thursday morning as he visited with John Zimmerman, who farms east of Waseca. Pictured left to right: Hal Route, John Zimmerman, Paul Vader Myde, and Rolland Abraham.

-In-service day – WASECA TEACHERS got together after their students went home for the afternoon Thursday for in-service sessions on Right-to-read and the new Adviser-Advisee program. Clockwise from upper left, are Middle School principal Ken Meyers, in-service director; teachers, John Teskey, Jim Falenscheck, Rober Roers, Bill Bamowy, Terry Gilbertson and Dave Zika in a reading session at Waseca High; a group of seventh and eighth grade teachers meeting on reading at Middle School.

75 Years Ago

-THE FIRST COUNTY SCHOOL visited by the Waseca county bookmobile was district 3 where Janet Noetzel teachers. Shown above are pupils beside the bookmobile before they took turns to see what was on the inside of the new vehicle. Also shown on the picture at the far left rear is Miss Noetzel's uncle, Herman A. Panzram, former county auditor and early superintendent of schools of Waseca county. Left to right in the picture shows rear Herman Panzram, Gary Remund, Ethel Schneider, Trudi Remund, JoAnn Remund, Mary Jo Timprey, Kent Knauss and Janet Noetzel, teacher. Middle: Jo Sutter, Jayne Remund, Virginia Meschke, Calvin Edwards, David Dethmar, Eugene Langworthy and George Langworthy. Front: Paul Broughton, James Sutter, Carol Zimmerman, Marlys Wabner, Pattie Edwards, Hattie Meschke, and Jeanette Remund.

-A UNIQUE PET at the J.H. Russell farm home three and half miles southward of Otisco is this foundingling deer in a field about a year ago when their father was combining beans. It has taken periodic trips back to the wild life its parents new, but always comes back for more petting and a tussle with the dog. It now stays in the Russell's yard.

-The Keeley Farm Equipment Co. is building a new structure to house their implement business at 1002 West Elm. Construction started about three weeks ago and the building is expected to be completed in a similar period of time.

100 Years Ago

-Impressive services Sunday marked the re-opening and re-consecration of the First Congregational church of Waseca, following the recent improvements on the church building. Over \$7,000 has been expended by the congregation in reconstruction work. New hardwood floors were laid, the old opera chairs were removed and new pews installed, an addition built to the rear for class rooms, and the basement completely renovated.

-The first snow of the season fell at Waseca early Friday morning, covering the ground with a feathery blanket of flakes. A slight wind and temperature below freezing accompanied the flakes throughout the Northwest. The snow remained until Sunday, melting rapidly in the rising temperature of that day.

-Miss Hazel Sheldon, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L.J. Sheldon, of Woodville, has been named editor-in-chief of "The School of Agriculture," a monthly publication put out by the University Farm School. Miss Sheldon's Waseca county friends are glad to hear of her selection for this important position on the college paper for they know she is competent to fill it.

New Richland

25 Years Back



• Bath-Geneva 4-H member Jessica Brouwers along with Chubby and Treasure at the 1999 State 4-H Dog Show. On October 23rd in Hutchinson, MN the results of the state 4-H Dog Show brought a sweet end (for this year) to two personal goals that had been started six months previously. First there were seventeen exhibitors from Freeborn County who qualified for the State Dog Show - the highest number from any county, out of the seventeen exhibitors, eight were from the Bath- Geneva 4-H Club and all of them did extremely well. Jessica Brouwers received a red in Intermediate Agility with Chubby, a blue in Jr. Open Showmanship with chubby.

•The Rite of Confirmation - Affirmation of Baptism was held on Reformation Day, Sunday, October 31, 1999 at the 10:45 a.m. Worship Service at the First Lutheran Church in Ellendale with Pastor Arne Halbakken officiating. "Jesus Calls Us" a solo was sung by Laura Sletten, who was one of the confirmands. Congratulations to all of the Confirmands.

• In August of 1998, the Minnesota Division of Emergency Management named Steele County as the first Project Impact community in Minnesota. Project Impact is a Federal Emergency Management Agency initiative to build disaster -resistant communities all across the country. Over 100 hundred communities in the U.S. are now working to mitigate the negative effects of disaster on their citizens.

50 Years Back



• Three Ellendale -Geneva Students take top honors in the Junior High Music Festival Saturday, February 7, at Blooming Prairie High School. They are from left to right: Melanie Goslee on flute, LaNell Leak on clarinet and Tami Lund on flute.

• Wayne and Linda Reese of Scottsdale, AZ are parents of an eight pound ten ounce girl born February 10. She has been named Lindsey Jo and joins three brothers, Adam, Todd and Eric in the Reese family. Grandparents are Mrs. Josephine Genochio of Ottomwa, Ia and Mr. and Mrs. Donald Reese of rural Ellendale. Great-grandparents are Joe Anderson and Martin Reese, both of New Richland.

• A farewell reception was held for Gary Dammel, outgoing Interim Superintendent, on Thursday February 12, in the EG school cafeteria. All school board members, school staff and employees were invited.

■ County from Page 3

of the airport. He commented rerouting the system will lead to a "cost difference" in the range of \$70,000 for which the airport is technically responsible. The airport does receive some government funds, he observed, but any money to repay the cost would be spread across an impractical amount of time.

Despite the difficulties, though, Howard pointed out "It's pretty imperative we keep [the drainage system]

working."

In the case of another county ditch, commissioner Brian Harguth commented a property owner had been very grateful the county now owns the specialized camera and equipment needed to inspect underground tiles from the inside. The camera had established that the reason a particular tile was not draining well was because another property owner had accidentally blocked it while connecting an additional tile to it.

The county commissioners' 8 a.m. work session on Nov. 5 consisted entirely of discussion and presentations from Howard regarding a new 20-page policy statement covering county drainage systems.

During his presentation, Howard mentioned much of the policy is a re-statement of state laws which apply to public drainage. He also noted that, when the ditches were established across the 1900s, the property owners who requested them and worked together to have them built "understood the ditch system and how it's funded." The generations of land owners who have inherited or purchased the land since then do not have that level of understanding, which sometimes leads to lengthy, or even heated, conversations.

"I've spent a lot of time explaining to people how ditch systems work and how they're funded," Howard said.

Commissioners voiced approval of Howard's work to consolidate and clarify information about the ditch system, as well as some financial updates he has compiled regarding the funds available for routine "clean-outs" or other service on each of the many individual ditch systems in the county.

Commissioner Dee Malterer observed, "It's a good thing to have a holistic policy on this, especially for an agricultural community." She noted the "infrastructure" of the county ditch system is the largest the county has, outsourcing even the highway system.

The draft of the new policy is under consideration for approval.



Farmamerica’s turkey trot returns

(Waseca, Minn.)- Get ready for a morning filled with fun, food, fitness, and some very special feathered guests. Join us at Farmamerica on Friday, November 29th at 10 AM for the second annual walk/run, all-you-can-eat breakfast by Dad’s Belgian Waffles, and the chance to welcome home the National Thanksgiving Turkeys.

In a cherished annual tradition dating back to the 1940s, the President of the United States ceremonially pardons a Thanksgiving turkey and kicks off the holiday season. The turkeys are presented to the President by the chairman of the National Turkey Federation; currently John Zimmerman of Southeast Minnesota. Following their special trip to Washington, DC, these lucky birds will return to Minnesota and live out the remainder of their natural lives at Farmamerica.

“We’re excited to welcome the turkeys back to the Green-Seam region where visitors can learn about turkey production in the top producing state and the epicenter of U.S. agriculture,” said Jessica Rollins, Farmamerica’s executive director.

“Minnesota is the nation’s leading turkey-producing state, and I am excited to showcase our industry on behalf of the National Turkey Federation. I know that these special birds will continue to be great ambassadors of the U.S. turkey industry to visitors from around the nation at Farmamerica,” said Zimmerman.

Last year, Farmamerica rolled out its first Turkey Trot and welcomed almost 150 fun run participants. This year is expected to be even better thanks to the opportunity to enjoy a waffle breakfast and meet the presidential poultry.

See event details below and register at farmamerica.org/events by November 18 to ensure a race t-shirt.

Event Details:
Activities: Fun Run, Breakfast by Dad’s Belgian Waffles, National Thanksgiving Turkey Meet-and-Greet
Date: November 29, 2024
Time: Turkey Trot Fun Run, 10 AM | Breakfast, 9 AM – 12 PM
Location: Farmamerica, 5 miles west of Waseca
Admission: Breakfast & Fun Run Combo*: \$28 | Fun Run Only*: \$20 | Breakfast Only: \$10 | 4 & Under: FREE | Register at farmamerica.org/events
*Register by November 18th to receive your race t-shirt.

Farmamerica is a non-profit agricultural interpretive center that connects people with the evolving story of agriculture through educational hands-on experiences like historic farm tours, day camps, and family-friendly events, partnerships, and community engagement. The 360-acre Farmamerica site is located right off Highway 14 on County Road 2, west of Waseca, MN.

The National Turkey Federation (NTF) is the national advocate for America’s turkey farmers and producers, raising awareness for its members’ products while strengthening their ability to profitably and safely deliver wholesome, high-quality and nutritious food to consumers worldwide. NTF is the sole national trade association exclusively representing the turkey industry; its members account for more than 95 percent of all U.S. turkey production.

NRHEG Fall Sports Banquet

By ELI LUTGENS
Publisher/Editor

Hundreds of students, staff, parents, and families attended the NRHEG Fall Sports Banquet held Thursday evening, Nov. 7 in the high school gymnasium.

As is traditional, Athletic Director Dan Stork thanked the many people behind the scenes who make sporting events possible at NRHEG: staff, bus drivers, pep band, cheerleaders, parents, student athletes, coaches, and many more.

“Athletes, please know that your commitment to your team and the school community does not go unnoticed,” Stork said. “It’s not easy to get out of bed at 6 a.m. on a nice summer day so that you can get a lift in before work. It’s not easy to run literally hundreds of miles in the offseason so you can be ready for the meets you will run in the fall. It’s not easy to put in all the extra time that you do.

“Thank you so much for your hard work and commitment,” Stork concluded. “My hope is that you will carry that same drive with you after you leave NRHEG.

With that, Stork introduced the various Panther coaches and players.

The program concluded a little after 8 p.m. Letter winners collected their pins and letters and just about everyone stuck around for another half hour for photos and good conversation.

In total, 16 senior athletes were celebrate during the evening: Mallory Schlinger, Aspyn Stenzel, Sierra Misgen, Owen Bartlett, Alden Dobberstein, Jace Ihrke, Jase Knudson, Carter Martens, Aidan Schlaak, Logan Schiell, Cole Hutchens, Jayden Flemming, Gavin Sletten, Seth Staloch, Harbor Cromwell, Aden Hanna, Wyatt Larson, Devlin Hudson, Trevor Selover, Jordan Brouwers, Quen Meyering, Fynn Baumann, Ryan Schlaak and Sean Lassahn

NRHEG Football
MVP: Alden Dobberstein
MV Offensive back: Harbor Cromwell
MV Defensive back: Aidan Schlaak
MV Offensive lineman: Jace Ihrke
MF Defensive lineman: Jordan Brouwers
Scout player of the year: Calvin Nissen
Captains: Dobberstein, Dobberstein, Schlaak and Owen Bartlett
Earning Academic All-State recognition was Schlaak. He was one of 15 chosen in all of Class AA. As a whole, the team earned ‘Academic All State Gold’ for a combined GPA of 3.26 or higher.
District lineman of the year: Ihrke
Earning all-district honors were: Ihrke, Schlaak, Dobberstein and Bartlett
All-district honorable mentions: Cromwell, Cole Hutchens, Brouwers.
This year’s “Count on Me” award went to Dobberstein.
Panthers who lettered this year: Owen Bartlett, Alden Dobberstein, Jace Ihrke, Jase Knudson, Carter Martens, Aidan Schlaak, Logan Schiell, Cole Hutchens, Jayden Flemming, Gavin Sletten, Seth Staloch, Harbor Cromwell, Aden Hanna, Wyatt Larson, Devlin Hudson, Trevor Selover, Jordan Brouwers, Quen Meyering, Fynn Baumann, Ryan Schlaak and Sean Lassahn

NRHEG Volleyball



Madison Bogue accepts an award during the NRHEG Fall Sports Banquet Thursday evening. Below, Sierra Misgen accepts her award. Photos by Eli Lutgens



MVP: Gabby Schlaak
MVP Defense: Chloe Reiwer
MVP Offense: Camryn VanMaldeghem
Panther Award: Chloe Stork
Rookie of the Year: Addy Stadheim
Seniors: Mallory Schlinger and Aspyn Stenzel
Captain Awards: Stork, Schlaak, Stadheim
Sportsmanship Award: Stork
All Gopher Conference: Schlaak, VanMaldeghem
Letter Winners: Mallory Schlinger, Aspyn Stenzel, Chloe Stork, Gabby Schlaak, Addy Stadheim, Chloe Riewer, Camryn VanMaldeghem, Anika Ladlie, Izley Boerner, Nora Flatness and Mela Budach.

NRHEG Cross Country
MVP: Karl, Wobbrock
Most Improved: Sierra Misgen
Rookie of the Year: Misgen

200-Mile Club: Karl, Wobbrock
Captains: Karl, Holly Bartness
First Team All Gopher Conference: Karl, Wobbrock
Sportsmanship award: Karl
Student Photographer: Violet Elise Aronson
Letter winners: Karl, Misgen, Bartness, Amelia Duryee and Ella Jenno

Cheerleading
Most Valuable Cheerleader: Madison Bogue
Most Spirited: Ariel Anhalt
Most Improved: Orianna Degen and Tru Thao
Team Player Award: Addison Buenger.
Letter winners: Madison Bogue, Ariel Anhalt, Addy Buenger, Tru Thao, Alexis Olson, Orianna Degen and Avary Rikskedahl

Hazel from Page 5

choice is a Remington 870 Wing Master 20 gauge. When she hunts, Moore says she chooses not to shoot at does, fawns or younger bucks because she wants to give them “a chance to grow.” This year’s take

was a 150-pound, 10-point buck. Moore and family members including her father, Chad, an aunt, a cousin, and her paternal grandfather Art, hunt on family-owned land near Northfield. She began hunting alongside her father and grandfather, but started manning her own stand when she turned 15: “At the time I was able to get my junior license. I’ve always used the same gun.” Her grandfather is in charge of the

butchering, but Moore says she knows how to do it. “I helped to cut up my first deer. When I’m there, I help out when I can.” The plan is to make “Lots of sausage. Summer sausage. Venison steaks.” Moore says nothing goes to waste, and mentions a favorite family breakfast is “venison steaks and barley fried in a pan.” “We always eat the meat and are always careful which deer we shoot,

always let the little ones go.” Moore says she’s also gone with her family members to hunt ducks and geese. “My dad hunts pheasants,” she says. “I’ve never had the time to go out but I would like to.” Her dad lives in Wahpeton, North Dakota and she’s hunted out there as well.

Accident from Page 5

whistles,” and be aware that deer are capable of jumping over fences. And, even though it might be instinct to swerve when a deer appears on the road ahead, Dulas suggests drivers not do so. “It’s better to hit the deer than to lose control of the car and hit a mailbox, a utility pole,

or another vehicle.” Statistically, he reveals, more people are injured by “secondary” collisions of that type than by accidents involving a deer. He also comments, “Deer have been known to behave unpredictably.” Be aware, he suggests, if a deer is crossing the road ahead, it might not keep going in a straight line. “It may come to a stop; it might turn around and go back the way it came; it might spin 360 degrees.” One more suggestion from his per-

sonal experience: “If you’ve hit a deer and it’s lying there, don’t approach it.” He tells the story of how, more than once, he has been called to a scene and shown an apparently dead deer which then leapt to its feet and ran away. Finally, Dulas reveals, for those who have collided with and killed a deer, they are eligible to take possession of it for processing. At their discretion, officers can issue a “deer possession permit tag” which would allow the individual to either butcher

the deer or take it to a meat processor. In fact, he said, county residents can be placed on a list: If a deer has been killed and the driver does not wish to take possession, folks will be contacted to see whether they are in a position to pick up the deer in a timely manner. Those who wish to be on the contact list may call the sheriff’s office non-emergency number: 507-835-0500.

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NRHEG veterans were presented with a ceremonial 'folded flag' upon completion of the annual program. Above from left: Dan Economy, Don Loken and Jack Pfeffer.

NRHEG hosts annual Veterans Day program

By ELI LUTGENS
Publisher/Editor

Hundreds of students, faculty and local community members gathered for the annual NRHEG Veterans Day Program at the high school gymnasium in New Richland on Monday afternoon at 1:30 p.m.

The event, hosted by the NRHEG Student Ambassadors and music department began with a flag procession led by members of the VFW.

The pledge of allegiance was followed by the playing of the 'Star Spangled Banner.'

High School Principal Grant Berg welcomed those in attendance before handing off the program to master of ceremonies, student ambassador Chloe Stork.

Stork introduced elementary principal Craig Kopetzki to share a few words on the meaning of Veterans Day.

Kopetzki said the day was special for him, as well as all those in attendance.

"My family recognizes the service of my sister, a retired master gunnery sergeant in the Marine Corps along with her husband, currently a captain in the Marines," Kopetzki said. "Yesterday marked the 249th birthday of the United States Marine Corps, celebrating their longevity of service and sacrifice. America has

long stood as the ideal of hope and opportunity, and few embody that spirit more than the members of our armed forces.

"All of our veterans are part of an unbroken chain of brave and selfless patriots who have served our country with honor and made tremendous sacrifices so that we may live free," Kopetzki concluded. "On this day, and throughout the year, may we sustain their lasting contributions to our nation's progress and carry forward their sacrifice by building a future that is stronger, safer, and freer for all."

Following the speech, the junior high choir performed "To Those Who Serve."

Sierra Fish and Faith Phillips read the "Veterans Day" and "Veteran's Day Tribute" poems.

The 7th-12 grade concert band performed "My Country 'Tis of Thee."

Izley Boerner led the Veteran Recognition. As the choir played a medley of representative military themes, members of each branch were recognized.

The ceremonial flag folding followed.

Caralee Koopal read "Freedom Isn't Free."

Those in attendance observed "Taps."

The program concluded a little after 2 p.m.

Carda speaks during annual JWP Veterans Day program

Janesville Journal - Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton (JWP) has held a Veterans Day program for many years. This time, the JWP choir members were the host of this year's program on Monday, November 11.

As is tradition, veterans were invited to a breakfast served to them in the school media center by members of the various high school choirs, including choir director Josh Sorenson.

The program began shortly after the school day started, with junior and senior high school students in attendance. Sorenson, a veteran, was the emcee of the event. He reminded students and other audience members of the importance of military service.

"We're here as a community to honor our veterans and those who have served in many combats," he said.

Sorenson encouraged the veterans present and up front to introduce themselves. They were Tom Harrington, Gerry Schendel, Harold Kruse, Dave Lohmann, Gary Mittelsteadt, Floyd Herme, Dave Bonfield, John McNair, and Jason McNamara.

"This is a niche community of individuals who provide for your niche community," Sorenson said. "Not all people choose to serve, but those who did serve have given quite a sacrifice. The number of people who sacrifice and step up to the plate is dropping. Many of them are involved with the local American Legion. They work hand in hand with the community to provide services such as our disc golf park."

The JWP choirs joined forces to perform the Star Spangled Banner,

with the Janesville Boy Scouts posting the colors.

Bob Carda, a member of the U.S. Air Force for more than three decades, was the speaker.

"For me, Veterans Day is not an opportunity to get a free meal or a day off," Carda began. "It's about the opportunity to recognize and thank those for their service, to acknowledge that their contributions to protecting our national security are appreciated, and underscore the fact that all of those who served have sacrificed and done their duty."

He explained many veterans have experienced traumatic brain injuries (TBI) or post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and therefore may not be willing to talk about their time in the service or their issues until "they're good and ready."

"No matter the illness, we are a proud group of individuals, and we may not want others to know about our problems," he said. "Many are getting the help they need. But sometimes, a casual conversation is enough to make a difference and make their day a little bit brighter."

"Sometimes, this tactic may not work," Carda continued. "However, just being there and lending a sympathetic ear or shoulder can help ease a stressful day."

Carda encouraged students and audience members to thank veterans and talk with them. "I'd like to see a trend start here at JWP," he said. "I would ask each of you to find a veteran and get to know them. I mentioned asking family members or relatives; that's a good starting point."

"In the state of Minnesota alone, there were approximately 296,000

living veterans. They are out there among us, and they're not going to put a target on themselves to strike up a conversation.

"But I'd like to leave you with that challenge. Find a veteran and strike up that conversation. They may or may not want your help or need it. But you can feel good within yourselves that you helped someone, a veteran, who helped preserve your freedom."

Afterward, JWP honored veterans with music, starting with the JWP men's choir performing "We Shall Not Sleep" by Laura Farnell, a piece based heavily on the poem "In Flanders Fields." The JWP women's choir then performed "Wayfaring Stranger," arranged by Jean Reynolds Davis.

The JWP junior choir performed a special rendition of "God Bless the USA." Sorenson explained that their rendition included a third verse written by his sister, who wrote it as a way to get through a tough time when he and his father were both serving in the military.

Many veterans stood during the song, encouraging the crowd to join as the junior high choir continued. They were given a standing ovation.

The JWP concert band shared "Salute to the Armed Forces," a medley of anthems from each branch of the armed forces arranged by Paul Lavender. Sorenson called out each branch and encouraged veterans to stand as their anthem was played.

As the program came to a close, Sorenson encouraged everyone to talk to a veteran and ask them questions. "You might be surprised by the stories they share," he said.



From left: Treasurer Heath Miller, President Elect Mikhail Rostislavovich, Director Jessica Klinger, President Abby Clemons, Secretary Jodie Thompson, and Director Jamie Beckstrand.

Klinger Joins WACC Board of Directors

The Lions inducted five new members on Wednesday, Nov. 6, 2024, in a ceremony led by First Vice District Governor Shermayne Cross. New members are Gene Glynn, Mikhail Rostislavovich, Teresa Sunde, Sandy Sherwin, Jodie Thompson and Jon Butler.

The Waseca Lions club was established in 1927, and is one of the oldest chapters in Minnesota. In 2024, the organization has supported Waseca Boy Scouts, Waseca High

School scholarships, CanDo Canines, Thanksgiving food baskets, the Waseca High School honors banquet, Bethlehem Inn, Leader Dogs for the Blind, Eyeglasses for two students, the Waseca High School Robotics Team, Dictionaries for all third-graders, Journey for Service, Project New Hope, the Lions Club International Foundation, and the Lions club statewide initiatives regarding cancer, diabetes, hearing, and vision. The chapter meets the

first and third Wednesdays from September through May at noon at The Refinery. More information is available from Diane Beckmann at 835-9899.

Pictured are new Lion members with their sponsors: Diane Beckmann, Waseca Lions President; Gene Glynn; Sandy Sherwin; Lucille Youngberg; Jodie Thompson; Mikhail Rostislavovich; Teresa Sunde; Tiffany Lynch and Shermayne Cross. Not pictured is Jon Butler.

Waseca Lions Club



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The Waseca Lions have supported Waseca Boy Scouts, Waseca High School scholarships, Can Do Canines, Thanksgiving food baskets, Waseca High School honors banquet sponsor, Bethlehem Inn, Leader Dogs for the Blind, Eyeglasses for 2 students, Waseca High School Robotics Team, Dictionaries for all 3rd graders, MN Lions Cancer Foundation, MN Lions Diabetes Foundation, MN Lions Vision Foundation, Journey for Service, Project New Hope, MN Lions Hearing Foundation, Lions Clubs International Foundation in 2024.

We meet the first and third Wednesdays September through May at noon at The Refinery. Please call Diane Beckmann for more information at 835-9899. Come join us.

New Lion Members with their sponsors Diane Beckmann, Waseca Lions President, Gene Glynn, Sandy Sherwin, Lucille Youngberg, Jodie Thompson, Mikhail Rostislavovich, Teresa Sunde, Tiffany Lynch and VDG Shermayne Cross. Missing is Jon Butler.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

WASECA COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Waseca County East Annex (Small Conference Room)

300 N. State Street, Waseca, MN 56093

Wednesday, November 20, 2024

The Board of Commissioners (the "Board") of Waseca County Economic Development Authority will make a determination of acceptance, if any, of offer for purchase received on the sale of land described as: 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. Said offers must be received by November 12, 2024, at 4:00 p.m.

Any questions may be directed to Tina Wilson, Community Development Coordinator, Waseca County. Tina.wilson@wasecacounty.gov or (507) 835-0538

CITY OF WASECA
REQUEST FOR QUOTES
CITY OF WASECA AIRPORT AGRICULTURAL FARMLAND LEASE
CITY OF WASECA AIRPORT HAY LAND LEASE

There are approximately 196.8 agricultural tillable acres and approximately 34.3 acres of hay land located at the City Airport, available under varying circumstances, for a two (2) year lease. The quote packet contains a field map with acreages (Attachment A).

Sealed quotes will be received by the Utilities Office at Waseca City Hall and publicly opened at City Hall by the City of Waseca, Minnesota, at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, December 10, 2024, for leasing all fields.

If you are interested in receiving a copy of the leases, specifications, and quote forms, please contact the Utilities Office at City Hall at 835-9718. Those persons with questions may contact Tim Roessler Deputy Public Works Director, by emailing, timr@ci.waseca.mn.us.

Acreages of the Airport Farm have received nitrogen application from municipal biosolids and micro-nutrients at varying levels.

The quote forms must be marked in a sealed envelope as CITY OF WASECA AIRPORT LAND LEASE and returned to the Utilities Office at City Hall on or before 10:00 a.m. (Central Standard Time) on Tuesday, December 10, 2024; at which time all quotes will be publicly opened and read aloud.

The City of Waseca reserves the right to award quotes and to reject any or all quotes in the best interests of the City, and to waive any minor irregularities, informalities, or discrepancies.

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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 BINGO	7 7pm HALL BINGO	8 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm	9
10 Marine corps Birthday	11 7 pm Post & AUX. Meeting VETERANS DAY Mash Burger night 5:00 to 7pm	12 Burger nite 5-7pm	13 6pm BAR BINGO	14 7pm HALL BINGO	15 WALLEYE or SHRIMP DINNER 5:30 to 7pm	16
17 ALL YOU can EAT Breakfast VFW 8:00am - Noon Your Host Neighborhood Service Center	18	19 Burger nite 5-7pm	20 6pm BAR BINGO	21 7pm HALL BINGO Grenada Campaign ended (1983)	22 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm	23 TURKEY BINGO 7 PM Hockey Burger Night
24	25	26 Burger nite 5-7pm	27 6pm BAR BINGO	28 7pm HALL BINGO	29 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm	30

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‘Newsies’



The JWP theater department put on “Newsies,” a musical show this past weekend. Pioneer photos by Ben Revermann

Waseca Marching Jays



Last week the Waseca Marching Jays performed an indoor show in Waseca.

Pioneer photos by Deb Bently



Thank You to all my supporters for electing me to a 3rd term as your Commissioner. I will continue to make decisions at the county level with all my constituents in mind.

We will continue to make Waseca County one of the best places to live! Thanks again.

DOUG CHRISTOPHERSON



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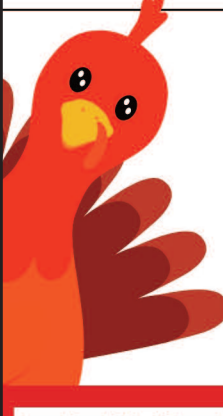
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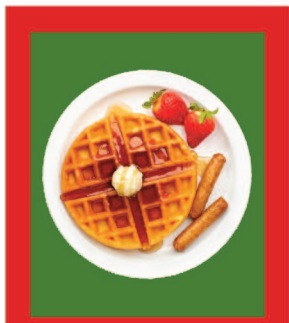
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Breakfast: \$10



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