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WASECA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

County receives \$4.3 million broadband access grant

By DEB BENTLY
News Editor

The Minnesota Office of Broadband Development announced last week that Waseca County will be receiving a \$4.38 million grant toward the cost of expanding broadband access to the “least served” areas of the county.

Residents of Byron, Freedom, Vivian and Wilton townships will be contacted within the next couple months to let them know more about the time frame for the work, which will begin this summer and continue into 2025.

As described in the grant application, Waseca County is partnering with Bevcomm, a Blue Earth company which offers cable services ranging from telephone and television to internet access. Waseca County Commissioner De Malterer, who has been working to expand internet accessibility in the county since first being elected in 2019, refers to the installation of fiber-based internet cables as “a fifty-year solution.”

According to information previously shared at a county board meeting, total cost for the four-township project is about \$6 million. In addition to the state grant money, Waseca County had previously set aside \$675,000. Bevcomm has committed \$825,000.

At least 490 homes, and probably as many as 520, will be located near the “mainline” cables which will be buried about 40 inches below ground parallel to nearly all roads in the four-township area.

County continued on 3

S.A.L.’s Burger & Fish Fry 5:30 pm March 15

Waseca Jr. and Sr. High School Bands are hosting a Burger and Fish Fry fundraiser. Cost is \$10 a plate. The event begins at 5:30 at the Waseca American Legion, and there will be a live performance by the Waseca Jazz Bands during the fry, as well as meat raffles, and starting at 7:30 there will be karaoke in the lounge.

Fish or Seafood Dinner at Waseca VFW 5 to 7:30 pm March 15

Waseca VFW Lenten Friday dinners will be offered each Friday until Holy Week. Fish, shrimp, and alternatives will be offered beginning at 5 and continuing either until sold out or until 7:30 pm. March 15 features walleye and shrimp. Cost is \$15.

Free Trees for Kids sign-up with March 15 Deadline

The Waseca County 4-H Ambassadors are acquiring free

Briefs continued on 13

A word from The Word

He stretches out the north over the void and hangs the earth on nothing.

Job 26:7

TIF hearing set for \$1.6 million project

By RACHAEL JAEGER
Staff Writer

The Waseca City Council set a public hearing at a date to be determined on the proposed establishment and adoption of a “tax increment financing” (TIF) plan for an intended project on the “marketplace” property--the area of land east of the intermediate school and between the junior/senior high school and Walmart. The Waseca Real Estate Fund is looking to construct a 36-unit residential family housing development on the western half of the site. Sonnenberg said the project would not move forward without the reduction in property taxes offered through the TIF financing.

“It’s important to note that financial assistance is from new taxes that occur from development,” Sonnenberg said. “Financing does not come from current taxpayers.”

Also during the March 6 regular meeting, Waseca fire chief Jason Forshee introduced Jacob Hines from Owatonna as new shift commander in the fire department. After that, Forshee provided a brief update on last weekend’s grass fire; he thanked all the neighboring departments who joined forces with Waseca to bring the blaze under control.

“We’re happy in the end that no structures were lost,” Forshee said. “We did have some injuries and no Waseca firefighters were injured.”

He added that 1,700 acres were burned, but fire crews were able to contain the fire by 8 p.m. on March 3.

“Winds were a huge issue,” Forshee stated. “But the community rallied and provided food and water, stuff for the folks.” He reported the final truck was “cleared” by 10 p.m. and called the undertaking a “true team effort.” Forshee credited the fire departments from Owatonna and Faribault for being exceptionally helpful.

“I would say, thank you for what you do and for everyone who was involved,” Mayor Randy Zimmerman told Forshee.

Councilmember Jeremy Cornath asked, out of curiosity, if it was the biggest fire in the history of Waseca. Forshee responded that he could re-

Council continued on 5

Building, rejuvenating Newly installed Waseca Art Center Board



The board of directors for the Waseca Art Center includes officers (front, from left) Mark Christiansen, treasurer; Mikhail Rostislavovich, vice president; Missy Donner, president; Molly Erdman, secretary; and (back, from left) Penny Vought, Christy Easton, Hazel Moore, Marcie Hayunga and Tara Bjerke.

‘Goal worthy of any effort needed to achieve it’

By RACHAEL JAEGER
Staff Writer

With a newly installed board of directors under the leadership of President Missy Donner and President-Elect Mikhail Rostislavovich, the Waseca Arts Council will continue to build on the recent year of rejuvenation which has given the Center a whole new look while also expanding its arts and education programming.

Donner and Rostislavovich say they look forward to working with the board of directors who are enthused and energized to expand and help grow the Arts Council’s goal of allowing a greater number of Waseca County residents to see and understand the various mediums of art in our community.

The goal is worthy of any effort needed to achieve it, says Donner. “There is beauty and grace in art,” she observes. “It brings conversation and enrichment into the lives of the people who view it, and joy to those who create it.”

Donner’s first introduction to the Art Center was as a volunteer when the Art Center was located at the Waseca Library; she eventually became president-elect sitting on the Executive Committee in 2023, then taking her place as president in January of this year.

“I continue to admire and respect the number of local artists who show such great skill and ability in their art,” observes Donner. “and they’re right here in our backyard.” The chance to see artwork is invaluable, she says. “Art gives life that spark, of being able to create or see something that another artist has created. For me, art is what makes life worth living.”

For Donner, art is a part of who she is: She says she enjoys ceramics and fiber arts and dabbles in many different mediums.

While she was attending MNSU as a nontraditional student, she recalls one of her ceramics teachers encouraged her to be creative and work with clay. She says she discovered she had a natural aptitude for not only clay, but various other art forms as well. She currently teaches art in Owatonna, Art is not just a personal joy for her, but has become her life’s avocation.

Mikhail Rostislavovich, on the other hand, does not consider himself an artist, at least not in the traditional

Board continued on 2

Janesville Clinic closes

JANESVILLE JOURNAL - It’s official. After many years of serving Janesville, the Mayo Clinic facility located at 312 N. Main Street has closed permanently.

When the clinic stopped accepting visitors last August, the closure was said to be temporary, and to have been the result of a “staffing situation.” All patients who had been using the clinic were instructed to call the Janesville office so they could be redirected either to the Waseca or Mankato facility.

A recent press release from the Mayo Clinic Health System confirmed the impression many area residents had acquired that the Janesville location will not reopen. Since last August, all staff from the Janesville facility have had positions in Waseca; the press release stated all staff will continue in those positions.

The press release states, “Janesville clinic patients have been receiving care 10 miles away at Mayo Clinic Health System in Waseca or 18 miles away at Mayo Clinic Health System in Mankato for the past six months. Patients also have access to many convenient care options beyond traditional face-to-face visits, including the newly launched Primary Care On Demand app, virtual appointments, Nurse Line, and the patient portal.

“Consistent with our primary value, our goals are to provide better-coordinated care, address workforce shortages, and meet our patients’ changing healthcare needs,” says Travis Paul, regional chair of administration, Mayo Clinic Health System in Southwest Minnesota.

All patients who received their care in Janesville will be contacted

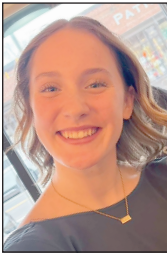
Closed continued on 6



Janesville’s Mayo Clinic located at 312 N. Main Street has closed permanently.



Schultz



Keith



Bruhn



Gunderson



Appel

56th annual celebration Saturday

By ELI LUTGENS
Publisher/Editor

The Irish American Club of Southern Minnesota is preparing for its 56th annual St. Patrick’s Day celebration at 7 p.m. March 16 at the Mill in Waseca.

A Sunday morning Irish Mass is set to be held at Sacred Heart church in Waseca where this year’s parade grand marshal and Mr. and Mrs. Emerald Isle will be revealed. Following mass will be a parade of clans marching from the church, heading north, then east, around Ace Hardware and to the Mill where the candidates for Miss St. Patrick and Miss Irish Rose will be revealed.

Vying for the crowns this year are:

Ava Appel
Parents: Sheila Jewison and Jesse Appel
School: Janesville Waldorf Pemberton High School
Talent to be presented: Performing Lady of Knock
Why do you want to become Miss St. Patrick or Miss Irish Rose?

I would like to have the honor of becoming one of these titles because this entire celebration means a lot to me. It means a lot to me because it makes me feel closer with not just my family and friends I am celebrating with, but also makes me feel closer to my family who have passed. I also would like to become one of these titles because I love embracing who I am and I especially love embracing my heritage and where my ancestors

Irish continued on 3



Compostings

by Al Batt

A poor man’s toupee

ECHOES FROM THE LOAFERS’ CLUB MEETING
What did you do yesterday?

I spent the whole day watching TV in my pajamas.
I didn’t know they made pajamas with a TV in them.

DRIVING BY BRUCE’S DRIVE

I have a wonderful neighbor named Bruce. Whenever I pass his drive, thoughts occur to me. I enjoy watching baseball. I like the leisurely pace, and I don’t need to be entertained every second. I went to a World Series game once. The place was packed, and a woman waving a homer hankie snapped me sharply in the ear. I wouldn’t have seen much of the game if the fellow standing in front of me hadn’t had a pierced ear.

Baseball caps are a poor man’s toupee. If you buy enough things, sooner or later, someone gives you a cap—a gimme cap. A friend buys them at thrift stores. A thrift store is a time machine that smells like Grandma’s house, where you can buy bowling trophies and a nice shirt for church with the name “Herb” stitched above its pocket. I stop at thrift stores because I like books and hope something good pops up like a jack-in-the-box.

A FRIEND ACCUSED ME OF MINNSPLAINING

After I told him I’d rather hypnotize chickens than golf. All I needed to do was hold the chicken’s head down against the ground and draw a straight line using a stick or my finger, starting at the beak and extending straight outward in front of the chicken. If done correctly, the chicken was put into a trance and remained still. To de-hypnotize the chicken, I gave it a gentle push. Other methods included swirling a finger in a circle around the bird’s head or tucking its head underneath its wing. Ernest Hemingway mentioned the latter method in his book, “The Dangerous Summer,” comparing it to the hypnotic effect of a bull-fighter’s cape. The parlor trick did neither the chicken nor I any good, so I’ve stopped hypnotizing chickens. I failed the hen trance exam.

A COURTEOUS ACT

Out of the corner of my eye, I caught sight of a woman who was headed to the same entrance as I was, so I grabbed the door and held it open for her. No woman appeared to take advantage of my benevolence. I turned to see she was rushing to the door. I had misjudged her pace or her distance from the door. Instead of helping, I made her hurry. I apologized in

the way of my people by saying, “Oops!”

I’VE LEARNED

Any flying object is a UFO if you can’t identify it.

Standing on the shore of Lake Superior makes me feel insignificant. One more drip made little difference there.

A baby’s first Christmas always comes before its first birthday.

Few people die in a cemetery.

Tuesday is equally as far away from Friday as Monday is.

A toaster that toasts too well is broken.

The roof of my house isn’t the greatest, but it’s up there.

People pay to make their cars quieter and louder.

BAD JOKES DEPARTMENT

Why don’t we ever see elephants hiding in trees? It’s because they’re very good at it.

What makes us human? Selecting all images containing traffic lights.

I fancied a girl in college who knew only four vowels. She never knew I existed.

I gave my wife a glue-stick instead of her Chapstick. It was an accident, but she’s still not talking to me.

Does anyone else forget the abbreviation for Maine or is it just Me?

A man walked into a bar and was disqualified from the limbo competition.

NATURE NOTES

Why does a squirrel eat only the white tip of a kernel of corn? It’s fussy. Squirrels eat only the nutrient-dense heart or germ of a kernel of corn, casting aside the rest for other hungry creatures. The germ has a moderate concentration of lipids (oils and fat) and a variety of proteins that are used during seedling growth. The rest of the kernel is mostly starch, which the squirrel either doesn’t need or want.

A quill is the hollow stem of a bird’s feather used as a writing instrument. Goose feathers were the principal source of quills, but quill pens were also made from the feathers of swans, crows, eagles, owls, hawks and turkeys. The best feathers for making a quill are the first five flight feathers (primaries). Thomas Jefferson, the third president of the United States, was a prolific writer who raised geese at Monticello to supply feathers for his quill pens.

MEETING ADJOURNED

Repay kindness with kindness. You could never go wrong sending a thank you note.



In My Humble Opinion

by Deb Bently

A pair of irritated swans

No one should ever be bored. Me, I’ve been entranced twice in the past few days.

The first time was during a drive I took in the direction of Moorhead. As a member of a fishin’ family, I’m very interested in how much ice remains on our lakes—especially in this year of weather curiosities. There at roughly the north/south center of the state, lakes were open like they are here. However, it had frozen fairly hard overnight and there was a thin layer of ice in places. I saw geese, ducks and swans as I drove.

I am an amateur photographer. My family is often irritated with me when I make them stop to take some “random” picture—usually of wildlife or scenery—along the way. Since I was alone on this particular drive, only a few unknown motorists were irritated with me when I saw a pair

of swans swimming close enough to a park to be “in reach” for my telephoto lens.

Yes, of course I stopped. I guess it would have been nice if the sun had been shining; the stunning white color of the swans would have shown to better advantage. But it was enough for me that the two stayed nearby. After a few nervous honks they apparently decided I was harmless and went back to their feeding.

Especially after interviewing Chasity Marquette last fall and seeing the picture of her holding a swan like these, I have been amazed at their size and elegance. I stayed there snapping pictures much longer than made sense from an artistic point of view. As I said, I was entranced.

I also stayed much longer than my job would have required at North Waseca Lutheran Church.



Two Minnesota swans.

There, a crew of three was in the process of reinstalling the stained glass windows they had removed back in January.

I watched and asked questions as the elegantly shaped panels were removed from their travel wrappings and put back in place. The windows are beautiful.

The crew leader, Caleb Penic of Cathedral Crafts in Winona, was ready to explain what had been done to make the windows “ready for the next 100 years.” The three workers were moving from the highest to the lowest points in the church’s interior to get their work done.

As described by Caleb and fellow crew members Neil Callahan and 20-year-old Hayden Strelow, the work is simultaneously meticulous and painstaking while also being utterly magical. Hayden ex-

Pioneer photo by Deb Bently pressed pleasure that, having been the one to repair and reinforce a particular seven-foot-tall panel, he was now going to help reinstall it.

Caleb told the story of an “oh no” moment when a long, tall, sectioned window “folded up like an accordion” in front of him. “At least only one of them broke,” he remembered philosophically. “These things happen.”

We all know people who can tell fascinating stories all night long about a topic that interests them. Caleb is such a person. His energy, his enthusiasm, his appreciation for what he does and how it must be done had me....well, entranced.

Watch for a story about the stained glass windows in next week’s edition. I think you’ll love the photos.

Government meetings and frosted cupcakes

It is now week 9 of 14 of this school semester and we’re really starting to get into the thick of it with projects, papers and midterms. Here’s what I’ve been learning recently.

In my Intermediate News Reporting class, we have recently been discussing government meetings and how to report and cover them. While many of my classmates have never been to or covered a government meeting, I am among the few who have.

Not surprisingly, we have been assigned to cover a government meeting of the Minnesota State House or Senate; our professor stated during class that, most of the time, it’s the small-town government meetings that are more interesting. I must agree. With a small town government meeting like the Waseca City Council, it is a lot easier for people on the council to express themselves. That freedom may sometimes lead to an interesting clash of personalities and ideas, which I find enticing and interesting to write about as a reporter.



To Be Determined

by Amelia Roessler

Like the little THC debacle or the occasional quips between board members - you guys make it interesting, and I appreciate that.

In my Multimedia production and storytelling class, we got around \$4,000 worth of camera equipment the other day. I don’t know how they trust us all with this stuff, expecting us to lug it around to and from class. In order to get accustomed to the equipment, we practiced setting up our tripods and taking our video camera on and off of it. And then my professor decided we would practice by making videos while she frosted cupcakes.

She had this little table set up in the corner with a pan of unfrosted cupcakes she had made, and she

said three at a time we would go up around the table and videotape her frosting, putting sprinkles on, and sticking a candle into the cupcake. And that’s what we did. We videoed her frosting and sprinkling three cupcakes, with different angles for each cupcake.

I will say it was fairly comical looking around the room, all of us students standing there with our cameras atop the tripods waiting our turn to get video of cupcakes being decorated.

In my social psychology class I learned that if you don’t like someone, you should do them a favor. And vice-versa, if someone doesn’t like you, you should ask a favor of them. It has to do with cognitive dissonance and the fact that no one likes when their ac-

tions and beliefs clash, so they change one of them—either the action or the belief. If you don’t like someone (your belief), that does not match doing something nice for them like a favor (your action). So your brain works to change one of them, and since you typically don’t change a favor once you do it, you change your thoughts or belief about the person - maybe they’re not so bad after all.

For example, Benjamin Franklin tested this when he was in politics fighting against this one guy who didn’t like him. Franklin asked to borrow a book from the guy he didn’t like and when he was done reading it, he gave it back with a nice, heartfelt thank you note. After that, the guy came up to Franklin and would actually talk to him and eventually they became friends (if I remember correctly). Pretty cool, right? Learning is so fun.

My Determination: “When you’re good to others, you’re best to yourself.”

Holiday meal at Christ the King

The Waseca Ministerial Association has been sponsoring holiday dinners (Easter, Thanksgiving, and Christmas) for more than 20 years. Community churches rotate organizing and serving the holiday meals to seniors and other local people who find themselves alone on these three major holidays.

This year the Easter Dinner will

be hosted by Christ the King Lutheran Church located at 309 Sixth Street NE. There is no charge for the meal; free-will donations will be accepted “gratefully.”

All are welcome: Reservations need to be made by Sunday, March 24. Individuals can call Christ the King church at 507-835-9176 or Greg and Naomi

Easton at 507-835-4748. Emails can be sent to sec.kjenzen.ctl@gmail.com.

Anyone leaving a message is asked to include the name(s), phone number, and number of meals requested. Reservations should also make clear whether they are for dining at Christ the King, for being picked up and carried out, or whether home de-

livery is being requested. Only four meals will be prepared for any one address for carry-out or home delivery.

For those dining at the church or picking up packaged meals, serving will occur from noon until 1:30 p.m. on Easter Sunday, March 31. Meal Delivery will begin at 11:30 a.m.

■ Board

from Page 1

sense as most people think of art. “If I have an art it is in spatial relations, personal engagement, organization, and administration,” Rostislavovich said. “I may not be an artist but I enjoy the behind-the-scenes work that needs to be done to keep the Art Center open, organized, and functioning.”

As a young man attending Shattuck Military School in Faribault, he remembers first being exposed to the art world. “We were taught art his-

tory, and we visited art museums like the Minneapolis Institute of Art and the National Gallery in Washington, D.C.

“What truly intrigued me was the way the art was displayed and how it was set in the various rooms in relation to the lighting or architecture that surrounded it.” He says what was most interesting to him were the docents and their vast knowledge of the pieces that were displayed and hung. When asked how he became involved in the Waseca Art Center he said, “In my halcyon days of working within my community that allowed me to raise a family and belong, I promised myself that when I retired, I would give back an hour per hour of which I was paid to work

to the community in which I lived volunteering with various civic organizations,” he said. “Exchange, Rotary, Art Centers, Historical Centers- whatever they may be.”

Rostislavovich expressed how blessed he feels that the Waseca community has made him and his brother feel so welcome.

Serving in a dual role as board president-elect and acting executive director, “Mikhail has put in long hours getting the Art Center organized,” said Donner. In doing so, he says he hopes the Center will remain a vital asset to the community for years to come.

Among his plans, he said, is making the arts more accessible to members of the community that may

not be as mobile as others, including the elderly, underserved, and intellectually disabled.

“We want to take art, the opportunity to create something unique, to people who can’t visit the Art Center,” he stated, along with his perception, “It may be the key to changing their lives. We want to reach out to more facets of our community and allow them to enjoy what we may take for granted.”

Donner and Rostislavovich say they feel that, along with the board of directors, they make up a unique team of artists and administrators who are working together to promote art in the greater Waseca Area.



SERVING THE WHOLE OF WASECA COUNTY
including the communities of Waseca, Janesville, New Richland, and Waldorf

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Organizations enter area food share challenge

Area businesses and organizations began challenging each other last week to acquire 3,100 pounds of food for the Waseca Area Food Shelf across the 31 days of March, which has been recognized since 1980 as “National Nutrition Month.” Since 1983, Minnesota’s GMCC organization has also named it “FoodShare Month.”

Tiffany Lynch describes a discussion among Waseca Lions Club members regarding how energy and focus could be brought to the work of the local food shelf. The idea was formulated to bring a spirit of friendly competition to the process by encouraging organizations and businesses to issue specific challenges to others using social media. The first friendly challenges were issued by the Lions Club to Waseca’s Growing Tree-Montessori and to the Rotary club. From there challenges spread rapidly to iWealth, Xpressions Salon, and the Exchange Club, to name a few.

“This makes my heart happy,” said Lynch of the burgeoning, cleverly framed videos used to draw others in. She said the excitement, camaraderie and opportunity for bragging rights will likely lead to community engagement that will bring attention to the food shelf and its services.

She explained the Lions Club encourages all participants to be

creative and find ways of contributing which suit their business and personal style. “An office of one might choose to simply cut a check,” she speculated. “Or folks can find a way to engage their customers—perhaps by creating a drop box or offering discounts to people who make contributions.

“It’s up to all participants to determine how they want to support the cause.”

For those who have food items which should be delivered immediately, Lynch offered, groups could take their donations to the food shelf, have them weighed, and keep track of their contributions. Given that the food shelf can use donated money to purchase bulk foods at significantly reduced prices, she said collecting financial contributions was at least as effective as collecting food items.

In addition to encouraging members of the community to enjoy the creative challenges being issued on social media, Lynch said she looks forward to seeing the many ways various businesses and organizations will work toward meeting the 3,100-pound goal. She suggests the cause is one everyone should be able to rally around.

“After all, you’ve been publicly challenged,” jokes Lynch. “That means you’re on the hook.”

■ Irish

from Page 1

came from with my family. Having Irish heritage, embracing this heritage, and being proud to be Irish has shown me not to hide it, but show it and be proud to be Irish.

Ava Bruhn
Parents: Ryan Bruhn & Meghan Campbell
School: Waseca High School
Talent to be presented: Speech
Why do you want to become Miss St. Patrick or Miss Irish Rose? This has always been an important event to my family and a majority of them have run for it, it seems like a good opportunity and a lot of fun.

Layla Keith
Parents: Muriah Miller Keith, Joe Keith
School: Waseca High School
Talent to be presented: Singing Lady of Knock
Why do you want to become Miss St. Patrick or Miss Irish Rose?
Growing up this event has been such a huge part of my life. Every year I’ve watched more and more girls run and I always wanted to be able to run for Miss St. Patrick myself, and here we are! The whole experience of getting dressed up in green and seeing all my family members really makes it one of the best days of the year. It’s such a memorable tradition for me and I’m so thankful to have grown up with it. It’s such an

honor to have this opportunity and I feel like my younger self is jumping up and down inside of me!

Isabella Schultz
Parents: Julie & Grant Schultz
School: Owatonna High School
Talent to be presented: Singing & playing flute to Danny Boy
Why do you want to become Miss St. Patrick or Miss Irish Rose? My family has been involved with the Irish-American Club for four generations and I wish to continue this incredible tradition. My great-grandparents were Mr. and Mrs. Emerald Isle in 1997 and two of my aunts have been crowned as Irish royalty along with many other family members being involved in this celebration. I have been coming to this celebration since I can remember and getting to watch the crowning of Miss St. Patrick and Miss Irish Rose has always been one of my favorite parts, and now I get to be a part of that tradition

Erin Gunderson
Parents: Sarah Gunderson & late Brian Gunderson
School: Waseca High School
Talent to be presented: Read Story/Poem
Why do you want to become Miss St. Patrick or Miss Irish Rose? I have attended the Irish American Club celebration with my family since I was little and have the best memories from it. The Irish Jig contest used to be my favorite and I always looked up to the Queen Candidates. I would like the opportunity to be a good role model for the young kids at the celebration.

Helping in so many ways

Waseca Area Food Shelf

By RACHAEL JAEGER
Staff Writer

Since June 2023, Cindy Kolander has served as the Executive Director of the Waseca Area Neighborhood Service Center (WANSC). Organization board member and volunteer Jim Britton has also played an integral part in this non-profit organization for a decade, including work done while he was still the owner of Britton Plumbing.

“I love that our organization is able to help so many people improve their lives in so many different ways,” Kolander said about her position. “I also enjoy meeting all the people who come into the thrift store or food shelf,” she says, mentioning pleasant exchanges with shoppers, volunteers, paid staff and board members.

According to histories Kolander has researched, WANSC began by forming a social circle around people who came to share garden produce, conversation, and used clothing. In 1982, WANSC was incorporated as a private, non-profit agency; an emergency food shelf and supplemental senior food program were founded at the time. In 1988, the center purchased its current building at 203 Third Avenue NW in Waseca; the facility was renovated to permanently house the thrift store. The food shelf, now located at the same address, was operated out of the Eagles’ building at that time.

In 2021, the Eagles building was sold and the food shelf had to look for new accommodations. The WANSC board of directors looked for a suitable new location, but nothing ideal was found.

Given that the WANSC already owned the empty lot to the west of the thrift store, organization directors voted to construct a new building there. Groundbreaking took place in Spring 2022. Until the new building was ready, food shelf services were offered in a space on the lower level of St. John’s Church in Waseca. The new building opened in December 2022.

“We had a tremendous crew to help us move from the church basement to [the new building],” Britton said. “We had football players help – the ninth- and tenth-graders – they blew me away. They got everything moved and they asked questions. Some of them even came back and did some volunteering.”

Among those who ensure the shelves are stocked and customers are helped are volunteers and paid staff who are integral to the organization’s operation. On hand to share their observations were Niki Shafer and Garry Huckfeldt. There are also many more volunteers and other staff members the food shelf relies on.

“Once you feel the compassion of someone who appreciates [the service and food] and respects it, it makes it all worthwhile,” Huckfeldt said.

Shafer noted that sometimes the people who come in just need someone who will talk with them and share conversation.

“Not many people get a chance to socialize,”



Cindy Kolander and Jim Britton with the Waseca Area Food Shelf’s Community Development award.
Pioneer photo by Rachael Jaeger

Huckfeldt agreed. “Have fun, joke around, and whatnot. It makes their day.”

Kolander overheard one person thank Shafer for listening and how much it meant after a 20-minute conversation.

“It sounded like she had a hard day and needed to talk to someone,” Kolander said. “We aren’t professional counselors, but we are good listeners.”

She asked Shafer how often something like that happens.

“I would say daily,” Shafer responded. “You don’t know what that person is dealing with and what they’ve been through.”

“We couldn’t [operate the food shelf] without volunteers,” Britton said.

Over the years, Britton says has witnessed an increased need for food due to numerous factors. He told about a family who came in last summer and broke his heart because of the overwhelming verbal gratitude each member expressed, including the children. The food shelf gave them a chicken, a 25-pound bag of rice, and cereal.

“No one should go without food,” Huckfeldt said. “If you need it, come get it. It’s what we’re here for.”

“We just have to keep getting the word out because people don’t know about the need,” Kolander said, then stated that back in January, the food shelf helped supply 417 families. “And that’s just families,” she added.

Even from statistics of five years ago, Kolander noted that the need has tripled.

“When I look at stats across Minnesota and I get on calls with other food shelves – everyone is struggling,” she added. “I think the food shelf suppliers are wondering, ‘Where do we get this extra

food?’ because we can’t keep up with demand.”

To keep its operations as smooth as possible, the Waseca food shelf has clients set up weekly appointments when employees like Schafer help them; to keep track of its services for various reports, the food shelf weighs how much food each client takes home.

“We certainly appreciate donations, but we have to buy like a grocery store does and sometimes we aren’t able to get protein like hamburger or chicken,” Kolander said. “We do have a good relationship with Dean’s Meat Market.”

“I can’t say enough good things about New Richland, too,” Britton added.

“A farmer – I don’t know who – donated a hog to us,” Kolander said. “That really helped.”

Kolander also mentioned a challenge over Christmas issued by the Waseca High School student council. That drive brought in 2,000 pounds worth of food. Britton described how the high schoolers set cereal boxes in a line like dominoes on the gym floor.

“The school has been really good to us,” Britton said.

Both Britton and Kolander encourage donations of money as well as of food items. Kolander explains the WANSC can make bulk purchases at discounted rates, so that donated cash may end up putting more food on the shelf than the same amount in food products. In the summer, Britton says he loves seeing all the fresh produce that the community brings from their gardens.

Huckfeldt added that every last penny WANSC makes goes back into the food shelf.

“This is a giving community,” he said.

■ County

from Page 1

According to Bevcomm CEO Bill Eccles, individual property owners will be contacted in the next few months and offered the opportunity to have “drop” cables installed across their property up to their homes. There will be no charge for installations done simultaneously with the main construction. Property owners will not be required to subscribe to Bevcomm’s services, but in order for the installation to occur, they must sign documentation saying they

agree to have it done.

“I’m very excited for the residents in this area of the county,” commented county commissioner DeAnne Malterer. Mentioning people and businesses she has spoken with, Malterer observed, “With fiber, Gig-level service is easily obtainable. And it’s symmetrical—the upload and download speeds are the same. They won’t lose service because of a snowstorm or some other atmospheric disturbance.

“We want people to recognize that, even if they don’t expect to use the internet much, having access to service of this level is extremely valuable.”

Malterer notes that having access to broadband internet is now as much

a “utility” as running water or electricity. “There was a time when homes went without those services,” she points out. “But such a house would have very little resale value today.”

Members of the older generation who might not see value in allowing the access might consider speaking with their children or grandchildren before saying no, Malterer suggested.

“Just having those cables there,” she said, “will increase the value of their property by thousands of dollars.”

As for residents in the four townships who wish to subscribe to Bevcomm’s services, once the installation is complete, they will

find a range of service levels and speeds available at different monthly rates. Prices offered to current residential customers range from about \$55 to \$90 a month; businesses pay between \$75 and \$150 a month.

Commissioner Malterer states all the work—and even the disappointments of the first two non-producing grants—have been worthwhile to bring this promising prospect to one-third of the county’s surface area.

“We’re going right back in,” she says of the grant process. “We’ve won a victory for many of our residents. Now we’re stepping into the ring to get what we can for the next group.”

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Charlie Priebe accepts the award for 2023 Waseca County Active Senior Farmer.
Pioneer photo by Eli Lutgens

OBITUARIES

Chad M. Ryan

CHAD MICHEL RYAN, age 57, of Waseca passed away on Wednesday, March 6, 2024 at his home.

Born on January 7, 1967 in Waseca, Chad was the son of Richard and Sharon (Mohs) Ryan. He attended Waseca Public Schools. Throughout his life Chad worked various construction jobs. He enjoyed fishing, the outdoors and cooking, especially barbecue. Chad was very religious and valued reading the bible daily. He was a determined, free spirit with a unique sense of humor. He will be dearly missed.

Chad is survived by his siblings, Shane Ryan of Waseca, Rick Ryan of New Richland, Corrina Ryan of Waseca; half-sister, Stacie Ingle of Janesville; nieces, nephews and many other relatives. He was pre-



Chad Ryan

ceded in death by his parents and niece, Angela Ryan.

A celebration of Chad's life will be held at a later date.
Dsofuneral.com

Life-threatening crash on Hwy. 14

EAGLE LAKE — One person received life-threatening injuries in an accident early Tuesday morning on Highway 14 westbound at Eagle Lake.

The State Patrol said a Kia Soul that was possibly being pushed to the side of the road by the driver and a Chevy Silverado pickup were both westbound when the Kia and its driver were struck at 6:16 a.m.

Raul Rene Gonzalez, 26, of

Waseca, was the driver of the 2010 Kia Soul; he suffered life-threatening injuries and was taken to St. Mary's Hospital in Rochester.

The 2019 Chevy Silverado was driven by Jonathan Lee Hermanson, 43, of Janesville. He was not injured, the patrol said.

The patrol and other responders were on scene as the westbound lanes were closed and westbound traffic was detoured through Eagle Lake.

Diedrich named to MSOE Dean's List

MILWAUKEE, WI (01/24/2024)-- Wasecan Benjamin Diedrich was named to the Milwaukee School of Engineering's Dean's List with High Honors for the 2023 Fall Semester. Diedrich is pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering.

MSOE encourages excellence in academic achievement and, as a result, publishes the Dean's List and Honors List each fall and spring

semester. Students taking undergraduate courses who have earned at least 12 credits in residence at MSOE, are in good academic standing, and have a cumulative GPA of 3.20 or higher are on the Dean's List. Students on that list who have maintained a 3.70 or higher receive "high honors." Students with a term GPA of 3.20 or higher, who are not on the Dean's List, are on the Honors List.

Annual Farm and City Luncheon Thursday

The Waseca Area Chamber of Commerce will host its annual Farm and City Luncheon March 21 at The Mill. An annual event since 2011, the focus of the gathering is to recognize farmers and connect them with business owners. "It's an opportunity for businesses to see all the awesome things our farmers are doing," said Ann Fitch, Chamber executive director, "and to award leaders in agriculture in the county, the region and the state.

"Farmers do much more than farm the land," Fitch continued, noting that Waseca County's farmers have done a lot to propel Minnesota agriculture to the forefront and that the Farm and City Luncheon is a time to recognize that. "It's amazing hearing all the stories," she added.

Doors will open at 11:45 and lunch is to be served at noon. The food is catered by the Pheasant Cafe, and is

traditionally hearty fare.

"It's hard to keep everybody awake after the big lunch. Everyone is very well fed at the farm and city luncheon," Fitch shared. Members of the Future Farmers of America will serve the meal, with a program scheduled to begin at 12:20. FFA students will give a short presentation; awards will be announced followed by speeches from the award winners. The remaining time is set aside for reconnecting and forging new connections among everyone in attendance. The event ends at 1:30.

Awards which will be presented at this event are "Senior Active Farmer," "Active Farmer," "Young Farmer of the Year," and "Farm Family of the Year." The last is awarded through the University of Minnesota Extension Office. The 2024 winners are Kathy Guse, Mike Singlestad, and Sommers Brothers



CEDAR CRATE - Dan. Lara, and Addie Zimmerli of Cedar Crate Farms, Waldorf, were recognized as Waseca County's Farm Family of the Year during the 2023 Farm and City Luncheon.

Baling (Matt & Brian Sommers) Tickets to the Farm and City Luncheon are \$16. Anyone wishing to attend should contact the Chamber

office in advance at (507) 835-3260 for registration information.

MN Fraternal Order of Police event

The "Bags, Beverages and Band" fundraiser set to be from 10 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. April 13 at The Mill Event Center in Waseca will support the charitable works performed by Lodge 16 of the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP), a group based in the south central region of the state.

This is the second year of the all-day event. The FOP is the largest benevolent society for law enforcement professionals in the United States.

The organization describes its purpose as providing a social and support network for law enforcement officers and their families.

Highlights of the all-day fundraiser will include a bean bag tournament, silent auctions, Waseca Hockey Association horse racing, and a gun raffle and "Sure Shot" shooting simulator. The evening's live entertainment will kick off at 8:30 p.m. with "The Local Hoo-

ligans" band. Food trucks and drinks will be available throughout the day.

The organization continues to accept donations both for the event and to be sold on the auction; anyone wishing to contribute items or funds should contact Serena at her email address, fo-blodge16mm@gmail.com.

Organizers have issued an open invitation to community and civic leaders, current and prospective elected officials, and members of the

press. Representatives of these groups are invited to set up appointments during the event: the hope is that by meeting with group members, learning their many stories, and finding out more about the organization, leaders can find out more about supporting law enforcement.

Anyone wishing to make an appointment should contact Karen at her email address, karen@pantheon-bulldogs.com.

Art Center announces new exhibit

The Waseca Art Center will be featuring work by photographer Lars Samuelson as well as works created by art students from six area high schools in its galleries from now through April 20.

Samuelson is a photographer based in Hugo, Minnesota, and formerly of Rochester, New York. He received a Masters of Fine Arts degree in photography from the State

University of New York/Brockport and the Visual Studies Workshop.

His exhibit is titled "Minnesota Structures: A Look in the Cultural Landscape of Minnesota." Of the display, Samuelson says "In the end, 'Minnesota Structures' is an invitation to take a closer look at our built environment."

The second exhibit features works created by five young artists who

come from six participating high schools. Visitors will have a chance to see these students' selected work and efforts from the 2023-24 school year.

Students are eligible for an array of awards which will be presented at the close of the exhibit.

Artist Workshop

An artist's workshop featuring Waseca artist Bradley Donner will be

offered to students and guests from 9 a.m. to noon on April 19. There is no fee for the workshop; the Art Center does not charge admission.

A "Chocolatier Reception" was held the evening of March 14 for council members and for members of the greater Waseca community.

■ Council

from Page 1

member fires that involved hog barns that were a challenge for him in the past, but also noted that this fire would be one some of the fire crew members would remember for the rest of their careers.

In other news, Councilmember Stacey Schroeder reported there is a new member of the airport board. She added that airport hangar materials have been delivered. "If the weather continues in this wonderful pattern, construction will likely start early," Schroeder added.

As part of her report, she mentioned the Lake Association is looking for new memberships and sponsorships; cleanup at Maplewood Park is scheduled for Saturday, April 20, from 9 a.m. until noon.

The most time-consuming task of the evening's agenda was reviewing elements of the zoning laws. Council members approved new procedural city codes which align more completely with current practice, an update suggested by city staff during a Feb. 20 work session. Adjustments of this type were most recently made in January of 2016, with no major revisions since, according to City Engineer Nathan Willey.

One of the major changes in the city ordinances was to eliminate a second notice for public nuisance and zoning violations; only an initial and final notice will now be given before abatement, citation, or other penalties will be enforced. This change does not apply to notifications regarding nuisance snow or tall weeds.

A second major change entails possible extensions in the compliance deadline for zoning violations which do not impact public health,

safety, or welfare. While the deadline for many citations remains 30 days from time of notice, those which do not impact public safety are eligible to apply for an extension.

"We rarely, if ever, receive a zoning complaint," Willey assured.

The third major change includes repeat recurring violations that are confirmed and occurred within 24 months after a citation or abatement of the same or substantially the same violation.

A fourth major change specifies \$100 as an abatement item disposal threshold; items deemed by staff or a third party auction service to have a value of \$100 or more would be temporarily stored and potentially auctioned; items with value of less than \$100 would be disposed of.

A fifth major change specifies 60 calendar days as the minimum length of time items scheduled for sale must be stored before being auctioned; this change matches more closely to

the state statute.

A sixth change requires one police officer to be present with staff on property during an abatement, which, again, Willey clarified does not include snow, weed, and tall grass ordinances.

During the meeting, the council also approved the planning commission's request to have city staff research the tax and other cost implications before the process is completed to annex land on which the city's waste water treatment plant (WWTP) and airport are located. Willey, who gave the presentation, stated that costs would primarily be at the county level.

"If I'm understanding correctly, there are two different things to decide," Willey said. "One would be to have staff look into what it would cost to annex city property and the other is to look at the two-mile subdivision authority and whether or not we want to look at reinstating that."



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CHAMPIONSHIP PERFORMANCE — The Waseca boys’ basketball team defeated LCWM for the sub-section crown Monday night. At left, the Bluejays’ Deron Russell goes to the basket. In the middle, Carson Ohnstad takes it in for two. At right, Laird Keeton drives.

Pioneer photos by Eli Lutgens

Bluejays win sub-section

Waseca basketball boys move within one win of state tourney

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

Win once, advance to the state tournament. Lose once, pack it in for the season.

That’s the situation for the Waseca High School boys’ basketball team.

The Bluejays, seeded second in the Section 2AA South Sub-section, defeated top-seeded Lake Crystal-Wellcome Memorial 76-63 Monday night in the sub-section championship game at Minnesota State-Mankato. It put them within one victory of the state tournament and Section 2AA championship, which was decided Thursday night against Belle Plaine.

On Monday, the Bluejays took the court looking like they meant business, overwhelming the Knights in the first half while building a 43-23 advantage at the intermission. It was a stark contrast to Waseca’s recent games against LCWM.

“LCWM has always been the team we knew we would have to go through,” said Bluejays coach Seth Anderson. “They have beaten us over and over in the summer time, last year, and again this year. We just hadn’t quite put it together yet and play like the team we needed to be

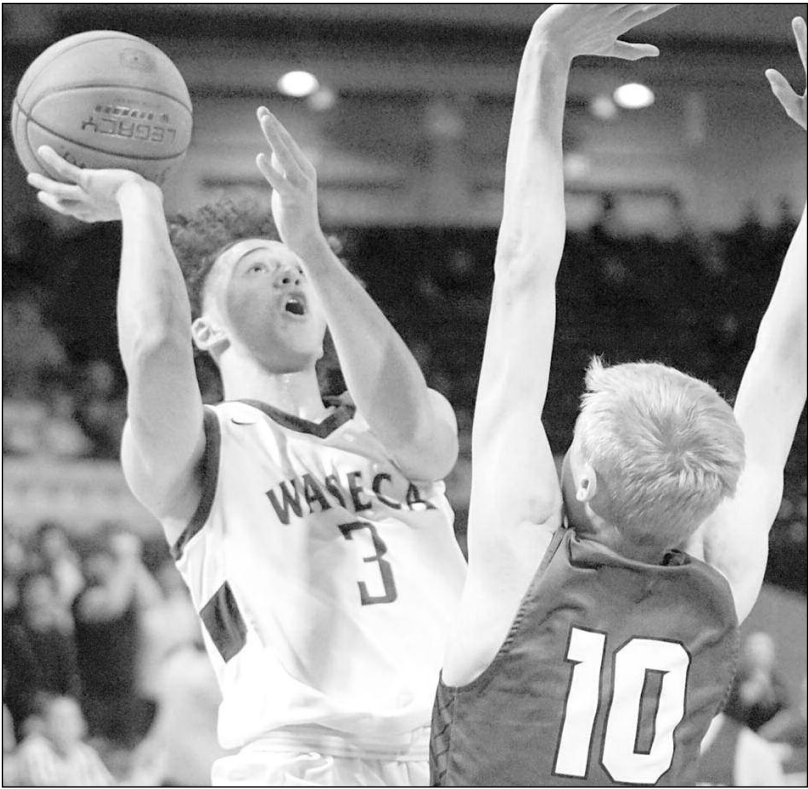
in order to have continued success. We have battled through a lot of adversity and are finally getting results like we thought we could get.”

The Bluejays looked like a state tournament team Monday, turning an early 7-2 deficit into a 20-11 lead midway through the first half, prompting a LCWM time out. It only got more one-sided before the end of the first half, which ended with a 26-3 Bluejay scoring run.

In the final two minutes of the half, junior Damarius Russell made three consecutive three-pointers. Waseca was 7-for-12 on threes in the first half, while LCWM was 2-for-11 on threes and 3-for-7 on free throws.

As expected, the Knights made a big push in the second half, chipping away and pulling within 63-59 with four minutes remaining.

Senior Laird Keeton answered for Waseca, hitting a three and a baby sky hook to make it 68-59. The closest the Knights got after that was 68-63. The Bluejays slammed the door by making their shots and free throws down the stretch, and Anderson was able to clear his bench in the final minute.



CLUTCH PERFORMER — Damarius Russell (3) led the Bluejays in scoring with 25 against LCWM in the sub-section championship game.

Pioneer photo by Eli Lutgens

Damarius Russell, a junior who missed much of the season with an injury, led the Bluejays with 25 points, making five three-pointers. His brother, sophomore Deron Russell, scored 16 and Carson Ohnstad totaled 15 with three threes. Keeton and Zach Hulscher added seven apiece.

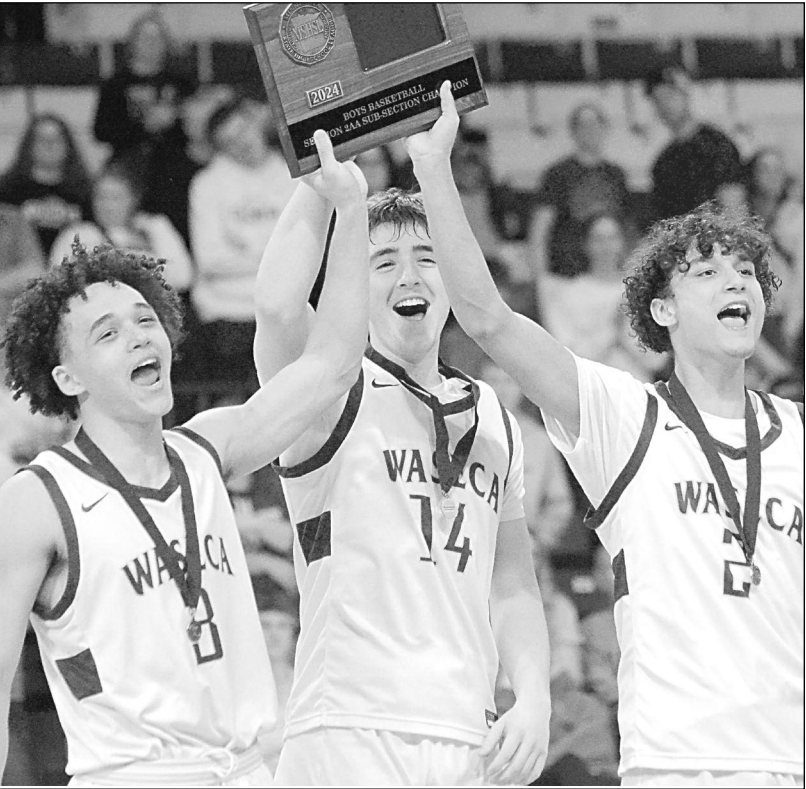
What was the difference between Monday and the team’s previous meetings with LCWM?

“I thought we were much more efficient offensively tonight,” said Anderson. “We shot 26 percent from the field the first time around and we shot outstanding tonight. We really

couldn’t have played any better in the first half. We were flying around on defense and every shot we took felt extremely wide open. Once we made a few shots, the floodgates opened and we played with a lot of confidence.”

Anderson had praise for everyone who contributed.

“The Russell brothers certainly help our team go on both ends of the floor,” said Anderson. “They both play extremely hard and can really facilitate and score depending on the situation. When those two get going and our shooters are knocking down shots, we can get to a pretty efficient



FIRST-PLACE PLAQUE — Captains Damearius Russell, Zach Hulscher and Laird Keeton hoist the first-place sub-section plaque.

Pioneer photo by Jim Lutgens

level on offense. I thought everyone who played tonight contributed something positive and played their role well. It was fun to see different guys step up during different moments. As exciting as it was to win tonight, we know there is still another one out there that we have to go get on Thursday Night!”

The Bluejays took a record of 19-11 into the section title game against Belle Plaine, whose starters include Josh Sparby, son of former NRHEG principal Paul Sparby and former NRHEG coach and athletic director Mindy Sparby. Belle Plaine defeated Glencoe-Silver Lake 72-57 in the

north sub-section final.

The Bluejays reached the sub-section finals with a come-from-behind 74-52 victory over third seeded JWP at Fairmont.

“We were down 15 in the first half, but really played a great second half,” said Anderson, whose team held JWP to 15 points in the second half after trailing 36-30 at halftime.

Damarius Russell scored 25, Deron Russell 24, Hulscher 13 and Keeton seven.



THEIR WAY EARLY — The JWP boys’ basketball team led Waseca by as much as 15 points in the first half before fallin 74-52 to Waseca in the sub-section semifinals at Fairmont last week. At left, the Bulldogs’ Ryan Krohbach takes the ball to the hoop. At right, Memphis James drives as Deron Russell defends.

Pioneer photos by Jim Lutgens

Tough loss ends stellar season for Bulldog boys

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

There’s no question it was a stellar season for the Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton boys’ basketball team.

But it came to a disappointing conclusion.

The Bulldogs’ season ended last Thursday in the sub-section semifinals with a 74-52 loss to Waseca. It was tough because the Bulldogs dominated the first half, building a 15-point advantage at one point and leading 36-30 at halftime.

“It was a really fun season, and a fun group to coach,” said JWP coach Nick James, who guided the Bulldogs to their first 20-win season since 2008. They were 13-1 in the Gopher Conference, finishing in second place.

The Bulldogs will graduate seniors Memphis James, Ryan Kronbach, Austin Quast, Cole Schlueter, Austin Carda, Carter Miller and Steven Dimmel.

“We’re really going to miss this group of seniors,” said Coach James. “When you have a son in the group, it tends to be a lot harder to see them go. I wish I could have got

them another game, but it is what it is.”

Coach James said the Bulldogs played well enough to win for three-fourths of their game against Waseca.

A big turning point came with about 12 minutes remaining, when Memphis James was called for an offensive foul.

“We were down nine at the time, and if it goes the other way, we go up 11 or 12,” said Coach James. “Instead, Memphis picks up his third foul and they come down and they hit a three to make it a six-point game. Again, it’s not the reason we lost, but the game changed after that.”

Following the play, the Bluejays outscored the Bulldogs 39-9.

“We had way too many turnovers, missed a few lay-ups, didn’t shoot it great, all things you can’t do against good teams,” said James.

Scoring for the Bulldogs: Caleb Quast 12, Memphis James nine, Daulton Bauer nine, Kronbach eight, Gavin Bauer seven, Schlueter three, Austin Quast two and Landon Johnson two.



Superintendent's Corner

by Eric Hudspith

Spring is in the air

The clocks have sprung forward, temperatures are soon to be consistently warmer, and we are beginning the third trimester of the 2023-24 school year. Spring is an exciting time of the year for our students and staff. Our younger students are preparing for end of the year activities and assessments, many secondary students are finalizing their plans for next year, and of course our seniors are getting ready to leave our walls and enter into the world.

Administratively, we are deep into our planning for the next school year, preparing budgets and staff assignments, course offerings, and setting calendar dates for key activities that may not already be finalized. Summer activities are not to be forgotten in this planning process either, with academic, athletic, and other activities keeping our buildings busy the entire year.

Certainly, although we are planning for the future, our teachers and staff are working diligently to ensure a successful end of this school year for all of our students. With one third of the school year left, spring is an opportunity to extend learning for those that have already mastered standards, as well as a chance to provide additional support to students that need the extra help.

I encourage all of our Blue Jays to celebrate what we've accomplished already this school year, and work hard to finish the year strong. Whether next year brings a new grade, a new building, or life after graduation, we want you to be as prepared as you can be for the next step in the journey. Keep up the great work and we look forward to the continued progress!



The Pastor's Column

Tag was the next logical choice

By PASTOR KEN ANDRS

I didn't want to rabbit hop again. The teachers at Wednesday Night Bible Study had run out of material, us kids were keyed up and ready to do something fun. I wanted to play tag with the 20+ other 6- and 7-year-olds in our widened hallway of a classroom.

We had already colored our pictures, the bible story was short this time, and it was early spring. We wanted to get up and do something. Red Rover was out of the question, tag was the next logical choice to me, but the teachers wanted some control. That is how I found myself in line dreading the rabbit hop.

Our little minds couldn't grasp different ways to walk or jump or move. Personally, I wanted to do summersaults and cartwheels, but we were about to rabbit hop again. Follow-the-leader is not about independent movement, it is about obedience to the leader. You either get to join in by doing something fun or you sat out with the energy of 12 squirrels who accidentally gathered coffee beans instead of acorns.

Following Christ can sometimes feel like this too. People often envision following Christ as being that good kid at Sunday school who wore the pretty new dress or cute tie and sat politely while paying attention to every lesson. I don't know a lot of people who love dressing up and sitting attentively, but I do know a few. I also know a few followers of Christ who go to church in work clothes then hop in their truck and head off to work again.

We have been called to follow the leader as Christians, we follow God into all eternity. We have talked about how to have a relationship with God through

Christ's work of the cross, but what do we do next? We are in the follow-the-leader line, now we join in with obedience. When Christ leads us this way or that way we follow Him.

The comments I have gotten from people in the past is how do I more effectively follow Christ? Start with loving God, then love others. How do we love God? By spending time with Him through prayer and scripture reading. Personally, I like to read the bible through in a year and pray while doing something. Other people I know use Our Daily Bread for scripture, a lesson, and prayer. Others use a prayer garden, prayer room, prayer rug, prayer walk, prayer workout, or prayer of desperation to make known to God their concerns.

My advice in following God is don't make it more complicated than you need to, start by praying and asking God to speak to you or others through scripture. Then read your bible in a systematic way, including passages you don't like or understand. Finally pray again, ask God to meet your needs and talk about your concerns with Him.

As you grow in your ability to follow-the-leader you will find that it gets easier and you want to do it more. Paul reminds us to follow our leader in Ephesians 5:1-2, "1 Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children2 and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God." So, follow your leader, figure out where He is going and pursue Him. Know Him and hear from Him so you know where and how He is leading you. If Jesus asks you to hop like a rabbit, be the first to jump because that is obedience to following God.

in the school, one option considered was having the health center in the Janesville clinic and having Mayo Clinic Health System sponsor it. With the clinic closed, it's unclear whether or not that option is still on the table.

With the Mayo Clinic officially shut down in Janesville, many residents may wonder where to get their healthcare. The only place left in town that provides health services is the Heartland Clinic, which has only been open for a few months.

Flood plains front and center

By RACHAEL JAEGER Staff Writer

During its regular March 11 meeting, the Janesville City Council adopted and approved a new ordinance which follows language from the state Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Under the law, any flood plains within city limits must be identified in order to make federal floodplain insurance available for residents or property owners. The council needed to return the ordinance to the DNR by March 27.

The designated floodplain area includes only a few city lots, most of which are currently empty, although some are being developed; the properties are in the northwest section of town along the west side of West Street. All of this came about when the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) reviewed some of its maps.

"The DNR is helping FEMA get all of the maps in place," city administrator Clinton Rogers explained. "It wasn't because of the new lots; it was created simply because FEMA made changes.

"It's not encouraged to build new construction within a floodplain, but it's not prohibited," Rogers said. "You just need a permit."

In other business, Paul Voges, a Janesville resident, discussed with the council members to coordinate with the park board for live bands in the spring at the amphitheater in Veterans Park for five serialized weekly dates; he said it would be a nonprofit family style gathering which would also include possibilities like food trucks. Some bands have already seen the dates on social media and have reached out. Voges budgeted \$2,000 so Voges and Rogers requested a grant for that amount from Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council in Waseca: The park board does not expect to learn whether it received the grant until late March. Voges said he planned to check with local businesses for sponsorships.

"Going forward, I would really like it to be a self-sufficient thing," Voges said, adding that he could see scheduling this event yearly.

Voges asked the city council for approval for the park board to move forward with planning for this event. While the approval was not on the schedule, Rogers said it needed to be included in the minutes to make the plans official. Ultimately, the city council agreed.

Councilmember Ivan Maas asked about insurance, but council

JANESVILLE CITY COUNCIL

members clarified it would be covered through the city.

Also during the meeting, Eagle Scout candidate Austin Carda presented photos of what the city council helped pay for, which included the renovation of the shed by Lakeview Park north of Janesville. Carda said a masonry person came out and replaced the window with cinder blocks and used other cinder blocks to provide a walking path. Work also included cleaning the interior of the shed, including removing some appliances.

"We had a lot of people who came out and helped," Carda said. "It took us two days to finish [the project] and something like twenty hours."

"We would also like to thank you for doing this project for us," Mayor Andy Arnoldt told Carda. "It looks great."

Councilmember Jim Mulcahey reported that because of the early warm weather, the community gardens have been tilled and are ready to plant for anyone who is renting them.

In his report, Rogers mentioned the council's recent update of the

city's long term plan, originally created in 2019 about to come to its end. He also reported that the city had met with representatives of the Safe Routes to School program on March 7. He said that, while some work will begin soon, the plans are set to officially get going at the end of the school year.

"The plan calls for completion by the end of August," Rogers added, "but the contractors think, if all goes well, they will finish by the end of July."

During the meeting, the city council approved a variance request for a new garage for Randy Palm to store his boat and lawn equipment on Oakwood Drive. After a meeting with the city planning committee and a conversation with Palm, Rogers said that Palm cannot locate the garage any closer to the house because the backyard has a steep slope. The council had requested public input on the variance, but had received no public feedback.

In other matters, the council approved a temporary liquor license for St. Ann's Parish; accepted a donation of \$116,000 toward the golf course, and received donations in the amounts of \$50 each for both the police and fire departments.

Technology in schools in 2024

By MELISSA DUNN Staff Writer

Superintendent Eric Hudspith spotlighted district technology head Brian Hering at the school board's March work session. "The purpose of technology is to support instruction. It's not technology for technology's sake, but what can we do more effectively and efficiently based on our strategic priorities with technology," Hudspith said. "Brian does a fantastic job at supporting and leading the district, and keeping us in compliance at a base level. He is innovative as well." Board Chair Dave Dunn pointed out that Hering has been with the district for over thirty years.

Citing cyberattacks occurring worldwide against both government agencies and business, Hering said security is among his highest priorities. Hering and his team attend numerous conferences on security

measures then incorporate those measures into the district's system as seamlessly as possible. Hering also spoke about a software request process and a software review process that was developed with the help of teaching and learning director Brooke McGuire. "We can make sure the software we purchase and renew abides by state and federal laws, is secure, and is cloud-based," he said.

Hering went on to describe the district's move away from Windows to a cloud-based system with Chromebooks and Google. "Google has created an incredible offering for schools with the needs of K-12 education in mind. Google has made a powerful, secure, customizable and affordable platform. It's been really wonderful to work with them," Hering said.

Junior high band instructor Craig Brendan spoke to the board as a rep-

WASECA SCHOOL BOARD

representative of the Minnesota Rural Education Association (MREA), an organization which works to serve the interests of all stakeholders in rural settings, including teachers, school boards, and administrators. Brendan has been Waseca's representative for the past three years. Brendan said the thing that drew him to MREA is its advocacy. "Last year a lot of mandates went out, a lot of money went out, and how did that affect us out here?"

Like many such agencies, the group pays attention to legislative proposals and works to protect member interests. "We may not feel like everything on this particular platform is the priority for Waseca," Hudspith said, "so the only way we

can keep moving forward is to get our voice heard at the table." More information can be found at mrea-voice.org.

Hudspith told the board he was approached two weeks ago regarding city development items that would possibly affect the district. The city-owned lot between the high school, intermediate school, and Walmart could potentially be a new building site for a 36-unit apartment complex. As part of the process, the required public hearing will be held April 2. Hudspith emphasized the district will not be financially impacted. Hudspith said he would email the 20-page development application to the board for their perusal in order for them to prepare questions and comments to submit as a board to the city at the hearing.

The next regular meeting will be 5:30 pm. March 21 at the Central Education Building.

Attend the Church of your Choice!

CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH
2200 4th St NE, Waseca
507-835-2235
Service times 9:30 a.m.
* * *
4TH STREET EVANGELICAL CHURCH
605 4th St NE, Waseca
507-201-7293 (Pastor Andrew Isker)
Worship Sundays 10 a.m.
* * *
FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
801 4th Ave NE, Waseca
507-835-3167
Worship Sundays 9:30 a.m.
* * *
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. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH
401 3rd Ave NE, Waseca
507-833-1703
Sundays 9:00 a.m.
* * *
ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH
314 4th Ave NE, Waseca
507-835-2647
Worship Sunday 9:00 a.m.
* * *
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
503 2nd Ave NE, Waseca
507-835-4548 (office email: lcwaseca@hickory-
Worship Sunday 10 a.m.
* * *
GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
300 E Elm Ave, Waseca
507-835-1709
Worship Sunday 9 a.m.
* * *
SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH
111 4th St NW, Waseca
Father Glenn Ferichs
507-835-1222
Worship Sundays 10:00 a.m., Tues. and Wed. at 8:30 a.m. and Thurs. at 7 a.m.; Saturdays at 5 p.m.
* * *
REAL LIFE CHURCH
620 W Elm Ave, Waseca
507-607-8245
Sunday worship 10 a.m.
* * *
CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST LATTER-DAY SAINTS
1001 9th Ave SE, Waseca
507-835-4640
Sacrament meeting 10:00 a.m.
* * *
GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH
1221 8th St SE, Waseca
507-835-2213
Sunday worship 10:45 a.m., 6:00 p.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.
* * *
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. PETER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Otisco, Minnesota
Rev. Scott Williams, Pastor
Thursday - 6:30 p.m. Soup & Study
Sunday - 8:45 a.m. Worship
* * *
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
* * *
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
New Richland, Minnesota
Pastor Pamela Jensen
Sunday - 10 a.m. Worship
* * *
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
* * *
VISTA LUTHERAN CHURCH
New Richland, Minnesota
Pastor Dan Kordahl
Sunday - 10:30 a.m. Worship
* * *
VISTA EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH
New Richland, Minnesota
Brian Schanl 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
* * *
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. * * *

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
* * *
IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Freedom Township
Sunday - 9:15 a.m. Worship
* * *
ZOAR UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Pastor Ava Adams-Morris
Waldorf, Minnesota
Sunday - 9 a.m. Worship
* * *
ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC
Waldorf, Minnesota
Father Brian Mulligan
Sunday - 8 a.m. Worship
* * *
TRINITY LUTHERAN
Wilton Township
Rev. Larry Sipe, Pastor
Sunday - 10:45 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
* * *
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
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
* * *
JANESVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
401 N. West St., Janesville

Pastor Kathy King
Sunday - 8:15 a.m. Worship
* * *
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)
* * *
ST. ANN CATHOLIC CHURCH
307 W. 2nd St, Janesville
10 a.m. - Mass
* * *
FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
300 Owen St., Janesville
Pastor Sarah Krolak
* * *
ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL CHURCH
Alma City, Minnesota
Pastor Robert Harting
Sunday - 10 a.m. Wogship
* * *
TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Smiths Mill, Minnesota
Pastor Robert Harting
Thursday - 7:00 p.m. Worship
Sunday - 8:30 a.m. Worship
* * *
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
* * *
NOTE: CHANGES IN CHURCH CALENDARS MUST BE MADE BY NOTIFICATION FROM A MEMBER OF THE CONGREGATION TO THE WASECA COUNTY PIONEER.

■ Closed

from Page 1

by the Mayo Clinic Health System and will "receive support to transition their care."

Shortly before the clinic's closure became permanent, the Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton school district committed time to look into bringing in a school-based health center; due to lack of space

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Janesville



BOMBS AWAY — JWP’s Ben Wheelock (35) was one of many Bulldogs who raced down to the floor and scored against Faribault BA in the East Section 2AA Final in Waseca. After a 47-19 first half, the BA coach said he could not recall a time where his team got so far behind.

Bulldogs knock out FBA in semifinals

1923

-Every year about this time there seems to be an epidemic of mutilating and cutting down the shade trees about town. Now these shade trees are the beauty of the town, and about the only one, and, if necessary, should be protected by an ordinance enacted by the village council. Much of the ruthless slaughter of the trees is done by telephone men on the ground claiming that “they interfere with the wires.” Then put the wires where they won’t interfere with the trees! However, if they must be trimmed away from the wires, let it be done under the supervision of someone who has an eye to beauty and artistic effect.

-As will be noted, the cast of characters in the play, “The Miner’s Daughter,” is a sure guarantee that the roles assumed will be well enacted. Without seeking to give too much credit, we may safely say that each player is sufficiently well versed in the dramatic art to appear in any play at any time in any locality. Is this the language of extravagant eulogy? Not by any means, for it embodies the simple and exact truth.

-The American Legion, Most No. 281, has secured the Town Hall for Easter Monday evening. A splendid ball will be put on at that time which will effectually fill all requirements. If you have sacrificed your desire for pleasure during the Lenten period, here is the first opportunity to gratify it. Come out on this occasion and give the members of the post the benefit of our presence and your support. The fund raised is to be devoted to uses of the organization and that means to some useful purpose.

1948

-The Ionian Singers who will be heard at Waseca on March 16 at 8 p.m. under the auspices of the Waseca County Library are an All-American ensemble established several years ago with the purpose of seeking out and making available to the public the beat of male-voice music, from the days of Palestrina to our own. Its research has unearthed masterpieces which have been completely forgotten because of the long-standing preoccupation of the male singing groups with the less difficult ballads and popular hits of the hour. The personnel comprises Alan Adair, first tenor; Albert Barber, second tenor; Jean Pilon, baritone; and Hildreth Martin, bass.

-Pfc. Richard Nolan, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. P. Nolan, has returned home from overseas. He served in the Signal Corps for 18 months, a year of which was spent in Japan. On his way home from California he stopped at Manhattan, Kansas, and visited his sister, Mrs. John Hinton, and family. He has received his discharge from the service.

-The first meeting of the newly-formed Exchange Club of Janesville, MN, operating under the authority of the National Exchange Club, was held Monday, March 8, 1948. The following officers were elected: John Koehler, president; Lloyd Sandberg, secretary; and Lee Tetzloff, treasurer. From the day of formation of the first club, 37 years ago, Exchange has expanded steadily in the national field, electing to membership in the many cities, towns and communities in which it is established the leaders in business and professional fields.

1973

-To newcomers, Joe and Bea Stepan are permanent Janesville fixtures. As long as we can remember, or heard tell of, Joe has had a shore store on Main Street. But that isn’t the case. The Stepan have only been in Janesville a quarter of a century. This week Joe and Bea are celebrating their 25th year of business with an open house, free gifts and a dollar off on any pair of shoes to every coupon bearer. It’s their way of saying “Thank You” for 25 good years.

-Cliff Coonrod ran over a motor on Craig Street last Tuesday night. No, it wasn’t the motor in the car he was driving. It was someone else’s motor. No, it didn’t fall out from under another car. It fell off a truck. It fell off a pickup driven by Tom Cowdin. According to the police report, Town Cowdin was driving down Craig Street with this motor in the back of a 1939 Ford pickup. Somehow the motor fell off the back end when the end gate came down. Shortly thereafter Cliff Coonrod came along (he lives in the area) and ran over the motor. The motor was ruined, Coonrod has \$130 damage on his 1966 Mercury. And the Argus missed on h—l of a picture.

-Miss Vickie Wolff, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy Wolff of rural Eagle Lake was chosen as the delegate to Minnesota Girls State by the Janesville American Legion Auxiliary. She will attend the 27th annual Girls State on June 3-9 at St. Catherine College in St. Paul.

1998

-Think green. That is what the members of the Irish-American Club of Southern Minnesota want you to think Saturday, March 14, as the 30th annual St. Patrick’s Day celebration and parade takes to the streets of Waseca. The parade plans to be bigger and better than ever as the club is inviting all past grand marshals, Irish Queen royalty and Mr. and Mrs. Emerald Isle winners to participate. “Hopefully, it will be a good turnout,” said club member Peggy Eustice of the celebration. “We are just out to get all the families together and have fun.”

-Karen Sanderson-Buschow, a resident of Pemberton and teacher at Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton Elementary School in Janesville, is among a select group of outstanding educators chosen to participate in the Minnesota Humanities Commission’s Teacher Institute during the week of Sunday-Thursday, March 29-April 3. The residential program will be held at the Humanities Education Center, a newly-opened conference center adjacent to Lake Phalen Regional Park in St. Paul.

-The Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton boys’ basketball team never gave Faribault Bethlehem Academy a chance in Thursday’s East Section 2AA semifinal game at Waseca. JWP, which already had to decisive victories over the Cardinals during the Gopher Conference season, shredded the FBA zone with an accurate display of outside shooting. And when the Bulldogs did miss, which was rare, the front liners were right there for putbacks. “I don’t know if we’ve ever been blown out like that in the first half,” said FBA coach Franz Boelter. It was 47-19 at the half.

Waseca

Waseca Herald, 1923

-The routine work of the city council meeting Tuesday evening was enlivened by a lengthy communication from Mayor Smartwood, giving an interesting review of municipal projects completed or started during his administration and declaring that he was not a candidate for re-election. The council voted to have the letter incorporated in the minutes of the meeting and have it published in the official paper. Alderman Graben stated that the sewer contractors were digging shafts for their tunnels on West Elm Street and that there was danger of children falling into them. It was voted to have the street commissioner see that the part of the street where the work is being done was properly fenced off and the opening in the ground protected by a railing.

-An unsuccessful attempt was made to rob the Standard Oil Co. filling station in this city last night. It appears that the burglar first pried open a window in the ladies’ waiting room and entered, but found this room was separated from the office by a heavy wall. He then broke a glass panel in the front door of the office, inserted his hand and turned the lock. The combination knob on the safe was then knocked off, a chisel and hammer bring used. No further damage was done. The knob lay on the floor this morning, the robber apparently having been frightened.

Waseca Herald, 1948

-Mrs. C. W. Spaulding of Waseca was named as one of two delegates from the First Congressional district to attend the National Republican convention which will be held in Philadelphia later this year. She won the honor at Rochester last Saturday when the district convention was held after a sharp campaign with other candidates in the field. Mrs. Spaulding’s election came after an active campaign for a representative from the western part of the district. She had been endorsed as a candidate for delegate to the national convention when the Waseca County Republican convention was held previous to the district.

-Waseca made a fine showing at the District contest held at the Waseca High School on March 15. Three students earned a rating or superior, as well as the one-act play, thus earning a right to participate at the regional contest to be held at Northfield April 3. Betty Powell earned a superior in the dramatic division with her reading of “Rebecca”; Diane Miller earned a superior rating with the selection “Patterns”; Delores Carlton won a superior in discussion. Other participants were Mary Krough, Duane Parrish, Janey Noetzel and Myron Krause.

-The Central basketball team on Thursday evening of last week stepped out in good form to take on the Regional “A” finals from Rochester in a game at the Mayo Civic Auditorium with a score of 51-49. Bu winning, Central won the right to meet Kenyon in the Region One finals at Rochester, Saturday night which gave them the chance to be Region One champions and go to the state tournament this week. The game, termed one of the most thrilling to be seen on the Rochester floor, had spectators on their feet most of the last quarter as the scores remained with a one and two point difference, and either team ready to grab the breaks and take the game.

Waseca Daily Journal, 1973

-Governor Wendell Anderson today named a former Waseca native, Robert J. Sheran as Chief Justice of the Minnesota Supreme Court. Sheran will replace Justice Oscar R. Knutson who announced his retirement today. Sheran, 57, is the son of the late Dr. and Mrs. M. J. Sheran of Waseca. The late Dr. Sheran was a dentist here and he and his family resided at 509 North State Street. The family moved to Minneapolis in 1928. Sheran served on the court from 1963 to 1970 but then resigned to join a Minneapolis law firm.

-Minnesota’s suddenly derailed Gophers placed two players and four other schools were represented on the 1973 All-Big Ten basketball team named today by the Associated Press. Along with Minnesota’s skilled duo of Ron Behagen and Jim Brewer, the honor team also included Steve Downing of champion Indiana repeating scoring titlist Mike Robinson of Michigan State, Allan Hornyak of Ohio State and Nick Weatherspoon of Illinois.



GO FOR THE GREEN — The Irish American Club held its 30th St. Patrick’s Day celebration on Saturday, March 14, 1998. Shannon Frisk (center) was crowned Miss St. Patrick with fellow candidate Julie Kelley (right) watching.

-Associate Warden of the Waseca Federal Correctional Institute Myron Anderson is leaving the institution. Anderson is being transferred to the federal institution in Englewood, Colo. His last day was Friday. Anderson said the transferring of management level employees within the federal correction system is common. “We are transferred on a regular basis, so we can share our experiences and career development skills with the employees of the other federal institutions around the country,” he said. Anderson has been the associate warden at the Waseca facility since July 1995. He came to Minnesota with his wife, Sue. Anderson is originally from the southern Minnesota area.

-The 168 members of the Waseca Education Association (WEA) voted Wednesday to reject the latest contract offered by the Waseca School Board. Members of the WEA would not comment on the contract situation. Waseca Superintendent Jim Schmitt said, “We are disappointed the contract was not approved. We are going to discuss what to do next at the next board meeting,” Schmitt said. The WEA has scheduled a closed meeting tonight to discuss its options.

-The Waseca High School chapter of the Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) program had three students place in the top three of their events in its state competition March 15-16 in Minneapolis. Jim King, Brad Deml and Amber Kozan earned the right to participate in the national competition April 24-30 in Denver.

New Richland

1923

-With nothing at stake, voters naturally failed to appear at the village polls for the annual village election. Only thirty votes were cast and of this number, only two were women. The attendance at the village caucus Saturday evening was very light. At this meeting the following ticket, which carried on Tuesday, was prepared: Mayor — F. H. Krueger; Trustee 3 years — C. I. Virnig; Treasurer H. F. Bestmann; Clerk — A. O. Lea; Assessor 2 years — Geo. Johnson; Justice of Peace — A. G. Byersdorff; and Constable — Thos. Courtney. The judges of the election were Geo. Hovig, H. T. Tyrholm and B. H. Schlosser.

-The operetta, “Uncle Sam’s Visit,” was given Friday, March 9, at the Faust Theater by all the pupils of the Grade building. The old woman, Cora Zarth, had many children who represented all nations of the world. Uncle Sam, who was Arthur Steele and Columbia, Thelma Johnson, accompanied by six soldiers, Alfred Herbst, Wm. Lange, Charles Nitschke, Ernest Paulson, Leslie Paulson and Gerhard Streng, listened to the Folk songs given in their native costumes.

-On Thursday, March 22, at the Faust Theater, the moving picture, “The Eternal Light,” will be shown under the auspices of the local Catholic Church. This picture enacts the wonderful drama of Our Lord’s life amid the very scenes where they occurred. The picture was produced at a cost of \$350,000.00 by the Catholic Art association of New York. “The Eternal Light” has been commended by churchmen of all denominations wherever shown.

1948

-Misses Peggy and Patsy Doyle, twin daughters of Dr. and Mrs. A. A. Doyle, are to complete their training in nursing in September, having been attending the College of St. Catherine, St. Paul. They will be members of the class which is to be graduated next May 16 and of which their sister, Miss Catherine, is a member. The young ladies are expected home March 25 and will remain until April 1 when they leave for Chicago to enter Heinz General hospital under the V.A. administration, expecting to remain six months.

-Albert Lea Tribune: Andrew Stenseth, 1015 West Clark Street, was notified that he is to be the recipient of an unusual honor. A loyal son of the Norwegian town of Kongsberg, Stenseth has in the course of years performed many services for it. He helped organize in the U.S. an association of former Kongsberg residents, calling it the “Kongsberglag.” He assisted many families of his native town to reestablish contacts with friends and relatives in the U.S. and vice-versa. Since the end of the war he has contributed to various drives aimed at bringing relief to distressed families of Kongsberg. So now the Kongsberg society of Oslo, which is another organization made up of former Kongsberg residents, has decided to show its appreciation by presenting Andrew Stenseth of Albert Lea with “its highest decoration.” Just what the decoration is, Stenseth doesn’t exactly know...yet. It will be presented to him formally sometime next summer when the Kongsberg folks arrive for a tour of the U.S.

-J. J. Steckel, co-pilot on the ill-fated plane that crashed in Alaska Friday night, while en route from China, had relatives here. His wife, the former Patricia Scott, is a stepdaughter of August Matthies, a former buttermaker at the New Richland creamery, a brother of Mrs. Carl Weckwerth. August Matthies lives in Minneapolis as did the Steckels. Mrs. Steckel, before her marriage, taught school in Dist. 98, Freeborn County in about 1940 to 1942.

1973

-Walter Loken, Commander of Andrew Borgen #75 Post of the American Legion, in New Richland, announces that at a recent Post meeting it was voted to send a boy to the Twenty-Fifth Annual American Legion “Legion Boys State.” Selected for the opportunity was Wayne Billing, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Billing of New Richland. Tim Flor, song of Dr. and Mrs. A. G. Flor was named alternate. Wayne is a member of A band and works on the Broadcast staff at the New Richland-Hartland high school. He presently is working toward his Eagle rank in Boy Scout Troop 90. He is a member of the Luther League at St. Peter’s Lutheran Church, New Richland. Tim is junior class president, a member of the student council and Broadcast staff at the New Richland-Hartland high school. He also plays in the A band and swing band and is a football and wrestling letterman. An altar boy at All Saints church, he sings with the church choir and is a member of the Catholic Youth Organization and the church bowling team. A Boy Scout, he is also a member of the Teen Board.

-Mary Root, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. O. K. Root of New Richland has been named Girls’ State for New Richland. Her alternate is Vicki Kraupa, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arleigh Kraupa of New Richland. Mary is sponsored by the auxiliary unit of the Andrew Borgen Post 75. A member of the A band at New Richland-Hartland high school, Mary is also a cheerleader. She enjoys playing girls’ basketball and softball and is a member of the National Honor Society. Secretary of the Pilgrim Fellowship at Congregational church, she is also a member of the 4-H. Vicki is a member of the National Honor Society and the Luther League at Trinity Church.

-The economy of the state of Minn

1998

-The construction on the new Community Center in Waldorf is proceeding on schedule. This week heating vents were installed. It is expected that the erection of the walls of the kitchen, post office, storage room and lavatories will be completed in the next couple of weeks. Preparations are being made to pour a cement parking lot, cement curbing and sidewalk in April. The Waldorf Post Office will be moved into the new building and will be open for business May 1. Entirely new equipment for the office installation is being supplied by the U.S. Postal Service. These will include new boxes with keys, rather than combinations.

-The New Richland Volunteer Fire Department will be holding their annual dance on Saturday, March 28, at the New Richland American Legion clubrooms. On February 26 fire department members met to prepare letters for mailing announcing the dance. At that meeting a plaque was presented to Tom Bruzek, secretary, for serving with the New Richland Volunteer Fire Department for 48 years. The New Richland Volunteer



New Richland Fire Department foreman Gary Billing presented a plaque to Tom Bruzek in recognition of his 48 years of service to the department at a meeting of the firemen Feb. 26, 1998.

Fire Department was incorporated March 12, 1909 and has held a dance as a fundraiser for many years. Tom joined the fire department on April 7, 1950. In January 1951, he was elected secretary and remains in that office.

NOTICE OF DELINQUENT TAXES

STATE OF MINNESOTA)
)SS
COUNTY OF WASECA)

District Court
3rd Judicial District

TO: ALL PERSONS WITH A LEGAL INTEREST IN THE PARCELS OF REAL PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN THE DELINQUENT TAX LIST.

A list of real property in Waseca County on which delinquent property taxes and penalties are due has been filed with the District Court Administrator of Waseca County. This list is published to inform all persons that the listed property is subject to forfeiture because of delinquent taxes.

The property owner, taxpayer, or other interested parties must either pay the tax and penalty, plus interest and costs, or file a written objection with the District Court Administrator. The objection must be filed by April 18, 2024, stating the reason why the tax or penalty is not due on the property. If no objection is filed, a court judgment will be entered against the property for unpaid tax, penalty, interest and costs.

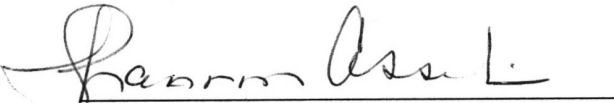
For property under court judgment, the period of redemption begins on May 13, 2024. The period of redemption means the time within which taxes must be paid to avoid losing the property through forfeiture. The redemption period is three years.

You may also enter into a confession of judgment as an alternative method to paying off the delinquent tax amount and avoiding forfeiture. This allows you to pay the delinquent balance in equal annual installments, with a down payment due at the time you enter into the confession.

If you have homesteaded property, you may be eligible for a Senior Citizens's Property Tax Deferral.

It should also be noted by property homesteaders that you are ineligible to receive the Property Tax Refund while you owe delinquent property tax.

To determine how much interest and cost must be added to pay the tax in full, contact the Waseca County Property & Election Services Office, Waseca County Courthouse, 307 North State St, Waseca, Minnesota 56093. The Telephone number is (507) 835-0610.



Shannon Asselin
Court Administrator



District Court Seal

Dated: 2-26-24

The following table contains a list of Real property located in WASECA COUNTY on which taxes and penalties became delinquent on January 2, 2024. Interest calculated from January 1, 2024, and county costs must be paid along with the total tax and penalties in order for a parcel of Real property to be removed from the delinquent tax list.

Names of Owners, Taxpayers & Interested Parties	Parcel # Description of Property	Year	Total Tax + Penalties
ALTON TOWNSHIP			
EDITH H HOGAN TRUSTEE PO BOX 565 BETHANY BEACH DE 19930	RP 010030100 SECT-03 TWP-107 RANGE-024 - 16.01AC NE1/4 OF NE1/4 EX W17.70AC & EX NE 1/4 OF NE 1/4 SEC 3 SHOWN AS PARCEL #20 ON MNDOT RIGHT OF WAY PLAT #81-28	2023	\$630.26
RYAN M ERDMAN 780 380TH AVE JANESVILLE MN 56048	RP 010060200 SECT-06 TWP-107 RANGE-024 - 5.30AC W350FT OF E1369 FT OF N660FT OF NE1/4	2023	\$4,981.30
CHERYL TRAHMS CHAPMAN TRUSTEE ETAL 116 JOSHUA CT MANKATO MN 56001	RP 010331000 SECT-33 TWP-107 RANGE-024 - 78.00AC E1/2 OF SW1/4 EX 2AC	2023	\$2,787.86
KARY M BREMER 5921 320TH AVE WASECA MN 56093-4806	RP 010360500 SECT-36 TWP-107 RANGE-024 - 7.00AC BEG AT A PT 233.44FT W OF SE COR OF E1/2 OF SE1/4; THEN W 452.83FT; THEN N723.35FT; THEN E393.13FT; THEN S TO BEG	2023	\$2,265.47
BLOOMING GROVE TOWNSHIP			
KEVIN L O'CONNOR 3637 250TH ST W FARIBAULT MN 55021	RP 020030300 SECT-03 TWP-108 RANGE-022 - 80.00AC S1/2 OF NE1/4	2023	\$2,535.41
40099 150TH ST WASECA MN 56093	SECT-21 TWP-108 RANGE-022 - 6.97AC COM SE COR OF SE1/4 OF SEC; THEN N 89.10FT PT OF BEG; THEN N 726.66FT; THEN N85DEGW 541.57FT; THEN S 382.04FT; THEN S53DEG E 626.80FT; THEN S81DEGE 27.44FT TO PT OF BEG		
TERRY MCCLUNE 516 11TH AVE NE WASECA MN 56093	RP 020290750 SECT-29 TWP-108 RANGE-022 - 16.58 AC COM W1/4 COR OF SEC; THENCE S89DEGE 1318.12FT TO PT OF BEG; THEN NORTH 661.67FT; THENCE N35DEGE 40.21FT; THENCE NORTH 386FT; THENCE S86DEGE 127FT; THENCE S66DEGE 81FT; THENCE S64DEGE 66FT; THENCE S56DEGE 104.50FT; THEN S49DEGE 125FT; THENCE S43DEGE 107FT; THENCE S37DEGE 106FT; THENCE S31DEGE 99FT; THENCE S27DEGE 344FT; THENCE S26DEGE 374FT; THENCE N89DEGW 992FT TO PT OF BEG	2023	\$1,760.51
RAYMOND ROSACKER PO BOX 631 WASECA MN 56093-0631	RP 020310400 SECT-31 TWP-108 RANGE-022 - 1.00AC BEG AT SE COR OF NE1/4 OF SE1/4; THENCE N10RDS; THENCE W 16RDS; THEN S10RDS; THENCE E 16RDS TO PT OF BEG	2023	\$703.25
ELYSIAN CITY			
KLEMMENSEN PROPERTY MANAGEMENT LLC 10282 44TH AVE SE BLOOMING PRAIRIE MN 55917	RP 130020210 SECT-02 TWP-108 RANGE-024 - 1.91AC COM AT S1/4 COR OF SEC 35-109-24; THENCE E 413.01FT TO PT OF BEG; THEN W 320.61FT; THENCE S 4DEG W 87.12 FT; THENCE S26DEGE 62.70FT; THEN S58DEGE 51.48FT; THEN S88DEGE 50.82FT; THENCE S 195.19FT; THENCE N 71DEG E 247.47FT; THENCE N 5DEG W 296FT +/- TO PT OF BEG	2023	\$138.29

ZACHARY K STROM HILLARY STROM 2070 320TH AVE JANESVILLE MN 56048	FREEDOM TOWNSHIP RP 041010010 ALMA CITY - LOTS 1 THRU 4 BLK 1 & N1/2 OF ADJOINING VACATED ALLEY	2023	\$840.04
ZACHARY K STROM HILLARY STROM 2070 320TH AVE JANESVILLE MN 56048	RP 041010030 ALMA CITY - LOTS 5 & 6 BLK 4 & N1/2 OF ADJOINING VACATED ALLEY	2023	\$89.69
WAYNE TRAHMS LLC 1530 GREENVIEW DR SW SUITE 103 ROCHESTER MN 55902-1080	RP 040040400 04 TWP-106 RANGE-024 - 80.00AC S1/2 OF SW1/4	2023	\$1,210.50
DAVID W & PAUL R TRAHMS 31104 20TH ST PEMBERTON MN 56078	RP 040040800 SECT-04 TWP-106 RANGE-024 - 86.30AC E1/2 OF NW1/4 EX 5 AC & E10AC OF NW1/4 OF NW1/4	2023	\$1,816.22
JOSEPH ROEKER ETAL 101 BLACE AVE EAGLE LAKE MN 56024	RP 040050100 SECT-05 TWP-106 RANGE-024 - 2.15AC 360' X 260' PARCEL IN THE NE1/4 OF NE1/4 OF NE1/4 FORMERLY KNOWN AS BLK 15 ALMA CITY	2023	\$989.39
WAYNE TRAHMS LLC 1530 GREENVIEW DR SW SUITE 103 ROCHESTER MN 55902-1080	RP 040090500 SECT-09 TWP-106 RANGE-024 - 66.67AC N5/6 OF N1/2 OF NW1/4	2023	\$1,119.67
VULTURE VENTURES LLC 1530 GREEVIEW DR SW SUITE 103 ROCHESTER MN 55902-1080	RP 040300500 SECT-30 TWP-106 RANGE-024 - 162.52AC NW1/4	2023	\$2,087.35
QUINTON KOLLOS 1501 265TH AVE MINNESOTA LAKE MN 56068	RP 040320200 SECT-32 TWP-106 RANGE-024 - 5.00AC BEG AT SW COR OF NE1/4 THENCE N1951.10FT; THENCE E 179.45FT; THENCE S369FT; THENCE S21DEGE 368FT; THENCE S64DEGW 302FT; THENCE S1111.60FT; THENCE W40FT TO PT OF BEG	2023	\$1,079.97
JANESVILLE CITY			
VICTORIA L & MICHAEL S KIRKSEY 600 W FIRST ST JANESVILLE MN 56048	RP 142010080 CARPENTERS FIRST ADDITION - E1/2 OF LOT 4 EX E 41/2 FT BLK 1	2023	\$87.71
TSB JANESVILLE LLC 704 PARKWAY AVE EAGLE LAKE MN 56024	RP 142110110 CIC #14 NORTHWOOD MEADOWS - OUTLOT A	2023	\$88.90
TSB JANESVILLE LLC 704 PARKWAY AVE EAGLE LAKE MN 56024	RP 142110120 CIC #14 NORTHWOOD MEADOWS - OUTLOT B	2023	\$88.90
JOSE A & MARYA R DE LOS SANTOS 337 KINGSWAY DR N MANKATO MN 56003	RP 142300010 EASTWOOD ESTATES - LOT-001 BLOCK-001	2023	\$1,012.35
VICTORIA L LOHMANN 316 SOUTH ST E JANESVILLE MN 56048	RP 141011510 FIRST ADDITION TO EAST JANESVILLE - LOT-013 BLOCK-034	2023	\$1,322.55
TERRANCE W SARGENT PO BOX 18 208 ELM ST S JANESVILLE MN 56048	RP 141011060 FIRST ADDITION TO EAST JANESVILLE - LOTS 11 & 12 BLK 30	2023	\$2,537.71
DIANE L RADUNZ 213 2ND ST E JANESVILLE MN 56048	RP 142760420 FRENCH'S ADDITION - E 1/3 OF S1/2 OF LOT 7 BLK 2	2023	\$502.87
SARAH MARIE VAN HOUDT 311 MAIN ST N JANESVILLE MN 56048	RP 141000840 ORIGINAL PLAT - LOT-006 BLOCK-007	2023	\$3,228.30
TMP REAL PROPERTY LLC 348 E MAIN ST BLOOMING PRAIRIE MN 55917	RP 141001760 ORIGINAL PLAT - MIDDLE 1/3 OF LOT 3 BLK 14	2023	\$505.55
GARY D RYKHUS WENDY K RYKHUS 115 PARK RD MADISON LAKE MN 56063	RP 141001430 ORIGINAL PLAT - N 1/3 OF LOT 3 & S1/3 OF LOT 4 BLK 11	2023	\$1,409.38
ANDREW P & SARAH E ARNOLDT 38962 ELYSIAN LAKE RD W JANESVILLE MN 56048	RP 145650225 PEARSON ACRES - BEG SW COR OF OUTLOT B PEARSON ACRES; THEN S12DEGE 51.26FT; THEN EASTERLY TO PT S OF SE COR OF OUTLOT B; THEN N51.93FT; THEN S89DEGW 203.29FT TO PT OF BEG	2023	\$32.48
ANDREW P & SARAH E ARNOLDT 38962 ELYSIAN LAKE RD W JANESVILLE MN 56048	RP 145650210 PEARSON ACRES - OUTLOT B	2023	\$392.70
MICHELLE L PRIEM 1034 NW 121 LN CORAL SPRINGS FL 33071	RP 145800300 ROLLING ACRES OF JANESVILLE #2 - 6.24AC OUTLOT B	2023	\$1,103.92
ANDREW P & SARAH E ARNOLDT 38962 ELYSIAN LAKE RD W JANESVILLE MN 56048	RP 140280700 SECT-28 TWP-108 RANGE-024 - 6.76AC IN N PART OF GOVT LOT 5 EX .24AC	2023	\$8,333.40

GARY G & PATRICIA J PETERSON 50411 127TH ST AMBOY MN 56010	NEW RICHLAND CITY RP 151080170 AUDITORS PLAT # 1 SEC. 20 - LOT-009 BLOCK-002	2023	\$2,327.39	STEPHANIE KAUPA 610 COMMON ST WATERVILLE MN 56096	WALDORF CITY RP 161000140 ORIGINAL PLAT - LOTS 9 10 & 11 BLK 2	2023	\$757.62
	MICHAEL C BIETER BONITA S CARLSON 416 ASH AVE S NEW RICHLAND MN 56072	2023	\$76.68	LAC LINDELAND DEB BEZDICEK 206 N 4TH AVE WALDORF MN 56091	RP 166760140 VOGELSANG'S ADDITION - S1/2 OF LOT 4 BLK 2	2023	\$89.69
	NEW RICHLAND ECONOMIC DEVELOP AUTHORITY PO BOX 4123 ST PAUL MN 55101	2023	\$206.65	ROBERT D RUBLE 51718 170TH ST AUSTIN MN 55912	RP 160342000 SECT-34 TWP-106 RANGE-024 - BEG 33FT N & 33FT E OF SW COR OF SE1/4;THENCE E68FT;THENCE N 100FT;THENCE W68FT;THENCE S100FT TO PT OF BEG	2023	\$1,104.15
	JANICE C OLSON PO BOX 172 NEW RICHLAND MN 56072	2023	\$975.00	JPMORGAN CHASE BANK NA C/O CARRINGTON MORTGAGE SERVICES LLC 1600 S DOUGLAS RD SUITE 200-A ANAHEIM CA 92806	WASECA CITY RP 171230220 AUD PLAT OF ALL LAND IN CIT LI - S144.43FT OF N147.43FT OF W 165FT OF LOT 11	2023	\$1,478.15
JOHN J KITZMAN 504 2ND ST SW NEW RICHLAND MN 56072	RP 156010010 SMITH ADDITION - LOT-001	2023	\$1,777.20	ARARAT LLC 408 7TH AVE SE WASECA MN 56093	RP 171070170 AUD PLAT OF LARGE LOT 1 BLK 5 - LOT-017	2023	\$933.54
CARTER S ROUTH 10902 205TH AVE NEW RICHLAND MN 56072	RP 150170410 SECT-17 TWP-105 RANGE-022 - .38AC COMM AT A PT OF INTERSECTION OF W LINE OF CENTRAL AVE & S LINE WELLES ST;THEN W 162.90FT TO PT OF BEG, THEN S 226.87FT;THEN W ON LINE PARALLEL WITH & 90FT N OF N LINE OF WASHBURN ST TO A PT 9. 0FT FROM CENTER LINE OF SPUR TRACT NO.120;THEN NORTHERLY 227.71FT TO PT INTERSECTION WITH S LINE OF WELLES ST;THEN E 80FT TO PT OF BEG	2023	\$1,475.94	RACHEL H BETHKE 700 5TH ST SE WASECA MN 56093	RP 171070180 AUD PLAT OF LARGE LOT 1 BLK 5 - LOT-018	2023	\$2,809.97
13188 24TH AVE NEW RICHLAND LLC 75 W VEUM AVE APPLETON MN 56208	NEW RICHLAND TOWNSHIP RP 070170505 SECT-17 TWP-105 RANGE-022 - .39AC COMM NE COR OF NE1/4 OF NW1/4 OF NW1/4;THEN N90DEGW 420.76FT; THEN S 435FT;THEN N90 DEGE 20FT;THEN S 227.01FT;THEN S89DEGW 139.67FT;THEN S89DEGW 113.20FT;THEN N 205.34FT TO PT OF BEG;THEN N150.29FT;THEN E113.20FT; THEN S 134.34FT;THEN N89DEGW 14.34FT;THEN S01DEGE 16.60FT;THEN N89DEGW 99.30FT TO PT OF BEG	2023	\$234.35	CARLY JOHNSON MAIL TO: MICHAEL ANT 27197 170TH ST NEW RICHLAND MN 56072	RP 171070370 AUD PLAT OF LARGE LOT 1 BLK 5 - LOT-037	2023	\$4,677.48
	13188 24TH AVE NEW RICHLAND LLC 75 W VEUM AVE APPLETON MN 56208	2023	\$1,212.01	NICOLAS A POEHLER 420 11TH ST SE WASECA MN 56093	RP 171080010 AUDITOR'S PLAT OF GOODSPEEDS A - LOT-022 BLOCK-002	2023	\$1,455.23
	13188 24TH AVE NEW RICHLAND LLC 75 W VEUM AVE APPLETON MN 56208	2023	\$245.82	JACOB PATRICK PILGRIM 408 11TH ST SE WASECA MN 56093	RP 171080040 AUDITOR'S PLAT OF GOODSPEEDS A - S 68 FT OF LOT 23 BLK 2	2023	\$728.36
	13188 24TH AVE NEW RICHLAND LLC 75 W VEUM AVE APPLETON MN 56208	2023	\$245.82	JESSIE JOHNSON 801 2ND ST NW WASECA MN 56093	RP 171120360 AUDITOR'S PLAT OF NE1/4 OF SE1 - S4FT OF LOT 9 & 10 BLK 2	2023	\$807.85
RH RENTAL LLC 29039 132ND ST WASECA MN 56093	OTISCO TOWNSHIP RP 086010080 SUBDIVISION A TO VILLAGE OF OT - LOT-003 BLOCK-002	2023	\$67.40	JASON LEE WEIMER 209 7TH AVE NW WASECA MN 56093	RP 171130080 AUDITOR'S PLAT OF SE1/4 OF SE1 - BEG 104FT E OF NW COR OR LOT 1 THEN SOUTHERLY 164.7FT TO A PT ON SOUTHEASTERLY LINE OF LOT 1 122.3FT NE OF MOST SOUTHERLY COR OF LOT 1;THEN 43.7FT NE TO S LINE OF LOT 1;THEN E23.6FT; THEN N132.4FT;THEN W66FT TO PT OF BEG & ALL THAT PART OF LOT 4 W OF LINE: BEG 170FT S89DEGE & 132.40FT S OF NW COR OF LOT 1;THEN S66.6FT & THERE TERMINATING BLK 2	2023	\$1,656.05
	BRUCE E WOLFE 31999 180TH ST WASECA MN 56093	2023	\$1,776.66	WOODLAND INVESTMENTS LLC 39801 MORAVIAN DR CLINTON TOWNSHIP MI 48036	RP 171130030 AUDITOR'S PLAT OF SE1/4 OF SE1 - LOT-003 BLOCK-001	2023	\$2,996.39
	EDWARD C BETHKE 15209 315TH AVE WASECA MN 56093-5719	2023	\$1,715.36	DIANA S WELANDER ETAL 205 10TH AVE NE WASECA MN 56093	RP 171200100 AUDITOR'S PLAT OF SE1/4 OF SW1 - E1/2 OF LOT 3	2023	\$1,011.85
	ROBERTA LYNN HEINRICHS 29351 128TH ST WASECA MN 56093	2023	\$195.84	JOSE V DOMINQUEZ REBECCA A DOMINQUEZ 304 5TH AVE SW WASECA MN 56093	RP 171511080 BARNEYS ADD - ALL THAT PART OF LOTS 7,8 & 9 & ADJOINING VAC ALLEY BLK 13 DESC AS: BEG AT INTERSECTION OF N LINE OF 5TH AVE SW & CENT OF VAC ALLEY;THEN S76DEGE 89.14FT;THEN N13DEGE 120.97FT; THEN N89DEGE 8.24FT;THEN N 72.35FT TO WESTERLY ROW OF RR; THEN NORTHERLY TO SOUTHERLY ROW OF RR;THEN N76DEGW 41.82FT THEN S95.36FT;THEN N87DEGW 72.13FT;THEN S69.56FT;THEN S89DEGW .84FT;THEN S29.97FT TO PT OF BEG	2023	\$1,136.54
BRADLEY D & CRYSTAL D BARTELT 27570 160TH ST NEW RICHLAND MN 5607	RP 080030200 SECT-03 TWP-106 RANGE-022 - 60.00AC N1/2 OF SW1/4 EX E20AC	2023	\$1,715.36	ROBERTA HEINRICHS 28351 128TH ST WASECA MN 56093	RP 171510550 BARNEYS ADD - LOT 4 & THAT PART OF LOT 3:BEG AT NW COR OF LOT 3;THEN S106FT THEN E24FT;THEN S27FT; THEN E36FT;THEN N TO N LINE OF LOT 3; THEN W TO PT OF BEG BLK 6	2023	\$114.20
KEVIN L O'CONNOR 3637 250TH ST W FARIBAULT MN 55021	RP 080180710 SECT-18 TWP-106 RANGE-022 6.30 AC COMM AT NE COR OF SE1/4;THENCE N89DEGW 1376.42FT THENCE S445FT TO PT OF BEG;THENCE S410FT;THENCE S89DEGW 669.50FT; THENCE N410FT;THENCE N89DEGE 669.50FT TO PT OF BEG	2023	\$195.84	GARY L TETZLOFF PATRICIA ANN JONES-TETZLOFF 304 4TH AVE NW WASECA MN 56093	RP 171520630 BENNETTS ADDITION - E1/2 OF S150FT OF LOT 6 BLK 5	2023	\$54.97
	RP 080260900 SECT-26 TWP-106 RANGE-022 - 8.40AC S600 FT OF W610 FT OF SW1/4 OF NW1/4	2023	\$1,409.39	BAMBI J JES 114 6TH AVE NW WASECA MN 56093	RP 171520330 BENNETTS ADDITION - E85FT OF LOTS 9 & 10 BLK 3	2023	\$1,988.93
	ST MARY TOWNSHIP RP 090250700 SECT-25 TWP-107 RANGE-023 - 80.00AC S1/2 OF SW1/4	2023	\$2,547.76	RH RENTALS LLC 29531 128TH ST WASECA MN 56093	RP 171550530 BROUGHTONS ADDITION - N 1/2 OF LOT 21 BLK 4	2023	\$136.23
	KEVIN L O'CONNOR 3637 250TH ST W FARIBAULT MN 55021	2023	\$813.14	STACY M THOMPSON 411 10TH AVE SE WASECA MN 56093	RP 171550720 BROUGHTONS ADDITION - W55FT OF LOT 39 EX N70FT BLK 4	2023	\$2,174.71
JOHN KLUGHERZ 27774 755TH ST HAYFIELD MN 55940	RP 090360550 SECT-36 TWP-107 RANGE-023 - 25.25AC NW1/4 OF SE1/4 EX 1AC & EX 13.43AC	2023	\$813.14	ORKIN-IFC PROPERTIES, LLC 13420 W 99TH ST LENEXA KS 66215-1365	RP 171580005 BYRON FIRST ADDITION - LOT-001 BLOCK-001	2023	\$157.16
	VIVIAN TOWNSHIP RP 100230400 SECT-23 TWP-105 RANGE-024 - 3.00AC COM NE COR OF NW1/4; THEN N89DEGW 173.99FT PT OF BEG;THEN N89DEGW 426.31FT;THEN S07DEGE 320.48FT;THEN S88DEGE 385.25FT;THEN N 326.77FT TO PT OF BEG	2023	\$987.10	RANDY L RITCHIE 900 LAKEVIEW AVE WASECA MN 56093	RP 172090140 CLEAR LAKE HEIGHTS - LOT 10 EX W10 FT & LOT 9 BLK 5	2023	\$313.24
				RANDY L RITCHIE 900 LAKEVIEW AVE WASECA MN 56093	RP 172090280 CLEAR LAKE HEIGHTS - LOT-016 BLOCK-006	2023	\$169.37

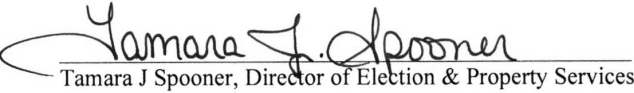
RANDY L RITCHIE 900 LAKEVIEW AVE WASECA MN 56093	RP 172090260 CLEAR LAKE HEIGHTS - LOT-017 BLOCK-006	2023	\$184.86
LEON E RITCHIE 4495 340TH AVE WASECA MN 56093	RP 172090250 CLEAR LAKE HEIGHTS - LOTS 8,9 & 10 BLK 6	2023	\$532.70
RANDY L RITCHIE 900 LAKEVIEW AVE WASECA MN 56093	RP 172090150 CLEAR LAKE HEIGHTS - W10 FT OF LOT 10 & ALL LOT 11 BLK 5	2023	\$127.31
CRYSTAL LYNN MYERS ETAL 3043 TOWNSGATE RD # 200 WESTLAKE VILLAGE CA 91361	RP 172762080 FIRST ADDITION - LOT-007 BLOCK-017	2023	\$809.12
JESSIE ALVARADO 28940 133RD ST WASECA MN 56093	RP 172762270 FIRST ADDITION - LOT-010 BLOCK-018	2023	\$590.47
NICOLAS A POEHLER 420 11TH ST SE WASECA MN 56093	RP 173010490 GOODSPEEDS ADDITION - LOT-021 BLOCK-002	2023	\$267.79
VIOLA A BUSKE 805 LEXINGTON AVE N NEW PRAGUE MN 56071	RP 173760330 JENKINS ADDITION - LOT-004 BLOCK-013	2023	\$52.96
RH RENTALS LLC 29531 128TH ST WASECA MN 56093	RP 173760440 JENKINS ADDITION - N 1/2 OF LOT 12 EX E 150FT BLK 13	2023	\$113.54
RH RENTALS LLC 29531 128TH ST WASECA MN 56093	RP 173760430 JENKINS ADDITION - S 1/2 OF LOT 12 EX E150 FT BLK 13	2023	\$108.10
WILLIAM F SHOUTS MARY J SHOUTS 625 3RD ST NE WASECA MN 56093	RP 173780140 JENKINS SUBDIV OF BLKS 15 & 17 - S29FT OF E100FT OF LOT 1 & N28FT OF E1/2 OF LOT 2 BLK 15	2023	\$1,097.66
MAM INVESTMENTS LLC 108 8TH ST NW WASECA MN 56093	RP 174530820 MCNAMARAS ADDITION - LOT-006 BLOCK-006	2023	\$5,609.52
ROMAN GONZALEZ 506 ELM AVE W WASECA MN 56093	RP 174530310 MCNAMARAS ADDITION - LOT-015 BLOCK-002	2023	\$631.23
GREGORY A BILLEAUDEAUX & RHONDA L BILLEAUDEAUX 401 10TH AVE NW WASECA MN 56093	RP 174800470 NORTH LOON LAKE SUBDIVISION #1 - LOT-007 BLOCK-006	2023	\$1,617.85
WOODLAND INVESTMENTS LLC 39801 MORAVIAN DR CLINTON TOWNSHIP MI 48036	RP 171000550 ORIGINAL PLAT - LOT 7 & N 6 IN OF E 90 FT OF LOT 8 BLK 5	2023	\$1,452.07
RH RENTAL LLC 29351 128TH ST WASECA MN 56093	RP 171002810 ORIGINAL PLAT - N 1/2 OF LOT 2 BLK 17	2023	\$136.09
ROBERT DICKERSON CARA DICKERSON 12929 410TH AVE WASECA MN 56093	RP 171003140 ORIGINAL PLAT - W 1/2 OF LOT 7 & E 1/2 OF LOT 8 BLK 19	2023	\$1,299.22
THE CARIVEAU FAMILY TRUST 105 W MINNESOTA ST LECENTER MN 56057	RP 175350570 PONDVIEW OF WASECA - LOT-010 BLOCK-007	2023	\$392.33
NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY 414 NICOLLET MALL MZ MINNEAPOLIS MN 55401	RP 176160030 SOUTH INDUSTRIAL PARK - LOT-003 BLOCK-001	2023	\$953.90
CHRISTIAN T STEWART 1104 8TH ST SE WASECA MN 56093	RP 176070400 SOUTH VIEW ADDITION - LOT 013 BLOCK-003	2023	\$2,790.05
RH RENTALS LLC 29531 128TH ST WASECA MN 56093	RP 177040110 WINONA & ST PETER LAND CO 1ST - E 50 FT OF LOT 4 BLK 2	2023	\$85.57
GABRIEL SANCHEZ PORRAS 508 4TH ST NE WASECA MN 56093	RP 177120090 WOODS EDGE SUBDIVISION - LOT 1 BLK 2 EX E 108FT	2023	\$1,085.79
LIFELONG HOLDINGS LLC 1421 STATE ST S WASECA MN 56093	RP 170203100 SECT-20 TWP-107 RANGE-022 - .028AC IN NE COR OF NE1/4 OF NW1/4 N OF HWY	2023	\$67.36

WILTON TOWNSHIP			
AUSTIN BRE CZINSKI 11365 316TH AVE WASECA MN 56093-5521	RP 110010300 SECT-01 TWP-106 RANGE-023 - .97AC W 324FT OF E 1017FT OF N 117FT & S 24FT OF N 141FT OF W 170FT OF E 1017FT OF SW1/4 & W1/2 VACATED ROSE ST ADJACENT VACATED LOT 1 BLOCK 3	2023	\$959.74
RESEARCH FARMS INC 1329 N RIVERFRONT DR NORTH MANKATO MN 56001	RP 110060300 SECT-06 TWP-106 RANGE-023 - 30.91AC S27.26AC OF NW1/4 OF NW1/4 & BEG AT NW COR OF NW1/4 THENCE E349FT;THENCE S372FT; THENCE S87DEGE 697.60FT; THENCE E270FT;THENCE S6FT;THENCE W 1300FT;THENCE N416FT TO PT OF BEG	2023	\$906.27
JARON CHILDS W3045 COUNTY ROAD A TOMAHAWK WI 54487-9113	RP 110240400 SECT-24 TWP-106 RANGE-023 - 2.50AC N1/2 OF W1/2 OF NW1/4 OF SE1/4 OF SW1/4	2023	\$83.84
WOODVILLE TOWNSHIP			
JASON JAEGER PO BOX 891 TETON VILLAGE WY 83025	RP 122510560 ELKS PARK - LOTS 1 - 6 BLK 5	2023	\$185.03
RH RENTAL LLC 29351 128TH ST WASECA MN 56093	RP 122510060 ELKS PARK - LOTS 3 & 4 BLK 2	2023	\$99.68
JASON JAEGER PO BOX 891 TETON VILLAGE WY 83025	RP 122510540 ELKS PARK - LOTS 35 & 36 BLK 3	2023	\$55.73
WARD E NEFSTEAD TRUSTEE 36900 LAKE KNOLL DR WASECA MN 56093	RP 124260050 LAKESHORE ACRES - LOT-005 BLOCK-001	2023	\$207.76
RH RENTAL LLC 29351 128TH ST WASECA MN 56093	RP 120110710 SECT-11 TWP-107 RANGE-022 .58 AC COMM AT SE COR OF NW1/4 THENCE E270FT;THENCE S186FT; THENCE E362.05FT TO PT OF BEG;THENCE E442.46FT TO N LINE OF HWY;THEN SOUTHWESTERLY ALONG HWY 466.13FT;THEN N TO PT OF BEG IN GOVT LOT 3 IN SE1/4	2023	\$101.85
JACK ROGER ZIMMERMAN 35300 170TH ST WASECA MN 56093	RP 120140320 SECT-14 TWP-107 RANGE-022 - 5.00AC COMM AT NE COR OF S1/2 OF NE1/4;THENCE N89DEGW 1080.10FT;THENCE S30FT TO PT OF BEG;THENCE S50FT;THENCE S89DEGE 114.16FT;THENCE S330FT THENCE N89DEGW 588.18FT; THENCE N380FT;THENCE S89DEGE 474.02FT TO PT OF BEG BEING PART OF GOVT LOT 3	2023	\$5,594.42
EUGENE J & JANET K WOOD 14333 355TH AVE WASECA MN 56093	RP 120160410 SECT-16 TWP-107 RANGE-022 - 1.21AC COMM AT SE COR OF SW1/4;THENCE N2144.99FT;THENCE N 82DEG W 691.80FT TO PT OF BEG;THENCE N 82DEG W 185.50FT; THENCE N 5DEG E 301.55FT;THEN S 86DEG E 148.75FT; THENCE S 1DEG E 315.05FT TO PT OF BEG	2023	\$1,726.06

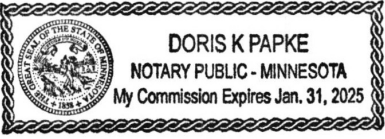
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COUNTY OF WASECA)

Tamara J. Spooner, being by me first duly sworn, deposes, and says that she is the Director of Property & Election Services of the County of Waseca; that she has examined the foregoing list, and knows the contents thereof; and that the same is true and correct.

Filed in District Court
State of Minnesota
FEB 20 2024
01-CV-AD-24-3


Tamara J Spooner, Director of Election & Property Services

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 15th day of February, 2024.


DORIS K PAPKE
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MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING WITH RESPECT TO THE PROPOSED MANAGEMENT OF SILVER LAKE, WASECA COUNTY, MINNESOTA

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources will hold a public hearing on Monday, March 25, 2024, at or after 6:30 p.m. in the Waldorf Community Center, 109 Main St., Waldorf, MN 56091 to consider management of Silver Lake in Waseca County, located in Sections 17, 18, 19 of T106N, R23W; Public Water No. 81-44P (81004400) and 81-119W (81011900), pursuant to M.S. 103G.408. Proposed lake management includes restoring the water level to the previously authorized elevation with the option of temporary water level drawdowns. An overview presentation of the proposed management plan will be given at the hearing. A copy of the plan is available from Steve Kittelson, wildlife lake specialist, Madelia

DNR Office, 35365 800th Ave., Madelia, MN 56062 or steve.kittelson@state.mn.us. Copies will also be available at the Waldorf City Hall and at the hearing. The plan is posted on the Minnesota DNR website at: mndnr.gov/wildlife/shallow-lakes/program-work.html. At the time and place fixed for the public hearing the Minnesota DNR will give all persons an opportunity to express their views with respect to the proposal. In addition, interested persons may direct any questions or file written comments respecting the proposed management to Shallow Lakes Specialist, Madelia DNR Office, 35365 800th Ave., Madelia, MN 56062 or electronically to steve.kittelson@state.mn.us. Comments will be accepted until April 26, 2024, at 4:30 p.m. Upon advance request, information will be provided in alternative form. Any person with such a request should contact Steve Kittelson at 507-578-8891, or the above address, no later than March 18, 2024. Published in the Waseca County Pioneer Friday, March 15, 2024

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1 LENTEN MEAL 2 STEAK or SHRIMP DINNER 5:30 to 7pm
3 Navy Reserve Birthday 4 HUG A GI DAY 5 Burger nite 5-7pm Seabee Birthday 6 6pm BAR Bingo 7 7pm HALL BINGO 8 LENTEN MEAL MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm 9
10 ALL YOU can EAT Breakfast VFW 8:00am-Noon Your HOST Waseca FAIRBOARD 11 7pm Post & AUX. Meeting 12 Burger nite 5-7pm 13 6pm BAR Bingo 8-9 Veterans day 14 7pm HALL BINGO 15 WALLEYE or SHRIMP DINNER 5:30 to 7pm Fraternal Order of Police- YOUR HOST 16 ST. PAT- RICK'S DAY BINGO 7PM
17 ST. Patrick's day 18 19 Burger nite 5-7pm 20 6pm BAR Bingo 21 7pm HALL BINGO Rosie the Riveter Day 22 LENTEN MEAL MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm 23
24 ALL YOU can EAT Breakfast VFW 8:00am-Noon Your HOST Neighborhood Service Cen- 25 Medal of Honor Day 26 Burger nite 5-7pm 27 6pm BAR Bingo 28 7pm HALL BINGO 29 National Vietnam War Veterans Day 30 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm LENTEN MEAL 31
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Headed to Janesville



After nine years with the City of New Richland, SaraJo Vulcan is leaving her position as assistant city administrator in New Richland to become a deputy city clerk in Janesville. "It wasn't an easy decision," she said of the change, mentioning her motivation in moving is to advance her career. Of the new job, she says, "It's exciting. I'll be learning more about city government." Above, Vulcan is pictured receiving a commemorative plaque from New Richland city administrator Anthony Martens, receiving a farewell hug from New Richland mayor Chad Neitzel, and with her children Conway, Violet and Hazel.

Photos by Tristan Gehring

A life-long interest

Barens shares love for 'Barbie'

Many items shared with Waseca Historical Society

By RACHAEL JAEGER
Staff Writer

Jessica Barens, a substitute teacher at the Waseca High School, has loaned a number of items to the Barbie displays now available for viewing at the county historical society. A particularly special set of memories is attached to a "Barbie Mansion" which her grandfather, Mark Barens, designed for her when she was nine years old. Currently, the Barbie Mansion is on display at the Waseca County Historical Society as part of the Barbie exhibit running from now until April.

Mark, a long-time Waseca resident who then lived in Illinois, based the Barbie Mansion on the Magical Mansion that Mattel released in 1990.

Barens arrived at her interview with the Pioneer wearing bright pink nail polish and a hat with "Barbie" written on it in glittered letters. "I definitely wanted that house as a little girl," Barens remembers.

So Mark built an all-wood version of the Magical Mansion and gave it to her for Christmas in 1991.

Barens remembers that part of what made that Christmas exciting, special gifts aside, was that members of her extended family came from literally everywhere, including great-aunts and great-uncles who traveled from Spain where she was born and other relatives from Illinois. It was the Barens' family's second Christmas in Waseca, and the whole family was together.

"I thought I had opened all my presents, so I marched up to my bedroom and I organized everything – the very type A lady that I am," Barens remembered.

When she walked back downstairs, she added, she saw "the beautiful Barbie house" right in the middle of the living room.

"My jaw just dropped," Barens also remembered. "There was not a day that went by that I did not play with it."

Her sister, Alison, would also join her; together they made memories with the Barbie house in the primary bedroom of the family home.

"It was the only playroom for a very long time," Barens explained.

Alison collected Briar horses and so Mark de-



Local Barbie fan and Waseca High School substitute teacher Jessica Barens.

Pioneer photo by Rachael Jaeger

signed a twelve-stall barn for her.

"It's equally as stunning as the Barbie house," Barens said, laughing. "So between the Barbie house and the Briar house, we had the bases covered!"

In all the time that Barens played with her Barbie Mansion, she said she loved it well. As she saw it during her occasional trips to the attic, though, she said she realized it needed some renovation.

While she and her mom, Terrie, restored the Barbie Mansion, they realized Mark must have put in many of the details prior to assembling the playhouse. Renovating it required reaching into nooks and crannies.

"It's a whole different story," Barens added. "I was on my back, on the main level, painting the ceilings and all those little details. But it was definitely a labor of love and I couldn't be happier with it and how it turned out."

She said she needed to replace essentials like the roof tiles and windowpanes, and everything needed to be sanded and repainted.

"The color scheme is very much the same," Barens said. "It might be a bit lighter and brighter but I stuck as close to the original colors my grandpa picked out as I could."

Though Mark has been gone for over a decade,

she also senses the connection he still has to the community. She sees reminders everywhere, both in town and in her personal home where she's kept the paintings he created for her.

Closer to her heart is the fact Mark painted the dome and mural at the Waseca County Historical Society; the Barbie Mansion he built for her is directly under the dome.

Barens shared that Mark worked as an accountant for the Burlington Railroad for 35 years.

"However, he would share with you that his 'real job' was creating art," Barens said and went on to say he was "the ultimate Renaissance man" since he was a painter, sculptor, and draftsman. "You name it, he did it," she added, referring back to his work at Waseca County Historical Society.

Barens expressed her gratitude to Terrie, whose gift of her first Barbie set her on her journey into that world. She also mentioned her appreciation to Amy Danielson and Joan Mooney, museum staff members who decided to create the exhibit.

"I feel so honored," Barens said. "How many Barbie fans get to have this platform to show their love, enthusiasm, passion, and to celebrate 65 years with an exhibit like this one?"

DreamCatcher



More than \$4,000 was raised during the annual DreamCatcher fundraiser this month. DreamCatcher grants wishes for severely or terminally ill children in Waseca County. If you know anyone who qualifies, have them reach out to a committee member or a local pastor.

WASECA COUNTY PIONEER

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Broadband grant, Courthouse Park

By DEB BENTLY
News Editor

An air of anticipation became one of excitement around 11 a.m. during the March 5 meeting of the Waseca County Board of Commissioners, when board members learned Waseca County has been awarded \$4.38 million in grant money to enhance fiber-based broadband internet access in four of the county's 12 townships.

The Minnesota Office of Broadband Development released the grant list online within the time-frame of the morning's meeting.

Board members expressed universal approval, complimenting commissioner DeAnne Malterer for her long-term dedication to helping expand broadband access within the county. Two previous applications had not garnered the county any money, but Malterer and county administrator Michael Johnson had both commented earlier in the meeting that all parties had learned from those application processes, and that this year's materials were "meticulously prepared."

More information about the broadband expansion is in a separate article in this week's edition.

Also presented during the March 5 meeting was a request from county facilities management director Brian Tomford that board members approve a grant request he has prepared for improvements in Courthouse Park. Tomford's plan is to build a 36' x 54' pavilion in place of the smaller, aging structure currently standing in the park, near the new public restrooms currently "90-percent finished," Tomford said. The new structure would include tables, built-in grills, LED lights timed to turn on during low-light hours, and a robust electric panel box which will allow numerous items to be plugged in.

Also part of the grant is a new pickleball court 60 feet long and 30 feet wide, again with lights, and with the special surfacing and markings needed for the sport. Tomford's application also includes some accompanying landscaping, including a path to the existing playground area.

Total anticipated costs for the projects Tomford proposed are \$216,850. The grant is for 50/50 matched funding, so the county's share would be \$108,425.

If the grant is received, construction would take place during the summer of 2025, with all projects likely to be completed by or before the end of October.

"I think it's important we make this property as inviting as possible," commented commissioner Brian Harguth, noting that the disc golf course at the park is already attracting a lot of attention.

Commissioner DeAnne Malterer also stated support for the plan. "We have made a decision as

WASECA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

a group that we're going to invest in Courthouse Park," she said. "We're offering new amenities and we're going to make it a gem."

In other business, board members requested that county administrator Johnson draft a letter to state leaders which states that, as a board, they are dissatisfied with the process followed to select the design for the new state flag.

As described to Johnson, the letter is not meant to comment on the design itself, but instead that "the process followed to select it does not align with the processes followed to choose other state symbols."

Also a significant element of the March 5 meeting was a presentation summarizing the status of Waseca County's 4-H program. County 4-H Extension educator Amy Nelson summarized activities and programs which have been held over the past year. Nelson stated programs within the county have involved nearly 300 youth members, 87 of whom were "first generation" participants—meaning their parents had not been 4-H members. More than 120 4-H club members were new in 2023.

Nelson noted the positive ramifications of so many "first generation" and new participants, and also mentioned that 42% of the youth members are in third through eighth grades. "That's a positive sign for our future growth," she observed.

Nelson also highlighted the success of the "Power of Produce" (POP) Club, which operated during the summer at the Farmers' Market held at the Waseca County fairgrounds. All individuals 18 or younger were eligible to sign up for membership and to receive \$5 worth of products from most booths at the Saturday sales events. She stated that the program distributed 587 coupons to young people from 33 different communities: 261 of the young people reported they had never before visited a fresh produce market. More than \$5,000 was spent with 28 different vendors over the July-to-September timespan of the program.

She told commissioners her office is working to implement the program again for the 2024 farmers' market season, which typically begins in June.

Regional 4-H director Christy Kallevig said she wanted commissioners to know that Nelson provides exceptional leadership for the Waseca program. She also informed the board that, as of January 1, Kate Gottschalk and Jamie Beckstrand have joined the County Extension committee.

Club is hosting its annual Ham Bingo event 7 p.m. Saturday, March 16 at the City Hall Community Room. The cost is \$15 per card, which pays for 15 games plus a final "blackout" game. The prize for each game is an Easter Ham.

TEAM Academy Open House 5-6 p.m. March 19

Area families interested in learning more about TEAM Academy charter school can visit the facility, meet the teachers, and find out about the school's methods and philosophy. For further details call the school: (507) 833-8326.

Farm and City Luncheon 11:45 a.m. March 21

The Waseca Area Chamber of Commerce is hosting their annual Farm and City Luncheon, a chance for farmers and city-dwellers to connect with each other in appreciation and understanding, at The Mill Event Center March 21. Tickets are \$16.

Fish or Seafood Dinner at Waseca VFW 5 to 7:30 p.m. March 22

Waseca VFW Lenten Friday dinners will be offered each Friday until Holy Week. Fish, shrimp, and alternatives will be offered beginning at 5 and continuing either until sold out or until 7:30 p.m.

Community of volunteers

Sexton honored with 'Book of Golden Deeds'

Area Exchange Club presents award

By RACHAEL JAEGER
Staff Writer

Wasecan Tom Sexton says he is grateful and flattered that the Waseca Area Exchange Club honored him with its annual "Book of Golden Deeds" award this past January. Among other accomplishments, the award acknowledges his work planning and coordinating Waseca's 2023 LakeFest celebration, so before saying anything else, he made it clear the summer festival came about because of contributions and input from many community members. Sexton is enthusiastic about attributing the success of last year's event to the personalities, skills and resources contributed by others.

"I couldn't have done it without them," he said. "We all played a part. The more people we integrated, the more other people came to the surface. My experience is that, when people are asked to help fill a need, they're more than willing to jump in."

Sexton was born in Omaha and grew up there because Richard, his dad, who was in the army, was stationed there before Sexton was born. He worked for the federal government in the Department of Housing and Urban Development. He later followed in his father's military footsteps, joining the Air Force until retiring in 2012. He took a job in Duluth and worked there five years and then transferred to Houston, Texas before he was finally able to return to Waseca, his father's hometown.

Sexton recalled many fond memories of visiting his grandma in Waseca during his childhood summers from the time he was a little boy of about five years old. He compared coming to Grandma's house to going to Disney World. As a little boy, he often felt cramped living in a city of Omaha with a small backyard.

"It drove my mother crazy because there was no air conditioning at Grandma's," Sexton recalled. "The windows were open, so you could hear the bands playing in the band-shell until late at night and we didn't really get much sleep. But I thought it was great."

In 1972, Sexton's family moved from Omaha to Waseca for a couple years before taking up residence near Apple Valley. During the summer, he



place during Lake Fest. He called Hoechn the most valuable team player in Lake Fest.

"For our population, we've got some really good local music groups," he added.

Charli Harguth is another team player Sexton mentioned as being instrumental in organizing Lake Fest. She created the posters and the QR signup sheets for the various events.

When Sexton said he wanted to bring back the boat parade, Kanewischer connected him with Jennifer Johnson, who raised funds for cash awards and found some prizes for different categories.

Since Lake Fest had trouble finding someone who would organize the games for the kids, Sexton said his thoughts turned to Brittany Krueger, who had come with her children to help with a Lakes Association cleanup earlier that spring. The family had left an impression on him.

"It was a cold, misting, wet miserable day," Sexton remembered. "However, this young mom reported for duty with all of her kids who likely

■ Briefs

from Page 1

trees for children to plant on Earth Day, April 22. Parents are encouraged to sign up for trees at neighborhoodforest.org/parent-registration. Trees will be available for pickup on April 18

56th Annual St. Patrick's Day Celebration March 16

The Irish-American Club of Southern Minnesota is hosting their 56th annual celebration, beginning with Irish music and mass at 10 a.m. at Sacred Heart Church. At 12 p.m. will be the Parade of Clans to The Mill Event Center, where from 12:30-2 there will be an Irish Rally, at 2 p.m. an Irish Auction, at 4 p.m. Irish Bingo, and at 7 p.m. the Miss St. Patrick and Miss Irish Rose Pageant. Immediately following the crowning a dance will begin and continue until 11 p.m. Lunch and Dinner will be available from Blake's Food Truck, and music for the dance will be provided by John and Simon Hoechn.

Ham Bingo 7 p.m. March 16 at New Richland City Hall

The New Richland Commercial

■ Briefs

Cost is \$15.

Spring Craft Show 10 am to 3 p.m. March 23

Starfire Event Center is sponsoring a spring craft show from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, March 23. To reserve a vendor table or get more information, email starfireeventcenter@wasecamac.com.

Horse Enthusiasts invited March 24

On March 24 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at 300 N State St, Waseca, will be a presentation by Julie Christie on equine nutrition and rider biomechanics. It is open to all horse enthusiasts. Club membership is not required.

Julie is a certified equine nutrition advisor, has taught equine science for many years at a college level, and has many years experience riding and training. For more information about Julie, visit her website at <https://www.equineetc.net>

Call Bre Campbell for information about the event or Wilton River Riders Saddle Club 507-461-5415.

Breakfast Fundraiser for the Waseca Area Food Shelf at the Waseca VFW Sunday March 24

All you can eat Benefit Breakfast for the Waseca Area Neighborhood Service Center/Food Shelf at Sweet-Sommers VFW Post 162 (Waseca) on Sunday, March 24th

Serving from 8:00 am - 12 pm. Adults \$12.00, children 6-13: \$7.00, Children 5 and under: Free.

A Food donation area will be set up. All proceeds from this breakfast will be added to the March FoodShare FoodFund Campaign totals! Hope to see you there!

Jason Gray fundraising event March 28 at Fairmont Arts Center at 7 p.m.

The Bravo Zulu House is presenting a Jason Gray Concert to raise funds for the arts center. The show is March 28. Doors open at 6 p.m., show starts at 7 at the Fairmont High School Performing Arts Center at 900 Johnson Street, Fairmont. Advanced tickets are \$20 or \$25 at the door. Tickets can be purchased online at bravozuluhouse.org/jasongray

Fish or Seafood Dinner at Waseca VFW 5 to 7:30 pm March 29

Waseca VFW Lenten Friday dinners will be offered each Friday until Holy Week. Fish, shrimp, and alternatives will be offered beginning at 5 and continuing either until sold out or until 7:30 p.m. Cost is \$15.

3 on 3 basketball tournament April 6

The inaugural 3 on 3 Blair Nelson memorial basketball tournament will be held April 6, 2024 at Waseca high school. Games begin at 9 a.m. Divisions for grades 4th-8th and a high school division. Max of 6 players per team. Three point and free contests and other fun events will also take place.

Hiring for the Southern Research Outreach Center

The University of Minnesota is hiring for a Research Plot Technician at the SROC in Waseca. Full-time

position with benefits. Applicants must have a high school diploma or equivalent with at least two years of study in horticulture, agronomy, or a related field and must have or obtain a pesticide applicator license. Full description and application available at www.umn.edu/jobs Job #359540.

Shepherd's Robe Free store Tuesdays from 1-3 and 5-7 p.m.

The Shepherd's Robe free store offers clothing, supplies, and much more for free to all interested parties. The store is located at Vista Covenant Church, 14679 275th Avenue, New Richland.

Waldorf Veterans Memorial Fund Drive

Donations are requested to support the construction of the Waldorf Veterans Memorial. Checks written to WVMP Fund Drive can be mailed to WVMP Fund Drive; Judy Joecks, treasurer; P.O. Box 55; Waldorf, MN 56091. Questions can be directed to Charlie Barnes at (763) 286-2246.

Waseca County Stagecoach History

Judy Joecks is compiling a history of stagecoach routes in Waseca County. She would appreciate hearing from anyone who has information regarding stagecoach trails or stops. (507) 317-1345.

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Oliver Rohwer, a senior at Waseca High School, plays the marimba for high school concerts and in the marching band.

Band student Rohwer appreciates quality, tone of marimba

By RACHAEL JAEGER
Staff Writer

Oliver Rohwer, a senior at Waseca High School, plays the marimba for high school concerts and in the marching band which he joined in ninth grade. He has performed as a percussionist for the last eight years but has focused for the last 3.5 years on the marimba.

The marimba, an unusual instrument which is usually mistaken for a xylophone, has its own unique characteristics, including softer tones. In an internet article on the Yamaha website, the marimba's harmonics are described as resembling wood and string instruments, claiming that its notes blend smoothly even with an orchestra.

Put simply, the marimba has its complexities which is why Rohwer says he took to the instrument.

"It's visually appealing to watch someone play the marimba," Rohwer commented, "and I instantly loved the tonal diversity."

He compares playing the marimba to playing the piano.

"You have the notes laid out in front of you," Rohwer explained. "It's just a matter of coordinating all the mallets to the right notes at the right time."

He added that because he's become familiar with where the notes are, he plays almost by feel rather than sight.

"I just have to look at the inner two and based on how my hand is positioned, I can feel where the outer one is," he said.

He also said that he doesn't have a specific sort of mood when he plays the marimba; instead, the piece and the instrument work together to generate a mood for him.

In his first year in marching band, he said that the front line section leader showed him how to hold the mallets. He referred to Norah Schimming who also plays the marimba and is now the front line section leader for the marching band, a talented musician.

He said that the instrument and its playing style have kept him playing, practicing, and building his skills. "It's a cool instrument and it's fun to play," Rohwer said simply.

When he gets to school in the morning around 7, he said he can

choose between finding time to practice the marimba or spending time in the robotics room, since robotics is another interest he's passionate about. He also can play the marimba for 15 to 20 minutes after lunch period. When he doesn't work at Climate by Design in Owatonna, he practices the marimba again before he goes home.

He does follow other marimba soloists like Arnor Chu who wrote "Drift Away" when he was 18 years old. Rohwer learned that piece during his junior year.

"He showed me that it's possible to write great music without any fancy music degrees," Rohwer said of Chu.

Another favorite marimba soloist of Rohwer's is Miroslav Dimo whose talents inspired Rohwer's recent performance of "Odessa" at the high school talent show. Rohwer also likes to listen to Owl City, saying he appreciates the band's use of percussion and electronic rhythms.

When he graduates, he mentioned he plans to attend the Milwaukee School of Engineering and keep working on his musical interests.

"I would still like to join local percussion groups in Milwaukee," Rohwer said. "The University of Wisconsin also has open orchestras I'd like to join."

He mentioned a long-term goal is saving up enough money to someday purchase a marimba of his own. An informal survey of full-size units available for sale online shows instruments of varying complexity which sell for anywhere between \$1,500 and \$35,000.

"It's the most beautiful instrument," Rohwer said. "But that's my opinion."

If anyone has interest in the marimba, Rohwer recommends checking out some performances on YouTube to get better acquainted with what the instrument is all about. He named his personal favorite songs, "Pachelbel's Canon" played by Nanae Mimura and "Samsara" by Fabian Otten, both of which he currently is learning. He said he hopes to play the latter especially for the upcoming spring showcase performance.

Beauty of the Earth



High schoolers from the Waseca Vocal Music Department named their concert the evening of March 8 "For the Beauty of the Earth." Four types of groups performed: sextets, concert choir, combined choirs, and select choir. Narrations between the various performances provided background information about each number. The introduction for the song "What a Wonderful World," described how the lyrics encourage seeing beauty in everyday sights and sounds. Other songs included: "Dust in the Wind"; "Bring Me A Little Water, Silvy"; "Earth Song"; "Peaceful River"; "Firefly"; "Lift Your Voice and Rejoice"; "The Storm is Passing Over"; "Bogotoditse Devo"; "Grace Before Sleep"; "Cornerstone"; "Indodana"; "Stomp on Fire"; and "For the Beauty of the Earth." Megan Kreinbring directed the high school concert; Melissa Schulz accompanied on the piano.

Pioneer photos by Rachael Jaeger



JWP Math Masters



Seventeen JWP sixth-graders competed at the annual "Math Masters" competition at Bethany Lutheran College in Mankato on March 8. Of the nearly 200 sixth-graders from 15 area schools, three JWP students placed in the "fact drill" round. Erika Eilerson earned a medal for her fourth-place finish. Ayden Bennett and Nicholas Storjohann both earned ribbons for placing in the top 20.

JWP students participating in the event were Nathaniel Adams, Aubrey Anderson, Ayden Bennett, Jack Bense, Emmett Cowdin,



Sophia Donovan, Bennett Eckenrode, Erika Eilertson, Macey Golombiecki, Landon Morgan, Genna Mueller, Brydon Olson, Lila Pavlic, Ava Place, Demian Reyes, Nick Storjohann and Dom Winters.

JWP Math League



After the fifth round of the 2023-2024 High School Math League Competition, JWP remained in second place out of the 12 participating high schools. Placing individually were: Jovah Bense, Lily Quast, Brielle James, Alex Kieve, Jaxon Miller, Tyson Johnson, Garry Bluhm, and Lauren White. The sixth and final round will occur later this month.

Participating students were: 7th Graders: Chance Bluhm, Jovah Bense, Ivan Schoenrock, Benelli Schultz, Asher Wagenbach. 8th Graders: Gavin Bauer, Lucas Bjortomt, Kayleigh Donner, Clare Groh, Tyson Kronbach, Ma'liyah Petersen, James Schoenrock, MaKenzie Westphal, Anna Ziegler. 9th Graders: Seth Dahlberg, Tyson Johnson, Jeffrey Simonson, Gavin Weedman. 10th Graders: Garry Bluhm, Brielle James, Ellie Morsching, Katie Olson, Lily Quast. 11th Graders: Eric Daschner, Alex Kieve, Myles Kruger, Christian Mendez, Jaxon Miller. 12th Graders: Lauren White.

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