

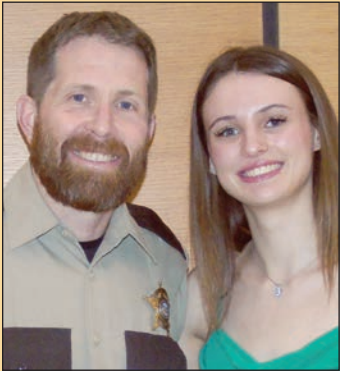


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Awards night



Erin Kleve, Doctor of Nursing Practice, brought various pieces of medical equipment to the career fair. Here, two students test out a stethoscope.

Pioneer photo by Rachael Jaeger

Waseca career fair

Students observe various businesses

By **RACHAEL JAEGER**
Staff Writer

A number of local businesses part in the Career Fair at the hockey arena near the Waseca High School on Tuesday, May 14. The purpose was to educate high school students in grades ten to twelve about local opportunities; each business informed students about what to expect during a typical workday and about the varying career paths they can select among based on their personal traits and interests.

Erin Kleve, a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) represented the Mayo Clinic and connected students to an electrocardiogram (EKG) strip to help them see how the equipment works and what it takes to interact with a patient.

“They’re able to see their heart rate and heart rhythm, then I print off the results,” Kleve said. She also guided students through the steps needed to use a stethoscope and take blood pressure.

Careers continued on 4



The Waseca Mayo Clinic provided an electrocardiogram machine for students to learn from during the career fair.

Pioneer photo by Rachael Jaeger

Waseca Memorial Day program 9 a.m. May 27 at Courthouse

A Memorial Day program will begin at 9 a.m. May 27 at the Waseca County Courthouse. Those who wish to sit during the ceremony are advised to bring their own chairs. If it rains that day, events will take place in the high school gym at 9:30 a.m. Brunch will be available afterwards at the Waseca V.F.W. Hall.

Janesville Memorial Day program 9 a.m. May 27 at JWP High School

A Memorial Day program will begin at 9 a.m. May 27 at the JWP High School. Speaker will be veteran Samuel Schruin, originally of St. Clair, who served in the Middle East.

New Richland Memorial Day program 11 a.m. May 27 at NRHEG High School

A Memorial Day program sponsored by the New Richland American Legion will be at 11 a.m. Monday, May 27 in the NRHEG Secondary School gym. The ceremony will be followed by a lunch offered in the school cafeteria from noon until food is gone. Cost is \$10.

“Give Tennis a Try” event 1 to 3 p.m. June 1 at high school courts

Folks of any age or level of ability are invited to learn more about summer recreation possibilities with the Community Tennis Association being held Saturday, June 1 from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Waseca High School tennis courts. Free food, loaner racquets, and prizes will be available.

Happy Days in Waseca 5 p.m. June 6

Happy Days in Waseca, an event aiming to bring more community to Waseca is taking place June 6 from 5-9 p.m.

There will be a car roll-in, live music, vendors, and food trucks.

Briefs continued on 2

A word from The Word

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. John 14:27



Waseca Exchange Club President Mikhail Rostislavovich holds the "Law Enforcement Officer of the Year" award presented to Waseca Police Chief Penny Vought (center), who has been a member of the Waseca Police Department since 1984. Vought received the award during a not-quite-a-surprise celebration on May 15. Joining them in the photo are members of the Waseca Exchange Club.

Pioneer photo by Deb Bently

Vought named officer of the year

By **DEB BENTLY**
News Editor

In a gathering on May 15 which was meant to be a surprise, the Waseca Exchange Club presented Waseca Chief of Police Penny Vought with its 2024 “Law Enforcement Officer of the Year” award.

Pointing out good-naturedly that she has performed detective work for the past 40 years, Vought commented she was not “surprised,” but she was grateful.

After Exchange president Mikhail Rastislavovich announced the award and presented it to Vought, he invited representatives of various local organizations to have their say.

First on deck was Waseca Police Captain Kris Markeson, who claimed he wished to share a few thoughts, then pulled out a giant binder labeled “Penny Stories, Volume 1.” He began with the information that “in Waseca, rumors spread faster than wildfires,” and that it would have been nearly impossible to truly surprise Vought, given her connections within the community. He commented that Vought’s 40 years with the department were especially remarkable, since “nobody in law enforcement stays for 40 years.”

All kidding aside, he complimented his boss for being “curious but not judgmental” and claimed that members of Waseca’s police department tend to stay longer because of her style of leadership and her sense of humor.

Waseca County Sheriff Jay Dulas dubbed Vought “a legend” among Minnesota law enforcement agencies, saying he is persistently asked about her as he communicates with others around the state. He complimented her for “still loving the job,” and for collaborating so smoothly with other agencies.

Waseca fire chief Jason Forshee commented Vought’s years of experience and knowledge contribute to the safety of all residents on many different levels, and thanked her for staying with Waseca for 40 years.

Amy Potter, executive director of the Waseca Area Foundation, referred to Vought as a “do-er,” explaining that, as a member of the Foundation, Vought consistently steps forward to assist with projects and events.

Waseca City Manager Carl Sonnenberg stepped to the podium claiming humorously that, in his position, “I have access to something the rest of you don’t: Penny’s personnel file.” He told the 40 or so people present that, when Vought first joined the Waseca Police Department in 1984, her annual salary was just over \$17,500. He also shared some of the grades which appeared on her col-

Vought continued on 3

WASECA SCHOOL BOARD

Staffing update provided during short meeting

By **MELISSA DUNN**
Staff Writer

At the Waseca school board’s brief business meeting on May 16, Superintendent Eric Hudspeth gave updates regarding staffing for fall and the 2024-25 operational budget, saying that things look on track to meet the needs of students and that the preliminary budget would be brought to the board in June for approval. Hudspeth also summarized the end-of-year activities occurring throughout the district including concerts, field trips, a career fair, and a visit from the “Big Ideas” trailer. He also notified board members an adjusted school calendar will be brought to the board in June for approval.

Following the committee and board member reports, chair Dave Dunn presented senior student representative Addison Wiesler a plaque for her two years of service to the school board while the other board members applauded. Junior student representative Collin Dettmer will continue his role next year as a senior; a new junior student representative will be appointed from the high school student council.

All other action items having been addressed, the meeting was adjourned. The next work session will be Thursday, June 6.

Memorial Day program centers on remembrance

By **DEB BENTLY**
News Editor

The Waseca Memorial Day Association is hosting its annual ceremony in honor of deceased veterans on Monday, May 27. Weather permitting, the program will be at 9 a.m. on the south courthouse lawn; those desiring seating are advised to bring chairs. If it rains that morning, events will be in the high school gym beginning at 9:30 a.m.

Speaking that day will be Waseca area native Air Force Colonel Abraham L. Jackson, who is Director of Intelligence at joint base Langley in Eustis, Virginia. Colonel Jackson has a long and distinguished career in intelligence, strategic defense and military leadership. He has served in a wide variety of roles worldwide, including locations such as Europe, the Middle East and Eastern Europe. Col. Jackson is a 1993 graduate of Waseca High School; his parents are Ken and Jo Ann Jackson of Waseca.

“It is our duty and privilege to stand together annually, remembering our fallen brothers’ and sisters’ ultimate sacrifice to honor their memory,” said Jackson concerning his upcoming speech.

Also on the program that morning are a number of musical performances including the Star Spangled Banner. Wreaths will be set honoring those who died in all conflicts. After the ceremony, a brunch will be available at the Waseca V.F.W. hall. Serving begins after the ceremony; free will donations will be accepted for payment.

For anyone who cannot attend the May 27 ceremony in person, it will also be broadcast on KRUE Radio 92.1 beginning at 9 or 9:30, depending on the weather. The parade and event will be taped and rebroadcast on PEG Channel 8 at numerous times throughout the following week.

Also part of the Waseca Memorial Day Association observance is coordinating efforts to ensure flags are placed on veterans’ graves throughout the county. In cooperation with the county Veterans Services office, the association produces a 47-page booklet which lists all veterans buried in the county, categorized by cemetery, then by the conflict in which they served. Volunteers, including the Sons of the American Legion (SAL) and area Boy Scout troops, posted flags in Woodville Cemetery this past week.



Distinguished Air Force officer and Waseca native Col. Abraham Jackson will be speaking at Waseca’s Memorial Day service.



Compostings

by Al Batt

I don't have the humidity to admit it

ECHOES FROM THE LOAFER'S CLUB MEETING
Husband: When I get mad at you, you never fight back. How do you control your anger?
Wife: I clean the toilet.
Husband: How does that help?
Wife: I use your toothbrush.

DRIVING BY BRUCE'S DRIVE
I have a wonderful neighbor named Bruce. Deep thoughts occur as I drive past his drive. Most of the old farm buildings had disappeared long ago, but the lilacs and their lovely scent persisted. The lilacs told me this place had once been someone's dream. I walked by an old chicken coop, which laid in ruins. Had it had four doors, it would have been a chicken sedan. I remember when a cute little weasel got into our henhouse. How did it get in? I suspect it weaseled its way in. My father and I heard the ruckus and rode in like the cavalry, but it had dispatched a young chicken. Dad didn't swear. He used substitute phrases like "Cheese and crackers" and "For Pete's sake." He used one on the weasel. I just watched a movie. There were no substitute cusswords. It would have taken a lot of soap to wash those mouths out.

I MUST BE LEAVING
One of legendary comedian Groucho Marx's most famous numbers was featured in the Marx Brothers' second film, "Animal Crackers." In the movie, he played Captain Spaulding, an explorer for whom a grand gala was being thrown upon his return from Africa. He sang, "Hello, I must be going. I cannot stay, I came to say, I must be going. I'm glad I came but just the same, I must be going!"
I was going, but I'd forgotten something in my car that I needed to give to someone inside. I plucked it from my vehicle and walked back towards the restaurant when I heard a woman's voice say, "Don't move!" Had an undercover FBI agent finally tracked me down? No, a worker from the eatery was about to put a bag of trash into a dumpster, and she needed to swing it in order to get enough momentum to deposit it in that tall receptacle. She didn't want to hit me in the head. At least, that's what she said.

A MARRIED COUPLE TRIES TO LEAVE THE HOUSE
Could you give me the house keys? I forgot my camera.
You always forget something.
That's true. Do you want me to get your coffee mug, too?
BAD JOKES

DEPARTMENT
What do you call a walleye in the desert? A walleye.
What do you call a device that allows you to see through walls? A window.
Ole's hobby was calling one hotel chain and when someone answered, "Best Western," Ole said, "True Grit."
The lumberjack knew how many trees he'd cut down because he kept a log.
Which came first, the chicken or the egg? Order one of each from Amazon and see.

I'VE LEARNED
It bothers me when people use the wrong words but don't have the humility to admit it.
My new pen writes underwater and other words, too.
I tried to catch a little bunny in the yard, but I couldn't keep up with it. It must have been the one Elton John was singing about: "It's a little fit bunny."
I called Siri "Alexa." Now neither one is speaking to me.
If you haven't tried blindfolded archery, you don't know what you're missing.
Alligators can grow up to 12 feet, but I've never seen one with over four.

NATURE NOTES
The alarm sounded. A rooster pheasant had crowed "cow-cat." The Nyjer feeders were weighed down with a gazillion lemony goldfinches—maybe fewer. I listened to a brown thrasher sing about his experiences. His song was a clear and melodious set of repeated phrases sung with gusto, with one mnemonic spoofing a phone conversation, "Hello! Hello! Yes, yes. Who is this? Who is this? I should say! I should say! How's that? How's that?" Bald eagles and turkey vultures are both scavengers and soar on thermals. They could unknowingly help the other find food. An eagle might catch a fish or other prey item and not clean its plate, leaving tidbits for a vulture. Vulture talons aren't meant for transporting food, so they carry it in their crops to regurgitate for their ravenous chicks. The vulture may look ominous when standing in a spread-winged stance called the horaltic pose, but the stance likely serves multiple functions: drying the wings, warming the body and baking off bacteria.

MEETING ADJOURNED
The African philosophy of ubuntu is a concept in which relationships with other people shape the sense of self. I am only because we are. Be kind.

A lot to be curious about

Dreams are really strange. Maybe it was because of the storms the other night, but I had a dream in which I was in a house—not my own or any I've ever lived in—and as I moved from room to room, water would come flooding in the windows, almost as if the house were floating on the ocean and tipping.
Back in my younger years, I read a number of books about dreams and dream interpretation, but even as a college student it seemed evident to me the people writing those books lived in a less practical world than I do. They also remembered their dreams better—I'm lucky to recall there was a flowery meadow, but forget about what type of flowers they were or what breed of butterflies were flying nearby.
But I suppose we shouldn't be surprised dreams are strange when sleep is also a rather mystical thing. I think of times when I feel dead tired, then lay down in bed and can't go to sleep. Or other times when I will begin a thought, drift off, and wake up hours later with the thought still in my head.
Whatever goes on, there's no denying it's important. It's recommended that adults should get between seven and nine hours of sleep each night. Research also shows you can't effectively "make up" for sleep missed one night by getting extra sleep the next.
Usually at least four times a night,



In My Humble Opinion

by Deb Bently
Contributing Writer

we enter rapid eye movement or REM sleep. That's when we dream. Online sources say REM sleep typically begins about 90 minutes after we fall asleep. That first round of dreams lasts about 10 minutes. After that, each subsequent round is longer, often lasting up to an hour.
Interestingly, researchers have discovered people do dream during non-REM cycles, but the dreams are less vivid. Perhaps more importantly, researchers believe we process our emotions and organize our memories during REM sleep. One site claims our brain makes decisions about what learning to strengthen, what learning to simply maintain, and even what to forget.
Me, the only dreams I remember after waking up are the really weird ones—and usually only for a short time. But then, sometimes, I will see something, hear something or experience a moment when I get this feeling of deja vu. That strange feeling "I've done this before"—when I'm certain I haven't—sometimes makes me wonder whether it previously

happened in a dream.
Then, of course, there are the people who are certain their dreams have foretold something. I'm betting for most of us, that's a rare experience. This leads me to think of the two or three times in my life when I met someone for the first time, but felt a surreal connection that implied I already knew him or her.
It's easy to find scads of people who claim to know all about these mysterious elements in our lives—that we've had previous lifetimes, or that we have spirit guides orchestrating things for us.
I've done enough reading on those topics to decide I won't find any real answers; for one thing, many of the people who claim to the know the most provide answers which contradict each other.
At this stage in my life, I've decided my best approach is to be "curious but not judgmental." I love to hear the stories and impressions people have to share, but I don't claim to know any answers.
Here's one for you: A gentleman I

met named Gene, who is in his nineties, tells a childhood story of having lived on a farm near Watertown, about 45 miles from Minneapolis. At one point, the family made the decision to move to Minneapolis; as they left the farm behind, they left their dog for the new tenants. After all, Mimsy was a farm dog; what would she do in the big city?
A few weeks later on a hot summer night—remember, this was in the days before air conditioning—the four children of the family were sleeping on the screened-in porch of their new house because it was too warm to sleep in their upstairs bedrooms.
In the quiet of the night they heard a whine. Guess who had found them? Somehow, without ever having been to the house, Mimsy had come 45 miles across unknown territories and unfamiliar settings, and arrived at their doorstep.
How can that possibly be accounted for?
Gene's story, and many others regarding many other types of mysteries, make it clear there is a lot in our world to be curious about. And that only in the great beyond that follows our journey on the temporal plane do we have any hope of knowing the answers. So I don't look for the answers any more—I simply enjoy the mystery and wonder.
Sweet dreams, everyone!

How much weight is too much?

It's been another week of summer break and I can't tell whether I am busy or not. When I look at my schedule, each day seems to have either a single meeting or absolutely nothing listed. However, I feel pretty busy, so I am in the strange position of not being sure either way.
Perhaps part of my confusion is that, although it's not necessarily on my calendar, I worked at the bar three nights this weekend in addition to spending a day attending a wedding. I always enjoy working at the bar, but this weekend was interesting. Two of the three nights were incredibly slow; the other night it felt like the entire town was in the bar and wanted not only a drink, but also pull tabs. I was running around with my head cut off so much that night that a familiar customer told me a couple times to "just breathe, everything's going to be alright." It was nonstop pretty much all night, so I don't feel as if I did "just breathe" until after 1 a.m., when we could no



To Be Determined

by Amelia Roessler

longer serve drinks.
On one of the slow nights, I was bringing up cases of beer to stock. I usually carry two cases just because I can and it saves time. When I did that the first time, one of the older gentlemen told me I shouldn't be carrying two cases because I was in my child-bearing years. That gave me pause, at least partly because the phrase seemed so old-fashioned. I assured the gentleman that I work out and am strong enough to do it, my back isn't bad enough yet to give me a reason not to.
Speaking of working out, I finally bought a summer membership to the

university's gym today. My apartment building has a gym, but it's pretty small and I often discover one piece of equipment or another is broken. I'm hoping that spending money on this will actually motivate me to go, even though I find it a bit daunting. I went this morning and felt surrounded by buff men in cut-off t-shirts. And there's little ol' me in my athletic shorts and old t-shirt, unlike other women in their tight matching workout sets and spandex. I don't know, I just don't think I would be comfortable in outfits like that, you know? I'm excited to continue my workout journey now that I

should have more time, though. A guy once told me at the bar that I had the perfect figure for body building; I couldn't decide whether or not to take it as a compliment and enjoy that thought, or to be weirded out that he was looking intently at my body. I don't think I would ever go into bodybuilding though. I already have a bad body image as it is, and those people have to watch everything they eat and are seriously concerned about their body almost to an unhealthy degree. I'll just continue writing, thanks.
Speaking of, I know I mentioned last week that I was thinking about getting another part-time job just for fun and to get a little more money, but honestly I think I might hold off on that for a while. I am quite enjoying not working all the time. Livin' la vida loca, am I right?
My Determination: "The mystery of life isn't a problem to solve, but a reality to experience."
— Frank Herbert, Dune

■ Briefs

from Page 1

Janesville Hay Daze Fun Run June 12
Early sign up is available for those interested in participating in the June 12 Hay Daze Fun Run. Event begins with a kids race at 6:30 p.m., fol-

lowed by a 5k at 7 p.m. Signup online at: janesevillemnhaydaze.weebly.com/fun-run.
Graduation Open house ads available

Celebrate this year's graduates in the paper with a photo and open house announcement. Cost is \$25 for one week or \$35 for two weeks. Please email news@wasecacitypioneer.com or call 837-6767



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"Green Out" day builds mental health awareness

May has been designated "Mental Health Awareness Month" by the National Council for Mental Wellbeing, a not-for-profit organization based in Washington D.C. Many local governments affirm this observance by making local declarations.

The Waseca County Board of Commissioners also joined in naming May 16 "Green Out Day," encouraging organizations and groups to show their support by wearing green. The Waseca County Courthouse was lit green that evening in observance of the day.

Colin Ayers, public health educator with the Waseca and LeSueur County Community Health Board commented "A major goal for mental health awareness is to build understanding that mental health applies to everyone; mental health is an accumulation of everything we do such as what we eat and drink, who we talk to, what we listen to, and whom we surround ourselves with."

Members of the Waseca County Suicide Prevention Cohort helped promote the second annual Green Out Day last Thursday.

As was done last year, students of Waseca County schools were given stickers created in collaboration by Pastor Jillene Gallatin, senior pastor of Grace Lutheran Church; Colin Ayers and Ashely Killday of Public Health; and Nick Wobig of the organization Small Town Media.

In addition to the stickers, Gallatin distributed posters and green ribbons to business owners to let them know about the day. Said Gallatin, "Everyone was incredibly supportive and willing to wear green and display posters. It's good to recognize we all have a part both in taking care of our own mental wellness and in supporting others in caring for theirs." Pictures were shared on social media of staff of local businesses wearing green.

For the first time this year, a service dog also took part in the day by visiting the Waseca Junior/Senior

High School. Gallatin explained that school social worker Jenny Sandbeck had learned school staff members were interested in having a service dog demonstrate there are many ways to support mental wellness. Gallatin reached out to Believét Canine Service Partners in Northfield and invited organization volunteer Scott Listberger and his service dog in training Ali to be a part of the day. Gallatin commented that the pair was well received. (For more information about Believét contact them at info@believét.org).

In a continuing effort to call attention to mental health, Gallatin also led yoga sessions for students at JWP on May 23.

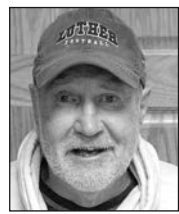
Said Gallatin, "Annual events like Green Out Day, encouraging people to ask for help when needed, and continuing conversations about our mental health are vital in creating connected and healthy communities."

Waseca school social worker



Staff members and friends at the Waseca Intermediate School were among those who dressed in green to call attention to the importance of maintaining mental health. More photos on Page 16.

Jenny Sandbeck observed, "As we become more mindful of the significant impact mental health challenges can have on a student's overall well-being, it is critical to get the word out about the importance of managing, treating, and being aware of one's own mental health." Sandbeck shared that, in addition to the programs already mentioned, observances of mental health awareness at the Waseca Jr/Sr High School included daily announcements about mental health, posters being placed around the building, and "Wellness Challenge Bingo" with prizes.



Bits and Pieces

by Dave Zika



Game Changers

Basketball is a sport enjoyed by a great number of fans and viewers. In the NBA, probably the best player of all time is Michael Jordan. Some might argue Lebron James, Larry Bird, Lew Alcindor or Wilt Chamberlain. Given that millions of shoes have been sold with Jordan's name on them, and movies have been made honoring him, I'll go with Jordan.

Minnesota now has eyes on its own NBA player, the young 22-year-old is now everyone's favorite Timberwolf. We love cheering for "Ant," Anthony Edwards.

Kaitlin Clark took America by storm this winter in college basketball. The young lady from Iowa broke scoring records, made three-pointers from unbelievable distances, and captivated fans with her passing and team play. March Madness had as many viewers watching Kaitlin and the women as the men's college basketball teams. She was the number one pick by Indiana in the WNBA; Indiana has sold out every home basketball game. When Kaitlin comes to town to play our Minnesota Lynx, those games are already sold out as well. Kaitlin has already made millions; she's done many commercials and has her own shoe, now, with Nike.

Everyone's heard of Air Jordans. I wonder what the Clark shoes will be called.

Waseca's own Willingham brothers were stars at MSU Mankato in college basketball. They guided the Mavericks to their first ever national championship.

All of these great basketball players have something in common: they are game changers.

In football, the common goal for NFL players and fans is the Superbowl. Superbowl Sunday is the biggest stage in sports. Quarterbacks like Tom Brady and Patrick Mahomes are game changers: They win Superbowls. If you're a golf fan, you've watched Tiger Woods; if you enjoy tennis, you've watched Serena Williams. These great athletes are all game changers.

Many of us have a favorite teacher who had an impact on our lives. People often tell of educators whose influence made everything that came afterward possible. All of us probably remember a great experience we had in high school, maybe in music or drama, a solo or a play made possible by a great teacher or director. Coaches in athletics have given us

all a shining moment, something we will talk about, share, and enjoy for a lifetime. Maybe your favorite coach taught you to have fun, always play for the team, and be the best you can be. All of these special teachers and coaches were game changers.

The medical world has been a huge game changer for everyone, especially as some of us grow into our golden, rusty years. Heart transplants, stints, bypasses and other heart procedures now add years to our lives. New body parts—knees, hips, shoulders and new knuckles—make it possible to walk, hike, and open jars and cans for cooking. New kidneys and livers are a miracle. MRIs, blood tests, ultrasounds and screening all lead to preventive health measures.

I just ran into Kathy Guse at Walmart driving a motorized scooter. She's had a couple of back surgeries. Pain is under control, and she's hoping for recovery. We need you back, Kathy, making yummy wedding cakes and treats for graduation parties. You've always been a game changer.

Advancing technology is also a huge game changer. It appears to be in constant transition. The internet, smartphones, tablets and credit cards, online shopping, Amazon, Facebook, streaming. What will next week's game changer be? Let me just say, I hope it isn't hacking.

I'd be remiss if I didn't mention the biggest game changers of all—our spiritual leaders. Many come to mind, but two stand out to my wife and me. One is former Lutheran pastor Roger Haug, whom Lisa and I know quite well. He is thought of very highly in the Waseca community. He willingly visited parishioners hospitalized in Rochester, the nursing home and care facilities. He is a kind, caring, compassionate man.

The other spiritual leader we think of is former Waseca priest, Father Gregory Leif. We lost our daughter Katie, then 32, in 2015. Father Leif got us through that tragedy. Visiting with him felt like listening to Jesus. His soft-spoken words went right to the heart. He became a close friend—in fact, we shared many meals with Roger, Father, the Buums and Gilbertsons. These two, and all other spiritual leaders, are truly game changers, in addition to being remarkable human beings.

Free resource offers answers, guidance

The Minnesota Alliance of Prairie Counties, often referred to as MNPrarie, is a human services agency which serves residents in Dodge, Steele, and Waseca counties. MNPrarie has made the on-line resource "CredibleMind" available for all Waseca County residents and their families with no fees.

According to a news release from MNPrarie, CredibleMind serves as a confidential online

"hub" where people with questions can go to seek answers. The agency says the site "brings together local resources, scientifically validated assessments, expert-written articles, and thousands of resources including videos, apps, podcasts and books."

Users can remain completely anonymous, or can create a login which allows their personalized content to be saved and accessed again later.

MNPrarie suggests anyone can benefit from the resources available through CredibleMind, since they are not only about mental illness, but also offer ideas for mental wellness, including ways to examine questions like "Is caring for others taking a toll on you? Is your mind full or are you mindful? What's your meditation style? Is it job stress or burnout? What's your mental health profile?" and "How strong is your resilience network?"

MNPrarie points out mental illness affects one in five adults, and one in six young people under the age of 18. The agency suggests individuals should not let stigma or pride keep them from finding out more.

Anyone wishing to check out CredibleMind's resources can visit the site at no cost at mnprairie.crediblemind.com.

■ Vought

from Page 1

lege transcript, joking that her course in badminton may have served as a test to see how well she could handle a "weapon."

Sonnenberg thanked Vought for being a "great partner," and complimented her many contributions to public safety at the department, city and state levels.

Waseca Area Chamber of Commerce leader Ann Fitch spoke first from her "official" status with the Chamber, saying the Chief of Police position is a vital matter of interest to local businesses and organizations, given its importance in maintaining the public's perception of safety and consistency. She cited Vought's accomplishments as Waseca's first female police officer and then its first female chief of police, saying they



Local leaders and supporters gathered at the Waseca Public Safety Building on May 16 to honor Penny Vought as she was named the Waseca Exchange Club's Law Enforcement Officer of the Year.

Pioneer photo by Deb Bently

provided an excellent role model.

She went on to say she wished to speak on a personal level, revealing that her parents, Jim and Vicky Staloch, were on the committee which

selected Vought as an employee back in 1984. She said she cherished the role Vought had played throughout her life as a family friend.

Also attending the Wednesday ceremony was former Waseca Police officer Arik Matson with his wife, Megan. When Vought commented simply, "You came," Matson's response was, "I couldn't not come."

One vehicle accident leads to fatality

Ronald Kenneth Maas, 57, of Mapleton, was killed in a single-vehicle accident after 10 p.m. on Friday, May 17. The accident scene was southwest of Waseca in the 6000 block of County Road 9 in St Mary Township.

Upon arrival that night,

members of the Waseca County Sheriff's Office made contact with Maas who was the driver and lone occupant of the vehicle. Life saving efforts were performed, but he was pronounced deceased at the scene.

Preliminary investigation re-

vealed the vehicle was traveling eastbound on County Road 9, left the roadway, struck a driveway, and rolled before coming to a rest. Further investigation into the cause of the accident is continuing.

The Waseca County Sheriff's

Office was assisted by the Waseca Fire Department, North Memorial Ambulance Service, and the Minnesota State Patrol.

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OBITUARIES

Ronald Maas

RONALD KENNETH MAAS, age 57, of Mapleton, died of Friday, May 17, 2024, in rural Waseca County.

Born on June 7, 1966, in Waseca, he was the son of Kenneth and Lois (Erdman) Maas. He was baptized as an infant and later confirmed in his faith at Trinity Lutheran Church in Janesville. Ron began his education at Trinity Lutheran School for eight years and graduated from Janesville Public Schools with the class of 1984. Ron was united in marriage to Lisa Stoneking and together had three daughters, they were later divorced. He worked for over 20 years at Viracon in Owatonna. He also worked as a farm hand and at Lowes. Ron was an avid hunter, which he thoroughly enjoyed with his nephews, Kris and Kenny. He always looked forward to meeting new people, entertaining and cooking for others. Above all else he cherished spending time with his daughters and grandchildren, helping them out any chance he could.

Ron is survived by his children, Jessica (Christopher Bartelt) Maas, Kristina Maas, and Heather (Rusty) Olson all of Waseca; grandchildren, Jaxon and Jaelyn Maas, Gabriella, Olive, and Junilda Maas, Ahvah, Aylah and Axton Olson; siblings, Linda Kent of St. Peter, Robert (Laura) Maas of Janesville, Richard (Anita) Maas of Waseca, Leann (Michael)



Ronald Maas

Sutlief of Waseca; many nieces, nephews, other relatives, and friends.

He is preceded in death by his parents and Linda Kent's significant other, Clair Davis.

Visitation was from 4:00 – 8:00 PM on Thursday, May 23, 2024, at the State Street Chapel of Dennis-Steffel-Omtvedt Funeral and Cremation Service in Waseca. Visitation will continue for one hour prior to the service at the Dis-cipling Center at the church on Friday.

Funeral Service will be 1:00 PM on Friday, May 24, 2024, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Janesville. Interment will be at St. John – Trinity Lutheran Cemetery.

Dennis-Steffel-Omtvedt Funeral and Cremation Service
Waseca ~ Janesville ~ Waterville

Dean Fleming

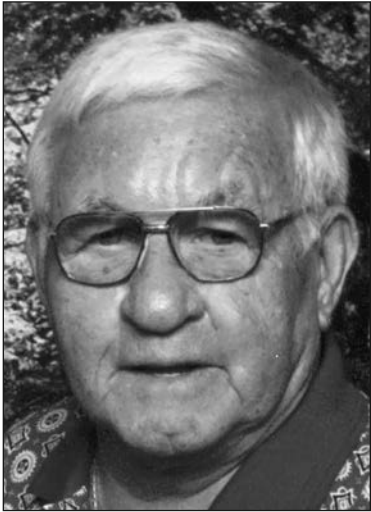
Dean Lester Fleming passed away on 13 May 2024 at the Woodbury Senior Living facility in Woodbury, MN. "Deano", as he was known by his family and friends, was 98 years old.

Dean was born on 19 August 1925 to Lester and Amelia Fleming in White, South Dakota and spent the first year of his life there.

The family then moved briefly to Mankato, MN and finally to Waseca, MN, where he graduated from Waseca High School. He was a member of St John Lutheran church.

Deano joined the Army toward the end of WWII and was trained as a Medic and stationed in Hawaii. After his brief stint in the Army, he returned to Waseca and worked for the Pillsbury Company until the business closed. He viewed this as an opportunity and decided to start his own business in 1954 —Dean's Specialty Supply Co. He turned this into a multi-million-dollar business serving farm and grain elevators in MN and the surrounding four states. After 23 years he sold the business and started enjoying much deserved retirement, often spending winter months in southern Texas. Deano enjoyed fishing, hunting, playing cards, dancing, and going to auctions.

He was preceded in death by his parents Lester and Amelia Flem-



Dean Fleming

ing, son Jerry Fleming, sister Mar-jorie Ross (Robert) and wives, Polly Streitz (Herb) and Margaret Fleming.

He is survived by children: Stephen Fleming (Lydia), Richard D. Fleming (Lynda), Cathy Johnson (Craig), grand children: Richard S. Fleming (Myra), Michelle Stadelman (Lucian), Michael Fleming (Lori), Kristi Borowy (Matthew), Julie Grone-wold (Cody), Benjamin Johnson (Amanda), and Katie Kopiecki (Ethan). 11 great grandchildren, 2 great- great grandchildren, 5 step-children, numerous nephews, nieces and cousins. Deano chose to be cremated and will be buried in Woodville Cemetery, Waseca, MN. There will be a private family graveside ceremony.

Neoma Johansen

NEOMA JEAN JOHANSEN, age 88, of New Richland passed away surrounded by family on Thursday, May 16, 2024 at New Richland Care Center.

Born on February 20, 1936 in New Richland Township, Neoma was the daughter of Orland and Carol (Weed) Hagen. She graduated from New Richland High School with the class of 1953. After graduating, she began working for Roundbank as a bank teller. On August 29, 1954, Neoma was united in marriage to Kenneth Johansen at Trinity Lutheran Church in New Richland. She stayed at home to raise her five kids while doing the bookwork for the family business, Johansen Lockers. She returned back to work by working part time with Cahill Pharmacy in 1976 until returning to the bank.

Neoma worked for several other banks throughout Southern Minne-

sota before moving to Green Valley, Arizona where she and Ken lived for 17 years before retiring and moving back to Minnesota. She retired from working as the Green Valley Fire District Administrator. Together they spent their retirement years in New Richland and later in Janesville. Neoma had a knack for art. She was an award-winning knitter who won ribbons through the Waseca County Fair and would also make clothes. She also enjoyed tatting, painting, drawing, and baking, especially wedding cake decorating. She would be known to have a craft day with her friends and family once a month to share her talents. She loved to entertain and make everyone feel welcome. Neoma was also a founding member of Faith Lutheran Church in Janesville.

Neoma is survived by children, Jodelle Hess of Seattle, WA, Kris (Shannon) Johansen of Moore, OK, Janalee (Greg) Jacobson of Waseca,

and Jeralyn (Steve) Price of Little-ton, CO; 10 grandchildren, Brady Hess, Kypp (Tami) Hess, Joshua (Katrina) Jacobson, Zachary (Ash-ley) Jacobson, Kaleb (Brandy) Ja-cobson, Krisha Johansen, Jacob (Tiffany) Johansen, Keenan (Bekah) Johansen, Mackenzie Price, and Liam Price; 10 great grandchildren, Wyatt, Addilyn, Graham, Riffen, Se-cret, Aura, Archie, Siryn, Krewden, Willow, Bearren; many nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Kenneth Johansen; parents, Orland and Carol Hagen; son, Kevin Johansen; daughters-in-law, Nancy Johansen and Karen Johansen; son-in-law, Steve Hess, siblings, Harlan Hagen, Darlene Dinse, Ordwin "Buzz" Hagen, Ordean "Bob" Hagen.

Funeral Service will be 2:00 PM on Friday, June 28, 2024 at Faith Lu-theran Church in Janesville. Visita-tion will be for one hour prior to the



Neoma Johansen

service at the church on Friday. Inter-ment will follow at Woodville Cemetery.

dsofuneral.com

Careers

from Page 1

But the real winner among equip-ment she presented, Kleve said, was the Zoll defibrillator used for when someone came into the emergency room with chest pains or cardiac ar-rest. Mayo Clinic has only allowed Zoll defibrillators out into high school career fairs a few times, so Kleve seemed particularly animated about demonstrating their features to students.

"It's like an advanced version of your AED," Kleve added. "We can give you shocks based on what we see on [the Zoll Defibrillator] if you're in a shockable rhythm or not." If so, she further explained, she can put a patient back into a regular normal sinus rhythm.

Joe Schotzko, an instructor and operations manager from Big Ideas in New Ulm presented different ideas outside of the typical educational box and offered options for students who tend to prefer hands-on tasks.

At the career fair, he had stations open for students to experiment with painting, welding, cargo securement; he also had a virtual reality station with about a dozen tasks. These op-portunities were self-guided and in-cluded examples like working in a

warehouse or changing oil in a car.

"We're here to inform, inspire, and connect them with skilled trades," Schotzko stated.

Schotzko pointed out students can build successful careers without ac-quiring the burden of college debt. While he made it clear he wasn't against higher education, he said he believes it makes sense if students acquire work experience first.

"They should really follow things that they aspire to do," Schotzko added. "If they like building, they should look into that."

Kathy Anderson, a recruiter from Palmer Bus Service, shared that a new program has been introduced for diesel mechanics to learn about the basics in taking care of diesel or propane engines. She brought along parts that students might see in larger vehicles: a camshaft, turbo, air brake, pulleys, pistons, and calipers.

"Specifically, Waseca has a small engines program," she said. "They don't have a program for larger ve-hicles, so this is a way students can come down to our shop."

Khloe Wadd, who is interning at Crystal Valley Cooperative under Chloe Stitt, said Crystal Valley is a great business for students to work for and explore agriculture oppor-tunities if they're considering staying close to home. Last year, Stitt men-tioned she shadowed three different sales agronomists who had a wide range of work experiences.

"I got to see how a farmer's day to day can change," Stitt shared, then added, from her observations, she was able to make her own rec-ommendations to farmers and agro-nomists.

Wadd said her tenure with the coop has been about accumulating knowledge through experience.

"Crystal Valley is one of those lucky ones who takes students after they're only at college for a year," Wadd said. "Not a whole lot of other places will do that."

She mentioned her favorite part about being at Crystal Valley is learning about the drones as far as how they fly and what goes into spraying fields. She also has enjoyed reaching out to farmers, seeing how they sell and transport their products.

A recruiter from Media.com showed students how they would hook up cables for a customer's in-ternet or a digital cable television.

Sergeants Jared Chrz and Andrew Harren from the Waseca Police De-partment were also present to "be ap-proachable," and educate students about criminal justice career oppor-tunities. They demonstrated special-ized equipment including vision goggles, shields, digital cameras, and an automated external defibrillator.

The vision goggles are an educa-tional tool which alter a person's vi-sion to simulate what it is like to be under the influence. Ballistic shields protect police officers against bullet

strikes and other dangerous impacts. Digital cameras are used to record in-teractions between police officers and community members.

In Minnesota, individuals at the start of their careers can acquire ex-perience or can begin as a jailer or dispatcher. Captain Kris Markeson remarked on how the jail dispatch can be a great way for someone to acquire people skills.

Interested individuals, he added, can also ride along with a police of-ficer and see what goes on in their day, interview officers about their positions, or participate in career fairs like the one at the Waseca High School.

For anyone seeking a formal edu-cation in law enforcement, Markeson mentioned the needed two-year de-gree can be earned in a variety of lo-cations including Riverland Community College in Albert Lea or Rochester, Alexandria Technical College, Minnesota State University in Mankato, Hibbing, Metro State or Bemidji State or St. Cloud State, just to name a few. The license, Marke-son warned, has to be renewed every three years. From there, if someone really wants to, they can pursue a four-year degree.

When asked about what brings ful-fillment in a law enforcement career, Markeson responded that every day is different and brings a sense of ac-complishment.

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Upper Midwest Integrated Resource Plan

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETINGS FOR XCEL ENERGY MINNESOTA CUSTOMERS

Xcel Energy submitted its 2024-2040 Upper Midwest Integrated Resource Plan (2024 IRP) to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) on February 1, 2024, and is requesting MPUC approval. The MPUC may either approve, deny, or modify the 2024 IRP as submitted based upon their review and public input. The MPUC has indicated they will hold hearings on the IRP by February 1, 2025. A video presentation providing an overview of our IRP can be found on our website: xcelenergy.com/UpperMidwestEnergyPlan

PUBLIC MEETINGS

Administrative Law Judge Jessica A. Palmer-Denig will hold six in-person public meetings and two virtual public meetings to provide the public with an opportunity to comment on the 2024 IRP. Any Xcel Energy customer or other person may attend and provide comments at the meetings. You do not need to be represented by an attorney to do so. The meetings will begin at their scheduled time and adjourn after all attendees present have had an opportunity to comment or ask questions. MPUC and Xcel Energy staff will be on-site one hour prior to the in-person meetings, to answer questions and share information about the 2024 IRP. At the start of the meetings, MPUC Staff will present an overview of the regulatory process. Following the MPUC’s presentation, Xcel Energy will present an overview of the 2024 IRP.

PUBLIC MEETINGS SCHEDULE

Date	Open House	Public Meeting Begins, Sign up to comment	Location
Monday, June 10, 2024	6:00 p.m.	7:00 – 9:00 p.m.	Eden Prairie Community Center, Cambria Room 16700 Valley View Road Eden Prairie, MN 55346
Tuesday, June 11, 2024	5:30 p.m.	6:30 – 8:30 p.m.	Monticello Community Center, Mississippi Room 505 Walnut Street Monticello, MN 55362
Thursday, June 13, 2024	5:00 p.m.	6:00 – 8:00 p.m.	Wellstone Center, Ferber Room 179 Robie Street East St. Paul, MN 55107
Monday, June 17, 2024	No Open House	2:30 – 4:30 p.m.	Webinar topic: Public Meeting – Xcel Energy Electric IRP (E002/RP-24-67) Date and time: Monday, June 17, 2024 2:30 PM (UTC-05:00) Central Time (US & Canada) Join link: https://minnesota.webex.com/minnesota/j.php?MTID=md17baf19769876ade4ce67e2998a9595 Webinar number: 2498 320 8694 Webinar password: IRP2024# (47720240 from phones and video systems) Join by phone +1-415-655-0003 United States Toll 1-855-282-6330 United States Toll Free Access code: 249 832 08694
Monday, June 17, 2024	No Open House	7:00 – 9:00 p.m.	Webinar topic: Public Meeting – Xcel Energy Electric IRP (E002/RP-24-67) Monday, June 17, 2024 7:00 PM (UTC-05:00) Central Time (US & Canada) Join link: https://minnesota.webex.com/minnesota/j.php?MTID=mdfb91ce1e93668620ed594a2db0a58f4 Webinar number: 2493 703 5582 Webinar password: IRP2024# (47720240 from phones and video systems) Join by phone +1-415-655-0003 United States Toll 1-855-282-6330 United States Toll Free Access code: 249 370 35582
Tuesday, June 18, 2024	6:00 p.m.	7:00 – 9:00 p.m.	Treasure Island Casino, Barbados 5734 Sturgeon Lake Road Welch, MN 55089
Thursday, June 20, 2024	1:30 p.m.	2:30 – 4:30 p.m.	Sabathani Community Center Auditorium 310 East 38th Street Minneapolis, MN 55409
Thursday, June 20, 2024	6:00 p.m.	7:00 – 9:00 p.m.	Sabathani Community Center Auditorium 310 East 38th Street Minneapolis, MN 55409

Bad weather? Find out if a meeting is canceled – call (toll-free) 855-731-6208 or 651-201-2213 or visit <https://mn.gov/puc/about-us/calendar/>.

VIRTUAL PUBLIC MEETINGS

Public meetings have been scheduled as follows to be held via video conference.
June 17, 2024, at 2:30 p.m. and June 17, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

ATTEND BY INTERNET CONNECTION (AUDIO AND VIDEO)

To join the virtual meeting using a computer, tablet or smart phone, where you will have audio and video capability, go to: **<https://minnesota.webex.com>**. In the gray box where it says, “Enter Meeting Information,” type the Event Number below for the public meeting date you are attending:

June 17, 2024, 2:30 p.m.	June 17, 2024, 7:00 p.m.
Event Number: 2498 320 8694 Event Password, if needed: IRP2024#	Event Number: 2493 703 5582 Event Password, if needed: IRP2024#

DIRECTIONS FOR APPEARING VIA WEBEX.

- Log on 5 to 15 minutes before the meeting begins. You will be asked to join the meeting through a WebEx application or through a plug-in for your web browser.
- Enter the Event Number shown in the box above.
- Next, you will be asked to enter your name, your email address, and an event password (if required). After entering this information, click “Join Now” and you will be granted access to the virtual meeting.

- When you enter the meeting, your microphone will be muted. If you would like to ask a question or make a comment during the meeting, use the chat function to send a message to the meeting moderator, who will place you in the queue to comment. When it is your turn to comment, your name will be called, and your line will be unmuted. You will then be able to ask questions or make a comment.

TO ATTEND BY TELEPHONE (AUDIO ONLY)

If you do not have access to a computer, tablet, or smart phone, or if you would prefer to attend the meeting via audio only, you may join using any type of telephone. You do not need internet access to call into the meeting; however, you will only be able to hear (not see) the speakers. You will still be able to comment and ask questions.

Use the information in the box below to dial into the meeting. You will be asked to enter the access code for the meeting, as set forth below:

June 17, 2024, 2:30 p.m.	June 17, 2024, 7:00 p.m.
Phone: 1-855-282-6330 Access Code: 2498 320 8694 Event Password: 47720240 from phones and video systems	Phone: 1-855-282-6330 Access Code: 2493 703 5582 Event Password: 47720240 from phones and video systems

If you would like to ask a question or make a comment during the meeting, press *3 on your telephone. You will then be placed into the queue to comment. When it is your turn to speak, the last few digits of your telephone number will be announced by the moderator and your line will be unmuted, allowing you to be heard.

PUBLIC MEETING AND PROCESS INFORMATION

Administrative Law Judge Jessica A. Palmer-Denig will preside over the public meetings and will provide the MPUC with a written summary of the public meetings within 60 days of the date of the last public meeting.

The purpose of the public meetings is to receive public input on Xcel Energy’s IRP. At the public meetings, interested persons will have the opportunity to: (1) ask questions of the utility and agency staff; and (2) offer verbal and written comments on the merits of the IRP. Members of the public may participate without needing to intervene as a party. Representation by legal counsel is permitted but not required.

Please note that the public meetings will end when all attendees present have had the opportunity to comment and all other business has been concluded.

WHEN SHOULD I SHOW UP?

Commenters will be called to speak based on the order that they sign up. We suggest putting your name on the list of speakers as soon as you know that you would like to make public comments in order to minimize your wait time.

Written comments may be submitted during the comment period before and after the public meetings. Follow the instructions below to provide written comment.

Please contact Sophie Nikitas at 651-539-1062 or Sophie.nikitas@state.mn.us if you have questions on how to participate or have trouble accessing the public meeting using telephone or internet.

WRITTEN COMMENTS TO THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

You can still submit comments even if you do not attend a public meeting.

COMMENT PERIOD

Comments accepted through **June 28, 2024, at 4:30 p.m.**

- Comments must be received by 4:30 p.m. on the close date.
- Comments received after the comment period closes may not be considered.

HOW TO SUBMIT A WRITTEN COMMENT

Written comments can be submitted via: (1) the MPUC’s website; (2) electronic mail; (3) U.S. Mail; or (4) fax. To learn how to submit a comment in any of these ways, please visit **mn.gov/puc**, select “Get Involved” from the dropdown menu on the top of the page, then select “Public Comments and How to Participate.” This will take you to the Public Comment page, where you will find a list of ways to comment. Be sure to reference MPUC Docket No. 24-67 in the subject line of your comment. Hand-written comments can also be submitted at any of the public meetings.

Important: Comments can be seen by the public on the MPUC’s website, except in limited circumstances consistent with the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act. The MPUC does not edit or delete personal identifying information from comments received.

MPUC HEARING

Formal hearings on Xcel Energy’s proposal will be held by February 1, 2025, but are not yet scheduled. The hearing will be held at the Public Utilities Commission, Metro Square Building, 121 Seventh Place East #350, St. Paul, Minnesota. The purpose of the formal hearings is to allow Xcel Energy, the Minnesota Department of Commerce — Division of Energy Resources, the Minnesota Office of Attorney General — Residential Utilities Division, and other interested parties to the proceeding, to present their positions on Xcel Energy’s 2024 IRP. If you cannot attend in person you may attend via Microsoft Teams (Teams), a video conferencing platform. Members of the public who wish to attend the hearing through Teams may request an electronic invitation by contacting MPUC staff Sophie Nikitas at 651-539-1062 or Sophie.nikitas@state.mn.us

TO LEARN MORE

Xcel Energy’s IRP is available at:
Xcel Energy
Web: xcelenergy.com/UpperMidwestEnergyPlan

Minnesota Department of Commerce
85 7th Place East, Suite 500, St. Paul, MN 55101
Phone: 651-539-1534
Web: <https://www.edockets.state.mn.us/EFiling/search.jsp> Select (24) in the year field, type (67) in the number field, select Search, and the list of documents will appear on the next page.

If you have questions about the MPUC’s review process or need help in submitting comments, contact the Commission’s Consumer Affairs Office at:

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission
121 7th Place East, Suite 350 , St. Paul, MN 55101
Phone: 651-296-0406 or 800-657-3782 | Email: consumer.puc@state.mn.us

Anyone with hearing or speech disabilities may call through their preferred Telecommunications Relay. Please contact MPUC staff Sophie Nikitas at 651-539-1062 or Sophie.nikitas@state.mn.us as soon as possible if you need an interpreter or accommodation to attend a public meeting.



MEMORIAL DAY

MAY 27, 2024



Anderson Theodore



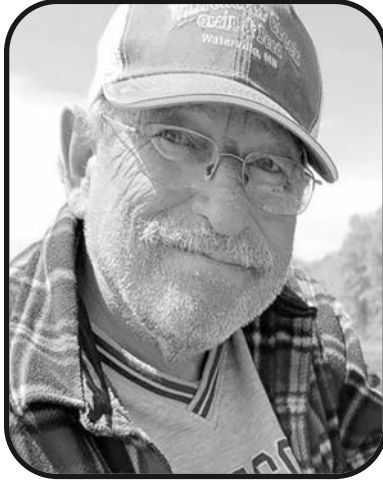
Anthony Arnfelt



Bruce Allen Wilker



Carrie Lee Dahle



Chris Chaddock



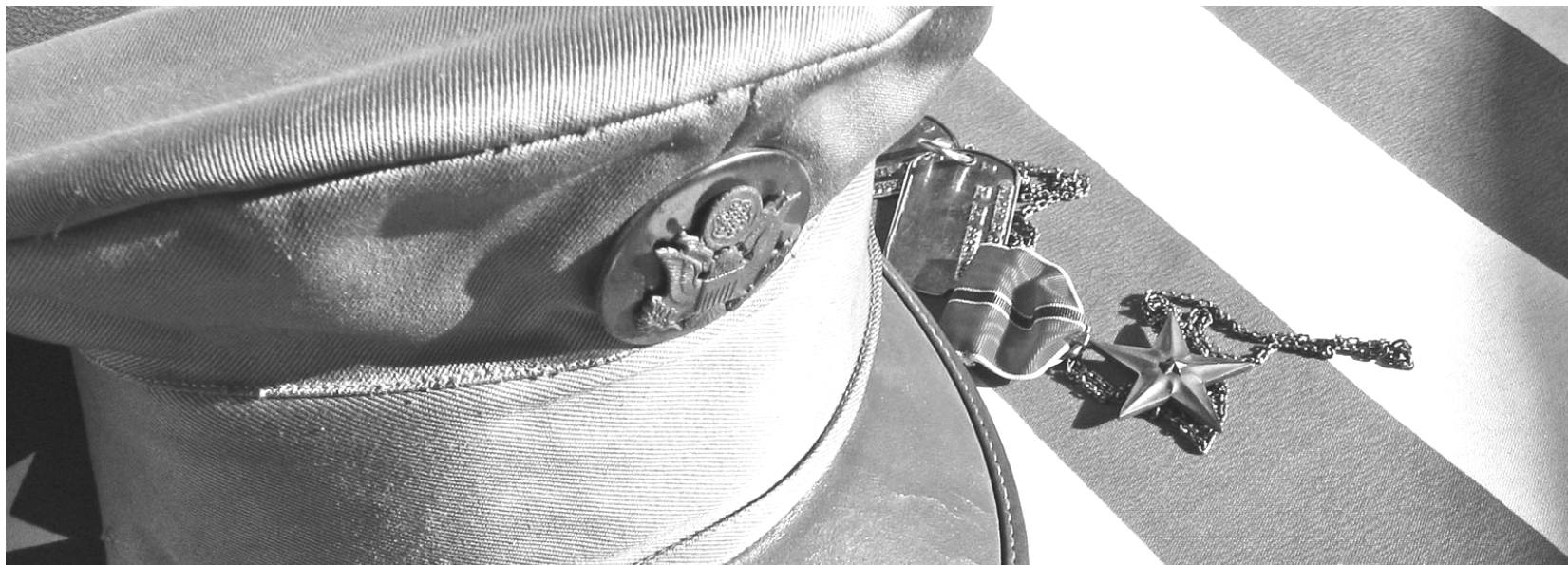
Ceraig Berberich



Dale Froehlich



Darrell Iverson



Area Memorial Day ceremonies

Memorial Day Events
Veterans organizations will celebrate Memorial Day, Monday, May 27, 2024 in accordance with the following schedule. Please set aside time to attend one of these featured events in commemoration of those who have and are currently serving our country in the military. As citizens of the United States of America, we especially pay tribute to those who have given the ultimate sacrifice of life so we may experience freedom in the United States of America.

Waseca
The program starts at 9 a.m. Monday at the south side of the Waseca County courthouse with a short parade followed by a ceremony.

Blaine Brooks will be emcee for the program, which will begin with flag raising ceremonies led by American Legion Color Guard members Kevin Dickie, Roger Ockwig, Bruce Tappe, and Lamar

Kuster. The "Star Spangled Banner" will be performed by members of the high school Female and Male Sextets, directed by Megan Kreinbring. Lincoln's Gettysburg Address delivered by Lucas Vasquez-Niegebauer (son of Katie and David Vasquez). "Travelin' Soldier" sung by Muriah Miller-Keith, Emma Keith, and Layla Keith, accompanied on guitar by Jerome Broughton. The main address will be delivered by Air Force Colonel Abraham Jackson. Ceremonies at the plaque will be performed by representatives of the American Legion, the V.F.W., the American Legion Auxiliary and the V.F.W. Auxiliary. The list of deceased veterans from 2023 to 2024 will be read by Blaine Brooks. "Homeward Bound" and "America" will be sung by the male and female sextets of Waseca High School. A benediction will be delivered by Father Frerichs. There will be a rifle salute by the rifle squad. Taps will

be played by Waseca Senior High School Band bugle players Noah Dahle and Mason Jes.

In the event of rain or other inclement weather, the program will be moved inside Waseca High School, with a start time of 9:30 a.m.

Janesville
A Memorial Day program will begin at 9 a.m. May 27 at the JWP High School. Speaker will be veteran Samuel Schruin, originally of St. Clair, who served in the Middle East.

New Richland
The annual New Richland American Legion Memorial Day program will be held on Monday, May 27th at 11:00. The program this year will be in the NRHEG high school gym. Members of the NRHEG band will play patriotic songs, two high school seniors will participate and local veteran and NRHEG teacher, Gordy Loverink will be the speaker. Lunch will be available (until gone) after the

program at a cost of \$10 per person. The American Legion members will meet at the Legion Post at 8:00 am and will be leaving town at 8:25 am to arrive at Calvary cemetery at 8:30 and then go on to the other area cemeteries.

The Church of All Saints will be celebrating a Mass at calvary Cemetery at 10:30 a.m. with Frerichs officiating. In case of rain Mass will be held at the church.

Waldorf
The Waldorf American Legion Post # 587 Memorial Day Program will be held at the Waldorf Community Center located on Main Street at 10:15 a.m. The program will be followed by graveside services at Zoar's Cemetery, St. Joseph Community Cemetery and First Lutheran Church Cemetery. A potluck dinner will be held at noon in the Community Center. Everyone welcome.

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MEMORIAL DAY • MAY 27, 2024



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MEMORIAL DAY • MAY 27, 2024



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Otto Jensen



Paul Lienke



Paul Mark Donovan



Paul Miller



Peter Madel Jr.



Raleigh Schroeder



Raymond Turner



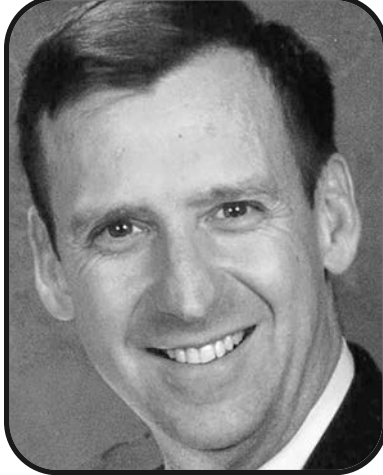
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Waseca

25 Years Ago

-After more than two and one half hours of emotionally-charged discussion, the Waterville-Elysian-Morristown (WEM) School Board voted 5-2 Monday to reorganize the elementary grades for the 1999-2000 school year and beyond. Initially, the reorganization was going to be made for class size reduction purposes and to meet the federal Title I requirements.

-Last week, Dakota Minnesota, and Eastern Railroad transported to the 36-inch diameter pipe that will be used to construct the Alliance Pipeline in Waseca. The 1,900 mile diameter natural gas pipeline will run from British Columbia, Canada to Channahon, Ill

-Characterizing the admirable people in the county that are foster parents, Betti Walter, Waseca County Human Services Department social service supervisor, describes them as people who aren't easily thrown. "They're pretty confident," said Walter. "They have a sense that we are all responsible for each other."



-LANSCAPING BEGAN at the LeSuer-Waseca Regional Library Saturday morning. The plan and its initiation were made possible through the efforts of the library board, park board and a landscaping class at UMW. Blair Adams, instructor of the UMW class, is picture planting a tree at the site. Left to right are: Don Wobschall, Carol Rutledge, Blair Adams, Linda Harfst, Carol Hergott, Mary Whiting, Harvey Alland, John Teskey and Boyd Fuller.



-DO YOU SEE an owl? Do you see a pair of lunatics? Do you see Shirley Temple? In this photo, taken by Bob Patton of the yearbook staff, there are a variety of theatrical characters. You can see this wide array of talent perform six, one-act plays on Thursday in the high school Little Theatre. The places are produced by Mrs. Jan Lee's acting class and performance time is 2:30 p.m. There is no admission charge and everyone is invited to attend.



-Edward C. Frederick, provost at the University of Minnesota Technical College – Waseca, was initiated into the University of Minnesota Chapter of Phi Kappa Phi on May 14. Phi Kappa Phi is a national honor society for the recognition and encouragement of superior scholarship in all academic disciplines.

75 Years Ago

-John F. Cahill, the son of Dr. and Mrs. J.F. Cahill, will open a law office in Waseca shortly after the first of June; it was announced this week. He will open his offices for general practice of law and handling of income tax matters above the Ddira Drug Store.

-The top students in scholastic rating at Sacred Heart and Central high school were honored one night last week when the Exchange Club of Waseca held a banquet for 17 who won high honors in their studies.

-Mrs. Nellie Yantes, left, Waseca county librarian who announced her resignation Monday, receives \$100 from Mrs. Siefried Ooeljen for use for reference books at the local library. The money was raised by the Monday Study Club's lecture at Central high school that had Virginia Safford as the featured speaker. Mrs. Ooeljen is president of the Study club.

100 Years Ago

-Members of the First English Lutheran Church and a host of other friends in this community have learned with sincere regret that Rev. Elmer Moe has decided to leave Waseca. He has accepted a call to the Bethlehem Lutheran Church at Aberdeen, S. D., and will move there in August.

-Just an even fifty graduates of the two Waseca high schools are scheduled to receive diplomas this year. There are 35 in the Waseca high school and 15 in the Sacred Heart high school.

New Richland

25 Years Ago - Thursday, May 20, 1999

- The American Legion Post 296 and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 8941 will hold Memorial Day services at four area cemeteries on Monday morning the 31st day of May, 1999. At 8:30 a.m. services will be at the Holy Trinity Cemetery at Litomysl. At 9:15 a.m. services will be conducted at St. Aidan's Cemetery in Bath Township. At 10:00 a.m. services will be held at the Geneva Cemetery and at 11:00 a.m. services will be held at the First Lutheran Cemetery in Ellendale. Pastor Linda Gunderson of the North Freeborn Lutheran Church will be the speaker at Geneva and Ellendale cemeteries.

- Photos: The NRHEG Jazz Band performed at the NRHEG Pop Concert on May 10, 1999. // The Band Scholarship winners named at the NRHEG Pop Concert on May 10, 1999 include Breanna Schimek, Katie Recknor and Tim Coyer with Mr. Haugh. // Jason Johnson, son of Judy and Clifford Johnson Jr., received the Louis Armstrong Award given to a Jazz Band member. The award was presented by Band Director David Haugh.

37 Years Ago - Thursday, May 20, 1987

- Gary Hanson received the Star Chapter Farmer Award from Jennifer Zimprich. // The Ellendale-Geneva Chapter of Future Farmers of America held its annual FFA Banquet Monday night, May 11, in the Ellendale-Geneva High School cafeteria. Awards were presented to members for their outstanding accomplishments during the past year. Angela Kasper, FFA reporter, welcomed the guests and gave the invocation. Those receiving recognition were Gary Hanson, Chapter Star Farmer; Gary Hanson, Chapter Star Agribusiness; Randy Krohnberg, DeKalb Award; Brian Broulik, Star Greenhand Award; Dairy Judging Team: Sue Enzenauer, Randy Krohnberg and Brian Broulik received silvers from their State competition; Meat Judging Team: Craig Haberman, Brian Ingvaldson and Jodie Hohensee received silvers from their State competition.

102 Years Ago - May 18, 1922

- "Sure, we are going" is a common expression throughout the state whenever the Annual Summer Meeting of the State Holstein Breeders Association and the State Farmers' and Dairymen's Sale is mentioned; the same to be held at Mankato on May 23rd and 24th, respectively. Steele County is making plans to organize a boosting tour and one of the features is to be several dozen beautiful milkmaids in fresh, gingham aprons and with shiny new pails. That ought to help some to make the tour popular. Ernest Sloan, who is president of the county Holstein Breeders' Association, went to Owatonna last Friday to take part in making plans for the county's activities in the big event.

- The play put on last Friday evening for the benefit of the Woodmen and Royal Neighbor Lodges brought out a big crowd and everyone seemed to be well satisfied, both attendants and promoters. The amount taken in was \$173.00. The play made no pretension of being anything more than a humorous entertainment, although there were some bits of philosophy that would repay those who were looking for something serious.

Janesville

1924

-A. D. Sackett, county weed inspector, is in receipt of display posters warning farmers and others in the city and town, of the dangers of the sow thistle. Diagrams are five illustrating the rapid growth of this thistle. It is spreading form the northwest at the rate of twenty miles a year. In Manitoba and North Dakota it has become a menace. The seeds are carried in the air, one plant spreading from a hundred thousand to five hundred thousand seeds. It resembles the Canada thistle but is more difficult to eradicate. The roots extend far into the soil and will united, forming a solid mass. Mr. Sackett will take measures to inform the public and to utilize perventative remedies before the menace becomes dangerous.

1949

-Herold M. Harter of Toledo, Ohio, national secretary of the National Exchange Club, will be the principal speaker at an organization meeting of the Minnesota State Exchange Clubs to be held at Mankato on Sunday, May 8, it was announced today by President Havey E. Gardner of the local Club. Mr. Harter has served as national secretary of the National Exchange Club since 1917 when the organization became national in scope. The first Exchange Club was formed March 27, 1911, at Detroit, Michigan, by the late Charles A. Berkey and 12 of his business associates who had been meeting weekly at a luncheon for the exchange of ideas since as far back as 1896.

-Janesville lost their second straight game of the current season by losing a 12-inning tilt to Morristown here Sunday by a score of 11-6. The contest was a nip-and-tuck affair until the 12th frame when the visitors pushed over five fat runs to put the game on ice.

1974

-The complete stock of ampetamines and barbituates at Simon Pharmacy was missing Tuesday morning as a result of a break-in Monday night. Pharmacist Lloys Simon said entry was made through the rear of the building where two doors were broken through. The rear garage-type door had a panel broken out leaving about a two-foot hole for entry. The interior door to the store was forced open despite the fact that it was barred by a steel rod. The hinge holding the bar was pried right off the wall. The break-in is being investigated by the Waseca County Sheriff's Department.

Janesville

1999

-Jennifer Jewison, daughter of Bill and MaryLou Jewison of Janesville, has set a new record for the JWP Middle School's Future Leaders of America (FLA) chapter. This July, Jennifer will be taking her illustrated talk, "The Best Choices for Athletes," to the FLA's national competition in Boston, Mass. "I was hoping I would go to state, but I never thought about call backs or national," Jennifer said. While being selected for national competition is a noteworthy opportunity, what makes Jennifer's story even more remarkable is that this is her first year to compete in the FLA's STAR events.

-Talk about making use of your hits. The Janesville-WaldorfPemberton softball team had just five hits but still managed to romp to a 23-5 victory over Faribault B.A. at Janesville April 26. The Bulldogs, who split two games with the Cardinals last season, scored at least three runs in every inning.

Braves

WASECA BRAVES SCHEDULE – 2024				
DAY	DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME
Wednesday	May 22	Cleveland	Home	7:30
Sunday	May 26	Minnesota Lake	Away	2:00
Wednesday	May 29	Rochester	Home	7:30
Friday	May 31	Montgomery	Home	7:30
Sunday	June 2	Lake Crystal	Away	2:00
Friday	June 7	Austin	Home	7:30
Sunday	June 9	Minnesota Lake	Home	2:00
Wednesday	June 12	Lake Crystal	Home	7:30
Friday	June 14	Austin	Home	7:30
Sunday	June 16	North Mankato	Away	2:00
Wednesday	June 19	Eagle Lake	Home	7:30
Friday	June 21	Gaylord	Away	7:30
Sunday	June 23	Wells	Away	2:00
Wednesday	June 26	Waterville	Home	7:30
Friday	June 28	Owatonna	Home	7:30
Sunday	June 30	Eagle Lake	Away	2:00
Wednesday	July 3	Owatonna	Away	7:30
Saturday	July 6	Morristown	Away	2:00
Sunday	July 7	Wells	Home	2:00
Wednesday	July 10	St. Clair	Home	7:30
Saturday	July 13	Stewartville	Home	7:00
Sunday	July 14	Blue Earth	Home	2:00
Wednesday	July 17	League Play-in Game	TBD	7:30
Saturday	July 20	League Playoffs	TBD	TBD
Sunday	July 21	League Playoffs	TBD	TBD
Saturday	July 27	League Playoffs	TBD	TBD
Sunday	July 28	League Playoffs	TBD	TBD
Saturday	Aug 3	Region Playoffs	Gaylord	TBD
Sunday	Aug 4	Region Playoffs	Gaylord	TBD
Saturday	Aug 10	Region Playoffs	Arlington	TBD
Friday	Aug 16	State Tournament	Jordan	5:00
Saturday	Aug 17	State Tournament	Belle Plaine	10:00
Sunday	Aug 18	State Tournament	Green Isle	10:00
Friday	Aug 23	State Tournament	Jordan	5:00
Saturday	Aug 24	State Tournament	Belle Plaine	10:00
Sunday	Aug 25	State Tournament	Green Isle	10:00
Friday	Aug 30	State Tournament	Jordan	5:00
Saturday	Aug 31	State Tournament	Belle Plaine	10:00
Sunday	Sept 1	State Tournament	Green Isle	10:00
Monday	Sept 2	State Tournament	Jordan	11:00
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2024 NOTICE OF OFFICES TO BE VOTED FOR AT THE STATE GENERAL ELECTION

The following is the notice of federal and state offices that will be voted for at the state general election to be held on Tuesday, November 5, 2024. The filing period for United States Senator, United States Representative, State Representative, Chief Justice of the Minnesota Supreme Court, Associate Justice of the Minnesota Supreme Court, Judge of the Minnesota Court of Appeals, Judge of the District Court, and Waseca County Offices begins at 8:00 a.m., Tuesday, May 21, 2024, and ends at 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, June 4, 2024.

The filing period for presidential elector candidates begins at 8:00 a.m., Tuesday May 21, 2024, and ends at 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 20, 2024, for non-major political party candidates and independent candidates. The certification deadline for major political party presidential elector candidates is August 27, 2024.

Note: Filing offices will be closed Monday, May 27, 2024, in observance of Memorial Day. For presidential elector candidates, filing offices will be closed on Wednesday, June 19, 2024, in observance of the Juneteenth Holiday and Thursday, July 4, 2024, in observance of Independence Day.

The place of filing for federal offices is the Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State, Veterans Services Building, 20 West 12th Street, St. Paul, MN 55155. The place of filing for state offices is with the Office of the Secretary of State or with the county auditor of the county in which the candidate resides.

Candidates may file in person or by mail if the filing is received during the filing period. Candidates who will be absent from the state during the filing period and meet the requirements of Minnesota Statutes section 204B.09, subdivision 1a, may arrange to file during the seven days immediately preceding the candidate's absence from the state. This notice is sent based on current law. Be aware that the Legislature and/or Governor could make changes that affect some of these processes. This notice is provided pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 204B.33

FEDERAL OFFICES

United States Presidential Electors (10)
United States Senator (1)
United States Representative (One office per district)

STATE LEGISLATIVE OFFICES

State Representative (One office per district) Districts 19A, 19B, and 23A

JUDICIAL OFFICES

Candidates for judicial office may file either with the Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State or with the County Auditor in the county where the candidate resides. A Candidate filing for one of the Minnesota Court of Appeals seats that has been designated for one of the congressional districts must be a resident of that congressional district.

Supreme Court (Three Seats)
Chief Justice (One Seat)

Seat
Chief Justice

Incumbent
(Natalie E. Hudson)

Associate Justice (Two Seats)

Seat #
5
6

Incumbent
(Anne K. McKeig)
(Karl Procaccini)

Court of Appeals (Seven Seats)

Appellate offices are elected statewide. Where designated, candidates must reside in the congressional district listed for at least one year.

Seat #

2
3 (2nd Congressional District)
4
6 (1st Congressional District)
8

Incumbent
(Jonathan P. Schmidt)
(Sarah Wheelock)
(Tracy M. Smith)
(Renee L. Worke)
(Keala C. Ede)

12
14 (8th Congressional District)

(Diane B. Bratvold)
(Elise L. Larson)

District Courts: Third Judicial District (Ten Seats)

Seat

1
3
5
8
10
12
14
19
20
24

Incumbent
(Christina K. Stevens)
(Christy Hormann)
(Ross L. Leuning)
(Carol M. Hanks)
(Lisa R. Hayne)
(Christine A. Long)
(Natalie S. Martinez)
(Jeremy L. Clinefelter)
(Debra A. Groehler)
(Christa M. Daily)

COUNTY OFFICES

County Commissioner District 1
County Commissioner District 2

SOIL & WATER

Soil & Water Conservation District Supervisor in Soil & Water District 1
Soil & Water Conservation District Supervisor in Soil & Water District 5

Published in the Waseca County Pioneer on May 17 and 24, 2024

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LEGAL NOTICES

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF WASECA
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT
DISTRICT COURT
PROBATE DIVISION
Court File No.: 81-PR-24-352
In Re: Estate of
DAVID ERVIN BORN,
Decedent
**NOTICE AND ORDER FOR
HEARING ON PETITION FOR
DESCENT OF PROPERTY**

TO ALL INTERESTED PER-
SONS:
A Petition for Determination of
Descent has been filed with this
Court. The Petition represents that
the Decedent died more than three
years ago, leaving property in Min-
nesota and requests the probate of
Decedent's last Will and the descent
of such property be determined and
assigned by this Court to the persons
entitled to the property. Any objec-
tions to the Petition must be filed
with the Court prior to or raised at
the hearing. If proper, and no objec-
tions are filed or raised, the Petition
may be granted. It is ordered and

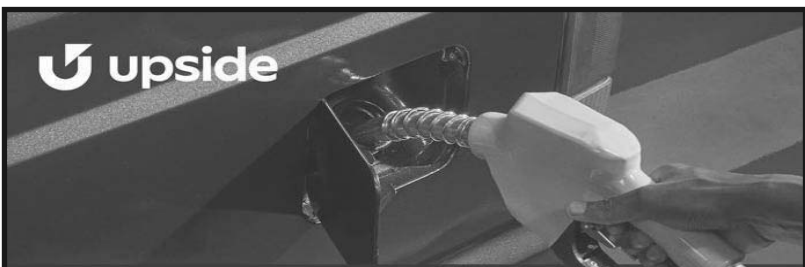
Notice is further given that the Peti-
tion will be heard on the 17th day of
July, 2024, at 9:30 a.m., by this Court
via Zoom technology.
1. Notice shall be given to all inter-
ested persons (Minn. Stat. 524.1-
401) and persons who have filed a
demand for notice pursuant to Minn.
Stat. 524.3-204.
2. Notice shall be given by publish-
ing this Notice and Order as pro-
vided by law and by mailing a copy
of this Notice and Order at least 14
days prior to the hearing date.
BY THE COURT
Dated: May 16, 2024
/s/ Carol M. Hanks
Judge of District Court
/s/ Shannon M. Asselin
Deputy Court Administrator

**PATTON HOVERSTEN &
BERG PA**
Keith L. Deike, #148635
215 E. Elm Avenue
Waseca, MN 56093
Phn: 507-835-5240

Published in the Waseca County
Pioneer on May 24 and 31, 2024

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: Notice is hereby given that the annual review of the City of Waseca's Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) will take place at the City Council meeting scheduled for 7:00 PM on Tuesday, June 4th, 2024, in the City Hall Council Chambers located at 508 South State Street in Waseca. The purpose of this public review is to educate and raise awareness regarding stormwater and related issues and to receive public comment and suggestions. Any questions or comments about this public meeting or stormwater related issues may be directed to the City of Waseca Engineering Department at 507-835-9730. Published in the Waseca County Pioneer on May 24, 2024


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**The City of Waseca
current Drinking Water Quality Report
is now available on the City's website at
www.ci.waseca.mn.us
on the Water Department page
or contact Waseca Utilities for a copy.
at (507) 835-9718
Monday – Friday
8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
CITY OF WASECA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Waseca Economic Development Authority (the "Waseca EDA") will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, June 12, 2024, at approximately 12:00 P.M. at the Waseca City Hall, 508 South State Street, Waseca, Minnesota 56093, regarding a resolution authorizing the sale of real property owned by the Waseca EDA.
The Waseca EDA proposes the sale of real property consisting of one (1) parcel of undeveloped real property located at 513 West Elm Avenue in the City of Waseca, Waseca County, Minnesota (PID No. 174530180), containing approximately 0.36 acres, as legally described on Exhibit A attached to the resolution authorizing the sale of City-owned property.
Following the public hearing, the Waseca EDA will consider adopting the resolution authorizing the sale and approving the purchase agreement with MADD Properties, LLC, for the development of a commercial kitchen on the property.
All interested persons may appear at the hearing and present their views regarding the sale of the above-described real property orally or, if prior to the meeting, in writing. More information can be obtained by contacting Tina Wilson, PCED, Economic Development Manager for the City of Waseca, via e-mail at tinaw@ci.waseca.mn.us or by phone at (507) 835-9741.
Dated: May 24th, 2024
Published in the Waseca County Pioneer on May 24, 2024

SWEET SOMMERS VFW POST 1642
June 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5 6pm BAR Bingo	6 7pm HALL BINGO	7 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm	8
9	10 7 pm Post & AUX. Meeting	11	12 6pm BAR Bingo	13 7pm HALL BINGO	14 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm	15
16	17	18	19 6pm BAR Bingo	20 7pm HALL BINGO	21 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm	22
23	24	25	26 6pm BAR Bingo	27 7pm HALL BINGO	28 MEAT Raffle 5:30 Horse racing 6:30pm	29
30						

HOURS OF OPERATION
SUN.- MON. CLOSED
TUE.- WED.- 3pm to 11pm Tue. Is Lady's nite 2 for one-Men Busch light \$2.50 from 4 to 6pm.
THUR.- 1pm to 11pm
FRI.- SAT.- 11am to 1 am
POST & AUX MEETING 7pm club open 6pm MEMBERS only. Mn. Gambling license number 00385

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ORDINANCE NO. 1111

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WASECA
REGULATING MOBILE FOOD VENDING TO INCLUDE FOOD TRUCKS, VENDING WAGONS,
FOOD STANDS & FOOD CARTS

The City of Waseca does hereby ordain:
The Revision of *Chapter 120: Mobile Food Vending* of the Waseca City Code of Ordinances:

120.01 DEFINITIONS:

FARMERS’ MARKET – an association of three or more persons who assemble at a defined location that is open to the public for the purposes of selling directly to the consumer the products of a farm or garden occupied and cultivated by the person selling the product. These products would include products that meet the cottage food exemptions under state law.

FOOD CART – A food and beverage service establishment propelled by the operator, a non-motorized vehicle. Minn. Stat. §157.15(6)

MOBILE FOOD TRUCK – Every motor vehicle in which foods of any kind are carried for the purposes of selling at retail sale on City streets or other public rights-of-way.

MOBILE FOOD VENDING VEHICLE – A mobile food unit is a food and beverage service establishment that is a vehicle-mounted unit, either motorized or trailered and readily movable, without disassembling, for transport to another location. The unit can operate no more than 21 days annually at any one place unless operated at the site of and in conjunction with a permanent business licensed under Minnesota Statutes Chapter 157 or Chapter 28A. All mobile food units must be operated in compliance with the Minnesota Food Code.

MOBILE FOOD VENDING – A food and beverage service establishment that is a vehicle-mounted or any stationary unit but not permanently located.

OPERATOR—Any person, firm, or corporation that owns, leases, contracts, or in any other fashion permits a person to operate upon the City streets or other public rights-of-way any food vending vehicle for the purpose of vending, or the person driving or operating any such vehicle.

PRE-PACKAGED FOOD TRUCK – A vehicle offering prepared and pre-packaged food, such as ice cream products.

SEASONAL/TEMPORARY FOOD STAND – A food and beverage service establishment that is a food stand that is disassembled and moved from location to location but operates no more than twenty-one (21) days annually at any one location. A seasonal/temporary food stand may operate for more than 21 days annually at any one place with the approval of the regulatory authority, as defined in Minnesota Rules, part 4626.0020, subpart 70, that has jurisdiction over the seasonal/temporary food stand. *This shall not include mobile food vending vehicles.* Minn. Stat. §157.15(13)

VENDING WAGONS– Offering food for sale from a motor vehicle on the city streets or other public rights-of-way.

120.02 PERMIT REQUIRED:

No person, business, or other entity may operate a mobile food truck or mobile food vending vehicle on any property owned or controlled by the City of Waseca, including City streets, paths and sidewalks, City lots, or City parks, without following the provisions of this ordinance.

The fee for an annual permit shall be in an amount as duly established by the City Council, which is reviewed from time to time and shall entitle the operator to vend from one such vehicle for one year from the date of permit purchase. An additional permit fee shall be paid for each additional vehicle utilized by an operator.

The applicant must submit a written application on a form prescribed by the city and include the following with its application:

- a) A copy of its current Retail Mobile Food Handler license issued by the MN Department of Health or Waseca County. A decal must be displayed on the vehicle as required by the MN Department of Health.
- b) Insurance or certificate for insurance coverage as required under Section 120.04.

An applicant will not be allowed to park along City streets or in City parks. However, a Special Event Permit submitted to and approved by the City of Waseca may allow special exceptions.

The applicant will not be allowed to park along Elm Avenue or State Street (Highway 13) at any time.

The applicant may enter private areas and lots with prior approval from that specific landowner.

The applicant may enter public parking lots with a current city-issued permit.

The applicant may enter a City Park with a paid park reservation for that day or as part of an approved Special Event application and must remain on a paved lot.

Upon approval of the application by the City, a permit for each vehicle permitted will be issued, which must be displayed by the operator in the corresponding vehicle.

120.03 FEES:

The fee shall be in an amount as established by the City Council from time to time.

An annual fee shall be charged for the operation of a vehicle year-round.

120.04 INSURANCE:

A permit will not be issued until the applicant has filed with the City evidence of insurance insuring the applicant against liability imposed by law arising out of the ownership, maintenance, or operation of such private business in amounts of at least \$100,000 per individual, \$500,000 per single incident and \$100,000 for property damage. The City shall be named as an additional insured in the policy providing such insurance. Such policy shall further provide that it may not be canceled except upon ten (10) days written notice filed with the City. The certificate shall contain an acknowledgment signed by the insurer

that prior to modification, cancellation, or termination of the subject policy, written notice shall first be sent to the City by said insurance company.

A permit is effective only if the required insurance coverage is constantly maintained and evidence of its continuance is on file with the City.

120.05 RESTRICTIONS ON VENDING ACTIVITY:

- 1. An operator shall vend only when the food vending vehicle is lawfully stopped.
- 2. An operator shall vend only from the side of the vehicle away from moving traffic and as near as possible to the curb or side of the street.
- 3. An operator shall not vend to any person standing in the roadway; the vehicle must face away from the roadway.
- 4. An operator shall park a minimum of 30 feet from the nearest intersecting curb line.
- 6. The City will provide no water or electricity without an approved Special Event Permit application. Only available at select locations.

120.06 PARKING:

Parking in city lots is permitted when complying with all ordinances, regulations, parking zones, and signage.

Parking in city streets and parks may be allowed with a Special Event Permit submitted to and approved by the City of Waseca.

Sales by the permitted operator shall be made on paved lots or streets only and on the curbside only. The vehicle shall be parked within one (1) foot of the curb and a minimum of 30 feet from the nearest intersecting curb line and in compliance with all ordinances, regulations, parking zones, and posted signage.

An operator is prohibited from reserving a parking space by blocking, barricading, hooding, signing, or preventing another vehicle from occupying it in any other manner.

The Waseca Zoning Ordinance regulates food vending vehicles on private property. If the vehicle is located on private property, consent from the property owner must be available upon request by the City.

120.07 SIGHT VISIBILITY AND SAFETY:

For the safety of the general public, the Waseca Police Department/City Staff reserves the right to require the immediate relocation of food vending vehicles if their placement substantially restricts the visibility of motorists, bicyclists, or pedestrians or in any other way impacts roadway conditions in an unsafe manner.

120.08 EXCEPTIONS:

The provisions of this ordinance shall not apply to individuals or businesses operating food delivery services that deliver food directly to the consumer's location or who sell at a farmers’ market.

Residential seasonal lemonade stands are exempt from the proposed ordinance based on Minn. Stat. §157.22(15).

120.09 PENALTY:

Any operator violating any provision of this ordinance shall face revocation of their permit or a misdemeanor offense.

120.10 SEVERABILITY AND SAVINGS CLAUSE:

If any section or portion of this ordinance shall be found unconstitutional or otherwise invalid or unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, those findings shall not invalidate or affect the validity and enforceability of any other section or provision of this ordinance.

This Ordinance shall be in full force ten (10) days following its passage and publication.

Passed by the City Council of Waseca, Minnesota, on this 21 day of MAY 2024


Randy L. Zimmerman
Mayor of Waseca

Attested: 
Julia Hall
City Clerk

Introduced: 5/1/2024
Adopted: 5/21/2024
Published: 5/24/2024
Effective: 5/31/2024

Published in the Waseca County Pioneer on May 24, 2024

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
WASECA COUNTY BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT
Waseca County East Annex (Commissioner’s Room)
300 N. State Street, Waseca, MN 56093
Thursday, June 6, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

Request for variances to construct a garage addition in Section 5 of Iosco Township. Debra K Johnson Trustee requests for variances to construct a 24’x24’ garage addition on the property with address 43410 – 73rd St., Janesville (05.005.0500) and in Section 5 of T108N R23W. The requested variances are:

- I. Variance of 23’ from the required front yard setback of 50’
- II. Variance of 8’ from the required side yard setback of 15’

The applicant’s parcel is zone LR Limited Residential Zoning District and in the Shoreland Overlay District of Reeds Lake

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
WASECA COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION
Waseca County East Annex (Commissioner’s Room)
300 N. State Street, Waseca, MN 56093
Thursday, June 6, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

- A. Request for a Conditional Use Permit Amendment in Section 4 of Janesville Township.
James R & Sue A Williams Trust request for an amendment to their existing Conditional Use Permit to remove an existing building site. The original Conditional Use Permit (Cell Tower) was approved in 2008 and the amendment is necessary to remove a currently existing parcel from the conditions and requirements of the CUP. The building site (06.004.0500) is currently owned by Mary Beth Williams. The parcel is Zone A-1 Agricultural Protection.
- B. Request for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for an Essential Service in Section 20 of Woodville Township.
Northern Natural Gas requests a CUP for an essential service to expand their existing facility on a portion of a 36-acre parcel (12.020.0700) owned by William K and Eileen L. Harguth Trust and located in Section 20, T107N, R22W of Woodville Township. The requested CUP is pursuant to stipulations in §6.16 of the Waseca County UDC. The property owners’ parcel is in the HC Highway Commercial Zoning District and Shoreland Overlay district of Gaiter Lake.
- C. Request for a Conditional Use Permit to operate a Landscape Material Retail Business in the Village of Matawan
Tyler M. Baumann requests for a Conditional Use Permit to operate a Landscape Material Retail Business on his properties (03.451.0260 & 03.451.0290) with address 20798 Matawan Ave., New Richland. The parcels are zoned VMX Village Mixed Use, and the request is subject to stipulations in §6.21 of the Waseca County UDC.

Information on this item will be available at the Waseca County Planning and Zoning Office, 300 N State St., Waseca during regular business hours 8-4:30, and will be on the county website www.wasecacounty.gov at the agenda tab. Oral comments will be accepted at the meeting. Upon request, accommodations will be provided to allow individuals with disabilities to participate in all Waseca County services, programs and activities.

Maame Quarcoo, Sr. Land Use Planner.
Published in the Waseca County Pioneer on May 24, 2024

ORDINANCE NO. 1112

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WASECA

REGULATING SPECIALIZED VEHICLES: ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLES (ATVs)

UTILITY TASK VEHICLES (UTVs), MINI-TRUCKS, AND GOLF CARTS.

The City of Waseca, Minnesota, ordains:

Subd. 1. Purpose and Intent

This ordinance provides reasonable regulations for the use of All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs), Utility Task Vehicles (UTVs), Mini-Trucks, and Golf Carts, herein known as “specialized vehicles,” on public roadways within the City of Waseca. It is not intended to allow what the Minnesota Statutes prohibit or to prohibit what the Minnesota Statutes expressly allow. This is a discretionary program that each local government may choose to set up. ATV, UTV, and Golf Cart operations are essentially prevented if a local government has not taken the steps of establishing the ordinance and issuing special permits. Minn, Stat §169.045.

Subd. 2. Definitions

- A. **All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs):** As described by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR)- and may be amended from time to time.
 - 1. Class 1 all-terrain vehicle means an all-terrain vehicle (ATV) that has a total width from outside of tire rim to outside of tire rim that is fifty (50) inches or less.
 - 2. Class 2 all-terrain vehicle means an all-terrain vehicle (ATV) that has a total width from outside of tire rim to outside of tire rim that is greater than 50 inches but not more than 65 inches.
 - 3. Vehicles not considered ATVs include electric-assisted bicycles, dune buggies, go-carts, or vehicles designed and used specifically for lawn maintenance, agriculture, logging, or mining purposes.
- B. **Designated roadways:** Permitted on roads within the city limits of Waseca, excluding only Minnesota State Highway 13 (State Street) and Subd 4 (G)(2) Operation, Golf Cart.
- C. **Driver/Operator:** A person who drives, operates, or is in physical control of a specialized vehicle.
- D. **Golf cart:** A golf cart is a vehicle with four wheels used primarily for light terrain slow-moving operation. For purposes of this ordinance, a golf cart shall be equipped with the following:
 - 1. Rear view mirrors as defined by Minn. Stat. 169.70
 - 2. Slow-moving vehicle placard/emblem provided for in Minn. Stat. 169.522.
- E. **Mini-truck:** as defined by Minn Stat. §169.011, Subd. 40, as may be amended from time to time. For purposes of this ordinance, a mini-truck shall be operated under a permit on designated roadways.

If the Mini-Truck has a current Department of Motor Vehicle registration, it does NOT need a City of Waseca permit.
- F. **Permittee:** A person who has obtained a permit for a specialized vehicle.
- G. **Physically Disabled resident** – an individual who meets the criteria outlined in Minn. Stat. §169.345, Subd. 2.
- H. **Utility Task Vehicles (UTVs):** As defined by Minn. Stat. 169.045, subd. 1 (3), a side-by-side, four-wheel drive, off-road vehicle that has four wheels, is propelled by an internal combustion engine with a piston displacement capacity of 1,200 cubic centimeters or less and has a total dry weight of 1,800 but less than 2,600 pounds.

Subd. 3. Permits

No person shall operate a specialized vehicle within the City of Waseca without obtaining a permit per Minn. Stat. §169.045.

Obtain permits and stickers from the Waseca Police Department during normal business hours.

- A. Every application for a permit shall be made on a form supplied by the City of Waseca and shall contain all the following information:
 - 1. The applicant's name, address, and date of birth.
 - 2. Provide the model, make, year, and registration information of the specialized vehicle that is being permitted.
 - 3. ATV/UTV Registration with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) under Minn. Stat. §84.922
 - 4. The current driver's license number for all operators of the specialized vehicle(s) to be permitted.
 - 5. If the driver/operator is born after July 1, 1987, and is requesting a permit for an ATV or UTV, they must provide proof of successful completion of the ATV Safety Training course from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. Per Minn. Stat. 84.925 Subd. 5.
 - 6. Proof of insurance, including the company name, policy number, effective dates, and coverage covering the permitted vehicle.
- B. Permits shall be granted for a period of three (3) years. Permit fees will not be prorated, transferred, or refundable.
- C. The three-year permit fee shall be in an amount duly established by the City Council from time to time and set forth in the City of Waseca Master Fee schedule.
- D. No permit will be issued if:
 - 1. the applicant has had their driving privileges suspended, revoked, or canceled for any and all reasons.
 - 2. The applicant fails to comply with any required documents outlined in the application form.
- E. An applicant may apply for more than one permit. Each ATV, UTV, mini-truck, or golf cart must have its own application and permit. Permit transfers are not allowed.
- F. Minn. Stat. §84.928 Subd. 5; Nothing in this ordinance or Minn. Stat. prohibits the use of specialized vehicles within the right of way without a city permit in an organized contest or event, subject to the consent of a Special Event Permit.

Subd. 4. Operation

- A. Any specialized vehicle operating on designated roadways in the City of Waseca shall have a valid permit sticker pursuant to Subd. 3, and the vehicle's driver shall be at least sixteen (16) years of age with a valid driver's license. Refer to the permit application for an acceptable vehicle sticker location.

- B. Golf carts shall display the slow-moving vehicle placard/emblem when operated on designated roadways provided for in Minn. Stat. §169.045 and Minn. Stat. §169.522, as it may be amended from time to time.
- C. Specialized vehicles shall be equipped with a rearview or side mirror to provide the driver with adequate vision from behind as required by Minn. Stat. §169.70, as it may be amended from time to time.
- D. The operator shall provide a signal of intention when turning or stopping the specialized vehicle as defined in Minn. Stat. §169.19.
- E. Specialized vehicles not equipped with headlights may only be operated from sunrise to sunset. They shall not be operated in inclement weather conditions when visibility is impaired by weather, smoke, fog, or other conditions or at any time when there is insufficient light to clearly see persons and vehicles on the roadway at a distance of 500 feet.
- F. Every person operating a specialized vehicle under a permit on designated roadways has all the rights and duties applicable to the driver of any other vehicle under the provisions of Minnesota Statute Chapter 169, as it may be amended from time to time, except when these provisions

cannot reasonably be applied to mini-trucks and except as otherwise specifically provided in Minn. Stat.§ 169.045, subd. 7, as it may be amended from time to time.

- G. Specialized vehicles are permitted to operate only on city streets and County State Aid roads (CSAH). Not State or Federal highways, except when crossing such highways per Minn. Stat. §84.928.
 - 1. Residences on Minnesota Highway 13 (State Street) may be accessed via the nearest legal street.
 - 2. Golf carts are not allowed on CSAH 2, Elm Avenue, except to cross Elm Avenue at the nearest cross street to and for residents on Elm Avenue.
 - 3. Specialized vehicles are not permitted to operate on any property designated for use as an airport.
- H. Specialized vehicles are not allowed on any bike or walking trail within the city limits of Waseca or on the Clear Lake perimeter trail.
- I. A person less than eighteen (18) years of age shall not ride as a passenger or as an operator on the roadways in the City of Waseca unless they are wearing a safety helmet approved by the Commissioner of Public Safety and/or is deemed Department of Transportation (DOT) certified and approved.
- J. A person under eighteen (18) years of age shall not ride as a passenger or as an operator of an ATV without wearing a seatbelt when provided by the manufacturer.
- K. The number of occupants on the specialized vehicle may not exceed the design occupant load.
- L. Specialized vehicles must obey all parking rules found in Chapter 71 of the Waseca, MN Code of Ordinances.
- M. Specialized vehicles must abide by all Minnesota Statutes and regulations that may not be specifically outlined in this ordinance.
- N. The operation of specialized vehicles shall be the total risk and responsibility of the driver/operator. By passing this ordinance, the City of Waseca assumes no responsibility for the operation and shall be held harmless in any action arising from its operation.
- O. The City or its designee may suspend, revoke, or deny a permit at any time if the permittee has violated or allowed a violation to occur within the provisions of this ordinance or Minnesota Statute Chapter 169, as it may be amended from time to time, or if there is evidence that the permittee cannot safely operate the specialized vehicle.
- P. Authorized City of Waseca staff may operate city-owned all-terrain or utility task vehicles without obtaining a permit within the city. City vehicles may be operated at any time and on any state or federal highway, city street, sidewalk, trail, right-of-way, or public property when conducting City business.
- Q. The operation of specialized vehicles shall not impede traffic, per Minn. Stat. §169.15.

Subd. 5. Storage

The storage of specialized vehicles on residentially zoned properties shall comply with City of Waseca ordinances.

Subd. 6. Violation; Penalty

- A. Any permittee violating or allowing this ordinance to be violated shall have their permit to operate a specialized vehicle in the City of Waseca revoked and shall be cited for a misdemeanor offense.
- B. Any person who operates a specialized vehicle without the required permit shall be cited for a misdemeanor offense.

This ordinance shall take effect ten (10) days after its adoption.

Adopted this 21st day of May, 2024.

Randy L. Zimmerman
Mayor of Waseca

Attested:

Julia Hall
City Clerk

Introduced: 5/7/2024
Adopted: 5/21/2024
Published: 5/24/2024
Effective: 5/31/2024

Published in the Waseca County Pioneer on May 24, 2024



The Pastor's Column

Learning how to forgive

By PASTOR KEN ANDRS
“How do I forgive someone who did...?” “I can’t forgive them.” “I am not ready to forgive.” These are statements I hear all too often from people. They share their pain and hurt with me and then give me one of those lines. Unforgiveness will stop your growth in Christ, it will hinder your faith, cause division in relationships, and be a poor witness to the power of God to redeem, heal, and restore.

Over the past several weeks we have been talking about forgiveness, and now we continue that discussion so that we can gain freedom from the hurt and brokenness we experience. There is joy in the Lord to be had, why would we want to continue in hurt if there is joy? We end up stuck in unforgiveness when we lose sight of God and His best, we focus on our pain making ourselves out to be martyrs in our misery rather than allowing God to do His work.

Our job, as followers of Jesus, is to act in love towards one another. Not to hold anger between each other but to put it aside so that God can work out His justice, correction, and restoration. We do not need anger or hurt to hold someone accountable for their actions, but we do need God to work on our hearts so that we can experience His healing in our lives and find joy once again.

In Colossians 3 we are given a list of sins that people commit, the list remains applicable even to today. There is nothing new under the sun and people have been good at hurting one another since Adam blamed Eve and Cain wasn’t Abel. We have to let God pass judgment and respond in love to the pain and hurt. Verses 12-13 of Colossians 3 states:

12 Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. 13 Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord

forgave you. 14 And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.

If we continue in unforgiveness we join those that stand against God’s best, not forgiving another person is sin, left unchecked it will develop into hatred, bitterness, and self-righteousness. God’s call is to forgive with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience done so with love so that unity may be developed. Jesus forgave us before we were born and died on the cross for our sins and the sins of others. To deny another person forgiveness is to proclaim that they are unworthy of the love of God.

We have been called to unity in Christ, to forgive as He forgave us, to find joy in the Lord, and hope for eternity through salvation. Once we recognize that we are struggling to forgive one another, we ask God to give us strength to forgive. Then we extend forgiveness in our hearts, building strength to speak the words out loud. Anytime the pain and hurt come back, we forgive again, not allowing the pain and hurt to spoil our hearts. We cannot control other’s actions, but we can forgive and continue to forgive trusting that God is just and He will avenge our pain.

Turn over your hurt to God, ask Him to heal you and to forgive others. As you do the work of forgiveness ask God to meet your emotional needs that were produced through the hurt. Don’t hold a grudge when you forgive, but also guard your heart and life so that you are not hurt again in the same way. Ask God to heal you, redeem the hurt for His glory and restore you to right relationship with God. Finally pray for the one that hurt you, that God would work out His justice and redeem their souls through repentance and salvation.

Forgiveness is not easy, but its benefits make an impact for all eternity. Ask God to forgive you and help you to forgive others.

Very soon, it will all be history

Final service at First Congregational Church Sunday, May 26, 2024

Cookies and coffee to follow Sunday service

By JIM LUTGENS
Staff Writer

Almost every Sunday since 1882, there has been some sort of activity at First Congregational Church in New Richland.

It has been said that if you step into the building and listen closely enough, you can almost hear the echoes of countless worship services, weddings, receptions, funerals, baptisms, Sunday school activities, and fund-raising dinners.

There’s a lot of history within those walls. Soon, however - very, very soon - it will all be history.

In light of waning attendance, church elders have made the painfully difficult decision to cease services after May 26.

There will be one final chance for folks to bid farewell to a church that was a staple of the community for many decades, and Pastor Pamela Jensen made it clear that she’s inviting any and all interested persons to attend the final services at First Congregational Sunday, May 26 at 10 a.m.

Jensen, the church’s pastor the last 21 years, has mixed feelings about it, starting with sadness.

“I am, of course, feeling the sadness of an ending,” she said. “But I am retiring from the paid ministry and look forward to worshipping with my husband again!”

Ask almost anyone else associated with the church about its closure and they express a deep sadness. For some, it’s the only church they’ve ever known; their history in the church dates back two generations.

For Shelly Moxon, it started with her parents, Donald and Audrene Smith, and before that it was Donald’s parents, Harry and Amanda Smith. Moxon’s sister, Anne Hagen, has also been active in the church.

Moxon, baptized and confirmed at the church, is genuinely heartbroken to see it close.

“How does it feel?” said Moxon. “That’s not even a fair question to ask. It’s heart-wrenching. It’s very, very difficult. There just aren’t any words to describe how it feels. Don’t make me start to cry.”

Bruce Berg, chairman of the church’s trustees, can relate. His parents, Harlan and Leah, were always in church, as were Berg and his eight siblings growing up. He remembers a time when the church was as big and as busy as any in town. It is noteworthy that former New Richland Star Publisher Margaret Engesser taught Sunday school there.

But Berg and all others involved can also see the proverbial handwriting on the wall. With younger folks moving away and older people dying, there just aren’t enough active members - or dollars - to keep it all up and running.

“It’s disappointing, but necessary,” said Berg. “Unfortunately, I’m afraid it’s the future of churches in small towns.”

Jensen has seen a steady decline in active members since she took over as pastor.

“When I began serving First Congregational Church, there were 40 or 45 regulars in Sunday worship,” she said. “Sunday school children and confirmands have grown up and moved away, while I have had the privilege of officiating at the



New Richland’s First Congregational Church. Below, Pastor Pamela Jensen.

Photos by Eli Lutgens

funerals of nearly 30 of my brothers and sisters.”

Jensen has also officiated at a few weddings and baptized a few babies, the most recent - Aria Leigh Nowak - this past Sunday.

“I have spent many happy hours at church suppers and worshipping at the care center,” said Jensen. “I have been wrapped up in the loving arms of this particular family of God, and they have blessed me beyond measure.”

Jensen grew up in a large suburban church in the Chicago area and then joined a large suburban church in the Twin Cities when she moved permanently to Minnesota. Being part of the New Richland community was a pleasant surprise.

“I had never experienced the blessing of being part of a family church,” she said. “Where everyone knows everyone, visitors are seen and welcomed, everyone participates in some way to the ministry of the church, and everyone prays for their brothers and sisters and their families and friends. I have loved my time in New Richland and will always love my brothers and sisters in Christ here.”

Moxon, active in all aspects of the church, spoke of many people helping over the years, praising the efforts of Loren and Kris Schlaak for maintaining the church’s grounds. Kris’ mom, Lorraine (Ducza) Meyer, was also always very active. So was Tom Smith, Moxon’s uncle.

Tom Smith’s widow, Marilyn, is 85 and could be the church’s oldest active member. She did it all, serving as Sunday school teacher, superintendent and secretary.

“I have mixed feelings about it,” said Marilyn. “It’s very sad. My family has had a lot to do with that church, starting with Tom’s parents.”

At one point, according to Marilyn, the entire congregation was, “Like a close-knit family.”

As for the future of the church building, Berg said it will be put up for sale. Its closure leaves Minnesota with six Congregational churches, in Waseca, Burnsville, Bayport, Remer, Edina and Minneapolis.

“Finding a new church home is exciting, a little scary, but absolutely necessary for all of us to continue to use our gifts for the bringing of God’s



kingdom on earth and to be in fellowship with our brothers and sisters in Christ,” said Jensen.

The main message Jensen has tried to convey to parishioners in New Richland?

“God knows you and loves you with an everlasting love,” she said. “That is sheer grace - God’s riches at Christ’s expense. Grace is ours - unearned, unlooked for, and life-giving.”

Moxon has no idea which church may be in her future, but she does have the necessary paperwork for transferring current members to a new church. You can ask her about it when you see her or write to her at 572 Broadway Ave. So. in New Richland.

Jensen shared a farewell message in the church’s final ever annual report.

“Wherever we may go from here, we will carry with us the blessings of God that we have shared,” she wrote. “And we will continue to walk in the power of the Holy Spirit as we seek God’s grace.”

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ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH 314 4th Ave NE, Waseca 507-835-2647 Worship Sunday 9:00 a.m. * * * * *	ST. PETER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH Otisco, Minnesota Rev. Scott Williams, Pastor Thursday - 6:30 p.m. Soup & Study Sunday - 8:45 a.m. Worship * * * * *	ZOAR UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST Pastor Ava Adams-Morris Waldorf, Minnesota Sunday — 9 a.m. Worship * * * * *	FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH 300 Owen St., Janesville Pastor Sarah Krolak * * * * *
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH 503 2nd Ave NE, Waseca 507-835-4548 (office email: 1cwaseca@hickorytech.net) Worship Sunday 10 a.m. * * * * *	TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH New Richland, Minnesota Pastor Mary Iverson Sunday - 9 a.m. Sunday Worship, Sunday School; 10 a.m. Coffee Monday - 9 a.m. Quilting Wednesday - 6:15 p.m. Confirmation; 7 p.m. Council meeting * * * * *	ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC Waldorf, Minnesota Father Brian Mulligan Sunday - 8 a.m. Worship * * * * *	ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL CHURCH Alma City, Minnesota Pastor Robert Harting Sunday - 10 a.m. Worship * * * * *
GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH 300 E Elm Ave, Waseca 507-835-1709 Worship Sunday 9 a.m. * * * * *	FIRST CONGREGATIONAL New Richland, Minnesota Pastor Pamela Jensen Sunday - 10 a.m. Worship * * * * *	TRINITY LUTHERAN Wilton Township Rev. Larry Sipe, Pastor Sunday - 10:45 a.m. Worship * * * * *	TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH Smiths Mill, Minnesota Pastor Robert Harting Thursday - 7:00 p.m. Worship Sunday - 8:30 a.m. Worship * * * * *
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. * * * * *	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 * * * * *	THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS Brad Donner, Branch President Waseca, Minnesota wwwlds.org Sunday — 10 a.m. Sacrament Mtg.; 11:20 a.m. Sunday School * * * * *	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 * * * * *
REAL LIFE CHURCH 620 W Elm Ave, Waseca 507-607-8245 * * * * *			NOTE: CHANGES IN CHURCH CALENDARS MUST BE MADE BY NOTIFICATION FROM A MEMBER OF THE CONGREGATION TO THE WASECA COUNTY PIONEER.

Hudspith earns doctorate degree

By MELISSA DUNN
Staff Writer

It is said that education is the most powerful weapon one can use to change the world for the better. Not only is that premise the foundation of the Waseca School District, but Superintendent Eric Hudspith illustrates it in his personal life through the completion of an Ed.D. (Education Doctorate) in Educational Leadership from Minnesota State University Mankato. “A core belief of mine is that all students have the ability and right to succeed, and the role of education is to increase opportunities for all students,” he says. “However, education is an ever-changing field just like the world we live in. Pursuing a terminal degree further demonstrates my commitment to being a lifelong learner and staying current in the field to best serve students.”

Hudspith, whose background includes a bachelor of science in elementary education, a master of science in educational technology, K-12 Education Specialist licensure, K-12 Principal Leadership licensure, and superintendent licensure, said he still felt he would be able to accomplish more with the advanced degree, stating he believes it is critically important the district stays current and responsive to the needs of students as they prepare for a world that is constantly changing. To him, part of that effort is ensuring awareness of real-time discussions in education. “Being part of this degree program has networked me with key colleagues throughout the state who support me in this, and helped enhance my connection with law and policy makers that influence our education system,” he said. “Additionally, I am currently connected with other researchers who are focusing on teacher recruitment strategies, allowing me to be in the discussion early so that Waseca students can benefit.”

Between his admission in autumn of 2021 and his dissertation defense in January of this year, Hudspith’s course load included classes in policy, law, research design, and system analysis. “Dissertation (research) that I conducted was measuring the effectiveness of particular strategic practices in recruiting and retaining diverse staff in rural Minnesota,” he said. “For two school years, including the summers, I was in class one night per week for 3-4 hours, plus additional time outside of class to do the work. Over one summer I co-taught a graduate class as part of an internship which required several Saturdays.”

When asked whether he was surprised by anything in the process, Hudspith stated, “The most surprising thing is how engrossed you become in the research that is so exciting and meaningful. I didn’t realize how much time I was spending writing the paper until I was done, and then a lot of evening and weekend time opened up. Without even being overly stressful or anxiety-inducing, I had just been doing the work to get it accomplished and because it was exciting, field-changing work.”

Is he glad to be done? “It is a big accomplishment, but I am also excited because the credential does carry a networking aspect, which I will be able to use as appropriate to benefit Waseca students by being on the forefront of more ideas,” Hudspith said. “I am eternally grateful to my wife and children for understanding that this was the commitment, how important it was to my work and our growth, and being supportive the entire time. There is no sugar coating the time and energy it took, but we did it together because it was important to us.”



Hudspith

Exciting summer set for Janesville public library

By RACHAEL JAEGER
Staff Writer

The Janesville Free Public Library will soon start its summer library program which features a variety of activities for all kinds of personalities and interests within the community.

Kelly Koplen, Branch Supervisor, expressed excitement when she introduced an “Unlovable Animals” event set for 1 p.m. Monday, June 3. Koplen said the library system does its best to host an animal-themed event like this every year since it draws quite a crowd.

“It would be a good time to sign up for the summer reading program because it begins on that day,” Koplen added.

Among the animals that will be there this year are a live snake, salamander, and owl; children will learn about their adaptations and behaviors.

While the initial plan is for children to meet in the reading garden outside of the library, she said if it happens to be a rainy day, the program will be moved to Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton (JWP) High School.

Last year, an event named Loveable Llamas brought live animals to the library and offered an opportunity for children to learn about them.

“Kids were able to touch them and walk them around the property,” Koplen said, adding that a total of 100 individuals, adults included, showed up last year. “A couple of kids didn’t want [the llamas] to leave. I had a lot of people asking if they would be back.”

Children from 3 to 18 years old are invited to “Chalk the Walk” in front of the library beginning at 2 p.m. on June 4. Koplen plans to read some chalk-themed books during the event

“It ends up being a pretty good outing event for families,” Koplen said.

“Little Explorers” for children ages 2 to 5 will invite young learners to use their curiosity and employ their senses through activities including “mold and dig,” “scoop and pour,” “snap and pop,” “count and sort,” and “color and texture.” The event will take place at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, June 6, and again on Tuesday, June 11.

During all open hours on June 6, Koplen invites stuffed animals to come to the library for a one-day visit. Children should drop off favorite stuffed animals on Thursday, and might have a chance of seeing them touring the town. Animals will stop at Dairy Queen, take a wagon ride, and spend some time fishing before returning to the library to be reclaimed between 1 and 6 p.m. on June 10. Koppen says it’s a chance for beloved stuffed animals from around the neighborhood to get to know each other.

Koplen hopes to enjoy the stuffed animal outing in much the same ways as last year, when they played card or board games like Scrabble or Candyland. Koplen also plans to bring popcorn and soda, and says she will read the stuffed animals a story at bedtime.



Kelly Koplen, Janesville Librarian and Branch Supervisor,

Pioneer photo by Rachael Jaeger

She is also hoping that, like last year, they will help her with tasks like checking books in or out. She remembers around ten stuffed animals attended the extended overnight event last year, and hopes even more will take part this summer.

Koplen has a paper airplane workshop scheduled at 2 p.m. on June 10 which invites children from ages 7 to 12 to create their own designs. The library owns a kit that she will use to teach the curious patrons.

“I’m excited to learn about the different kinds to make along with the kids,” she said.

Registration is required for “Create Your Own Comic Book Character” set for 10 a.m. June 11. Performing artists Trisha and Stephan Shaskan are traveling from Minneapolis to share their “comic book expert” knowledge with children ages 7 to 12. Patrons will be guided through writing exercises to come up with their own comic book character and from there, sketch the character they imagine.

“Signs and Symbols” will begin at 3 p.m. on Thursday, June 20. Children ages 9 to 12 will have the chance to learn about signs and symbols, how they’ve been used in storytelling, and what can be discovered in horoscopes, crystals, and flowers.

Bubbles and the science that surrounds them will be the topic beginning at 2 p.m. Monday, June 24. Children ages 8 to 12 will learn about bubbles, why they pop, why they are round, and other scientific elements. The children will also have an opportunity to create their own bubble mix. Koplen extended an invitation to seniors at the nursing home to come out for the bubbles event, as well as to others like the Unlovable Animals and Chalk the Walk.

“[The residents] can watch the kids run around and play,” Koplen said. “I figured they would enjoy the interaction with the young patrons and see the different activities.”

What she says she is most excited for is the library carnival that will be July 1, starting at 1 p.m. There, children will enjoy an afternoon with balloon artist Kevin Lindh, have an opportunity to get temporary tattoos, participate in games from G & K Rental in Mankato, and decorate the sidewalk again with chalk. They will also be able to meet Willow Gentile,

an artist from Rochester who received a grant to paint historical libraries and had told Koplen she could come with or without an event.

“Thankfully we received a grant from the Janesville Area Foundation so we could make an event in honor of her,” Koplen said.

Friends of the Library and the Janesville State Bank donated money which Koplen put toward prizes for the children.

Stanley the Sea Serpent will “pop up” beginning at 1 p.m. on Monday, July 1. Organized by the Waseca-LeSeuer Library System, the Stanley the Sea Serpent Puppet show will be fun for children and families. It shares the story of a serpent who is the “biggest and baddest of the sea” until one day he spots a human who throws garbage into the water. He goes to the surface and transforms into a human who shows other humans how to treat the environment.

Koplen invites children ages 7 to 12 to create perler bead keychains based on their favorite games during an event beginning at 2 p.m. Thursday, July 18. She requires registration for this event.

“Last year, someone replicated Sponge Bob,” she recalled.

Children ages 7 to 12 will learn about the scientific techniques law enforcement uses to catch criminals during “CSI Detectives,” set for 9 a.m. Tuesday, July 23. Registration is required in advance.

Friendship Pins are the final July project Koplen has planned. Beginning at 2 p.m. Monday, July 29, children can design and create pins including their name or a message using perler beads. When they’re done, they can trade their creations with friends.

“One little girl created one with my initials on it,” Koplen said. “I thought that was sweet.”

Several of these activities are made possible through the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund provided by the Traverse des Sioux Library Cooperative. More events will follow in August. For children who complete the summer reading program, Koplen will have a wide variety of prizes to choose from, including a free book, DQ token, Casey’s coupon, prize pack for ages 3 to 13, and a raffle ticket for a prize.

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City accepts bids for street repairs

By RACHAEL JAEGER
Staff Writer

During the Janesville City Council meeting on May 13, council members approved WW Blacktopping of Mankato to overlay and chip seal Prairie Lane and Court Street, West North Street, West Market Street, Oak Street and Elm Street for a total of \$155,000. City Administrator Clinton Rogers noted the city had budgeted \$200,000 for this project in case of contingencies.

Work done by the company last year on West Allyn Street has been paid for, except that 5 percent of the amount was retained by the city until all work was confirmed to be complete. Still unresolved, Rogers said,

is the problem of an area along West Allyn Street which was to be reseeded with grass, and which is not growing in a satisfactory way. WW Blacktopping asked that the amount being withheld, about \$20,000 at this time, be reduced to one percent rather than five. While recommending that the request be approved, Rogers told council members the contractor had sent a letter offering to monitor the patch’s growth closely to ensure it proceeds in a satisfactory way.

In other business matters, the council members adopted a policy regarding body-worn cameras and the data recorded with them. Cameras paid for with public safety aid

JANESVILLE CITY COUNCIL

funds have been ordered for police to wear while on duty; their purpose is to record evidence arising from police interactions with members of the public.

Library Branch Supervisor Kelly Koplen was given permission to close a number of streets in the vicinity of the library for the sake of a “carnival for all ages” to take place from 12:30 to 3 p.m. on Monday, July 1.

During the public forum, Eagle Scout candidate Evan Olson showed

council members the final results of the landscaping project he completed around the pavilion at the city park. Along with up to 20 volunteers, he put in some flowers and incorporated hedging around a three-foot-wide bed of rock.

Donations totaling \$900 for Veterans Park were received from Arnoldt’s Good Spirits, Wiste’s Meat Market, Gidgets, the Janesville State Bank and the law firm of Patton, Holversten and Berg. The Janesville Area Golf Association donated about \$6,700 to improve tee boxes and replace signs and markers on the city golf course.

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Greenout



Members of the Minnesota Prairie County Alliance (MNPrairie) dressed in green last Thursday as part of a national movement to call attention to issues surrounding mental health.



A visit from service dog in training Ali and volunteer Scott Listberger (right) was made possible through the not-for-profit organization Believeet Canine Service Partners of Northfield. Pictured here with school staff members Rachel Breck, Leslie Madsen and Liz Patterson, Ali and Scott spent part of "Green Out" mental health awareness day at the Waseca Jr/Sr High School.



This new mural graces the front entrance to Waseca Walmart.

Walmart celebrates large remodel

The Waseca Walmart Supercenter at 2103 State St N. celebrated its grand re-opening Friday morning following a transformative remodel. The Supercenter's manager and associates held a community celebration and ribbon-cutting ceremony to mark the occasion, which included the unveiling of a new community-focused mural and the presentation of \$3,000 in grants to local Waseca organizations.

During the celebration, Supercenter manager Kara Sturgill highlighted the transformed departments and newly offered services now available to customers, including:

- New signage throughout the store.
- Expansion of Grocery Pickup and Delivery. Closer door and expanded parking spots, so quicker dispenses.
- New Pharmacy with patient care room and all new equipment.
- All new fixtures throughout the building.
- Expanded pet department.
- Expanded baby/infant department.
- Expanded dairy department.
- Brand new restrooms.

As part of Walmart's dedication to the Waseca community, the Supercenter's manager and associates presented \$3,000 in grants to local nonprofit organizations, including:

- \$2,000 to Food Shelf
- \$1,000 to Aspyr Acres Wildlife
- \$1,000 to Minnesota Association of Women Police

There were activities throughout the weekend to celebrate the re-opening including food trucks and free samples.

The Waseca Walmart Supercenter transformation is a part of Walmart's Signature Experience,

which seeks to inspire customers and elevate their in-store experience. Upgrades at the store include:

- Activated corners: Exciting displays are featured at the corners of certain departments to pull customers in and help them touch, feel, and become a part of the space, allowing them to discover all that Walmart has to offer.
- Elevated departments: Transformed Supercenter feature displays showcasing products that are out of their boxes so customers can imagine them fitting into their daily lives.
- More space to discover: Walmart has purposefully created more space for customers to explore and discover the breadth and depth of what their local Supercenter offers them.

Walmart customers around Waseca will continue to save time and money by shopping when, where, and how they want as the Supercenter continues to offer the following innovations:

- Pickup – Walmart's Pickup option has become a favorite among busy shoppers. It provides the convenience of online shopping and allows them to quickly collect their groceries without stepping out of their vehicles. The best part is that Walmart Grocery Pickup is completely free of charge. Furthermore, customers using SNAP in most states have the option to avail themselves of the pickup service as well.
- Delivery – Walmart's convenient delivery service is also a hit with customers. Even more, Walmart has now made both pickup and delivery contact free. Express delivery customers now have the option to have their deliveries made in under two hours.

A busy Saturday in Waseca



Blake and Lindsey McCarty of McCarty Farms near Waseca sold fresh rhubarb and baked goods during the first weekend of the Waseca Farmers' Market on May 18. The market will now be every Saturday morning all through the growing and harvesting season.



LillyAnn Jewison selling her handmade decor at the farmers' market. Pioneer photos by Tristan Gehring



Ken Gare and Leslie Mertes had a variety of early season vegetables for sale during Saturday's farmers Market



Milt Matson of Rustic Faith Woodworks is a lifelong Wasecan. Here, he demonstrates a selection of the goods he offered at the May 18 annual craft and vendor show.



Marilyn Peterson, formerly of Waseca, came back to town to sell homemade breads at the farmers' market.



Brody and Audrey Gray, of Waseca, sold baked goods and 3-D printed toys at the farmers' market.



Doug Bartelt shows his woodcraft products at the farmers' market.



At the spring craft and vendor show held on the Waseca County Fairgrounds this past Saturday, Trina Engel of "Itch Stickit" was selling homemade itch relief formulas made from foraged natural plant products.



Christine Hoffman sold a variety of craft and baked goods at the farmers' market.



Hannah Neigebauer of Waseca at her farmers' market booth stocked with honey and other goods.



4-H members volunteering at the organization's annual "Largest Garage Sale in Waseca" held in the 4-H building of the

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Awards nights



More than \$95,500 worth of scholarships were awarded last week to Waseca High School Seniors from funds affiliated with the Waseca Area Foundation during the school's annual awards night.

WHS track teams first in invitational

JWP boys right behind in second

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

The Waseca High School boys' track and field team racked up a lot of individual firsts in last Thursday's home invitational. Almost all of them were needed. The Bluejays won the meet with 143 points, just ahead of second-place JWP's 141.5. Seven teams competed.

Damarius Russell clocked 11.33 seconds for first in the 100-meter dash, one of the Bluejays' best events. Kaeden Johnson was a close second, clocking 11.39. Jordan Johnston was fifth, Carson Ohnstad sixth.

Russell also anchored the first-place 4x400 relay, joining Brady Tlougan, Ohnstad and Wyatt Hager to clock 3:33.66.

The other individual firsts: Isaac Feldkamp, 800, 2:06.6; Ohnstad, 300 intermediate hurdles, 43.36; Javonn Rodney, shot put, 42-11.5; Ethan Stenzel, discus, 144-2; and William Mansfield, pole vault, 13-6.

Feldkamp finished second in the 1600, as did Hager in the discus. Cash Lynch, Jonah Worke, Tlougan and Johnson combined for second in the 4x100.

Other places for the WHS boys: Tauston, Rupe, third, shot put and fifth, discus; Rodney, third, discus; Tlougan, fourth, 400; Tristan Godwin, fourth, 3200 and fifth, pole vault; Stenzel, fourth, shot put; 4x100, fourth (Bennett Ludwig, Jett Rohl, Micah Allen-Haas, Mansfield); 4x200, fourth (Allen-Haas, Liam Biddle, Hager, Anders Jorgenson) 4x800, fourth (Tovin Grannis, Liam Biddle, Tristan Godwin, Nathanael Andrs); Colton Schroeder, sixth, 800; Brandon Jascha, sixth, shot put; Andrew Robran, sixth, discus; Grannis, sixth, high jump.

The JWP boys won five events, including two relays. Ryan Kronbach took the high jump at 6-2 and the triple jump at 43-5.5. Kaden Baker clocked 18.24 for first in the 100 hurdles. Dylan McWaters, Isaiah Berndt, Daulton Bauer, Ryan Kronbach teamed to win the 4x100 in 44.68. The same foursome took gold in the 4x200, clocking 1:33.11.

Other places for the JWP boys:

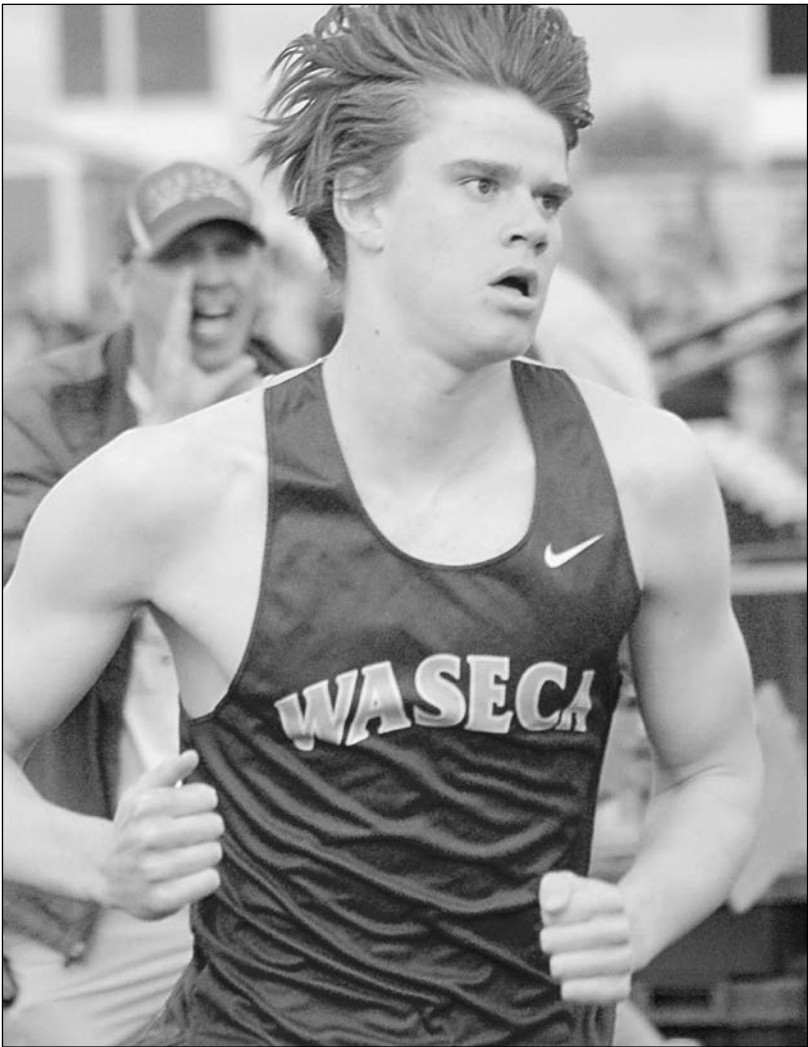
McWaters, second, 110 hurdles and long jump; Memphis James, second, high jump; Isaac Gahlon, second, pole vault; 4x800 relay, second (Teagen Mulder, Luke Cahill, Alex Kleve, Tyson Kronbach); Cahill, third, 800; Baker, third, 300 hurdles; Berndt, fourth, 100; Kleve, fourth, 1600; Cahill, fourth, pole vault; 4x400 relay, fourth (Tyson Kronbach, Alex James, Luke Cahill, Alex Kleve); Daulton Bauer, fifth, triple jump; Gavin Weedman, sixth, 1600.

Waseca's girls won with 155 points, with Kasson-Mantorville second with 143.5. JWP withheld many of its athletes for Saturday's True Team state meet, totaling 12 points.

Firsts for the WHS girls were by Stella Omtvedt, 800, 2:29.28 and 1600, 5:34.88; Vivian Mader, 100 hurdles, 17.51; Brooklyn Flatau, 300 hurdles, 48.2; Kalea Sartori, discus, 106-0; Savanna Vagts, high jump, 4-8.

Other Bluejay places: Gabriela Lopez, second, 100; Callie Dufault, second, 800; Bella Wikan, second, 300 hurdles; Sartori, second, shot put; Flatau, second, long jump and pole vault; 4x400 relay, second (Evelyn O'Brien, Wikan, Dufault, Omtvedt); 4x800 relay, second (Dufault, O'Brien, Kelsey Draeger, Violet Rowher); Camila Marquez, third, triple jump and fourth, high jump; 4x100 relay, third (Sarah Haley, Wikan, Mader, Lopez); Mader, fourth, 300 hurdles; Sierra Krause, fourth, shot put and sixth, discus; 4x200, fourth (Haley, O'Brien, Lopez, Krause) 4x100 relay, fifth (Angelica Lopez, Niyah Williams, Katelyn Weber, Reese Ludwig).

"It was a great meet," said Waseca coach David Abel. "It's the first win this season for both the boys and the girls. We had some outstanding performances. It was a great team effort from the boys' sprinters and throwers to the girls' distance and hurdlers. I was very pleased with how everything went. The night was a great lead-up for the conference and section meets. I was proud of the team support during the exciting 4x400's to end the meet."



FIRST-PLACE FINISH — The Waseca High School boys' and girls' track and field teams finished first in their invitational last Thursday. At left, Isaac Feldkamp runs in the 1600, in which he placed second. He won the 800. At right is Vivian Mader on her way to winning the 100 high hurdles.. Pioneer photos by Jim Lutgens



ROOM TO SPARE — JWP's Kaden Baker on his way to victory in the 110 high hurdles in last week's Waseca Invitational. At right, the Bulldogs' Luke Cahill clears the pole-vault bar with room to spare.



ADDITIONAL ACTION — Action during last week's Waseca Invitational. At left, the Bluejays' Jonah Worke makes his landing in the long jump. In the middle, pole vaulter Tristan Godwin clears the bar by a comfortable margin. At right, JWP's Ryan Krobach takes the baton for the anchor leg in the 4x100 relay, which the Bulldogs won.

JWP girls ninth among 12 in True Team State Meet

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

Simply qualifying for a state meet makes for a successful season for most high school track and field teams.

In that regard, it's been a great spring for the Janesville-Waldorf-Pemberton girls' team, which finished ninth among 12 schools in Saturday's Class A True Team State Meet at Stillwater. The previous week, the Bulldogs won the True Team Section 2A crown and

claimed their fifth consecutive Gopher Conference championship.

Luverne took the team title Saturday with 521 points. Grand Meadow-LOKS was second with 519.5. The Bulldogs totaled 385.5.

The True Team format differs from the traditional format for track and field in that teams are allowed two entries for individual events and one for each relay, and everyone who completes an event scores team points.

The competition at Stillwater was

formidable.

Nevaeh Wiemert took the Bulldogs' top place, finishing second in the 400.

MaKenzi Westphal was third in the 800 and Lilly Strauss was third in the long jump. JWP took third in the 4x200 relay.

Other top-10 JWP places: Onikia Herme, fourth, 300 hurdles; Lauren White, fifth, 3200; 4x100, seventh; 4x400, eighth; Aubrey Weedman, ninth, shot put; Wesphal, 10th, 1600; 4x800, 10th.

NRHEG golfers second, third

The NRHEG High School golf teams played at Waseca's Lakeside Golf Club last Thursday, taking on Waseca and JWP.

The girls took second. Scores for nine holes: Hallie Schultz 52, Elsie Schultz 65, Alexis Olson 72, Gabby Neltson 74, Olivia Wilkenson, 74. The Panthers were without their best golfer, Meela Budach, who has been the medalist in more than one match this spring.

The NRHEG boys finished third for nine holes. Panther scores: Matt Williams 58, Hudson Chrz 58, Braydon Rollag 58, Jackson Chrz 62, Shan Hanson 81.

The Panthers played at Austin Country Club Monday, May 13, where the girls finished third. Scores for 18 holes: Budach 98, Hallie Schultz 102, Elsie Schultz 122, Wilkeson 142 and Olson 160.

The NRHEG boys placed ninth. Scores: Hanson

104, Rollag, Tyler Kress 126, Hudson Chrz 129.

The Panther Invitational was held at Lakeside Monday, May 20, with visiting teams Waseca, JWP, Blooming Prairie, Blue Earth Area, Hayfield, Kenyon, LCWM, Maple River, Randolph, St. Peter and USC.

The NRHEG girls took fifth. Scores for 18 holes: Budach 95, Hallie Schultz 96, Elsie Schultz 125, Wilkenson 127, Olson 141 and Neltson 163.

NRHEG's boys placed 11th.

Eighteen-hole scores: Chrz 110, Rollag 110, Hudson Chrz 110, Hansen 115, Jackson Chrz 118, Williams 121.



H.Schultz

WHS softball team tops Maple River

Jays seeded 15th in section tourney

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

There was reason to celebrate for the Waseca High School softball team last week.

The Bluejays broke into the win column Tuesday, May 14, defeating Maple River 5-4.

Avery Barto, a seventh-grader, pitched a complete game for Waseca. She struck out five, walked three and gave up seven hits.

The Bluejays totaled four hits, one each by Barto, Madison Roessler, Lily Owens and Hannah Sommers. Roesler, Owens and Sommers doubled. Roessler and Sommers each had one RBI.

Last Thursday, the Bluejays lost 20-1 to Tri-City United. Roessler

had two hits and an RBI. Owens also had two hits. Barto pitched, giving up 14 hits, allowing no walks while striking out one.

The Bluejays faced Rochester Lourdes Friday and fell 6-1. Owens had two hits, Roessler on hit and an RBI. Barto went the route in the circle, giving up eight hits and two walks; she struck out four.

"Hopefully," said first-year WHS coach Amanda Sommers, "There are better days ahead for these young ladies!"

The Bluejays drew the No. 15 seed in the Section 2AA tournament and were scheduled to open post-season play Wednesday at No. 2 seed Belle Plaine.



ZEROING IN — At left, Waseca shortstop Lily Owens fires to first during last week's nonconference game against Rochester Lourdes. At right, seventh-grade pitcher Avery Barto on her way to a complete game.
Pioneer photos by Jim Lutgens

Dual-meet season ends for WHS boys' tennis

The season isn't quite finished for Waseca High School boys' tennis.

But the team season is.

The Bluejays, seeded fourth in the Section 1A tournament, bowed out of postseason play Tuesday, falling 6-1 to No. 1 seed Winona Cotter at the Rochester Athletic Club. It was the first time since 2015 that the Bluejays reached the section semifinals.

The singles matches were particularly tough against Cotter as the Bluejays lost all in

straight sets, winning just eight games. Junior Tyler Jellum was at No. 1, followed by freshman Henry Huttemier, ninth-grader Otto Schoenrock and eighth-grader Armaan Bhatti.

The Bluejays' No. 1 doubles team of Oliver Rohwer and Dominic Grunzke went to a second-set tiebreaker but fell in straight sets, while Keenan Collins and Alan Kopetzki were swept at No. 2 doubles.

Waseca's win was at No. 3 doubles, where Lucas McQuery and Brayden Hoof prevailed

6-3, 6-2.

The Bluejays opened the section team tournament at home last Thursday, defeating fifth-seeded Red Wing 5-2.

Waseca took two singles matches, with Huttemier winning in straight sets at No. 2 and Bhatti winning a first-set tiebreaker on his way to a straight-set triumph at No. 4. Jellum and Schoenrock lost in two sets.

Rohwer and Grunzke led a doubles sweep for the Bluejays, with Tanner Hanson and

Keenan Collins at No. 2 and McQuery and Hoof at No. 3.

The 2024 Bluejays finished with a record of 13-4, the sixth-best record in school history.

Cotter defeated No. 2 seed Rochester Lourdes for the Section 1A championship.

The Jays opened Section 1A Individual play Thursday, May 23 at the Rochester Athletic Club.

IN BRIEF

Golf set for section

The Waseca High School golf teams finished in third in Monday's Panther Invitational at Lakeside.

The WHS boys were behind USC and first-place JWP, which won with 319 strokes for 18 holes. The Jays were led by Cody Vagts and Hunter Anderson, who shot 80, and freshman Braiden Nelson with a career-best 81. Sophomore Max Bodensteiner completed scoring with an 89.

The girls finished behind Hayfield and first-place Blue Earth Area. Waseca scores: Emma Keith 93, Madison Rasche 99, Mia Kanewischer 103.

The Bluejays begin section play on Tuesday, May 28 for the boys at New Prague. The girls go on Wednesday on the same course. The second-round qualifiers continue on to the final round the following week.

Waseca baseball team seeded 10th

The Waseca High School baseball team is seeded 10th in the Section 2AA tournament. The Bluejays opened post-season play Thursday at seventh-seeded Triton. The winner plays Tuesday, May 28 at 5 p.m., probably at Belle Plaine.

The Bluejays lost 12-2 to Belle Plaine and 9-5 to Maple River last week.

NRHEG, the eighth seed, opened section play Tuesday at No. 7 Blue Earth Area. The winner there faces No. 1-seeded LeSueur-Henderson Tuesday, May 28 at LeSueur.

Softball team 15th

The Waseca Bluejays are seeded 15th in the Section 2AA Softball Tournament. The Jays opened section play Wednesday, May 22 at No. 2 seed Belle Plaine.

NRHEG, the tournament's 11th seed, played at No. 5 St. Clair-Mankato Loyola Wednesday, with the second round played Thursday.

JWP seeded 11th

The JWP softball team is seeded sixth in the Section 2A tournament, opening postseason play Wednesday at home against 11th-seeded Madelia-Truman. The winner advanced to Thursday's round against Martin County West or Glenville-Emmons. The quarterfinals are May 25 at Caswell Park, the finals May 30 at Caswell.

The Bulldogs finished the regular season with a 9-11 record.

JWP baseball 9th

The JWP baseball team just missed a home game in the Section 1A tournament that started Wednesday.

The Bulldogs, seeded ninth, played at No. 8 seed Blooming Prairie. The winner plays Friday at 5 p.m., probably against Southland at Austin's Riverland Community College. The quarterfinals are May 27 at 4 p.m., semifinals June 1 at noon, and finals June 4 at 4 p.m. at Riverland.

The Bulldogs have a record of 9-10.

NRHEG girls win invitational

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

Name the race or event, and it's a good bet it was won by a member of the NRHEG High School girls' track and field team.

The Panthers were dominant in their four-team invitational in New Richland last week, winning 12 events while running away with the team title, totaling 127.5 points in longtime head coach Duey Ferber's final home meet. Maple River was a distant second with 69. USC/AC had 57, Albert Lea 18.5.

"What a fantastic night for our girls!" said Coach Duey Ferber. "It was a great performance on Senior Night."

Evelyn Nydegger, a senior, finished first in the 200 in 27.7, won the 300 intermediate hurdles in 49.2 and took gold in the triple jump at 31-1. She was second in the 100 high hurdles with a time of 16.7.

Sophomore Quinn VanMaldghem had a great night, winning the 400 meters in 1:02.5 and topping the 800 in 2:31.0. She anchored the first-place 4x400 relay, joined by Sierra Misgen, Clara Buendorf and her twin sister, Camryn VanMaleghem, to win in 4:25.6.

Chloe Riewer, Gabby Schlaak, Anika Ladlie and Camryn VanMaldeghem won the 4x100 in 53.8.

The Panthers' other individual firsts were by Riewer, 100, 13.6; Anika Ladlie, high jump, 4-10; Schlaak, long jump, 14-5; and Kylie Olson, shot put, 32-2.5. Riewer, Misgen, Buendorf and Ellie Clark won the 4x200 in 1:54.9.

Taking second were Julieann Wobbrock in the 3200, Schlaak in the high jump, Riewer in the long jump and Sierra Fish in the discus. Holly Bartness, Buendorf, Ella Jeno and Wobbrock were second in the 4x800.

Other NRHEG places: Misgen, third, long jump; Malonna Wilson, third, shot put and fourth, discus; Olson, third, discus; Paige Johnson, fourth, 100 and fourth, long jump; Jeno, fourth, 1600; Annabelle Petsinger, fourth, 3200; Clark, fourth, 300 hurdles; Schlaak, fourth, 100 hurdles; Alaina Modder, fourth, triple jump; Makenzie Mueller, fourth, shot put; Quinn VanMaldeghem, fifth, pole vault.

The NRHEG boys finished third with 32 points, behind Maple River with 107 and Albert Lea 106.

"It was a decent night for the boys against two very good teams," said Ferber.

Will Tuttle was on pace to set the school record in the 300 hurdles, but hit the seventh hurdle and went down. He clipped another hurdle and fell again, but got up and still managed to take first in 40.78. He won the 110 high hurdles in 15.28.

Second-place finishers were Levin Kitzer in the 110 hurdles and Jaylin Raab in the long jump.

Other Panther places: Justin Beauvis, third, 800; 4x100 relay, third (Harbor Cromwell, Kitzer, Will Tuttle, Raab); 4x800, third (Devon Nelton, Gavin Sletten, Gavin Lewison, Jacob Karl); 4x400, third (Cromwell, Parker Bunn, Sletten, Raab); Wyatt Tuttle, fourth, triple jump; Kitzer, fifth, 300 hurdles; Lewison, fifth, high jump.



PANTHER INVITATIONAL — NRHEG's Malonna Wilson competes in the shut put during last week's Panther Invitational.
Pioneer photo by Eli Lutgens

Errors lead to Senior Night loss for NRHEG softball

By JIM LUTGENS
Sports Editor

You don't have to dig far in the scorebook to see what hurt the NRHEG High School softball team last Thursday.

It was errors.

The Panthers finished with five fielding miscues as visiting WEM rallied for a 10-3 victory at New Richland's Legion Field. It was Senior Night for the Panthers.

The Panthers started strong, putting three runs on the scoreboard in the bottom of the first inning, but

they were scoreless the rest of the day. WEM tallied single runs in the third and fourth, taking a 4-3 lead with a two-run sixth. The Bucs plated six runs in the seventh.

"We came out strong to start the game with good hitting and baserunning," said Panthers coach Kayley Camerer. "Defensively, we played a good first few innings, but made too many errors late in the game. Fortunately, the sun will come out tomorrow and we have the opportunity to regroup and bounce back in as we start our playoff run."

Olivia Berg was the lone Panther with more than one hit, going 2-for-4 and scoring a run. Preslie Nielsen, Izley Boerner, Addy Stadhiem and Erin Peterson had one hit each, with RBIs going to Preslie Nielsen, Boerner and Stadheim. Preslie Nielsen and Boerner doubled.

Faith Nielsen started in the circle and pitched 6 2/3 innings, allowing two earned runs on nine hits, with five strikeouts and five walks. Boerner pitched in relief.

The Panthers struck out five times and did not draw a walk.

The Panthers posted a 3-0 shutout over Medford at Legion Field Monday, May 13.

"We played a great defensive game," said Camerer.

It was scoreless until the bottom of the fourth, when Addy Stadheim drove in two runs with a double. In the fifth, Berg delivered a sacrifice bunt to score Izzy Stadheim from third base.

For the game, Addy Stadheim went 2-for-3 and Boerner was 2-for-3. Izzy Stadheim and Preslie Nielsen added one hit each.

Faith Nielsen started and pitched four innings. Boerner went three innings in relief.

"Overall, I'm proud of the girls and their resiliency throughout the entire game," said Camerer.

The Panthers drew the No. 11 seed in the sub-section, starting tournament play Tuesday at sixth-seeded St. Clair/Mankato Loyola. The winner of that game plays Thursday at 5 p.m. against third-seeded Jordan or 14th-seeded Medford at the site of the higher seeded squad.

Tennis block party June 1

The Waseca Community Tennis Association kicks off summer with a tennis block party Saturday, June 1 from 1 to 3 p.m. on the Waseca High School courts.

The party promises fun for all ages, with free food and prizes, a variety of fun activities, and racquets available. You can also sign up for summer tennis programs.

To register, e-mail mert@waseca.k12.mn.us. Put "block party" in the subject line of the e-mail.

Left-hander Lee pitches Panthers past Medford

Jared Lee was about all the NRHEG baseball team needed at Medford last week.

The freshman left-hander was masterful on the mound, tossing a seven-inning one-hitter as the Panthers prevailed 5-0.

"We hit real well in this game and played great defense, but the story of the game was in how Jared Lee pitched," said Panthers coach Shawn Larson.

Lee finished with 13 strikeouts against three walks.

"It was a very dominant perfor-

mance from Jared today, who stayed around the strike zone all day," said Larson. "This aggressive style of ball is what I hope we carry into the postseason."

The Panthers totaled 12 hits, led by Alden Dobberstein going 2-for-4 with two runs, Carter Martens 2-for-4 with two RBIs, Seth Staloch 2-for-3 with a double and one RBI, and A.J. Deen 2-for-3. Ryan Schlaak was 1-for-3 with an RBI, Jordan Brouwers 1-for-2 with a walk. Deven Parpart and Wyatt Larson also hit safely.

The Panthers plated single runs in the second and third innings, putting it away with a three-run fourth. They played errorless defense.

The Panthers posted a 5-4 victory over WEM at Waterville last Thursday. They trailed most of the game but tied it with two runs in the fifth and won it with one in the sixth. They outhit WEM 13-6.

"This was another nice day and a nice game," said Coach Larson. "The edge in hits may have been just enough to get us over the top."

Lee, Parpart, Martens, Brouwers

and Wyatt Larson garnered two hits each, with Brouwers driving in two runs. Martens and Parpart doubled. O.wayne and Deen added one hit apiece.

Parpart pitched a complete game, striking out four and walking two while allowing three earned runs.

"Deven pitched a solid game," said Coach Larson. "He kept us in the game throwing a steady stream of strikes. It is nice to have better play this time of the year."

The Panthers played errorless defense while WEM had one error.

Choir Concert



Waseca High School held its annual Spring Choir Concert Monday night, May 20, 2024 in the Performing Arts Center. Pioneer photos by Rachael Jaeger



WHS hosts spring jazz concert

By RACHAEL JAEGER
Staff Writer

At the Waseca Spring Jazz Concert the evening of Friday, May 17, high school students performed to a full house at the Waseca High School performing arts center. Throughout the evening, the auditorium resounded with applause for individual solos and small group stand-ups.

Miranda Merrill, middle school band director, helped the Junior High Jazz Band start the show off with “Grabbing Some Air” and “Yonkers is Calling,” both written by Dean Sorenson; the Junior High Jazz Band also performed “Walkin’ on the Sun” by Paul Murtha.

“I like teaching and conducting jazz bands because it exposes students to a different style of playing and allows for students to create their own music,” Merrill said. “It is so powerful when students can stand up and make their voice in the music we play.”

She added that she especially loves working with students on improvisation which sparks them with the confidence to go out and perform those solos on a stage.

“I find it so rewarding to give the students the fundamentals to work in this style of music and then see them move forward and be able to express themselves through a variety of different musical styles,” she said.

Devon Lawrence, high school band director, is involved with four different high school jazz groups: Jazz Blue, Jazz Blue Combo, Jazz One, and Jazz One Combo. He told the audience the differences between the jazz combination groups; Jazz Blue Combo consists of individuals who have played around in combinations for a while. He said that he and the students take familiar tunes and translate them so the students can improvise with their varying instruments.

“We’ve never had two combos before, so this has been great,” Lawrence said.

During the show, he shared that Dean Sorenson is the jazz band director at Minnesota State University (MSU) and participated in the jazz festival at the high school.

“He does a great job at writing for early jazz bands but also for intermediate and advanced bands, so we



Waseca High School hosted its Spring Jazz Concert Friday, May 17, Pioneer photos by Rachael Jaeger

try to incorporate his music whenever we can,” Lawrence said.

After the Junior High Jazz Band finished their part of the show, Devon Lawrence, the high school band director, asked the audience to applaud them one more time; the audience almost immediately burst out clapping.

Lawrence’s band, Jazz Blue, began with “Sugar” which was arranged by Mark Taylor; Amerette Nevalainen played the piano, and Lily Sanchez and Tarun Ewest led the rest of the students on their saxophones.

The second song Jazz Blue played was “Coco Loco,” another piece Sorenson wrote which featured Elliott Galle on trumpet and Megan Hudak on saxophone.

Lawrence announced that his students chose Ewest to receive the Clifford Brown award which is given annually to a student who demonstrates phenomenal musicianship and leadership. Brown, Lawrence also shared, was a cover artist who also played piano and on the trumpet.

“[Ewest] has been working with our jazz ensembles for the last several years,” Lawrence added. “This year he also decided to take up saxophone and three weeks ago, he came up to me and asked if he could play baritone. I told him, ‘Sure.’” Lawrence expressed his admiration to a student who was willing to apply and stretch himself.

Jazz Blue finished with “Green Fields,” a song Dave Eshelman composed. “Green Fields” featured Ewest on bari saxophone, Galle on trumpet, Hudak on alto saxophone, and Jacob Harguth on trombone.

Next Jazz Blue Combo took over, starting with “St. James Infirmary” by Joe Primrose, followed by “Jo Jo Calypso” by Jim Nadel. Primrose was also known as Irving Harold Mills who was a music publisher; Nadel was an alto saxophonist.

Jazz One Combo performed “Sister Sadie” by Horace Silver and “(Sittin’ On) The Dock of the Bay” by Otis Redding.

Jazz One was the second to the last group to perform a variation of selections: “Strike Up the Band”, arranged by Mark Taylor; “I Remember Clifford” by Benny Golson, “Eleanor Rigby” arranged by Eric Richards, and “Morocco” by Russa Freeman. Noah Dahle played a flugelhorn solo during “I Remember Clifford” and a trumpet solo during “Strike Up The Band.”

LaCroix performed a solo on “Strike Up The Band” with her alto saxophone while Markeson played solos with her tenor saxophone for “Morocco,” “Strike Up The Band,” and “Eleanor Rigby.”

To finish up the night, all the jazz bands combined to perform “Buckjump,” arranged by John Wasson. Later, Lawrence said he likes to choose a tune that is fun and upbeat while also providing many opportunities for solo performances. Different students stood up and showcased their skills while the audience responded with enthusiastic applause.

“It’s always incredible to see the growth that happens in our students over the school year,” Lawrence said. “The fun part is they are much better sight readers, their tone is improved greatly and they just play better together as a group. It’s really fun to see!”

Brilliant+ BlueJays



WILLOW

Kindergarten

Willow respects property by staying organized and keeping her space neat and ready to learn. She is always helpful to clean up the classroom and help make sure everything is tidy. Willow uses toys and tools respectfully and appropriately, and she is a great example of a Brilliant BlueJay!



ISAIAS

1st Grade

Isaias always shows respect to property at Hartley. He keeps his desk clean and organized, cleans up any tools he finds in the classroom, and follows expectations for playground equipment. I can always depend on him to lend a helping hand when needed. Way to go!



REGINA

2nd Grade

Regina is a Brilliant BlueJay who shows integrity and kindness with not just her property but others as well. Regina is always helping clean up the classroom and keeps her work space epic and span.



JOSIM

3rd Grade

Josim respects property by keeping her desk and book bin spaces organized and tidy! She always offers to help friends in our classroom when she's done with her cleaning tasks! She is always ready to keep our learning space nice and clean by going around and picking up items! Great job showing the BlueJay way!



LUIS

3rd Grade

Luis is the definition of a Brilliant BlueJay! Luis helps people by using his multiple language skills and by being a part of the Hartley Ambassador Program. He is always willing to help others and doesn't expect anything from it. Way to go, Luis!

Brilliant+ BlueJays



HUDSEN

Kindergarten

Hudson is a Brilliant BlueJay who is always respecting learning! He is a good listener, respects others space, does his job, and focusses on his learning. He is a great role-model and always willing to help someone else! Way to go, Hudson!



LENNON

1st Grade

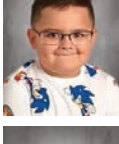
Lennon is a Brilliant BlueJay who does as fantastic job respecting learning. Lennon shows whole body listening, raises his hand when answering questions and even shares his new knowledge with his family! Keep up the great work Lennon!



EMMA

2nd Grade

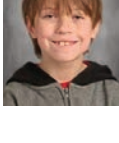
Emma is a brilliant BlueJay that respects learning everyday! Emma is a hard worker and always tries her best even when something might be hard. She stays persistent and grows as a learner everyday! Way to go Emma!



ROMEO

3rd Grade

Romeo is a Brilliant BlueJay who always respects learning! He is always participating, sharing his ideas, and working hard during our learning. Way to go, Romeo!



BENTLEY

2nd Grade

Bentley respects learning by showing up every day with a positive and helpful attitude, ready to try his best.